

**MINUTES - BENSON CITY COUNCIL - REGULAR MEETING
NOVEMBER 2, 2009**

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Mayor Paul Kittelson. Members present: Sue Fitz, Anne Johnson, Bob Claussen [arrived at 5:45 pm], Gary Landmark, and Paul Kittelson. Members absent: None. Also present: City Manager Rob Wolfington, Director of Finance Glen Pederson, and Public Works Director Elliot Nelson.

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

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

- a. October 19, 2009 Regular City Council Meeting
- b. October 15, 2009 Safety Committee Meeting
- c. September 28, 2009 SCBH Board Meeting

The City Manager reviewed the following correspondence with the Council:

- a. Benson Area Chamber of Commerce. It was moved by Fitz, seconded by Johnson and carried unanimously to approve a \$300 donation for the Santa Truck event.
- b. SCBH. It was moved by Landmark, seconded by Johnson and carried unanimously to reappoint Ed Ulmaniec to a second term on the SCBH Board.

Council Member Fitz offered the following Resolution and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION AMENDING ELECTRIC, WATER AND SEWER RATES
(RESOLUTION NO. 2009-26)**

WHEREAS, an electric rate study was prepared by Missouri River Energy Services, a water rate study was prepared by Ehlers, and a sewer rate study was prepared by the Finance Director; and

WHEREAS, the rate studies recommended an increase in rates to each of the utilities and the implementation of a water conservation rate.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the following utility rates be adopted effective January 1, 2010:

ELECTRIC RATES

Residential

Monthly Customer Charge	\$10.00
Energy Charge per KWH	0.089

Commercial

Monthly Single-phase Customer Charge	14.00
Monthly Three-phase Customer Charge	20.00
Energy Charge per KWH	0.091

Large Power

Monthly Customer Charge	40.00
Demand Charge per KWH	12.50
Energy Charge per KWH	0.041

Interruptible Rate

Energy Charge per KWH	0.045
Monthly Controlled Water Heating Credit	4.00
Monthly Security Lighting	
100 Watt	6.00
150 Watt	7.50
250 Watt	12.00
400 Watt	15.00
1,000 Watt	28.00
Street Lighting	
Energy Charge per KWH	0.15
Power Cost Adjustment Base per KWH	0.053

SEWER RATES

Sewer Service Charges:

Unit Rate	\$ 4.60 per 100 cu. ft.
Minimum Charge	\$23.00 per month

WATER RATES

Water Service Charges:

Residential Meters	\$ 5.00 per month
---------------------------	-------------------

Commercial

5/8" – 1" meters	\$10.00 per month
1 1/4" – 2" meters	\$22.00 per month
Larger than 2" meters	\$55.00 per month

Consumption Rate:

Residential

0-3 Units	\$1.25 per 100 cu. ft.
4-7 units	\$1.50 per 100 cu. ft.
Over 7 units	\$1.80 per 100 cu. ft.

Commercial

\$1.50 per 100 cu. ft.

Member Landmark seconded the foregoing Resolution and the following vote was recorded: AYES: Fitz, Landmark, Johnson, Kittelson. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Claussen. Whereupon the Mayor declared Resolution No. 2009-26 duly passed and adopted.

The Public Works Director informed the Council that the planned electric outage that was conducted at 2:00 a.m. on October 24 went mostly as planned. Any issues have been taken care of since the outage.

Council Member Landmark offered the following Resolution and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION
(RESOLUTION NO. 2009-27)**

WHEREAS, A. Ronald Carlson and Alta A. Carlson, are the owners of real property in the City of Benson described as Lot Nine (9), Block One (1), Benson Industrial Park Third Addition upon which is located their business known as Ron Carlson Machine, Inc.; and,

WHEREAS, one of the buildings located on said property is no longer needed for use by Ron Carlson Machine, Inc. and the Carlsons intend to sell said building along with a portion of the above described real property; and,

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that it is in the best interests of the City of Benson and beneficial for the economic development of the City to have commercial property available for use by businesses seeking to locate in the City of Benson and that the building offered for sale by the Carlsons is appropriate for that purpose.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That the building inspector for the City of Benson inspect said building to determine if it is structurally sound and suitable for commercial purposes.
2. That if said building passes inspection an offer be made to purchase said building, along with the necessary portion of the above described real property, from the Carlsons for a fair value contingent upon the Carlson's ability to convey clear title free of any liens.
3. That if an agreement with the Carlsons to purchase said building is reached that the funds for said purchase, up to a maximum of \$60,000.00, be made available from the Economic Development Authority Fund.

Member Johnson seconded the foregoing Resolution and the following vote was recorded: AYES: Landmark, Johnson, Fitz, Kittelson. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Claussen. Whereupon the Mayor declared Resolution No. 2009-27 duly passed and adopted.

It was moved by Fitz, seconded by Johnson and carried unanimously to authorize the purchase of 500 modules and 500 adaptors to complete installation of AMR systems for residential customers in the amount of \$51,500 from Omni-Pro Software.

The City Manager informed the Council that the City is the recipient of a Matching Funds Playground "Grant for America's Children". There was a discussion on whether to install the equipment at Countryside Park or Ambush Park. The Benson Women of Today have been fundraising for a system to be installed at Ambush Park. After discussion, it was moved by Claussen, seconded by Johnson and carried unanimously to accept the grant in the amount of \$5,670.50 with the equipment to be installed at Ambush Park.

The City Manager presented a proposal from Advanced Engineering and Environmental Services, Inc. for the Benson Emergency Levee Study at an hourly rate not to exceed \$10,000. It was moved by Fitz, seconded by Claussen and carried unanimously to order the study as recommended by the City Manager.

The Finance Director informed the Council that the Benson Civic Center Board is asking the City to continue to guarantee the civic center locker room note for an additional three years. The original note was for \$250,000 and the note has been paid down to about one-half of the original amount. It was moved by Claussen, seconded by Landmark and carried unanimously to guarantee the civic center locker note for three years.

It was moved by Fitz, seconded by Claussen and carried unanimously to schedule a special City Council Meeting at 5:30 p.m. on November 5, 2009 to canvass the municipal election.

It was moved by Landmark, seconded by Fitz and carried unanimously to approve an invoice from Benson Community Education for running the summer recreation for 2009 in the amount of \$12,299.82.

It was moved by Fitz, seconded by Claussen and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 6:03 p.m.

Mayor

Attest: _____
City Clerk