

**MINUTES – BENSON CITY COUNCIL – REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 22, 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: Finance Director Glen Pederson, Public Works Director Elliot Nelson, and Police Chief Jim Crace.

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

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

- a. January 7, 2008 City Council Meeting
- b. November 26, 2007 SCBH Board Meeting
- c. January 7, 2008 Planning Commission Meeting

The Mayor reviewed the following correspondence with the Council:

- a. Wilcox and Ulmaniec regarding the Six Mile Grove Township Annexation
- b. Chippewa Valley Agrafuels Cooperative regarding the Annual Meeting
- c. Swift County Assessor regarding Local Board and Equalization Training

It was moved by Fitz, seconded by Johnson and carried unanimously to appoint Delbert Gonnerman to fill a vacancy on the Planning Commission with his term expiring December 31, 2010.

It was moved by Claussen, seconded by Johnson and carried unanimously to approve a Gambling Permit to the Northern Lights Trails for a bingo event on March 28, 2008 at the VFW Post 1403.

It was moved by Fitz, seconded by Johnson and carried unanimously to appoint Jack Kjos to fill vacancies on the Airport Commission and Benson Area Tourism Board. His term on the Airport Commission will expire December 31, 2008 and his term on the Tourism Board will expire December 31, 2010.

The Mayor informed the Council that representatives from the Chamber, Swift County RDA, Benson Area Tourism Board, and the City are meeting on Friday, January 25, to begin discussions on potential economic development opportunities during the Big Stone II construction project.

The Police Chief presented the 2007 Police Department Annual Report.

The Finance Director reviewed 2008 budgets with the Council. After discussion, it was moved by Landmark, seconded by Claussen and carried unanimously to approve the following budgets for 2008:

- a. Utility Fund
- b. Garbage Collection Fund
- c. Liquor Fund
- d. Economic Development Authority
- e. General Capital Outlay Fund
- f. Storm Water Fund
- g. Concrete Projects Fund

The Public Works Director informed the Council that staff is negotiating with the BNSF railroad regarding placement of the transmission line. They are determining the best location for the line.

It was moved by Fitz, seconded by Landmark and carried unanimously to approve six pay requests from DGR for professional services through 12.31.07 regarding the Electric System Improvements in the amount of \$10,424 (\$4,200 for 115 kV Transmission Line, \$1,850 for Distribution Feeders, \$1,209.50 for 115 kV Substation, \$1,068.50 for 115 kV Transmission Line, \$234 for 115 kV Source Sub Mods, \$1,862 for Distribution Feeders).

It was moved by Johnson, seconded by Claussen and carried unanimously to approve submitting an application for a permit to allow the City to install the proposed 13.8 kV underground distribution line within BNSF right-of-way.

The Public Works Director informed the Council that the following quotes were received for the water well test drilling project:

Contractor	Total Quotation
Steffl Drilling & Pump, Inc.	\$16,464
Thein Well Company, Inc.	\$16,885
Ervin Well Company, Inc.	\$24,010

It was moved by Landmark, seconded by Fitz and carried unanimously to accept the low quote of \$16,464 from Steffl Drilling & Pumps, Inc. as recommended by staff.

The Public Works Director informed the Council that the City has received the Air Emission Permit for the power plant that extends the permit to January 16, 2013.

The Finance Director presented two bills and warrant lists for approval. It was moved by Fitz, seconded by Claussen and carried unanimously to approve bills and warrants in the amount of \$129,497.51 and \$860,232.38.

It was moved by Fitz, seconded by Claussen and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 6:27 p.m.

Mayor

Attest: _____
City Clerk