

**MINUTES - BENSON CITY COUNCIL - REGULAR MEETING  
MAY 18, 2009**

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Mayor Paul Kittelson. Members present: Sue Fitz, Anne Johnson, Gary Landmark, and Paul Kittelson. Members absent: Bob Claussen. Also present: City Manager Rob Wolfington, Finance Director Glen Pederson, Public Works Director Elliot Nelson, City Attorney Don Wilcox, Tom Klemenhagen, HRA Director Jan Rohne, Barb Nelson, Cliff Bronniche, Erna Koloski, and Jack Wagner.

There was no one under 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. May 4, 2009 Regular City Council Meeting
- b. March 30, 2009 SCBH Board Meeting
- c. April 8, 2009 Benson HRA Meeting

The City Manager reviewed the following correspondence with the Council:

- a. Ziegler Power Systems RE: Inspection performed on the standby generators.

The Mayor brought up that a resident at Westwood Manor is being evicted on May 31<sup>st</sup> due to violating the no smoking policy. This resident has MS, is in a wheelchair and has nowhere to move to. The Council expressed that this is public, subsidized housing and they feel the Benson HRA should be more compassionate and understanding. After discussion, there was a consensus of the Council that the HRA Board consider extending the eviction of this resident and consider some policy changes and report back to the Council with their response.

Tom Klemenhagen from Landteam presented the plans and specifications for the 2009 Atlantic Avenue Sidewalk Improvement Project and to ask for authorization to advertise for bids for the project. Member Landmark expressed concern with the money the City will spend on the project at this time of budget unknowns. After discussion, it was moved by Fitz, seconded by Johnson and carried unanimously to approve the plans and specifications and set the bid opening for this project at 10:00 am on June 18, 2009. The bid bond was eliminated and a \$100 fee is to be charged to acquire a set of plans and specifications. Klemenhagen agreed to separate the quantities needed for each block in the plans and specifications rather than just a total amount for the entire project.

The Public Works Director presented a proposal from DGR Engineers to provide services to plan, design, bid and oversee construction of the electric generation fuel tank. Council Member Landmark questioned the need of professional engineering for this project. The City Manager suggested that perhaps part of the proposal could be handled by staff and the contract amount could be reduced. It was moved by Landmark, seconded by Fitz and carried unanimously to enter into a reduced contract with DGR.

It was moved by Fitz, seconded by Johnson and carried unanimously to approve Pay Request No. 4 from R.L. Larson Excavating for the Benson Lift Station Modifications in the amount of \$97,166.10.

It was moved by Landmark, seconded by Fitz and carried unanimously to approve a pay request from Pinnacle Engineering for Phase I Site Investigation at the Benson Market Site for professional services from 4.1.09 to 4.30.09 in the amount of \$19,500.

There was a brief review of the budget report for the month ended April 30, 2009.

It was moved by Landmark, seconded by Johnson and carried unanimously to approve the bills and warrants in the amount of \$284,018.05.

Following adjournment of the meeting, the Council went on a tour of the Power Plant and new substation building.

It was moved by Landmark, seconded by Johnson and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 6:37 p.m.

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Mayor

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