

**MINUTES – BENSON CITY COUNCIL – REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 11, 2006**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Paul Kittelson. Members present: Sue Fitz, Lee Westrum, Bob Claussen, and Paul Kittelson. Members absent: Gary Landmark. Also present: City Manager Rob Wolfington, Finance Director Glen Pederson, Public Works Director Elliot Nelson, and Police Chief Jim Crace.

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

It was moved by Fitz, seconded by Westrum and carried unanimously to approve the following minutes on the consent agenda:

- a. November 27, 2006 Benson City Council Meeting
- b. November 9, 2006 Prairie Country RC & D Council Meeting
- c. October 30, 2006 SCBH Board Meeting

The City Manager reviewed the following correspondence:

- a. Charter Communications dated November 21, 2006
- b. MPCA dated November 22, 2006
- c. CVEC dated December 4, 2006

It was moved by Claussen, seconded by Westrum and carried unanimously to approve 2007 Cigarette License renewals for the following:

Kelly's Convenience Store	Do-Mats Family Foods
Amoco Food Shop of Benson	Duffy's Bar and Grill
Holiday Station	Benson Liquor Store
Darold's Super Valu	

It was moved by Westrum, seconded by Fitz and carried unanimously to approve the following Special Use Permits to allow disposing of septic tank sludge and holding tank sewage into the Benson Wastewater Facility for 2007:

William E. Boutain dba Harry's Pumping Service
Steve Slaughter

At 7:08 p.m. the Mayor opened the Truth in Taxation Public Hearing. There was no one present for the hearing. The City Manager gave a presentation on the 2007 budget, 2006 significant accomplishments and 2007 significant objectives. The Council left the hearing open and continued with the agenda.

The Police Chief informed the Council that the Benson Police is the recipient of an additional traffic safety award and recommended approval of a resolution to accept the award. Council Member Fitz offered the following Resolution and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE
OF A TRAFFIC SAFETY AWARD
(RESOLUTION NO. 2006-34)**

WHEREAS, the Benson Police Department desired to protect the health of its citizens by improving traffic safety and participating in the Safe & Sober Challenge; and

WHEREAS, under the provision of the Highway Safety Act (P.L. 89-563), the Minnesota Department of Public Safety has federal funding to promote traffic safety; and

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Department of Public Safety had judged the Benson Police Department's efforts to decrease impaired driving and increase seat belt use to be exceptional, and wants to reward those efforts by providing additional funding for the department;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Benson Police Department enter into an agreement with the Minnesota Department of Public Safety, Office of Traffic Safety for the period from January 3, 2007 to June 30, 2007.

The Police Chief of Benson is hereby authorized to execute such agreements as are necessary to implement the project on behalf of the Benson Police Department.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Police Chief of Benson is hereby authorized to be the fiscal agent and administer the grant on behalf of the Benson Police Department.

Council Member Claussen seconded the foregoing Resolution and the following vote was recorded: AYES: Fitz, Claussen, Landmark, Westrum, Kittelson. NAYS: None. Whereupon the Mayor declared Resolution No. 2006-34 duly passed and adopted.

The Police Chief also informed the Council that the Benson Police Department is planning to host a 40 hour crisis intervention training program in Benson. The cost to host the training is \$21,000. The Police Department has received a \$10,000 grant to host the training.

The City Manager informed the Council that the Benson School District is interested in participating in a City – School housing partnership. He is proposing that the City donate a lot to the school for the Trades and Industrial Carpentry Class to construct a home on. When the home is sold, the assessed value of the lot will be used to purchase land for future houses. If the program is not continued, the School would reimburse the City the assessed value of the lot. There was a consensus of the Council to direct the City Manager to draft a letter outlining the program for the Council to consider at their next meeting.

The City Manager mentioned setting a date for a Council annual strategic plan review.

There was a consensus of the Council to schedule a special Council Meeting at 5:00 p.m. on January 2, 2006.

There was a consensus of the Council to reschedule the December 25, 2006 Council Meeting to 5:00 p.m. on December 18, 2006.

At 8:00 p.m. the Mayor closed the Truth in Taxation Public Hearing.

It was moved by Westrum, seconded by Claussen and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:01 p.m.

Mayor

Attest: _____
City Clerk