

**MINUTES - BENSON CITY COUNCIL - REGULAR MEETING  
OCTOBER 5, 2009**

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by President Pro-Tem Gary Landmark. Members present: Sue Fitz, Anne Johnson, Bob Claussen, and Gary Landmark. Members absent: Paul Kittelson. Also present: City Manager Rob Wolfington, Public Works Director Elliot Nelson, Director of Finance Glen Pederson, and Cindy Evenson.

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

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

- a. September 14, 2009 Regular City Council Meeting
- b. September 17, 2009 Benson EDA Meeting
- c. August 31, 2009 SCBH Board Meeting

The City Manager reviewed the following correspondence with the Council:

- a. Benson Public Schools RE: Renaissance Program and Prairie Five Community Action Council RE: Reach Out for Warmth Program. It was moved by Fitz, seconded by Claussen and carried unanimously to approve a \$250 donation to the Renaissance Program and \$500 to the Reach Out for Warmth program.
- b. Flexible Benefits Administrators Inc. RE: BCBS 2010 Rates.

The City Manager informed the Council that the Planning Commission recommended that Variance #2009-05 from Douglas Cook, 615 Groehler Court, be denied. The reason the Planning Commission recommended denying the variance was because there was no testimony of an undue hardship, the size is two times the allowed size for an accessory structure, and there are already two small garages and a shed on this property. They recommended to Mr. Cook that he submit a revised application for a proposed accessory structure that is about 1,000 sq. ft. with the structure to look similar to the house and in return the Commission would allow the two garages and shed to remain and waive the application fee. It was moved by Johnson, seconded by Claussen and carried unanimously to accept the Planning Commission's recommendation and deny Variance #2009-05 based on the findings of the Planning Commission.

Gary Searcy, Water Department employee, and the Public Works Director informed the Council about the failure of Well #12 and improvements needed at the pump house. Minnesota Rural Water and an engineer are coming to Benson on October 7 to look at the situation to assist with a solution to the failed well.

The Finance Director reviewed preliminary water and wastewater rates with the Council. The complete water and wastewater rate studies should be ready for the next Council meeting along with the electric rate study that is being done by Missouri River Energy Services.

The City Manager informed the Council that to prepare for a potential disaster, he has asked an engineering firm to prepare a plan of action for a disaster. He was unsure of the cost for the plan, but he will inform the Council if it exceeds his spending authority.

The City Manager handed out a number of posters for the Comprehensive Plan display for the open house at the fire hall on October 9 from 11 am to 2 pm. The open house is for Fire Prevention Week and to receive public comments on the proposed Comprehensive Plan update. Members are to let staff know any changes or comments.

It was moved by Johnson, seconded by Claussen and carried unanimously to set a public hearing for the 2009 Atlantic Avenue Sidewalk Project at 5:30 p.m. on November 16, 2009.

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

**RESOLUTION SETTING ASSESSMENTS FOR FIRE SERVICE CHARGES  
BY THE CITY OF BENSON, MINNESOTA FOR 2009 PAYABLE 2010  
(RESOLUTION NO. 2009-22)**

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Benson City Council that the following assessments for 2009 Fire Service Charges as prepared by the City Manager are hereby approved and made a part thereof; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the assessments hereinafter noted shall be submitted to the County Auditor on or before October 15, 2009 and placed on the tax roll for collection with the taxes collectable in 2010.

<b>Charges</b>	<b>Name &amp; Mailing Address</b>	<b>Legal Description &amp; Parcel No.</b>	<b>Amount Due</b>
Fire Call [House Fire]	Karl & Lisa Maska 504 - 14 <sup>th</sup> St. So Benson, MN 56215	Lot 3 & So 35' Lt 2, Blk 2 McKinney's Second Addn. 23-0471-000	\$200.00
Fire Call [Gas Leak]	Jackson & Irene Thomas 805 - 10 <sup>th</sup> St. No Benson, MN 56215	Lots 8-9, Block 11 Lynn Park Add. 23-0719-000	\$750.00
<b>TOTALS</b>			<b>\$ 950.00</b>

Member Claussen seconded the foregoing Resolution and the following vote was recorded: AYES: Fitz, Claussen, Johnson, Landmark. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Kittelson. Whereupon the President Pro-Tem declared Resolution No. 2009-22 duly passed and adopted.

It was moved by Fitz, seconded by Johnson and carried unanimously to approve a pay request from Struck & Irwin Paving, Inc. for the Airport Crack Repair in the amount of \$44,060.

It was moved by Claussen, seconded by Johnson and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 6:14 p.m.

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President Pro-Tem

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk