

**MINUTES – BENSON CITY COUNCIL – REGULAR MEETING
JUNE 27, 2005**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Kittelson. Members present: Sue Fitz, Lee Westrum, Bob Claussen, Gary Landmark, and Paul Kittelson. Members absent: None. Also present: City Manager Rob Wolfington, Finance Director Glen Pederson, Public Works Director Elliot Nelson, Police Chief Jim Crace, Larry Wepplo, Brett Aamot, and Patty Grube.

At 6:00 p.m. Larry Wepplo, Brett Aamot, and Patty Grube from Conway, Deuth and Schmiesing presented the 2004 Audit.

John Van Woy, Fibrominn General Manager, presented a computer generated drawing of the Fibrominn site.

Dan Enderson representing the Benson Golf Club came forward to request approval of a gambling permit and to update the Council on the financial situation at the Golf Club. It was moved by Landmark, seconded by Fitz and carried unanimously to approve a gambling permit for the Benson Golf Club for a raffle to be held on October 1, 2005.

Enderson also reviewed financial information with the Council. The year started out good but with the wet weather their revenues are down about \$8,000 to \$10,000. They are hopeful that better weather will enable them to rebound. No action was taken at this time.

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. June 13, 2005 Regular City Council Meeting
- b. May 11, 2005 Benson HRA Meeting
- c. June 13, 2005 Benson Park Board Meeting
- d. June 16, 2005 Sanders, Wacker, Bergly, Inc. Planning Document

The City Manager reviewed the following correspondence with the Council:

- a. Swift County-Benson Hospital dated June 15, 2005: It was moved by Claussen and seconded by Westrum to sponsor a flag for the Hospital Auxiliary golf outing in the amount of \$150. The following vote was recorded: AYES: Claussen, Westrum, Landmark, Kittelson. NAYS: None. ABSTAIN: Fitz.
- b. CGMC Summer Conference in Moorhead, MN on July 27-29
- c. Notice of Intent to Request Release of Fund from UMRDC
- d. MRES – RiverWinds dated June 6, 2005
- e. Mn/DOT dated June 17, 2005

It was moved by Westrum, seconded by Fitz and carried unanimously to approve a gambling permit to St. Francis Church for a raffle on September 11, 2005.

At 7:00 p.m. the Mayor opened the Traffic Control Plan Public Hearing. The following were present: Planning Commission Members: Ron Laycock, Ronan Rolland, Ken Aeikens, Eric Everson; Greg and Pat Lee; Dave Benson; Jan Baukol; Karen Wolfington; Kevin Lindstrom; and Ed Fitz. The City Manager reviewed the proposed plan. He has received the

following comments:

1. Written comment requesting the stop signs remain at 10th Street and Idaho Avenue
2. Verbal comment that Thornton Avenue be designated a priority street instead of Minnesota Avenue
3. Verbal comment to add a stop sign at Willoway and 10th Street North
4. Verbal comment to protect the Meadow Lane and Denfeld Drive intersection

Planning Commission Chairman Ron Laycock briefed those in attendance on the plan and informed those in attendance that the Planning Commission will receive comments up until their July 11 meeting. He then opened the hearing up for comments with the following comments received:

- Why so many stop signs in sparsely populated areas and less traveled areas
- Move Minnesota Avenue through street to Thornton Avenue
- Minnesota Avenue is a speedway street
- Willoway – Add stop sign to remove through traffic
- Additional stop sign at Meadow Lane and Denfeld Drive
- Stop vehicles coming onto Thornton Avenue (no sidewalks)
- Enforce speed limit laws rather than signage
- What will be done for the increased traffic on current through streets?
- What is the rationale for the stop sign at Hall and 22nd Street?
- Not opposed to the stop signs just the number of signs to be installed

At 7:40 p.m. the Mayor closed the public hearing.

The City Manager briefed the Council on the budget for the 2005 Airport Improvements. The proposed budget is \$647,763. The FAA grant is for \$600,000 which would support a project of \$631,579 at 95% federal funding. There is a difference of \$15,375 that could be reimbursed next year or if funds remain from 2005 discretionary dollars. The City Manager recommended approval of the \$647,763 budget to complete the 2005 Airport Improvements. It was moved by Fitz, seconded by Claussen and carried unanimously to approve the \$647,763 budget for the 2005 Airport Improvements.

It was moved by Landmark, seconded by Westrum and carried unanimously to approve the TKDA pay request for Airport 2005 Improvements in the amount of \$14,928.44.

It was moved by Westrum, seconded by Claussen and carried unanimously to approve pay request #10 from Gridor Cont. Inc. for the Wastewater Treatment Facility Improvements in the amount of \$455,980.

It was moved by Westrum, seconded by Claussen and carried unanimously to approve a pay request from Bonestroo, Rosene, Anderlik and Associates for the Minnesota Avenue Sewer and Water Extension project in the amount of \$2,498.87.

It was moved by Fitz, seconded by Westrum and carried unanimously to approve a pay request from Bonestroo, Rosene, Anderlik and Associates for the Wastewater Treatment Facility Improvements in the amount of \$12,651.16.

The Public Works Director informed the Council that staff had Bonestroo, Rosene, Anderlik and Associates prepare a preliminary estimate to construct sewer and water on

Minnesota Avenue east of 9th Street South. The City does not own property to construct a road to connect Minnesota Avenue to Kansas Avenue. Staff met with property owners on the north side of Minnesota Avenue and will schedule a meeting with the property owner on the south side of Minnesota Avenue in the near future. This project will be delayed due to the number of public works projects and to allow time to survey and engineer the project.

The City Manager informed the Council about an agreement to remove a hazardous building located at 1615 Pacific Avenue. There was a consensus of the Council to authorize the City Manager to enter into the agreement and the cost to demolish the building to be assessed over a five year period to the property owner.

The Public Works Director informed the Council on the status of the Dutch Elm Tree Removal Program, 35 trees have been marked for removal and another 20 are on a list to be inspected.

It was moved by Fitz, seconded by Claussen and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:57 p.m.

Mayor

Attest: _____
City Clerk