

**MINUTES – BENSON CITY COUNCIL – REGULAR MEETING
MAY 7, 2007**

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Mayor Paul Kittelson. Members present: Sue Fitz, Lee Westrum, Bob Claussen, Gary Landmark, and Paul Kittelson. Members absent: None. Also present: City Manager Rob Wolfington, Director of Public Works Elliot Nelson, Director of Finance Glen Pederson, Police Chief Jim Crace, Edward Pederson, Chuck Koenigs, and Gerry Kurkosky.

The Mayor reconvened the Board of Equalization Hearing. County Assessor Edward Pederson informed the Council that they reviewed the following three parcels and are recommending the following:

Parcel No.	Owner	Recommendation
23-0370-000	Donald Peterson	Reduce Market Value from \$92,900 to \$88,700
23-1187-000	Michael Gandsey	Reduce Market Value from \$141,700 to \$135,900
23-0581-000	Frances Millett	Market Value remain the same at \$95,200

It was moved by Landmark, seconded by Westrum and carried unanimously to approve the County Assessor's recommendations. The Mayor closed the Board of Equalization Hearing at 5:37 p.m.

Gerald Kurkosky came before the Council under unscheduled business. He is still interested in buying the lot next to his house and wanted to know the status of the lot. He was told that the school cannot commit at this time. The school will let the City know by Fall 2007 whether or not they are interested in the lot for the 2008-2009 school year.

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

- a. April 23, 2007 City Council Meeting
- b. April 19, 2007 EDA Meeting

The City Manager reviewed the following correspondence:

- a. MMUA dated May 1, 2007
- b. Charter Communications dated April 30, 2007

It was moved by Westrum, seconded by Landmark and carried unanimously to approve donating \$150 to the Swift County-Benson Hospital Auxiliary for their golf fundraiser.

It was moved by Fitz, seconded by Claussen and carried unanimously to approve Revision 2 of Exhibit C to Contract No. 90-BAO-513 between Western Area Power Administration and the City.

It was moved by Landmark, seconded by Claussen and carried unanimously to approve entering into a contract with TKDA to prepare the engineering design for a carousel hangar and fueling system upgrade at the Airport. The contract is for \$43,100, with \$26,200 for the hangar and \$16,900 for the fueling system. With the 95% federal funding, the City's share is \$2,155.

It was moved by Fitz, seconded by Westrum and carried unanimously to approve Addendum B to the Joint Powers Agreement for Group Employee Benefits and Other Financial and Risk Management Services with the Southwest/West Central Service Cooperative.

The City Manager informed the Council that staff is working on changes to Chapter 90: Animals of the Benson City Code.

It was moved by Westrum, seconded by Landmark and carried unanimously to approve the following Fire Department wages:

	Current	2007
Fire Chief	\$200 per month	\$300 per month
1 st Assistant Chief	\$600 per year	\$800 per year
2 nd Assistant Chief	\$600 per year	\$800 per year
Captain	\$450 per year	\$650 per year
Lieutenant	\$450 per year	\$650 per year
Secretary	\$600 per year	\$800 per year

It was moved by Landmark, seconded by Westrum and carried unanimously to approve the following exempt salaries:

	2006	2007
City Manager	\$68,640	\$72,072
Finance Director	\$57,500	\$60,375
Public Works Director	\$54,000	\$56,700
Police Chief	\$52,750	\$55,387
Building Official	\$48,000	\$49,875
Police Sergeant	\$22.12/hr	\$23.22/hr
Liquor Store Manager	\$39,500	\$41,475
Administrative Assistant	\$17.50/hr	\$18.37/hr

It was moved by Landmark, seconded by Fitz and carried unanimously to approve amending the City Manager's contract to increase his salary to \$72,072.

The Mayor read a letter from Lee Westrum announcing his resignation from the Benson City Council effective May 22, 2007. It was moved by Landmark, seconded by Fitz and carried unanimously to accept the letter of resignation from Lee Westrum with regrets.

Member Fitz brought up that she has received complaints about the residential clean up program. There was a consensus to visit this issue at a future meeting.

At 6:04 p.m. the Mayor recessed the meeting as the Council departed for a tour of Benson.

At 7:33 p.m. the Mayor reconvened the Council meeting.

The Public Works Director informed the Council that the following three bids were received to replace the fire truck filling system at the fire hall:

Bidder	Bid Amount
Hawley's Inc.	\$11,730
Craig's Inc.	\$12,436
Grossman's Plumbing & Heating Inc.	\$16,250

It was moved by Fitz, seconded by Claussen and carried unanimously to award the bid to Hawley's Inc. in the amount of \$11,730 to replace the fire truck filling system.

It was moved by Landmark, seconded by Fitz and carried unanimously to approve going out for bids for an underground boring machine to be used in the transmission line project. The intent is to use this equipment for our own projects and also to rent it out to other utilities.

It was moved by Landmark, seconded by Claussen and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:37 p.m.

Mayor

Attest: _____
City Clerk