

**MINUTES - BENSON CITY COUNCIL MEETING
BENSON ARMORY
MARCH 16, 2020**

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Mayor Collins. Members present: Jack Evenson, Terri Collins, Mark Schreck & Lucas Olson. Members Absent: Jon Buyck. Also present: City Manager Rob Wolfington, Director of Finance Glen Pederson, Public Works Director Dan Gens, Police Chief Ian Hodge, Rob Hoffman & Bob Erdman from the Racquetball Club, Jen Sullivan from Patrick's Pub & Grill, Swift County-Benson Health Services Co-CEO's Dan Enderson and Melissa Thompson, Mark Hughes.

The Mayor asked for any changes to the agenda. The closed session to discuss purchase price of real property was removed from the agenda. It was moved by Schreck, seconded by Evenson and carried unanimously to approve the amended agenda.

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

- February 3, 2020 City Council Minutes
- March 2, 2020 City Council Minutes
- February 3, 2020 Planning Commission Minutes
- October 16, 2019 Cemetery Minutes
- December 4, 2019 Cemetery Minutes
- Larry Smith App. to the Cemetery Board -Term expiring December 31, 2022
- The following liquor licenses effective April 13, 2020 contingent upon receiving the necessary paperwork:

Off-Sale 3.2 Malt Beverage License:

Holiday Stationstore, LLC

Sunday Liquor License:

Benson VFW
Benson Bowler
Benson Golf Club
Patrick's Pub & Grill
McKinney's on Southside

On-Sale Liquor License:

Benson Bowler
Benson Golf Club
Patrick's Pub & Grill
Mi Mexico
McKinney's on Southside

Sidewalk Café Permit

Patrick's Pub & Grill, LLC

Off-Sale 3.2 Malt Beverage License:

Holiday Stationstore, LLC

- The following General licenses effective April 1, 2020:

Roller skating License:

Svor's Family Roller Rink

Sewer Tap License:

Grossman Plumbing and Heating
Hawley's Inc.
Craig's Refrigeration
Rapid Response Plumbing & Heating
T & K Kennedy Inc.

Garbage Collection License:

Mattheisen Disposal

Electronic Transfers:

- Payroll: \$103,623.11 – March 12, 2020
- Journal: \$1,966,084.21 – February 2020

There was no one with unscheduled business.

Jen Sullivan from Patrick's Pub and Grill approached the City Council about Kid Day weekend, and the desire to hold a street dance on Friday, July 17th, 2020. She said they are also holding a bean bag tournament the following Saturday. They requested closing 13th St. S. between Kansas and Pacific Avenues Friday and Saturday of Kid Day weekend. Per last year's agreement, it is suggested Sullivans talk to the neighboring businesses, about the times they would like to close the street and suggested they bring a certificate of liability insurance in to City Hall. After discussion, it was moved by Evenson, seconded by Olson and carried unanimously to approve Patrick's Pub and Grill's request to close 13th St. S. between Kansas & Pacific Avenues from 6am July 17 – 8am July 19, 2020 for their street dance and bean bag tournament.

Erdman & Hoffman presented a proposal to the Council with a list of repairs they wish to make at the Racquetball Club. They want to work on the women's locker room to include flooring removal, paint, shower pan replacement, exhaust fan replacement and racquetball court refinishing. Demolition and miscellaneous repairs will be done by members volunteering much the labor. After discussion, it was moved by Evenson, seconded by Schreck and carried unanimously to approve the improvements to the Racquetball Club as presented not to exceed \$9,000.

Wolfington discussed the joint City, Swift County and Hospital meeting March 2, 2020. He presented the slides from that meeting, as well as a resolution the Hospital Board signed that night outlining refinance options for their debt. Wolfington said he has had 6-10 meetings with the administrators of the Hospital and the County. He went on to say there is a tentative special joint meeting on March 30, 2020 with the proposal to loan the Hospital the 2013 GO Bond amount with terms equal to a current bond rate of around 2 ½%. The City could also give a grant over a 2 year period to the Hospital to make necessary repairs to the roof, HVAC system and the boiler. Acting on refinancing now will save \$5 Million over the life of the bond and make the Hospital more appealing to a merger possibility. Enderson agreed. Wolfington said a decision will be made on these items at the special meeting on March 30, with the possibility of a tele-conference depending on how the Coronavirus Pandemic is. It was moved by Evenson, seconded by Olson and carried unanimously to schedule a special City Council meeting in conjunction with Swift County, and Swift County-Benson Hospital board members at 5:30 p.m.in the Armory or by teleconference.

There was a request from the Benson Hospital Foundation for a donation of a 2020 family pool pass for their annual Emerald Eve fundraiser. It was moved by Evenson, seconded by Schreck and carried unanimously to approve donating a 2020 family pool pass to the Emerald Eve fundraiser for the Hospital Foundation fundraiser.

The tagged item pick-up for 2020 was discussed. Dan said he is proposing the same program as last year. It was moved by Schreck, seconded by Olson and carried unanimously to approve holding the tagged item pick-up for May 6-8, 2020 in the same format as last year.

Gens presented overhead to underground conversion materials for electrical lines in 2020. The two areas of concentration will be behind the south end of 10th St. S. and by the hospital. It was moved by Evenson, seconded by Schreck and carried unanimously to approve the parts list quote in the amount of \$63,002.59.

Gens presented a capital outlay quote for a push camera to be used in the sewer lines. He stated when they cannot get into the smaller services with our large camera, we have to hire a plumber with a camera to do the camera work for us. After discussion, it was moved by Olson, seconded by Schreck and carried unanimously to approve the purchase of a push camera from Utility Logistics in the amount of \$9,468.00.

Next Gens presented a capital outlay request for a new mower. He presented a quote from Kubota for a F2690 mower. It has a 72" deck, the cab is easier to remove than the JD mower they looked at, it has a wider wheel base which makes it more safe on the ditch inclines and is a less expensive mower. After discussion, it was moved by Evenson, seconded by Olson and carried unanimously to approve the purchase of a Kubota F2690 mower from Haug Kubota in the amount of \$34,750.93

Gens said he is also submitting a capital outlay request for a new tractor. This was not in the 2020 budget, as they were going to submit a request in 2021, but the current tractor has broken down, and is going to be very expensive to fix. He is asking for a capital authorization request for a Kubota diesel tractor to be purchased before the spring season. Wolfington said there are funds in the capital account to pay for this piece of equipment. After discussion, it was moved by Schreck, seconded by Olson and carried unanimously to approve the capital purchase of a Kubota L Series tractor/mower from Haug Kubota in the amount of \$24,573.38.

Gens presented a quote for street crack filler. It was moved by Schreck, seconded by Evenson and carried unanimously to approve the quote from Brock White in the amount of \$6,412.50.

Next Gens presented quotes for mosquito spray. There were quotes from Univar in the amount of \$4,950.00 and from Clarke in the amount of \$6,050.00. It was moved by Evenson, seconded by Schreck and carried unanimously to approve the quote from Univar in the amount of \$4,950.00.

There was a pay request from O'Day Equipment for the dual fuel system at the airport. This is the last payment to them. Wolfington reminded the Council this project had reimbursement from the federal government. It was then moved by Schreck, seconded by Olson and carried unanimously to approve the final pay request to O'Day Equipment in the amount of \$49,251.80.

Next was a pay request from KHC Construction for work in the wastewater plant. It was moved by Schreck, seconded by Olson and carried unanimously to approve pay request #3 in the amount of \$106,975.70.

Wolfington presented the Emergency Management Ordinance to the Council. He said the Governor of Minnesota declared a Peacetime State of Emergency. Wolfington said he and the Mayor met yesterday to sign an Emergency Declaration which will qualify the City for any State or Federal Emergency reimbursements if needed down the road as a result of the COVID-19 Pandemic. It was moved by Evenson, seconded by Schreck and carried unanimously to approve ratify and extend the Declaration of Local Emergency for 30 days.

It was moved by Evenson, seconded by Schreck and carried unanimously to approve bills and warrants in the amount of \$770,942.23.

Wolfington stated 7-8 parcels of the Sylte land is up for auction south east of Benson. He said the City has had interest in this land in the past. He suggested there be a closed meeting to discuss possibly bidding on the land. Schreck asked if the BIDC is interested in partnering is the purchase. After discussion, it was moved by Evenson, seconded by Schreck and carried unanimously to approve a special closed City Council meeting on March 23, 2020 at 5:30 p.m.

There being no further business to come before the Council upon motion by Schreck, seconded by Evenson and carried unanimously to adjourn the Council meeting at 6:02 p.m.

Mayor

City Clerk