

**MINUTES - BENSON CITY COUNCIL - REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 21, 2012**

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Mayor Kittelson. Members present: Paul Kittelson, Mike Fugleberg, Ben Hess, Gary Landmark and Sue Fitz. Members absent: None. Also present: City Manager Rob Wolfington, Police Chief Mike Jambor, Director of Finance Glen Pederson, Director of Public Works Elliot Nelson, Fire Chief Mark Schreck, Fire Department Officers Bob Hoberg, Dave Ebert, Dave Vollan and Rob Lee.

It was moved by Fitz, seconded by Hess and carried unanimously to approve the following minutes on the consent agenda:

- February 6, 2012 City Council Meeting
- February 6, 2012 Planning Commission Meeting

It was moved by Hess, seconded by Fugleberg and carried unanimously to approve a gambling permit for Northern Lights Trails Snowmobile Club.

Council Member Fugleberg offered the following Resolution and moved its adoption:

**AUTHORIZATION TO EXECUTE
STATE OF MINNESOTA, STATE PATROL DIVISION
JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT FOR I/MOBILE SYSTEM
(RESOLUTION NO. 2012-03)**

It is resolved by the City of Benson as follows:

- 1) That the Joint Powers Agreement with the State Patrol Division for Connection to and Access to the State's I-Mobile System for the Benson Police Department is accepted.
- 2) That the Benson Police Chief is Authorized to execute this Agreement and any amendments on behalf of the City of Benson.

Council Member Hess seconded the foregoing Resolution and the following vote was recorded: AYES: Fugleberg, Kittelson, Landmark, Fitz, Hess. NAYS: None. Thereupon the Mayor declared Resolution 2012-03 duly passed and adopted.

Fire Chief Mark Schreck came before the Council to present the 2011 Benson Fire Department Annual Report. He reported a 20% increase in calls for 2011. He also informed the Council about the grants that the department has been awarded over the past 10 years. Wolfington stated he would like to get a proposal from Conway, Dueth and Schmiesing to conduct a study of the Fire Department operating costs. After discussion the Council agreed. There was discussion on the Shared Services Grant completed last year. Schreck stated they have been trying for the past 3 years to obtain a grant for a new tanker truck from FEMA, which they have been denied. He explained the need for a new tanker truck. The tanker they currently have is 30 years old and in need of replacement. Upon recommendation from Wolfington, it was agreed upon by the Council to obtain a proposal from the auditor for a Fire Department study, bring a cost estimate for a new tanker along with any financial comments and bring it to the next Council meeting for consideration. The Mayor and Council thanked the Firemen for their service.

Next was a conference call with Andy Koob from DeWild, Grant, Reckert, and Associates Co. (DGR). Andy explained the new air emission rules from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) stating all internal combustion engines must be in compliance for air emissions by 5/3/2013. Our electric generators fall into this category. After testing our generators, none of them are in compliance. Bringing all Caterpillar engines, the Worthington and Enterprise engines in compliance could cost \$622,700.00. After discussing several approaches and DGR's recommended 2 options, it was decided to table a decision until the March 5, 2012 City Council Meeting.

There was discussion on establishing a storm sewer utility and ordinance. Wolfington asked if we want a storm sewer utility and, how would we use it. There was discussion on previous years repairs and maintenance, which is being paid out of the General fund right now. It was the consensus of the council to table this decision until the next meeting.

Wolfington informed the Council he will be attending a Transit 2012 and Beyond Committee meeting tomorrow in St. Paul. Greater Minnesota transit systems and their future will be discussed.

Next City Council automation was discussed. Wolfington demonstrated his iPad. Currently we are producing paper packets as well as electronic packets and sending both before a City Council meeting. It was also discussed those who wish to go electronic could and others could still receive a paper copy of the packet if they wish. It was moved by Landmark, seconded by Hess and carried unanimously to approve purchasing an iPad for those Councilmembers who would like to receive their information electronically. Also discussed was a policy on the use of City electronic media. The iPads would be returned to the City when a Councilmember leaves.

It was moved by Fugleberg, seconded by Hess and carried unanimously to approve the bills and warrants in the amount of \$344,533.39.

There being no other business, a motion was made by Hess, seconded by Landmark and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 6:33 p.m.

Mayor

City Clerk