

**MINUTES - BENSON CITY COUNCIL MEETING
OCTOBER 21, 2019**

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Mayor Collins. Members present: Jack Evenson, Terri Collins, Jon Buyck, Mark Schreck & Lucas Olson. Members Absent: None. Also present: City Manager Rob Wolfington, Director of Finance Glen Pederson, Police Chief Ian Hodge, Director of Public Works Dan Gens, Nathan Miller, Jon Hawley and Bob Erdman from the Racquetball Club and Scott Collins.

The Council recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Collins asked for any changes or additions to the agenda. The Mayor added Emergency Elm Tree to the agenda. It was moved by Buyck, seconded by Schreck and carried unanimously to approve the amended agenda.

It was moved by Evenson, seconded by Schreck and carried unanimously to approve the following items on the consent agenda:

- 10.7.2019 City Council Meeting
- 10.3.2019 Safety Committee Meeting
- 6.19.2019 Cemetery Board Meeting

Donations:

- Library Patrons - \$8.01
- Fire Department – Appleton Ridge Runners - \$100
- Fire Department – Clayton Dale - \$20
- Mayor’s Mingle – MacKenzsie Dokkebakken - \$20
- Beautify Benson Tee – Deborah Berry - \$12
- Beautify Benson Tee – Patron - \$24

Electronic Transfers:

Payroll: \$101,139.85 October 10, 2019
Journal: \$2,124,097.32 September 2019

The Mayor asked for people with unscheduled business. Nathan Miller approached the Council. He was concerned about the parking ordinance the Council is having a second reading on today. He asked the Council how they can tell citizens where to park on their property. He said he doesn’t have anywhere else to park in the winter but his yard. He lives on a corner lot and doesn’t want to prepare a gravel lot for his trailer and car. The Mayor drew a picture of his lot and explained where he can and cannot park. They came to an understanding, and the Mayor thanked Nathan for coming in with his concern.

Gens approached the Council with a thank you for the Mayor for her efforts in coordinating “Operation Snowflake”. She coordinated volunteers to help change out light bulbs in the lighted snowflake decorations to LED bulbs. Wolfington estimated there were 26,000 bulbs handled that day.

Next Hawley & Erdman from the Racquetball Club reported on the activity at the Racquetball Club. They recapped the upgrades they have made over the years. Hawley said this winter and spring some of the projects they plan to work on is repairing the women’s shower and painting. They hoped they won’t have to ask for any support from the City. Hawley then thanked the City for the in kind electrical labor, mowing, snow removal and for paving the parking lot this past summer.

It was moved by Schreck, seconded by Evenson and carried unanimously to approve the 2nd Reading of An Ordinance to Amend Title VII: Traffic Code, Chapter 71: Parking Offenses of the Benson City Code of 2003.

Wolfington explained Swift Machine is expanding their building and they will need more electrical service there. He presented three quotes for a transformer as follows:

Irby Utilities	\$14,463.60
Dakota Supply Group	\$ 9,270.00
City of Chaska	\$ 8,393.97

The Irby and Dakota quotes are new transformers, but they have long lead times. The City of Chaska uses the same voltage as we do and we can buy it out of their inventory. It was moved by Evenson, seconded by Olson and carried unanimously to approve the quote from the City of Chaska in the amount of \$8,393.97.

Next were pay requests from O'Day Equipment on the new fueling system at the airport. Wolfington said they have completed the work and are requesting payment. It was moved by Evenson, seconded by Schreck and carried unanimously to approve pay request #3 in the amount of \$100,000 as presented. It was then moved by Evenson, seconded by Schreck and carried unanimously to approve pay request #4 in the amount of \$25,000 as presented.

Wolfington said the tractor at the airport is not in working order. He said Gens is applying for a grant from MnDOT to help replace the tractor. The Grant is a 75% State share and 25% Local match. The total cost will be \$108,746. The City's share will be \$27,186.56. Councilmember Buyck offered the following resolution:

**AUTHORIZATION TO EXECUTE MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT
OF TRANSPORTATION GRANT AGREEMENT FOR AIRPORT IMPROVEMENT
EXCLUDING LAND ACQUISITION
(RESOLUTION 2019-24)**

It is resolved by the **City of Benson** as follows:

1. That the state of Minnesota Agreement No. **1035662**, "Grant Agreement for Airport Improvement Excluding Land Acquisition," for State Project No. **A7601-37** at the **Benson Municipal Airport** is accepted.
2. That the City Manager and Finance Director are authorized to execute this agreement and any amendments of behalf of the City of Benson

Councilmember Olson seconded the foregoing resolution and the following vote was recorded: AYES: Evenson, Collins, Olson, Buyck, Schreck. NAYES: None. Thereupon the Mayor declared Resolution 2019-24 duly passed and adopted.

Next was a pay request from Ferguson Asphalt Paving. It was moved by Olson, seconded by Evenson and carried unanimously to pay Ferguson Asphalt Paving in the amount of \$82,715.13. A portion of this bill will be reimbursed by the Benson Hockey Association and Runnings Inc.

The Council reviewed the September 2019 Budget Report.

Wolfington said there is a property owner who was sent a diseased elm removal letter in July. There are 4 small elms on the property, and it is on private property, which means the landowner must pay to have them removed. They had not removed the trees, and in September they were issued another letter asking their intentions. There has been no response from the property owner. Today, the neighbor

had part of one of the diseased trees break off in the wind and land on his garage. He went on to say these trees are hazardous and is asking for authorization from the Council to remove them immediately. It was moved by Schreck, seconded by Evenson and carried unanimously to remove the dangerous trees from vacant lot parcel #23-0156-000.

It was moved by Evenson, seconded by Schreck and carried unanimously to approve bills and warrants in the amount of \$512,830.55

There being no further business to come before the Council upon motion by Evenson, seconded by Buyck and carried unanimously to adjourn the Council meeting at 5:57 p.m.

Mayor

City Clerk