

**MINUTES – BENSON CITY COUNCIL – REGULAR MEETING
AUGUST 22, 2005**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Paul 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, and Public Works Director Elliot Nelson.

Liquor Store Manager Pat McGeary introduced Tim O'Connor who is a new employee at the Benson Liquor Store.

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 minutes on the consent agenda:

- a. August 10, 2005 Benson Utility Board Meeting
- b. August 8, 2005 Benson Park Board Meeting
- c. The Following Pioneerland Library System Management Meetings:
 - December 10, 2004 Ad Hoc Evaluation/Goals Committee
 - May 19, 2005 Personnel Committee
 - May 24, 2005 Pioneerland Labor-Management Committee
 - June 16, 2005 Personnel Committee

The City Manager reviewed the following correspondence with the Council:

- a. Ginter Rice dated August 15, 2005
- b. Ag Energy Work Group dated August 1, 2005
- c. Pat Cina dated August 19, 2005

It was moved by Westrum, seconded by Claussen and carried unanimously to approve a gambling permit to the Chippewa Valley Chapter of the Minnesota Deer Hunters Association for a raffle on February 3, 2006.

Swift County Auditor Byron Giese and the Finance Director informed the Council about Federal HAVA Law and election issues. The County will purchase new voting machines through grants and the City will get two vote tabulating machines and two machines to assist voters with disabilities. The City can have up to six additional precincts on their machines. It was moved by Claussen, seconded by Fitz and carried unanimously to allow the combining of precincts up to eight and to allow staff to negotiate with those precincts the cost sharing.

There was a brief discussion on what needs to be done to change City elections to even years.

The City Manager informed the Council that the Central Business District Committee is planning a joint meeting with the Park Board, Planning Commission and EDA on September 15. The final plan for the railroad parks will be presented. A public meeting will then be held at City Hall after the September 15 meeting with the plan presented at the September 26 Council meeting.

The City Manager informed the Council that the final Flood Elevation Determination letter dated August 16, 2005 was recently received. No maps were attached but he expects to receive them shortly. The City has until February 16, 2006 to adopt or show evidence of adoption of a floodplain ordinance. The State has issued a conditional approval of the draft floodplain ordinance. It is anticipated that the first reading of the floodplain ordinance will be at the September 12

Council meeting and the second reading at the September 26 Council meeting.

It was moved by Westrum, seconded by Claussen and carried unanimously to approve a pay request from Ulteig Engineers for engineering services from June 1, 2005 to July 31, 2005 for the Industrial Park Improvements in the amount of \$8,850.

It was moved by Fitz, seconded by Landmark and carried unanimously to approve pay request #1 from Riley Brothers Construction for the Industrial Park Water and Sewer Extension Project in the amount of \$92,609.73.

It was moved by Landmark, seconded by Claussen and carried unanimously to approve Change Order #1 for the Industrial Park Water and Sewer Extension Project, a \$43,907 deduct.

It was moved by Claussen, seconded by Fitz and carried unanimously to approve Change Order #2 for the Industrial Park Water and Sewer Extension Project, a \$10,000 increase. Staff was authorized to sign the change order once Riley Brothers Construction signs.

The Public Works Director informed the Council there are problems with the splash pool boiler that is no longer under warranty. Staff solicited four businesses for quotes to replace the splash pool boiler and to clean, inspect and start up the main pool boiler. The following quotes were received:

Bidder:	Quote to Replace Splash Pool Boiler	Quote to Clean, Inspect & Start Up Main Pool Boiler
Craig's Refrigeration	\$12,864	\$ 250
Hawley's Inc.	\$12,936	\$1,280

It was moved by Claussen, seconded by Westrum and carried unanimously to approve the quotes from Craig's Refrigeration in the amount of \$12,864 and \$250.

The Council was updated on the following projects:

- a. Highway Improvements
- b. Industrial Sewer and Water Extension
- c. Airport Overlay and Navigational Aids
- d. Airport Environmental Cleanup
- e. Wastewater Expansion
- f. Library Roof Replacement
- g. Senior Center

The City Manager briefed the Council on the 2006 General Budget and informed them that the maximum levy limit will need to be set at the September 12 Council meeting.

The Finance Director reviewed the budget report through July 31, 2005 with the Council.

The Finance Director presented bills and warrants. It was moved by Landmark, seconded by Claussen and carried unanimously to approve bills and warrants in the amount of \$850,061.40.

Council Members Westrum and Landmark and Mayor Kittelson announced their intention to file for their respective offices.

Member Fitz brought up the skateboarders going on church hand rails and on City streets. She would like the City to look at providing a safer environment for the skateboarders. There was a consensus to have staff research this concept and check on costs.

It was moved by Landmark, seconded by Claussen and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m.

Mayor

Attest: _____
City Clerk