

**MINUTES – BENSON CITY COUNCIL – SPECIAL MEETING
MAY 12, 2008**

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Mayor Paul Kittelson. Members present: Sue Fitz, Bob Claussen (arrived at 5:42 p.m.), Gary Landmark, and Paul Kittelson. Members absent: Anne Johnson. Also present: City Manager Rob Wolfington, Public Works Director Elliot Nelson, and Hospital Administrator Frank Lawatsch.

The Hospital Administrator came forward and asked the Council to consider approving a resolution that would authorize the Swift County-Benson Hospital to borrow funds. Council Member Landmark offered the following Resolution and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION
(RESOLUTION NO. 2008-07)**

RESOLVED, that subject to compliance with the provisions of Minnesota State Law governing its authority to incur indebtedness, the Swift County-Benson Hospital may, for the purpose of financing the betterment of the hospital, enter into an agreement with the Minnesota Department of Health, in substantially the form set forth in Exhibit 1 attached hereto, to incur indebtedness in the amount not to exceed One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) repayable over a term of six (6) years without interest.

Mayor Kittelson seconded the foregoing Resolution and the following vote was recorded: AYES: Landmark, Kittelson. NAYS: None. ABSTAIN: Fitz. ABSENT: Claussen, Johnson. Whereupon the Mayor declared Resolution No. 2008-07 duly passed and adopted.

The Hospital Administrator informed the Council that a tentative date of June 15 is being planned for an open house at the hospital.

The Public Works Director informed the Council that the following three bids were received for the 115 kV Transmission Line Construction in 2008:

Bidder	Total Base Bid
Emblom's Midwest Powerline Construction, Inc. Sauk Centre, MN	\$316,113.21
Michels Power Neenah, WI	\$408,880.22
Karian Peterson Powerline Contracting, LLC Montevideo, MN	\$425,787.60

The Public Works Director informed the Council that the engineers recommended that the contract be awarded to the low bidder, Emblom's Midwest Powerline Construction. Emblom also included an alternate price to supply Douglas Fir poles instead of the Western Red Cedar poles that were included in the base bid. This alternate price is \$31,717 less than the base bid price. The Engineers recommended accepting Emblom's alternate bid. It was moved by Fitz, seconded by Landmark and carried unanimously to award the bid to Emblom Midwest Powerline Construction, Inc. to include the alternate bid for a total contract price of \$284,396.21.

The Public Works Director presented estimated costs from Bonestroo to replace the following lift stations:

Lift Station	Construction Cost	Engineering	Total
Benson Civic Center	\$ 75,000	\$18,000	\$ 93,000
Roosevelt Park	\$240,000	\$59,000	\$299,000

The lift station by Sandy’s Cafe, 1601 Minnesota Avenue, is a unique situation and more difficult than the other two lift station replacements. The City has funds to cover the costs to replace the Benson Civic Center and Roosevelt Park lift stations. Staff is recommending that the Council approve the engineering for the replacement of the lift stations at the Benson Civic Center and Roosevelt Park and delay replacement of the Sandy’s Café lift station until the City has the funds. There was a consensus to table this item to the next Council meeting.

The Public Works Director informed the Council that the following two quotes were received for the City’s 2008 seal coating project:

Bidder	Total Bid
Caldwell Asphalt Co. Hawick, MN	\$13,710
Morris Sealcoat & Trucking Morris, MN	\$13,480

It was moved by Claussen, seconded by Fitz and carried unanimously to accept the quote from Morris Sealcoat & Trucking for the 2008 seal coating project in the amount of \$13,480.

It was moved by Landmark, seconded by Claussen and carried unanimously to approve the request from the Swift County-Benson Hospital Foundation to place a “goal” thermometer sign by the Community Sign.

The Council discussed a letter from Jeff and Julie Arnold, 401 Sanford Road, regarding damage to their carpet due to a sanitary sewer backup. City staff informed the Council that when they investigated the situation, they found water in the manhole. They used the jet truck and cleaned the main line on Sanford Road and discovered a substantial amount of paper products. Staff plans to televise the main line on Sanford Road this summer to check on its condition.

Member Landmark asked if the City would be flushing storm sewers because some of them are plugged around town. Staff informed him that their first priority is sanitary sewers and they will get to the storm sewers as time allows.

The City Manager informed the Council that Matt Goebel and the AFSCME 65 staff representative will attend the next Council meeting to discuss mediation.

It was moved by Fitz, seconded by Claussen and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 5:58 p.m.

Mayor

Attest: _____
City Clerk