

**MINUTES - BENSON CITY COUNCIL - SPECIAL MEETING
MAY 26, 2009**

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Mayor Paul Kittelson. Members present: Sue Fitz, Anne Johnson, Bob Claussen, Gary Landmark, and Paul Kittelson. Members absent: None. Also present: City Manager Rob Wolfington, Finance Director Glen Pederson, and Police Chief Jim Crace.

The City Manager asked the Council to consider retaining Brian Grogan, an attorney with Moss & Barnett, to represent the City along with other Cities in the Charter Communication bankruptcy proceedings. It was moved by Fitz, seconded by Landmark and carried unanimously to retain Brian Grogan to represent the City in the Charter Communication bankruptcy.

The Council acknowledged resignation letters from the Benson HRA Board from Cliff Bronniche and Barb Nelson. The Mayor proposed appointing Members Landmark and Fitz to fill the two vacancies on the Benson HRA Board. Then there would be a quorum of the Council on the Benson HRA Board because Member Johnson already serves on the Board. The City Manager mentioned that the posting for Benson HRA Board meetings will need to include that a quorum of the Council will be present at the meeting. It was moved by Claussen, seconded by Johnson and carried unanimously to appoint Landmark and Fitz to fill two vacancies on the Benson HRA Board.

The Police Chief reviewed with the Council a budget with various levels of staffing. He informed the Council that Officer Moen is still out on a Work Comp injury and it will probably not be known until October whether he will be returning or not. Officer Siefkes has accepted a job with the Redwood County Sheriff's office effective June 1st. A part-time officer has accepted a full-time position with the Morris Police Department. He is asking the Council to consider filling the full-time position vacated by Officer Siefkes. After discussion, it was moved by Fitz, seconded by Claussen and carried unanimously to authorize the advertising for a full-time position for the Police Department.

It was moved by Landmark, seconded by Johnson and carried unanimously to approve a pay request from Great River Energy for the transmission line for the new substation in the amount of \$221,031.03.

The City Manager mentioned that nothing new is known regarding LGA and the budget.

The City Manager informed the Council that staff is requesting permission to advertise for proposals to inspect and clean the exterior of the water tower. It was moved by Claussen seconded by Fitz and carried unanimously to authorize advertising for proposals to inspect and clean the exterior of the water tower with proposals accepted until 3:00 p.m. on June 24, 2009.

The City Manager brought up that the next City Council meeting is next Monday, June 1. He asked the Council to consider rescheduling the June 1 meeting to June 8 and the June 15 meeting to June 22. It was moved by Landmark, seconded by Fitz and carried unanimously to reschedule the June 1 and June 15 City Council meetings to June 8 and June 22.

It was moved by Claussen, seconded by Johnson and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 6:20 p.m.

Mayor

Attest: _____
City Clerk