

**MINUTES - BENSON CITY COUNCIL - REGULAR MEETING
MAY 3, 2010**

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Mayor Paul Kittelson. Members present: Sue Fitz, Bob Claussen, Gary Landmark, and Paul Kittelson. Members absent: Ben Hess. Also present: City Manager Rob Wolfington, Finance Director Glen Pederson, Gene Weber, and Doug Lindquist.

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

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

- a. April 19, 2010 Regular City Council Meeting
- b. March 18, 2010 Benson EDA Meeting
- c. March 29, 2010 SCBH Board Meeting
- d. April 15, 2010 Benson Safety Committee Meeting

The Council reviewed the following correspondence:

- a. Gene Weber RE: Request to waive special assessments. Mr. Weber would like to purchase Parcel #23-0282-000 (1615 Pacific Ave) but the City has placed special assessments of \$3,129.68 for garage demolition and some water and sewer charges on the property. After discussion, it was moved by Claussen, seconded by Landmark and carried unanimously to forgive the original assessments and when Mr. Weber closes on Parcel #23-0282-000, the City will place a new assessment on this property but will forgive this new assessment if Mr. Weber receives a certificate of occupancy within one year of the closing date. If Mr. Weber does not receive a certificate of occupancy within one year, the new assessment will not be forgiven.
- b. Swift County Relay for Life dated 4.10.10. It was moved by Fitz, seconded by Claussen and carried unanimously to allow Relay for Life to use the Northside Recreation Area from 6 pm on June 18 until 8 am on June 19 at no cost.
- c. League of MN Cities dated 4.8.10 RE: Governor's budget cuts to aid programs
- d. Pioneerland Band Festival dated 4.1.10. This item was referred to the Tourism Board

The next item discussed was Variance No. 2010-02. Doug Lindquist was present for the discussion. The Assembly of God Church, 1200 – 13th St. No., is proposing to construct a 15' x 18' (1680 sq. ft.) garage to store vehicles in. Presently they have a full size pickup with a plow and a 15 passenger van. In the future they plan to acquire a tractor with a snow blower and because they no longer make 15 passenger vans they will need to acquire a larger handicap equipped bus with a wheelchair lift. The undue hardship is the need to house a larger handicap equipped bus with a wheelchair lift. The Planning Commission conducted a public hearing earlier today and recommended that the Council approve Variance No. 2010-02. It was moved by Fitz, seconded by Landmark and carried unanimously to approve Variance No. 2010-02 as recommended by the Planning Commission.

The City Manager informed the Council that the Benson Ready Mix has a 14 hour pour next week and needs to start mixing at 4 am. Due to the noise ordinance, they are asking the City to allow them to start mixing at 4 am next week. It was moved by Claussen, seconded by Fitz and carried unanimously to allow the Benson Ready Mix to begin mixing at 4 am within the next ten days.

The Police Chief reviewed the 2009 Benson Police Department Annual Report with the Council.

The City Manager informed the Council that the application for the water treatment plant #2 project needs to be submitted to the Public Facilities Authority (PFA) by Friday, May 6. Staff is asking the Council to consider Option 2. Option 2 is to rehabilitate plant 2 and provide new filter units with an estimated project cost of \$3,443,681. After discussion, it was moved by Claussen, seconded by Fitz and carried unanimously to submit an application to the PFA using the full Option 2.

Member Landmark informed the Council that the Liquor Committee met before the Council meeting to discuss the Benson Liquor Store roof. Two quotes were received to replace the roof. The Committee recommends awarding the project to Buttweiler's Do-All, Inc. in the amount of \$18,640 for an unballast roof. It was moved by Landmark, seconded by Claussen and carried unanimously to accept the quote from Buttweilers Do-All, Inc. to replace the Benson Liquor Store roof with an unballast roof in the amount of \$18,640.

The Finance Director briefed the Council on the proposed revisions to the Joint Powers Agreement for Group Employee Benefits and other Financial and Risk Management Services. It was moved by Fitz, seconded by Claussen and carried unanimously to approve the revisions to the Joint Powers Agreement for Group Employee Benefits and Other Financial and Risk Management Services.

The Finance Director presented an amendment to the Personnel Policies: Elected Officials Out-of-State Travel Policy. It was moved by Landmark, seconded by Claussen and carried unanimously to approve the new Elected Officials Out-of-State Travel Policy. The Finance Director also informed the Council that agendas will include a travel line item to approve any travel by Council Members to attending a meeting or conference.

The Finance Director reviewed the budget report for the month ended March 31, 2010 with the Council.

It was moved by Fitz, seconded by Claussen and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Mayor

Attest: _____
City Clerk