

**MINUTES - BENSON CITY COUNCIL - REGULAR MEETING
NOVEMBER 16, 2015**

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Mayor Kittelson. Members present: Paul Kittelson, Jack Evenson, Sue Fitz, Mike Fugleberg & Stephanie Heinzig. Members Absent: None. Also present: City Manager Rob Wolfington, Director of Finance Glen Pederson, Director of Public Works Dan Gens, Police Chief Ian Hodge, Jackie Johnson, Gary Landmark, Angie Pendill, Jeff DeHaan, Melissa Thompson, Greg Zniewski, Kurt Waldbillig, Terri Collins, Jim Hilleren, Judy Hoberg, Martha Goff and Jonathon Pogge-Weaver.

The Council recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Kittelson asked for any additions or changes to the agenda, to which there were none.

It was moved by Fitz, seconded by Evenson and carried unanimously to approve the agenda.

Mayor Kittelson asked for anyone with unscheduled business, to which there was none.

It was moved by Heinzig, seconded by Evenson and carried unanimously to approve the following minutes:

- November 2, 2015 City Council Minutes
- November 9, 2015 Special City Council Minutes
- October 5, 2015 Planning Commission Minutes

Wolfington presented a thank you note from a parent of a child that took swimming lessons at our swimming pool this last summer, expressing appreciation to Community Ed and the City of Benson.

It was moved by Fugleberg, seconded by Fitz and carried unanimously to approve Kathy Polzin to the Planning Commission Board, with her term ending 12/31/2018.

Next Judy Hoberg with the Cemetery Board approached the Council with a proposal for a new columbarium at the Benson City Cemetery. She explained cremations are on the rise, and a columbarium makes sense. She explained they chose a place just inside the fence to the west, with the option of room for future expansion. The City will be responsible for installation of the foundation for the columbarium. Wolfington said there is \$40,000 in the budget for this project. After discussion, it was moved by Fitz, seconded by Fugleberg and carried unanimously to approve the quote for the columbarium from Eickhof Columbaria Inc. in the amount of \$34,770.00.

Jeff DeHaan approached the Council on behalf of the Benson Hockey Association. He said they have been taking out the old outdoor rink, as the boards were deteriorated. They would like to create outdoor hockey and pleasure rinks in this area with an enclosed heated viewing/changing area and restroom. He said the Hockey Association purchased molded side boards from Custom Roto Mold. They would like to use the area for dry training in the summer. They have been doing some site preparation in the area, and are asking for help from the City. He presented two estimates for concrete work for the rink. One is \$68,400 for the concrete work by Goff Masonry & Concrete. The second estimate is for \$45,650.00, which would be concrete work by Goff, and prep work done by the parents of the Hockey association donating their time on the project. Wolfington said the only thing that may stop the project is if the FAA disapproves of the project at the final inspection on the heliport next to the Civic Center property. There was a question on whether or not there would be an attendant at the outdoor facility.

DeHaan said they are looking into that. After discussion, it was the consensus of the Council to support the project as part of the 2016 Budget.

Jackie Johnson with the Humane Society spoke to the Council, requesting the Council waive the Armory fee for a day-long free spay/neuter event in April of 2016. MN SNAP is a group that would come out, conduct the procedure in their truck. The Armory would be used for recovery of the animals. After discussion, it was moved by Evenson, seconded by Heinzig and carried unanimously to waive the fee for the free spay/neuter event in April 2016.

It was moved by Evenson, seconded by Fitz and carried unanimously to approve the 2nd Reading of An Ordinance to Amend the Code of the City of Benson by Adding Chapter 155 Heliport Zoning and Creating the City of Benson and Swift County Joint Zoning Board.

Wolfington presented TIF information he received from Ehler's and Associates. He described various properties in Benson that were the product of TIF, Tax Abatement and Job Z. There was discussion from the Council on TIF. It was moved by Fitz, seconded by Evenson and carried unanimously to direct staff and the EDA to research possible TIF properties in Benson.

Gens approached the Council and discussed progress on the street department building. There was a pay request from KUE Contractors for work on the street department building. It was moved by Heinzig, seconded by Fugleberg and carried unanimously to approve pay request #4 in the amount of 99,537.00.

Gens presented a change order from Kue Contractors on the street department building for a different garage door opener. It was moved by Heinzig, seconded by Fugleberg and carried unanimously to approve the change order in the amount of \$726.00. Gens mentioned the final walk through for the building is scheduled for December 2, 2015.

Wolfington informed the Council public works has been working on cleaning up the trailer park. There have been asbestos inspections on the buildings to be taken down there as well as in the parks building.

Gens gave the Public Works Report.

Wolfington called to the attention of the Council the Missouri Basin Municipal Power Agency Power Sale Agreement S-1 for review. Joni Livingston with MRES will be at the Special City Council meeting on December 1, 2015 to explain the changes to the agreement.

Wolfington mentioned the Annual Minnesota Hospital Association Trustee Conference in January, and hoped a Council Member would be interested in attending to see how health care is changing. After discussion, it was moved by Evenson, seconded by Fitz and carried unanimously to appoint Wolfington and one other Council member to attend.

Chief Hodge presented the Police Report.

The budget report for October 2015 was reviewed. Pederson said he would like to do a water & sewer rate review.

It was moved by Evenson, seconded by Heinzig and carried unanimously to approve the bills and warrants in the amount of \$527,551.29.

Wolfington reviewed meetings and events for the remainder of 2015.

There being no other business, a motion was made by Fitz, seconded by Fugleberg and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 6:27 p.m.

Mayor

City Manager