

**MINUTES - BENSON CITY COUNCIL - REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 4, 2016**

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Mayor Landmark. Members present: Gary Landmark, Jack Evenson, Terri Collins, Jonathon Pogge-Weaver & Stephanie Heinzig. Members Absent: None. Also present: City Manager Rob Wolfington, Director of Finance Glen Pederson, City Attorney Don Wilcox, Police Chief Ian Hodge, Police Sergeant Paul Larson, Tom Traen and Diane Trew from the Chamber of Commerce, Jay Alsaker, Mike Pogge-Weaver, Larry Smith and Swift County-Benson Hospital Administrator Kurt Waldbillig.

The Council recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Pederson approached the Council to perform the Oath of Office with new Mayor Gary Landmark and new Councilmembers Terri Collins and Jonathon Pogge-Weaver.

Mayor Landmark asked for any additions or changes to the agenda to which there were none.

It was moved by Evenson, seconded by Heinzig and carried unanimously to approve the agenda.

The Mayor called for any persons with unscheduled business, to which there was none.

It was moved by Collins, seconded by Evenson and carried unanimously to approve the following minutes:

- December 21, 2015 City Council Minutes

Applications for various boards and commissions was next. After discussion it was moved by Evenson, seconded by Heinzig and carried unanimously to appoint members to boards and commissions at the January 19, 2016 City Council Meeting.

Wolfington asked City Attorney Don Wilcox to come to the meeting and explain the relationship between the City, County and Swift County-Benson Hospital. Wilcox said Swift County-Benson Hospital established itself as an independent hospital district in 1992, which is a stand-alone public body and answers to no one. The ownership of the Hospital was split 2/3 County and 1/3 City ownership before establishing themselves as a hospital district. The City is allowed to appoint 3 members and the County 6 to the Hospital Board, and term limits are set by the appointer. However, the Hospital cannot borrow money or bond without approval from the County and City, except for revenue bonding. The City and County can appropriate funds if they wish. The City and County should be receiving an annual budget from the Hospital, but can only comment on the budget. By-laws of the Hospital are approved by the County and City.

Next Traen and Trew approached the Council. Wolfington presented a purchase agreement for the Chamber of Commerce building located at 1228 Atlantic Ave. that experienced water damage when a water pipe broke in the building next to it last year. The purchase agreement states the City would purchase the building for \$1 and all personal items would be cleaned out before the City would take possession. Hopefully the building can be repurposed for another business, but if not it will be demolished. The Council reviewed the agreement. Wilcox stated there is a sentence on the second page that does not belong in this agreement, and should be removed. After discussion, it was moved by Evenson, seconded by Pogge-Weaver and carried unanimously to approve the purchase agreement with the aforementioned correction.

Trew gave the Council an update on activities and what the Chamber of Commerce is doing to gain memberships and revitalize the Chamber of Commerce. It was moved by Collins, seconded by Heinzig and carried unanimously to approve a membership to the Chamber of Commerce by the Liquor fund in the amount of \$160.00, and the Utility fund in the amount of \$240.00.

It was moved by Evenson, seconded by Collins and carried unanimously to approve the following appointments:

Emergency Chain of Command	Gary Landmark Stephanie Heinzig Jack Evenson Terri Collins Jonathon Pogge-Weaver
Economic Development Authority	Heinzig and Evenson
Fire Board	Landmark and Evenson
HRA	Landmark
Library Board	Collins
Liquor Committee	Pogge-Weaver and Heinzig
Park Board	Evenson and Landmark
Personnel Committee	Heinzig and Collins
Planning Commission	Evenson
President Pro-Tem	Heinzig
Utility Committee:	Heinzig and Evenson
Facilities Committee:	Heinzig and Evenson
Kid Day Committee:	Heinzig and Evenson
Civil Cases: City Attorney	Don Wilcox
Civil Cases: Assistant City Attorney	Ben Wilcox
Attorney Handling Criminal Cases	Wilcox Law Office

It was moved by Evenson, seconded by Collins and carried unanimously to designate the Monitor News as the official newspaper in 2016.

It was moved by Heinzig, seconded by Evenson and carried unanimously that state banks, national banks, and thrift institutions located either within or outside the State of Minnesota that qualify as depositories under Minnesota Law are hereby designated as depositories for the City of Benson.

Wolfington discussed the 2016 proposed Council Meeting Dates. He said Bill Radio has been contracted to come out and facilitate a Strategic Planning work shop. After discussion, it was moved by Heinzig, seconded by Collins and carried unanimously to hold a Special City Council Strategic Planning Workshop January 15 & 16, 2016 and designate 2016 City Council meeting dates on the first and third Mondays of each month at 5:30 p.m. When a meeting date falls on a holiday the following Tuesday will be the designated meeting date, except for February which the second meeting will be held on February 22, 2016.

It was moved by Evenson, seconded by Pogge-Weaver and carried unanimously to authorize the following as check signers for the following accounts:

All Accounts:	Mayor Gary Landmark, City Manager Robert Wolfington, and Director of Finance Glen Pederson
Incidental Fund:	Lisa Kent and Valerie Alsaker
Hospital & Meter Rent Account:	Lisa Kent
Cafeteria Plan Trust:	Lisa Kent and Justin Kroeger-Flexible Benefit Administrators

It was moved by Collins, seconded by Heinzig and carried unanimously to schedule the Board of Review on April 18, 2016 from 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm.

Wolfington said the heliport was put to use for the first time last weekend. He also updated the Council the supports were placed in the SNAP building over the weekend.

There being no other business, a motion was made by Evenson, seconded by Pogge-Weaver and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 6:07 p.m.

Mayor

City Manager