

**MINUTES - BENSON CITY COUNCIL - REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 7, 2011**

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Mayor Paul Kittelson. Members present: Sue Fitz, Bob Claussen, Gary Landmark, Paul Kittelson, and Ben Hess. Also present: City Manager Rob Wolfington, Finance Director Glen Pederson, Public Works Director Elliot Nelson, Chief of Police Jim Crace and PeopleServices Supervisor Dan Wroge.

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

It was moved by Landmark, seconded by Hess and carried unanimously to approve the January 18, 2011 Regular City Council Meeting Minutes, the 1/21/11 Safety Committee Minutes, the 12/16/2010 & 1/13/2011 EDA Minutes and the 2010 Annual Sr. Advocacy Corporation Treasurer Report.

The Council reviewed the following correspondence:

- a. PeopleServices Inc. 2010 Maintenance Refund: Dan Wroge informed the council that a refund of \$43,020.00 had been given to the City. This was to true up the costs of chemicals and maintenance built into the monthly contract amount. Dan also stated on January 18, 2011 a high strength industrial release came from somewhere in the system. They are drafting a letter to send to our industrial customers.
- b. HRA Director Resignation: It was moved by Landmark and seconded by Fitz and carried unanimously to accept HRA Director Jan Rohne's resignation
- c. Swift County Food Shelf: It was noted the Swift County Food Shelf will be launching their 2011 March Food Drive and are looking for donations to support the Food Shelf.
- d. Fibrominn Report: Acknowledged a report sent to Swift County by Fibrominn for their 2010 Annual Case Specific Beneficial Use Determination.
- e. Missouri River Energy Services: Missouri River Energy Services sent a survey for policy makers to fill out and return. The City Manager suggested that they fill them out and return to him to be forwarded to MRES.
- f. Minnesota Department of Health: Received a letter from The MN Department of Health dated 2/2/2011 concerning the water treatment rehab plant #2. The letter stated there would be no significant environmental impact with this project and directed the City to publish the Notice and Environmental Summary to complete the review steps.

The Council was informed of the following traveling events:

- a. Mayor and City Manager to St. Paul for CGMC Legislative meeting on Feb. 9 and to review the tourism booth at the Minneapolis RV and Recreation Show on Feb. 10

It was moved by Landmark, seconded by Hess and carried unanimously to approve a request to replace the 2005 Crown Victoria police squad car with a 2011 Ford Crown Victoria at a cost of \$22,003 plus approximately \$4,000 to up-fit equipment and radios.

The next item discussed was the 2010 Annual Benson Airport Manager's report. Wolfington reviewed the report. Elliot Nelson commented on snow and ice removal at the Airport.

The next item discussed was a Grant Agreement for Shared Fire and Rescue Services from the State Fire Marshall. After discussion it was moved by Claussen, seconded by Landmark and carried unanimously to authorize the Mayor and City Manager to execute the agreement.

Director of Finance Glen Pederson reported that Missouri River Energy Services was implementing a Load Management Verification program which would realize an annual payment from MRES of approximately \$3,725 to encourage us to continue our load management program. It was moved by Claussen, seconded by Landmark and carried unanimously to participate in the MRES Load Management Verification Payment Program according to the terms and conditions in the agreement.

The City Manager informed the Council that MRES is considering offering a cost sharing Organizational Check-up to member electric utilities through Hometown Connections. In return for the cost sharing, MRES would require someone from the City to serve on a panel at their annual meeting to discuss the impressions of the process and its value. It was moved by Fitz, seconded by Claussen and carried unanimously to authorize participation in the Organizational Check-up” at a net cost of \$8,000.

Councilmember Claussen asked about the status of the new RICE emissions requirements on our electric generators. The City Manager reported that discussions are being held on the equipment definitions but that nothing has changed and at this point our generators are going to have to comply.

The following bids were received for tire purchases in 2011:

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|-------------------------|-------------|
| Toms Service | \$11,344.40 |
| Amundson Peterson, Inc. | \$10,520.78 |
| Glacial Plains Coop | \$9,691.79 |

It was moved by Landmark, seconded by Claussen and carried unanimously to award the annual tire bid to Glacial Plains Coop in the amount of \$9,691.79.

It was moved by Hess, seconded by Fitz and carried unanimously to approve a pay request from Bonestroo in the amount of \$22, 440.26:

- City of Benson General - \$1,356.00
- Benson Replacement Well - \$1,213.50
- Benson Lift Stations - \$1,801.50
- Water Treatment Plant Improvements - \$12,840.76
- 2010 Sandy’s Sanitary Lift Station Renovation - \$5,228.50

There was discussion about a proposed vacation of right of way in Homewood 8th addition. The request came from Stan Olson and Shawn Tolifson. A motion was made by Fitz, second by Hess and carried unanimously to schedule a public hearing on March 21, 2011 beginning at Six o’clock P.M. in the city council chambers. The purpose of this hearing is to obtain input from the public on a proposed vacation of certain undeveloped public rights of way which were dedicated to the public use by the plat of Homewood 8th Addition to the city of Benson.

Wolfington reviewed the Flood Fight meeting held on January 27, 2011. One finding from the meeting was the engineered levy would not be able to be feasibly built. Other possibilities for flood control are being explored.

It was moved by Landmark, seconded by Claussen and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 6:05 p.m.

Mayor

City Clerk