

**MINUTES - BENSON CITY COUNCIL - SPECIAL MEETING
NOVEMBER 15, 2016**

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Mayor Landmark. Members present: Jack Evenson, Sue Fitz and Gary Landmark. Members Absent: Stephanie Heintzig and Terri Collins. Also present: City Manager Rob Wolfington, Director of Finance Glen Pederson, SCBH CEO Kurt Waldbillig, Jennifer Frost with the RDA, Brian Samuelson, Mary & Pat Langan, Mike Thompson, Lucas Olson Benson Schools Superintendent Dennis Laumeier and School Board Members Andy Abner, Cad Payne, Gary Williams, Bill McGeary and Jodi DeJong-Hughes.

The Council recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Landmark asked for any additions to the agenda to which there were none. A motion was made by Fitz, seconded by Evenson and carried unanimously to approve the agenda as presented.

Laumeier started out thanking everyone for coming. He reviewed a list of joint projects the City and School District have worked on together and was wondering if there are any projects or buildings the City and School District could work together on. Wolfington shared a list of projects coming up for the City to include BNSF Safety improvements, 5 year utility improvements, 2017 Highway project, painting the water tower, wastewater plant inspection and possible upgrades, TIF bonding, and a new City Hall. Laumeier discussed facility maintenance, preschool/daycare issues, updating classrooms, gymnastics and the biggest problem is air quality and the need for new HVAC in the school. Wolfington stated he met with the architect for the armory for an evaluation, environmental and air quality study results. Laumeier asked if there are any facilities the School and City could both use. Abner stated the public often asks if the City and School District can do a joint venture and lower costs for both entities. Payne suggested combining the public and school libraries and the current public library could be converted into the new City Hall. Laumeier stated they want to work together with the City and are not asking for a hand out.

Frost discussed the dire need for daycare in the county. She said there is a one-time grant. It matches dollar for dollar up to \$100,000, and is due in January 2017. She asked there be a joint effort between the City and School to work on a daycare center. Wolfington said the truth in taxation meeting will be on December 5, 2016 and budgets will be set for 2017. He went on to ask if there was a dollar amount she was looking for from the City to which she responded \$50,000. McGeary discussed using the old pool area as class rooms or a daycare center.

It was agreed the boards need to listen to the community needs and work together.

There being no other business, a motion was made by Fitz, seconded by Evenson and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 6:55 p.m.

Mayor

City Clerk