

**MINUTES - BENSON CITY COUNCIL - REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 4, 2013**

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Mayor Kittelson. Members present: Gary Landmark, Sue Fitz, Ben Hess, Mike Fugleberg & Paul Kittelson. Members Absent: None. Also present: City Manager Rob Wolfington, Finance Director Glen Pederson, Police Sergeant Paul Larson, and Civic Center Representative Bill McGeary.

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

- February 19, 2013 City Council Meeting

It was moved by Landmark, seconded by Fitz and carried unanimously to approve a gambling permit for Northern Lights Trails on April 5, 2013.

The Mayor noted vacancies on Boards and Commissions.

The City Manager will be attending the International Biomass Conference in Minneapolis, Minnesota April 8-10, 2013.

Next Police Sergeant Paul Larson came before the Council and presented the 2012 Annual Benson Police Department Report.

Wolfington updated the City Council on the new Police Chief search. A personnel committee was held tonight at 5pm. He stated 7 individuals were interviewed last Friday and Saturday. The field has been narrowed down to four. Finalist interviews will take place this coming Saturday, and from there an offer will be made, background checks will be conducted and a recommendation for the new Police Chief will be brought to the Council meeting April 1, 2013.

Bids were taken for the Benson Public Library cleaning contract. The last time the job was bid was ten years ago, and it was felt there had been changes over the years that needed to be addressed. The bids submitted were as follows:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| ▪ Thomas McGeary \$395.00 per month | ▪ JoNell Schmidt \$667.00 per month |
| ▪ Pat McGeary \$435.00 per month | ▪ Donald Vergin \$720.00 per month |
| ▪ Randy Buttke \$600.00 per month | |

It was moved by Landmark, seconded by Hess and carried unanimously to award the cleaning bid at the Benson Public Library to Thomas McGeary in the amount of \$395.00 per month.

Bill McGeary approached the City Council with a report on the Civic Center. They will be done paying for the locker room improvements in April 2014. The next area of improvement for the building is to address the insulation and moisture problem in the ice arena area. There is only a small amount insulation on the inside of the roof. When the sun hits the roof, moisture condenses on the inside, and drips down on the floor, which is a fall hazard for the volunteers and the public. With all the humidity in the building, it will deteriorate the building if not addressed. McGeary said the City Building official and an architect will be making their recommendations for the project. Costs for the dehumidifier and insulation would run around \$250,000-\$300,000. McGeary thanked the City for all support it lends to the Civic Center, whether it be for snow removal or other items. McGeary also asked the Council to consider co-signing with the Civic Center Board on the loan they will be seeking when the time comes.

Wolfington said after the Council approved the Heartland Express Drug Testing Policy at the February 4, 2013 meeting, it was sent into the State. They returned the policy asking for underlining and bolding of language in the policy, but no change of the intent of the policy. Wolfington was asking for the

Council to approve these changes to the policy. It was moved by Fitz, seconded by Fugleberg and carried unanimously to approve these changes to the Heartland Express Drug Testing policy.

Next Wolfington presented drawings and computer generated pictures from Sanders, Wacker and Bergly of the Benson Market/Creamery block. The plans depicted landscaping, and rolling berms as well as a parking lot across from Glacial Plains on the south side of highway 12. Wolfington stated the Planning Commission reviewed the same plans at their meeting today at noon, and recommended to the Council to consider eliminating the parking lot across highway 12 from Glacial Plains, for nose in parking on the west side of 12th Street North, across the street from Glacial Plains, which will eliminate people having to cross highway 12 after parking. It also would be better for Glacial Plains and NAPA patrons as well. No action was taken.

Ziegler Power Systems submitted a 5 year maintenance contract to the City for the caterpillar generators in the power plant. There was consideration to hire local talent to conduct the oil and filter changes, but it was decided by staff to stick with experienced technicians to conduct the maintenance of these engines. It was moved by Landmark, seconded by Fugleberg and carried unanimously to approve the five year maintenance contract with Ziegler Power Systems in the amount of \$24,825.00 per year.

There being no other business, a motion was made by Fitz, seconded by Landmark and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 5:55 p.m.

Mayor

City Clerk