

**MINUTES – BENSON CITY COUNCIL – REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 11, 2005**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Kittelson. Members present: Sue Fitz, Lee Westrum, Bob Claussen, Gary Landmark, and Paul Kittelson. Members absent: None. Also present: Finance Director Glen Pederson and Public Works Director Elliot Nelson.

There was no one present with unscheduled business to come before the Council.

It was moved by Landmark, seconded by Claussen and carried unanimously to approve the following items on the consent agenda:

- a. March 28, 2005 Regular City Council Meeting
- b. February 28, 2005 Swift County-Benson Hospital Board Meeting
- c. March 9, 2005 Prairie Country RC & D Meeting
- d. April 5, 2005 Benson Library Staffing Meeting
- e. March 31, 2005 Benson EDA Meeting
- f. April 4, 2005 Planning Commission Meeting

Member Fitz questioned the Benson Library Staffing meeting minutes under the recap of the meeting. It was noted that she thought it should be “Pioneerland Library System” and not “the City” doesn’t want a central librarian for Swift County.

The Mayor reviewed the following correspondence with the Council:

- a. Minnesota Department of Natural Resources dated March 29, 2005
- b. League of MN Cities, State of the Cities Report, Executive Summary
- c. Mn/DOT Office of Transit dated March 30, 2005

Great River Energy Services has requested an extension to Conditional Use Permit #2001-02. It was moved by Fitz, seconded by Claussen and carried unanimously to approve a five-year extension to Conditional Use Permit #2001-02 to December 31, 2009.

Council Member Claussen informed the Council that the Planning Commission is recommending that the Council approve the proposal from Sanders Wacker Bergly, Inc. to prepare a master plan for Benson’s central business district with one amendment. The amendment is to enlarge the area to be included in the central business district to be extended east to 11th Street between Nevada and Highway 12. Council Member Claussen informed the Council that there will be citizen involvement in this process. It was moved by Westrum, seconded Claussen and carried unanimously to accept the recommendation from the Planning Commission to approve the proposal from Sanders Wacker Bergly as amended with the EDA reviewing the proposal at their next meeting.

Council Member Claussen informed the Council that the application received for the Cottage Square Development is not a complete application. A letter was sent to the developer informing them what needs to be done to submit a complete application. This was informational with no action taken.

It was moved by Landmark, seconded by Claussen and carried unanimously to approve pay request #8 from Gridor Contr. Inc. for the Wastewater Treatment Facilities Improvements in the amount of \$155,895.

The Public Works Director presented a request to purchase a truck for the Wastewater Department. A quote was received from Swenson Motor Company of Benson for a Chevrolet Silverado 1500 Regular Cab 4WD Truck through the state bid in the amount of \$17,585 plus fees, tax, license, and delivery. It was moved by Claussen, seconded by Westrum and carried unanimously to approve the purchase of a truck from Swenson Motor Company of Benson as presented.

The Public Works Director informed the Council that seven proposals were received to conduct a study of the Electric Distribution System. The Utility Board mentioned possibly having two firms look at the system but no recommendation was made either way. Staff is recommending that the Council approve entering into a contract with DeWild Grant Reckert and Associates Company from Rock Rapids, Iowa in the amount of \$23,400. It was moved by Westrum, seconded by Claussen and carried unanimously to approve entering into a contract with DeWild Grant Reckert and Associates Company and authorize the Mayor to sign the contract as recommended by staff.

The Public Works Director presented a map identifying streets they are proposing to seal coat for 2005. There is \$37,500 in the budget for this project and staff estimates the project at \$33,140. They are proposing to begin seal coating right after Kid Day. He is asking for authorization to purchase 600 Tons of chip in the amount of \$5,640 for the project. It was moved by Fitz, seconded by Claussen and carried unanimously to approve the purchase of 600 Tons of chip in the amount of \$5,640.

The Public Works Director informed the Council that staff previously sent a letter to the owner of 601 Church Street asking that they clean up a public nuisance of three abandoned vehicles from their property. Pictures of the property were passed around for the Council to review. To date, nothing has been cleaned up. It was moved by Westrum, seconded by Claussen and carried unanimously to schedule a Public Hearing for the Abatement of Nuisance of Private Property at 7:15 p.m. on May 23, 2005 for the property at 601 – Church Street.

The Finance Director presented a capital authorization request to purchase a glass washing machine for the liquor store. The current glass washing machine is approaching the end of its useful life. It was moved by Fitz, seconded by Landmark and carried unanimously to approve the capital authorization request to purchase a glass washing machine in the amount of \$3,495.

The Finance Director presented a capital authorization request to replace two computer servers with one new server for the computer room at City Hall. It was moved by Westrum, seconded by Claussen and carried unanimously to approve the capital authorization request to purchase a new server in the amount of \$7,689.23 plus installation.

The Finance Director presented bills and warrants for approval. It was moved by Landmark, seconded by Fitz and carried unanimously to approve the bills and warrants in the amount of \$293,527.13.

It was moved by Fitz, seconded by Claussen and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:34 p.m.

Mayor

Attest: _____
City Clerk