

**MINUTES - BENSON CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
CITY HALL
FEBRUARY 7, 2022**

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Mayor Collins. Members present: Jack Evenson, Terri Collins, & Lucas Olson. Present Telephonically: Mark Schreck & Jon Buyck. Members Absent: None. Also present: City Manager Rob Wolfington, Director of Finance Glen Pederson, Police Chief Ian Hodge, Public Works Director Dan Gens, CEDA Representative Hillary Tweed, County Administrator Kelsey Baker and Reed Anfinson.

The Council recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Mayor asked for any changes to the agenda, to which there were none. It was moved by Evenson, seconded by Olson and carried unanimously to approve the agenda as presented.

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

- January 25, 2022 City Council Minutes
- Magney Construction Pay Request #3 - \$30,690.23 – Balance to Finish - \$793,359.66
- Scott Collins to the Park Board – Term to expire December 31, 2024
- Electronic Transfers: Payroll: \$92,603.05 – January 27, 2022

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

Wolfington approached the Council. He said Tim Mooberry signed a petition to have his land next to the Girls Ranch on Highway 9 east annexed into the City. Wolfington further presented a Joint Resolution establishing an orderly annexation agreement between the City of Benson and Torning Township. The annexation would be for the Mooberry land as well as the old Rob's Motel parcel of land next to Ambush Park the City acquired a couple of years ago. Wolfington said Torning Township is in agreement. County Administrator Baker approached the Council to explain when the City acquired the Girls Ranch in 2016 it resulted in the Mooberry property being separated from the rest of Torning Township. All County Commissioner districts are required to be contiguous. Taking this action would eliminate the need for the county to redistrict and avoid holding a special election. After further discussion, it was moved by Olson, seconded by Evenson and carried unanimously to approve the Petition for Orderly Annexation by Tim Mooberry. It was then moved by Evenson, seconded by Olson and carried unanimously to approve the Joint Resolution Establishing An Orderly Annexation Agreement Between the City of Benson and Torning Township.

Next Gens approached the Council with the re-bidding of the Clearwell project results. Three bids came in as follows:

Magney Construction, Inc.	\$2,449,305.00
Rice Lake Construction Group	\$2,624,300.00
Meyer Contracting Inc.	\$2,859,260.00

Gens stated the low bid is \$250,000 less than last year's low bid. After discussion, it was moved by Olson, seconded by Buyck and carried unanimously to approve the bid from Magney Construction in the amount of \$2,449,305.00.

Gens presented 3 quotes for tree removal along East Pacific Avenue.

Dude's Tiling	\$64,500
T & K Kennedy Excavating	\$68,850
Carr's Tree Service	\$23,500

He said according to engineering specifications, the tree roots need to be pulled out and not stumped. He said Carr's Tree Service does not have the equipment to do this, so their quote is disqualified. After discussion it was moved by Olson, seconded by Buyck and carried unanimously to approve the quote from Dude's Tiling in the amount of \$64,500.

Gens presented a Capital Authorization Request to replace the old computer at the wastewater plant. He said the SCADA system connects all the plant operations. The current system was installed in the 1980's and replacement parts are extremely costly and difficult to come by. It will cost \$131,294.00 for a new system. Wolfington stated Xcel funds will be used for this expenditure. After discussion, it was moved by Olson, seconded by Buyck and carried unanimously to approve the Capital Authorization Request.

Gens then presented a Capital Authorization Request and quotes for a new boring machine for the line department. Wolfington said the boring machine gets a lot of use and will continue to be used a lot with our continued overhead to underground project. The quotes were as follows:

Ditch Witch	\$174,888.00
Vermeer	\$189,702.77

After discussion it was moved by Evenson, seconded by Olson and carried unanimously to approve the capital authorization request for a new boring machine from Ditch Witch in the amount of \$174,888.00.

Next Pederson approached the Council with an amendment of the City Ordinance Chapter 51: Solid Waste. He said with the City going to carts for residential garbage pick-up some language needed to be changed. He explained we made changes to the first half of the ordinance, but made no changes to the part pertaining to dumpsters. He stated tonight we are presenting the first reading of the ordinance. At the next Council meeting he said he will be bringing the second reading of the ordinance, rates for the carts and a sample mailer going out to all residents. Residents will have a choice of 3 sized garbage carts. He said they will need to continue with Swift County's sorting and recycling programs. After discussion it was moved by Evenson, seconded by Olson and carried unanimously to approve the 1st Reading of an Amendment to Ordinance 51:Solid Waste.

There being no further business to come before the Council a motion was made by Evenson seconded by Olson and carried unanimously to adjourn the Council meeting at 5:46 p.m.

Mayor

City Clerk