

**MINUTES - BENSON CITY COUNCIL - REGULAR MEETING
JUNE 2, 2014**

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by the Mayor. Members present: Paul Kittelson, Mike Fugleberg, Jack Evenson, Stephanie Heinzig & Sue Fitz. Members Absent: None. Also present: City Manager Rob Wolfington, Director of Finance Glen Pederson, Public Works Director Dan Gens, Assistant City Attorney Ben Wilcox, Angela Pendill, Valerie Vanderweyst, and Darrell Meehan.

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

- May 19, 2014 City Council Meeting
- May 15, 2014 Safety Committee Meeting
- April 17, 2014 EDA Meeting

Wolfington reviewed the first year of the overhead to underground electric conversion project. He presented an inventory list, and estimated this part of the project would cost \$168,000, and is asking for authorization from the Council to order in the inventory. After discussion it was moved by Evenson, seconded by Fugleberg and carried unanimously to authorize staff to go out for bids.

Wolfington said the City received a letter from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) after an inspection of the Wastewater Treatment Facility. There were four violations. Each violation was reported to the MPCA. Each problem has been addressed and corrected.

Next Wolfington talked about the old mobile manor trailer park on 10th Street North. There are no longer trailers in the park however, there are old tie downs, utility hook ups and a couple of deteriorating buildings on the property which make mowing impossible without damaging equipment. The owner of the property, JCB Properties, is located in White Bear Lake, Minnesota. In order for the City to keep the property from deteriorating further, it will require special assessments to the property owner in order to clean it up. Wilcox confirmed the Council had inspected the property at the May 19, 2014 meeting on their bus tour, and determined the property is a nuisance. It was moved by Evenson, seconded by Fitz and carried unanimously to direct staff to pursue clean-up of the JCB property.

Mayor Kittelson discussed several properties on Atlantic Avenue from 16th St. North to Meadow Lane are in need of repairs or cleaning up. It was the consensus of the Council to direct Assistant City Attorney Wilcox to find out what the City's options are for cleaning up these properties.

Fitz gave a summary of the Planning Commission meeting at noon today. She shared comments from the public at the Chicken listening meeting held on May 28, 2014. The Planning Commission reviewed the request to change the ordinance in order to allow chickens in the City of Benson. Some concerns were disease and financial resources needed to monitor the chickens. The Planning Commission recommended no change to the current ordinance. After discussion, it was moved by Evenson, seconded by Fugleberg and carried unanimously to make no changes to the current animal ordinance.

Angela Pendill asked how often can a request to change the animal ordinance come before the Council. Wolfington said there is nothing in the City Charter on time limits for consideration. Wolfington also stated there are two agricultural districts within the City limits that allow chickens, but they are on the outskirts of the City.

There was a pay request from B.G. Amundson for concrete work. Wolfington said this is the last of the June 2013 storm expenses. It was moved by Fugleberg, seconded by Fitz and carried unanimously to approve the pay request in the amount of \$7,836.80.

Public Works Director Gens approached the Council with a verbal change order on the water main construction on 15th Street South for \$700.00 to Riley Brother to lay down geotextile fabric. It will allow for better drainage and adds strength to the road. It was moved by Fitz, seconded by Heinzig and carried unanimously to approve the change order to Riley Brothers in the amount of \$700.00.

There being no other business, a motion was made by Fugleberg, seconded by Evenson and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 5:50 p.m.

Mayor

City Clerk