

**MINUTES – BENSON CITY COUNCIL – REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 7, 2008**

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Mayor Paul Kittelson. Members present: Sue Fitz, Anne Johnson, Bob Claussen, Gary Landmark, and Paul Kittelson. Members absent: None. Also present: City Manager Rob Wolfington, Finance Director Glen Pederson, Public Works Director Elliot Nelson, Police Chief Jim Crace, Dalona Goebel, Tyler Goebel, Jerry Peterson, and Frank Lawatsch

Under unscheduled business, Tyler Goebel came before the Council to review his Eagle Scout Project. The City Manager has provided Tyler with a list of signs that need repairs or locations where new signs are needed. Most of the signs are within the City parks.

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

- a. March 17, 2008 City Council Meeting
- b. February 13, 2008 Prairie Country RC & D Council Meeting
- c. February 13, 2008 Benson HRA Meeting
- d. March 20, 2008 Safety Committee Meeting
- e. February 25, 2008 SCBH Board Meeting

The City Manager reviewed the following correspondence with the Council:

- a. Benson High School Prom Afterbash – It was moved by Fitz, seconded by Johnson and carried unanimously to donate \$200 in Benson Bucks.
- b. SCBH Foundation dated 1.16.08 – Jerry Peterson and Frank Lawatsch informed the Council about the Foundation's donation campaign. Lawatsch updated the Council about the project and informed them they anticipate holding an open house early this summer.
- c. Chamber of Commerce dated March 2008 – It was moved by Fitz, seconded by Landmark and carried unanimously to donate \$150 to the Kid Day fireworks.
- d. Chamber of Commerce dated April 2008 – It was moved by Fitz, seconded by Claussen and carried unanimously to waive the armory rental fee for the City-Wide Rummage Sale on May 10.

It was moved by Johnson, seconded by Fitz and carried unanimously to approve the 2008 Residential Clean-Up Program as presented by the Public Works Director.

The Public Works Director informed the Council that two quotes were received to purchase a new tractor to replace the 1981 Yanmar 276 diesel tractor. It was moved by Claussen, seconded by Johnson and carried unanimously to approve the purchase of a Case Farmall Tractor with the brush and mower attachments from Arnold's, Willmar, MN in the amount of \$33,121.50.

The City Manager informed the Council that the Minnesota Department Health inspected the Water/Wastewater Laboratory on January 29, 2008. The inspection report cited the City for a number of deficiencies that needed to be corrected. An application to recertify the lab was also submitted and was returned identifying several deviations that would need to be corrected before a full certification would be issued. Staff has reviewed the new regulations and determined that it is not feasible for us to maintain the level of staffing and equipment that they require. Staff is moving forward to contract with Stearns DHIA Central Lab in Sauk Center, MN for the laboratory testing. No Council action was taken at this time.

The Public Works Director reviewed the 115 kV Transmission Line Induction Study with the Council. The study indicated that the new line should have no effect on the railroad communication lines.

The Public Works Director informed the Council that three proposals for request for qualifications to provide airport consulting and grant preparation and processing services were received. The Airport Commission reviewed the proposals and recommended remaining with TKDA as the City's consultant. It was moved by Claussen, seconded by Fitz and carried unanimously to appoint TKDA as recommended by the Airport Commission.

It was moved by Fitz, seconded by Claussen and carried unanimously to approve a pay request from Burmeister for cable for the Electric System Improvements in the amount of \$10,774.18.

It was moved by Claussen, seconded by Johnson and carried unanimously to approve five pay requests from DGR for professional services through 2.29.08 regarding the Electric System Improvements in the amount of \$5,167.17 (\$1,850 for Distribution Feeders, \$697 for 115 kV Substation, \$2,302.17 for 115 kV Transmission Line, \$122 for 115 kV Source Sub Mods, \$196 for Distribution Feeders).

The Finance Director informed the Council that he has received a quote from Black Mountain Software to purchase two software programs: service orders - \$3,900 and inventory - \$5,270 for a total quote of \$9,170. He recently received a second quote that he has not yet reviewed. It was moved by Landmark, seconded by Fitz and carried unanimously to authorize staff to purchase the needed software in a not to exceed amount of \$9,170.

At 6:13 pm the Mayor recessed the meeting to conduct a tour of the police department and view the proposed office rehabilitation plans.

At 6:28 p.m. the Mayor reconvened the meeting.

It was moved by Fitz, seconded by Claussen and carried unanimously to approve the police department renovations as presented by the Police Chief.

The Mayor brought up that an individual contacted him regarding a class reunion at D.S. Lageson's in September. Because Lageson's is currently closed and without a liquor license they asked if there was anything the City could do regarding a liquor license for the reunion. Staff will research this item.

It was moved by Landmark, seconded by Claussen and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 6:35 p.m.

Mayor

Attest: _____
City Clerk