

**MINUTES - BENSON CITY COUNCIL - REGULAR MEETING
OCTOBER 6, 2008**

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

The City Manager reviewed the tree contract with the Council. There were ten trees removed under the new contract. Staff recommended honoring the price that has been quoted to homeowners from the original contract. It was moved by Fitz, seconded by Johnson and carried unanimously to authorize staff to make up the difference between the original contract and the new contract and charge the residents for the removal of the ten trees based on the original contract price.

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 15, 2008 Regular City Council Meeting
- b. August 20, 2008 Benson EDA Meeting
- c. September 2, 2008 Benson EDA Meeting
- d. September 18, 2008 Benson EDA Meeting
- e. September 17, 2008 Safety Committee Meeting
- f. August 25, 2008 Hospital Board Meeting

The City Manager reviewed the following correspondence with the Council:

- a. Southwest Initiative Foundation dated 9.18.08
- b. Prairie Five Community Action Council dated 9.19.08 – It was moved by Fitz, seconded by Claussen and carried unanimously to approve a \$500 donation to the Reach Out for Warmth program

Tess Skaalerud informed the Council that the Let's Go Fishing organization would like to sell pull-tabs and tipboards at the Benson Bowler. Council Member Claussen offered the following Resolution and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION APPROVING LAWFUL GAMBLING PREMISE PERMIT
APPLICATION FOR LET'S GO FISHING TO CONDUCT
GAMBLING AT 2205 MINNESOTA AVENUE IN BENSON, MINNESOTA
(RESOLUTION NO. 2008-16)**

WHEREAS, the Let's Go Fishing organization is applying to conduct gambling at 2205 Minnesota Avenue in Benson, Minnesota, and

WHEREAS, this is a new site for the base organization Premise Permit Number 034779.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Benson City Council approves the application and authorizes the City Clerk to submit a certified copy of the resolution to the Let's Go Fishing organization to be included in their application to the Gambling Control Division.

Council Member Johnson seconded the foregoing Resolution and the following vote was recorded: AYES: Claussen, Johnson, Fitz, Kittelson. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Landmark. Whereupon the Mayor declared Resolution No. 2008-16 duly passed and adopted.

It was moved by Fitz, seconded by Claussen and carried unanimously to approve a gambling permit for Northern Lights Trails to conduct a raffle at McKinney's on Southside on November 28, 2008.

The Public Works Director reviewed the water tower inspection report with the Council and indicated that everything was within normal parameters.

It was moved by Fitz, seconded by Johnson and carried unanimously to authorize the purchase of a new Little Falls reversible plow and wing from RDO Equipment Co. for the Street Department in the amount of \$26,081.85.

It was moved by Johnson, seconded by Claussen and carried unanimously to schedule a public hearing for the 2008 Concrete Project assessments at 5:30 p.m. on November 17, 2008.

It was moved by Claussen, seconded by Fitz and carried unanimously to approve a pay request from Emblom's Midwest Powerline Construction, Inc. for the 115 kV Transmission Line in the amount of \$271,272.98.

It was moved by Claussen, seconded by Johnson and carried unanimously to approve three pay requests from DGR for professional services through August 31, 2008 for the Electric System Improvements in the amount of \$10,893.06 (\$5,417.39 for 115 kV Substation, \$1,285.67 for 115 kV Transmission Line, \$4,190 for Distribution Feeders).

There was a brief review of the budget report through August 31, 2008.

Staff informed the Council that progress on the Roosevelt Park lift station is going well.

Member Fitz mentioned that she has received complaints on the condition of the sidewalk in front of the theatre. The City Manager indicated that this is one of several projects being considered for the 2009 budget. She also asked about the status of park equipment for the Countryside Park. Consensus of the Council was to refer this item to the Park Board.

It was moved by Fitz, seconded by Claussen and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 6:15 p.m.

Mayor

Attest: _____
City Clerk