

**MINUTES – BENSON CITY COUNCIL – SPECIAL MEETING  
JULY 16, 2007**

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Mayor Paul Kittelson. Members present: Sue Fitz, Bob Claussen, Gary Landmark, and Paul Kittelson. Members absent: One vacancy. Also present: City Manager Rob Wolfington, Director of Public Works Elliot Nelson, Director of Finance Glen Pederson, Police Chief Jim Crace, Fire Chief Greg Lee, Superintendent Lee Westrum, and Hospital Administrator Frank Lawatsch.

The Police Chief introduced two new police officers that recently began employment with the Benson Police Department: Matt Siefkes and Paul Larson.

It was moved by Claussen, seconded by Landmark and carried unanimously to reject the bids that were opened on June 25, 2007 for the Fire Hall Exhaust Extraction System and authorized staff to re-advertise for bids for the Exhaust Extraction System and to set an appropriate bid opening date.

It was moved by Fitz, seconded by Claussen and carried unanimously to approve a pay request from Lakes Area Paving for the 2007 Bituminous Work in the amount of \$53,791.05.

The City Manager began the strategic planning session with a power point presentation of the following topics:

- Review Current Mission Statement
- Projects and Priorities 2006 – 2010
- 2008 Budget Challenges and Opportunities
- Big Ticket Projects (Eaton Park Trail FY2010 & Pacific Ave Road Extension FY 2012)
- Develop Strategic Partnerships
- Industrial Park Extension
- Comprehensive Planning 2008 – 2010
- Public Facilities Planning
- Street Reconstruction Five Year Plan
- Electric Utility Project – Substation & 115 Kv Transmission
- Central Business District Project

During discussion of the presentation, the Council agreed to the following:

- Directed staff to contact local plumbers to obtain costs for a temporary fix to provide heat at the armory building and to also contact a firm to study the future needs of City facilities and make a recommendation on how to proceed.
- To begin the process for updating our comprehensive plan
- Consensus to proceed with improvements in the Northeast Railroad Park
- Have discussion on the level of subsidy for each General Fund activity
- Begin to plan for the creation of a Storm Water Utility Fund
- Enter into a lease agreement for the elevator once the purchase from BNSF is complete

It was moved by Fitz, seconded by Landmark and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk