

**MINUTES - BENSON CITY COUNCIL - REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 20, 2018**

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Mayor Pro-Tem Evenson. Members present: Jack Evenson, Mark Schreck & Lucas Olson. Members Absent: Terri Collins. Also present: City Manager Rob Wolfington, Director of Finance Glen Pederson, Assistant City Attorney Don Wilcox, Public Works Director Dan Gens, Police Chief Ian Hodge, Dan Enderson and Jon Buyck.

The Council recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Pro-Tem Evenson asked if there were any additions to the agenda. Wolfington asked to add applications to the Planning Commission from Matt Mattheisen and Chuck Koenigs, Pay Request for meter modules, Petition for vacation of utility Easement by ROI & First Evangelical Free Church Request for funds. It was moved by Schreck, seconded by Olson and carried unanimously to approve the amended agenda.

It was moved by Olson seconded by Schreck and carried unanimously to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda:

- February 2, 2018 City Council Minutes
- January 17, 2018 EDA Minutes
- Jon Buyck & Nicholas Newman to the Planning Comm. terms expiring 12/31/2020
- Carl Trinkle to the Airport Commission term expiring 12/31/2020
- Jeff Zosel & Kathy Polzin to the EDA Board with terms expiring 12/31/2021
- Gambling Permit for the Swift County Gobblers March 23, 2018

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

Wilcox presented a petition for vacation of utility easement from Residential Options, Inc. (ROI). They need the easement vacated so they can build an assisted living project where this is located. Wolfington stated a Centurylink 300 pair telephone line is located in this easement as well as Charter cable television service. They will be charging \$53,000 to move their utilities. The City's electric utility costs to move their service will be \$30,000-\$40,000. It was moved by Schreck, seconded by Olson and carried unanimously to accept the petition for vacation of utility easement from ROI and upon review by legal counsel find it to be legally sufficient. Upon recommendation by Wolfington, it was agreed if the vacation of the utility easement is approved, the City Utility will pay the costs to move the current utilities in the easement, and then in turn bill ROI for the costs to be paid out of the TIF proceeds. It was moved by Schreck, seconded by Olson and carried unanimously to schedule a public hearing to take testimony for or against vacation of a utility easement on March 19, 2018 at 5:30 p.m.

Wolfington presented an updated utility map of the proposed assisted living project to the Council. He noted originally the sewer was going to be coming out on McKinney Avenue, but the new plans show it going into the 17th Street South, then down Wisconsin Avenue. The quote for sewer and water utilities will not be as high as if the sewer service would go into McKinney Avenue and TIF on this project will have to be recalculated.

The Benson Airport receives funds through the federal government, which is held at the State for approved projects. Every five years, we have a request for qualifications for architectural/ engineering/ planning services at the Benson Municipal Airport. It was moved by Olson, seconded by Schreck and carried unanimously to approve proceeding forward to select a qualified firm for engineering services at the Benson Municipal Airport.

Wolfington informed the Council of a notice of hearing scheduled for March 16, 2018 in the matter of request for land detachment from the City of Benson served to us by the Minnesota Office of Administrative Hearings. There will be an attempt to mediate over the phone, but most likely it will go to a hearing. Torning Township has remained silent on the issue.

Next was a request for funds from the Swift County Food Shelf. Wolfington recommended we offer "in kind" help in place of financial support, to which the Council agreed.

Lamar Advertising Company has two billboards east of Stony Ridge Foods on Hwy 12 east. Stony Ridge has purchased some of the land the billboard is on and Lamar is asking the Council to move the billboard farther to the east, and repair the other billboard that is there along with cleaning up overgrown brush. There will be no net increase in size of either billboard. After discussion, Councilmember Schreck offered the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION TO RELOCATE BILLBOARD SIGN
(RESOLUTION NO. 2018-07)**

WHEREAS, the City Council has received a request to relocate and/or rebuild a billboard sign located within the City at Highway 12 and 10th Street North on property owned by Stony Ridge Foods; and,

WHEREAS, the proposed relocation/rebuilding of said billboard would move further east onto property also owned by Stony Ridge Foods; and

WHEREAS, said sign relocation/rebuilding would not result in an increase in any existing Nonconforming Uses,

NOW THEREFORE, The City Council of the City of Benson, Minnesota resolves that the billboard sign located at Highway 12 and 10th Street North in the City of Benson may be relocated or rebuilt, subject to the following terms:

1. The relocation/rebuilding will not result in a net increase in Nonconforming Uses.
2. The relocated or rebuilt billboard will comply with all setback, right-of-way and zoning requirements.

Councilmember Olson seconded the foregoing resolution and the following vote was recorded: AYES: Evenson, Schreck, Olson. NAYES: None. Thereupon the Mayor declared Resolution 2018-07 duly passed and adopted.

Wolfington presented a list of quotes public works would like to obtain for the 2018 season. After discussion, it was moved by Schreck, seconded by Olson and carried unanimously to approve public works request to go out for the following bids for the 2018 season: bituminous, tires, concrete, chip sealing and to clean the inside and outside of the water tower.

Next was a capital authorization request from the line department for a used scissors lift. With electrician work, it is hard to use a bucket truck to get into some of the high ceilings we have to work on. It was moved by Olson, seconded by Schreck and carried unanimously to approve the purchase of a used Genie 12/2016 1930 scissors lift with 90 hours on it from Willmar Forklift in the amount of \$8,900.

There was another capital authorization request for a pick-up tool box. Wolfington asked the Council not to act on the request, but instead look at a new pickup for the line department that will come equipped with a tool box in the box of the pickup at a future City Council meeting. He stated a new pick-up is in the budget for this year. The Council agreed to wait on this request.

It was moved by Olson, seconded by Schreck and carried unanimously to approve the bills and warrants in the amount of \$722,047.93.

Pederson approached the Council with a request to purchase meter modules. The modules are the piece on the meter that automatically reads the meter. After discussion, it was moved by Schreck, seconded by Olson and carried unanimously to approve ordering 100 meter modules from Omni-Pro in the amount of \$9,900.

Next was the annual request for support from the First Evangelical Free Church to purchase items for the annual Easter Egg Hunt. It was moved by Schreck, seconded by Olson and carried unanimously to approve \$600 to the First Evangelical Free Church to be used for the Easter Egg Hunt on March 31, 2018.

It was moved by Schreck, seconded by Olson and carried unanimously to appoint Matt Mattheisen and Chuck Koenigs to the Planning Commission with their terms ending December 31, 2020.

Wolfington noted there will be a quorum of the Council at a pipeline safety seminar tomorrow night, which a notice of quorum has been posted.

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

Mayor Pro-Tem

City Clerk