

**MINUTES - BENSON CITY COUNCIL - REGULAR MEETING
OCTOBER 19, 2009**

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

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

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

- a. October 5, 2009 Regular City Council Meeting
- b. September 15, 2009 Benson HRA Meeting
- c. August 10, 2009 Benson Park Board Meeting
- d. October 5, 2009 Benson Planning Commission Meeting

The City Manager reviewed the following correspondence with the Council:

- a. Missouri River Energy Services (MRES) RE: Annual URGE Data Testing
- b. Benson Area Chamber of Commerce. It was moved by Fitz, seconded by Johnson and carried unanimously to join the Chamber for 2010 at the membership rate of \$225.
- c. Swift County HRA. It was moved by Landmark, seconded by Fitz and carried unanimously to approve a small cities owner occupied residential grant for L&B Z in the amount of \$17,059.

The City Manager informed the Council that staff will be conducting a planned outage to simulate a black start of the generators. Staff has looked at a couple of times and dates. Cindy Evenson from Agvise expressed that an early morning or evening would be better for Agvise because of the time involved in turning equipment off, cooling time and turning the equipment back on. After discussion, there was consensus of the Council to schedule the planned outage at 2:00 a.m. on Saturday, October 24, contingent upon this time working for Great River Energy and Ottertail.

Tim Miller from MRES reviewed the Electric Rate Study with the Council.

The Finance Director informed the Council what affect the proposed water rates would have on customers. The Water Rate Study was completed by Ehlers. There were no changes in the proposed wastewater rates from the last Council meeting. No action was taken on any of the proposed rate changes. Staff informed the Council that for rates to be effective the first of year, Council will need to adopt the rates in November.

Council Member Fitz offered the following Resolution and moved its adoption:

**AUTHORIZATION TO EXECUTE
MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
GRANT AGREEMENT FOR AIRPORT MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION
(RESOLUTION NO. 2009-23)**

It is resolved by the City of Benson as follows:

1. That the State of Minnesota Agreement No. 94831, "Grant Agreement for Airport Maintenance and Operation," at the Benson Municipal Airport is accepted.
2. That the Mayor and City Manager are authorized to execute this Agreement and any amendments on behalf of the City of Benson.

Member Johnson seconded the foregoing Resolution and the following vote was recorded: AYES: Fitz, Johnson, Landmark, Kittelson. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Claussen. Whereupon the Mayor declared Resolution No. 2009-23 duly passed and adopted.

It was moved by Landmark, seconded by Fitz and carried unanimously to approve a Certificate of Final Acceptance from Struck and Irwin Paving for the pavement crack repair project at the Benson Airport.

It was moved by Fitz, seconded by Johnson and carried unanimously to approve a pay request from Bonestroo in the amount of \$18,893.26 (\$17,689.26 for replacement well and \$1,204 for lift stations).

Member Landmark asked what staff found out about the well #12 failure. Staff informed the Council it wasn't as bad as initially thought. Staff will present a recommendation at a future meeting.

Council Member Landmark offered the following Resolution and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION ADOPTING APPLICATION FEE FOR
GOLF CART AND MINI-TRUCK PERMIT
(RESOLUTION NO. 2009-24)**

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Benson, Minnesota resolved:

In Section 3 of the Benson Rate Resolution that the following Application Fee is hereby established with adoption of this resolution:

Application Fee for Golf Cart and Mini Truck Permit: \$25.00 [annual]

Member Fitz seconded the foregoing Resolution and the following vote was recorded: AYES: Landmark, Fitz, Johnson, Kittelson. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Claussen. Whereupon the Mayor declared Resolution No. 2009-24 duly passed and adopted.

The Finance Director reviewed the budget report through September 30, 2009 with the Council. The City Manager mentioned that tree removal charges for Dutch Elm Diseased trees are higher than anticipated.

During review of the bills and warrants, the Finance Director informed the Council that the Caldwell Asphalt Company payment in the amount of \$18,313.14 was a duplicate. It was moved by Landmark, seconded by Fitz and carried unanimously to approve the bills and warrants in the revised amount of \$297,544.78.

The City Manager informed the Council that the Library Board is recommending that the Head Librarians hours be increased from 35 to 40 hours per week. This was informational, as this recommendation may be coming to the Council for approval.

It was moved by Fitz, seconded by Johnson and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 p.m.

Mayor

Attest: _____
City Clerk