

**MINUTES - BENSON CITY COUNCIL - REGULAR MEETING  
AUGUST 4, 2014**

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by the Mayor. Members present: Paul Kittelson, Jack Evenson, Mike Fugleberg, Stephanie Heinzig & Sue Fitz. Members Absent: None. Also present: Director of Finance Glen Pederson, Director of Public Works Dan Gens, Assistant City Attorney Ben Wilcox, Chamber Board Member Tom Traen, Chamber Manager Mary Beth Thayer, Terry Sullivan and Women of Today Representatives Becky Lysen and Lisa Burns.

The Mayor called for unscheduled business. Terry Sullivan from Patrick's Bar and Grill approached the Council and thanked the Chamber of Commerce and the City Council for the opportunity to hold a street dance on Kid Day Weekend. He said it was successful and hoped to hold another event like this in the future.

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

- July 21, 2014 City Council Meeting
- June 26, 2014 EDA Meeting

The Mayor noted openings on boards and commissions.

The Mayor said Missouri River Energy Services will be holding a Policymakers Dinner & Discussion on September 4, 2014 at 5:30 p.m. The Mayor, City Manager and Councilmember Heinzig will attend.

Countryside Public Health has developed a Public Pool Ordinance that adopts the State Public Pool Rules, and will be bringing it to a public hearing at the Swift County Commission meeting on August 5, 2014 at 9 a.m.

The Mayor reviewed correspondence from Charter Communications stating on or after September 3, 2014 they will be going all digital with their stations and will be moving Public Access channel number 8 to channel number 180.

The Mayor noted the City Manager will be gone overnight to the MRES Legal Seminar August 6-7, 2014 with City Attorneys Don & Ben Wilcox. The City Manager will also be gone overnight to a MRES Board Meeting August 13, 2014.

Next Chamber Board Member Tom Traen approached the City Council. He expressed the difficulty the Chamber has had with retaining membership and making expenses. He said since 2010 their memberships are down by 52. He went on to say the board has reviewed the events. Chamber Manager Mary Beth Thayer organizes the events, but struggles to recruit volunteers to help with the events. There was discussion on business support for the Chamber events. Thayer stated how expensive the Bandfest and Kid Day events have gotten to be, but also realizes how these events are important to Benson. After more discussion, Train announced the Chamber Board has voted to stop coordinating the events except for the Holiday Stroll.

Next Becky Lysen from the Women of Today asked for the Armory fees to be waived for their annual Holiday Expo event in October. It was moved by Fugleberg, seconded by Evenson and carried unanimously to waive Armory fees for the Holiday Expo to be held on October 18, 2014.

Wilcox approached the Council with a draft of an Urban Blight Ordinance. Fitz asked who would enforce the ordinance. Ben said each town is different, but he would suggest that it be part of the Building Inspector's responsibilities. After discussion, it was move by Fitz, seconded by Evenson and carried

unanimously to approve the 1<sup>st</sup> Reading of an Ordinance To Amend Title IX: General Regulations: Benson City Code of 2003 Chapter 98: Structure in Disrepair.

The Mayor reviewed a request from the Benson Sportsman's Club, to use City property off of highway 9 by the old City dump to establish a shooting range. The Council had several questions and directed staff to investigate what other cities do and what the club would like to accomplish.

The Deer Hunters re-submitted an application for a gambling permit. They decided to change the date to October 12, 2014 for their event. It was moved by Evenson, seconded by Fugleberg and carried unanimously to approve a gambling permit for the Swift County Deer Hunters for October 12, 2014.

Gens approached the Council with a material list of items for the cemetery move and overhead to underground project. Gens said we had to change the route, and some quantities weren't included on the original material list. The over-run is expected to be about \$30,000. There should be no more major materials to be purchased. After discussion it was moved by Heinzig, seconded by Fugleberg and carried unanimously to approve purchase of the material list as presented. Mayor Kittelson said there has not been any final decisions on how to expand the Cemetery yet which will be up to the Council.

Gens presented an overview of an assessment ordinance draft, along with a 5 year in house street re-construction plan and proposed list of contracted street reconstruction projects in need of repair. The Council instructed staff to set up a public informational meeting on the assessment ordinance, and street reconstruction projects, and what the projected costs will be to homeowners. After discussion, it was moved by Evenson, seconded by Heinzig and carried unanimously to approve the 1<sup>st</sup> Reading of an Ordinance To Amend Chapter 8: Public Improvements and Special Assessments.

It was moved by Fitz, seconded by Fugleberg and carried unanimously to approve a Small Cities grant payment in the amount of \$5,741.00.

It was moved by Fitz, seconded by Fugleberg and carried unanimously to approve a Small Cities grant payment in the amount of \$2,213.00.

Pederson reviewed the June 2014 Budget Report with the Council.

Next Councilmember Fugleberg said he has some high school students possibly interested in how local government works. He was asking if they could attend the Council meetings and sit at the table to observe how local government works. It was the consensus of the Council to welcome these students.

There being no other business, a motion was made by Evenson, seconded by Fitz and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 6:33 p.m.

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Mayor

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City Clerk