

**MINUTES - BENSON CITY COUNCIL MEETING
NOVEMBER 4, 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 and Roxy Lewis.

The Council recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Collins asked for any changes or additions to the agenda. The Mayor removed the Variance Application from the agenda and moved it to the November 18, 2019 meeting. She also added Consider approval of Fire Prevention Awareness Grant and Consider Approval of Benson Civic Center Defibrillator Grant. It was moved by Evenson, seconded by Schreck and carried unanimously to approve the amended agenda.

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

▪ 10.21.2019 City Council Meeting

Donations:

▪ Shirley Ferguson – Beautify Benson - \$50

Electronic Transfers:

Payroll: \$89,847.08 October 24, 2019

The Mayor asked for people with unscheduled business to which there were none.

Wolfington presented a Liability Coverage Waiver Form from the League of Minnesota Cities Insurance Trust. There is a statutory tort limit for liability for cities that purchase liability insurance from them. We have the option to waive the limit and purchase a higher liability policy from them. After discussion it was moved by Evenson, seconded by Schreck and carried unanimously to not waive the monetary limits on municipal tort liability established by Minn. Stat. §466.04.

Wolfington reminded the Council at their last meeting they approved the agreement for a grant to purchase a new JD Tractor for the airport. He reminded them 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. It was moved by Evenson, seconded by Schreck and carried unanimously to authorize staff to move forward with the purchase of the JD Tractor.

Next it was moved by Buyck, seconded by Evenson and carried unanimously to approve transfer of \$35,800 to the Golf Club to cover the 2019 operating deficit.

Wolfington informed the Council the City had guaranteed debt on the dehumidifier at the Civic Center. The final bond payment is due. It was moved by Schreck, seconded by Olson and carried unanimously to approve the transfer of \$24,000 to the Civic Center Board for the final bond payment.

Councilmember Buyck offered the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION TRANSFERRING FUNDS FROM THE GENERAL FUND TO THE SANITARY
SEWER COLLECTION FUND FOR THE SECOND OF THREE ANNUAL PAYMENTS FOR
THE CONNECTION FEE OF SCANDI HAVEN VILLAGE**

(RESOLUTION 2019-25)

Whereas, a senior assisted living facility is being built by Swift County-Benson Health Services, and,

Whereas, the City of Benson acknowledges the impact of having such a facility located within the City, and,

Whereas, the City was requested to participate in the funding of the project by reducing the cost of the building permit, and,

Whereas, a portion of the building permit is for utility fund connection fees that are an integral part of the rate setting for those services, and,

Whereas, the City agreed to waive the \$99,120 sewer connection fee and increase the property tax levy by one third that amount over a three year period.

Now therefore be it resolved that the City Council approves a transfer from the General Fund to the Sanitary Sewer Fund in the amount of \$33,040.

Councilmember Schreck seconded the foregoing resolution and the following vote was recorded: AYES: Evenson, Collins, Olson, Buyck, Schreck. NAYES: None. Thereupon the Mayor declared Resolution 2019-25 duly passed and adopted.

It was moved by Evenson, seconded by Schreck and carried unanimously to approve a grant from the Roberts Sonsteng Memorial Advised Endowment Fund and Benson Area Community Foundation in the amount of \$1,767 for a defibrillator for the Benson Civic Center.

It was moved by Schreck, seconded by Buyck and carried unanimously to approve a grant from the Galen Hanson Memorial Fund in the amount of \$1,500 to the Benson Fire Department for Fire Prevention Awareness education.

It was noted there will be a special City Council meeting on Friday, November 7, 2019 at 12:10 p.m. in the Council Chambers in order to canvass the 2019 General Election.

Evenson asked to make a motion on the proposal to Benson Public Schools for the north end of the Civic Center. He noted there are parties interested in the space, and wanted to establish a deadline for the school to either accept or deny the proposal. It was then moved by Evenson, to sunset the offer on December 16, 2019 to the school for the current proposal to the school for the north end of the civic center. Buyck reviewed the current proposal which is a 5 year lease for \$500,000 minus utilities. The motion was seconded by Buyck, and the motion passed unanimously.

There being no further business to come before the Council upon motion by Evenson, seconded by Olson and carried unanimously to adjourn the Council meeting at 5:39 p.m.

Mayor

City Clerk