

**MINUTES – BENSON CITY COUNCIL – REGULAR MEETING
NOVEMBER 13, 2007**

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Mayor Paul Kittelson. Members present: Sue Fitz, Gary Landmark, Bob Claussen, and Paul Kittelson. Members absent: One vacancy. Also present: Finance Director Glen Pederson, Public Works Director Elliot Nelson, Anne Johnson, County Auditor Byron Giese, Dan Enderson, Ben Hess, Crescent Hess, Carole Holmgren, and Sue Hess.

The Council reviewed the election judge report from the November 6 Municipal Election. It was moved by Landmark, seconded by Claussen and carried unanimously to accept the report and declare the following results:

**FOR THE OFFICE OF MAYOR
One - 2 Year Term**

	1st Ward Northside	2nd Ward Southside	Total
Paul Kittelson	184	218	402

**FOR THE OFFICE OF COUNCIL MEMBER
Two - 4 Year Terms**

	1st Ward Northside	2nd Ward Southside	Total
Robert Claussen	110	129	239
Sue Fitz	173	204	377
Benjamin Hess	108	121	229*

* You will note that this is a different amount than what was reported on election night. After reviewing the totals, it was discovered that the number of votes cast for this office exceeded the number of voters. The election judges were called back to make the necessary correction.

**FOR THE OFFICE OF COUNCIL MEMBER
To Fill the Remaining Two Years of a Vacant Term**

	1st Ward Northside	2nd Ward Southside	Total
Mike Fugleberg	88	119	207
Anne Johnson	111	114	225

Results:

Paul Kittelson is the duly elected Mayor for the two-year term beginning the first business day of 2008.

Robert Claussen and Sue Fitz are duly elected to four-year terms on the City Council beginning the first business day of 2008.

Anne Johnson is duly elected to fill the remaining two years of the vacant term of Lee Westrum.

The Council was informed that Ben Hess has requested a recount for the office to elect two Council Members for four year terms. Mr. Hess was in attendance and asked several questions regarding the process. After discussion, there was consensus to hold the recount at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 14. The Council was informed that a special meeting needs to be scheduled to canvass the results of the recount. It was moved by Landmark, seconded by Fitz and carried unanimously to schedule a special Council meeting at 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, November 15, to canvass the election results from the November 6, 2007 Municipal Election.

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. October 22, 2007 City Council Meeting
- b. September 24, 2007 SCBH Board Meeting
- c. September 12, 2007 Prairie Country RC & D Council Meeting
- d. October 18, 2007 Safety Committee Meeting
- e. September 20, 2007 Pioneerland Library System Board Meeting

The following correspondence was reviewed with the Council:

- a. Appointment of Fire Chief: It was moved by Fitz, seconded by Claussen and carried unanimously to confirm the appointment of Mark Schreck as Benson Fire Chief.
- b. MRES regarding Annual URGE Data Testing
- c. SCBH Board Nomination: It was moved by Fitz, seconded by Claussen and carried unanimously to approve appointing Chuck Koenigs to fill a term on the SCBH Board that is expiring on December 31, 2007.
- d. Benson Racquet & Fitness Center Board of Directors dated 11.6.07 – Information regarding improvements and maintenance at Racquet & Fitness Center. They also requested authorization for an additional \$700 to \$1,000 in materials for improvements at the Racquet & Fitness Center. There was consensus to authorize the City Manager and Finance Director to work with the Board on these expenditures.
- e. Chamber of Commerce notification of Santa Train to stop in the East Railroad parking lot on 12.15.07.

It was moved by Fitz, seconded by Landmark and carried unanimously to approve donating a 2008 family swimming pool pass for a raffle for the Benson Area Chamber of Commerce annual meeting.

Dan Enderson, Treasurer for the Benson Golf Club Board, reviewed the Golf Club annual report with the Council. He recommended leaving the borrowing limit at \$100,000 and requested that the Council consider another cash contribution of \$10,000. The Council informed him they would consider the request during the budget process.

Item #6, Telecomm with City Manager, was omitted from the agenda.

It was moved by Landmark, seconded by Claussen and carried unanimously to approve the Second Reading of An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 33, Police and Fire Departments.

The Public Works Director informed the Council that construction has begun in the Cottage Square subdivision.

It was moved by Fitz, seconded by Claussen and carried unanimously to authorize entering into an agreement with Bonestroo for engineering services to replace the well by the Benson Golf Club.

It was moved by Claussen, seconded by Landmark and carried unanimously to approve advertising for bids to furnish padmount switches and 15 kV power cable for the Electric System improvements with the bid opening at 2:00 pm on November 28, 2007.

It was moved by Landmark, seconded by Fitz and carried unanimously to approve Purchase Order #10582 to purchase a precast concrete utility vault from Hancock Concrete Products, Co. in the amount of \$10,701.

The Public Works Director informed the Council that the following quotes were received to purchase three CDR Boxes:

Bidder	Unit Price	Total Bid
Border States Electric	\$1,950	\$5,850
Resco Electric Utility Supply	\$1,975	\$5,925

It was moved by Fitz, seconded by Claussen and carried unanimously to approve Purchase Order #10541 to purchase three CDR boxes from Border States Electric in the amount of \$5,850.

It was moved by Claussen, seconded by Fitz and carried unanimously to approve Change Order #2 from Srock Construction Inc. for the Airport Improvement Project totaling \$750.20

It was moved by Landmark, seconded by Claussen and carried unanimously to approve a pay request from Srock Construction Inc. for the Airport Improvement Project in the amount of \$88,645.77.

It was moved by Fitz, seconded by Claussen and carried unanimously to approve a pay request from TKDA for the Airport Improvement Project in the amount of \$7,036.99.

It was moved by Fitz, seconded by Claussen and carried unanimously to approve six pay requests from DGR for professional services through 9.30.07 regarding the Electric System Improvements in the amount of \$32,864 (\$7,000 for 115 kV Substation, \$12,600 for 115 kV Transmission Line, \$2,877.50 for 115 kV Substation, \$2,811 for 115 kV Transmission Line, \$7,400 for Distribution Feeders, and \$175.50 in hourly rate for preliminary planning/negotiations).

The Public Works Director informed the Council that the air emission permit for the Power Plant generators is in the public review period as part of the renewal process.

A letter was received today from Bruce and Paulette Jaeger and Wade and Nissa Larson who purchased the property at 1004 12th Street North on October 22, 2007. There are mowing and finance charges in the amount of \$170.27 that will be assessed to the property if not paid prior to November 21. The Jaegers and Larsons are requesting that the Council consider waiving the charges. After discussion, there was consensus of the Council to take no action on the request.

It was moved by Landmark, seconded by Fitz and carried unanimously to approve the bills and warrants in the amount of \$1,953,858.48.

It was moved by Fitz, seconded by Claussen and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 6:37 p.m.

Mayor

Attest: _____
City Clerk