

**MINUTES - BENSON CITY COUNCIL - REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 6, 2017**

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Mayor Pro-Tem Heinzig. Members present: Terri Collins, Jack Evenson, Stephanie Heinzig & Lucas Olson. Members Absent: Gary Landmark. Also present: City Manager Rob Wolfington, Director of Finance Glen Pederson, Director of Public Works Dan Gens, Police Chief Ian Hodge and PeopleService's Jerry Stanlund.

The Council recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Pro-Tem Heinzig asked for any changes to the agenda. Wolfington asked to remove Parking Citations from the agenda as the party contesting the violation will not be attending. There were no additions to the agenda. No consent agenda items were moved to the regular agenda. A motion was made by Evenson, seconded by Olson and carried unanimously to approve the agenda as amended. It was moved by Collins, Seconded by Evenson and carried unanimously to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda:

- February 21, 2017 City Council Minutes
- January 19, 2017 EDA Minutes
- December 6, 2016 Benson Cemetery Minutes

The Mayor Pro-Tem asked for people with unscheduled business, to which there were none.

Next was the conference call on the wastewater plant. Gens and Stanlund approached the Council. Wolfington made the call with Eric Lembke and Tom Dye from Stantec. They are assisting the City in beginning the planning for upgrades needed at the wastewater facility. Dye discussed their report and walk through. Each item is classified as low, medium and high priority for repairs or replacement in the report. The cost for the high priority items is estimated at \$2.9 million. Upgrades can qualify for state funding. The next step is to do the total facility plan. Gens discussed the water tower. The paint needs to be replaced inside and outside. It is a large capital investment. The estimated cost for all painting and some structural repairs is nearly as much as putting up a new water tower. There was discussion on the water tower and upkeep.

Wolfington discussed State and Federal funding for the airport. Last year the City's intended use of the funds were for replacement of the fuel system. The State denied the request, therefore the bituminous project went ahead in its place. Cities can transfer their funds to another airport for their project upon request. Morris is asking for some of Benson's entitlement dollars for use at their airport. After discussion it was moved by Evenson, seconded by Collins and carried unanimously to approve the transfer of \$138,655 of our 2014 Federal AIP Entitlement dollars to the City of Morris.

Next was a letter of support for the annual Easter Egg Hunt that the First Evangelical Free Church has taken over from the Chamber of Commerce. They have returned unused funds in past years. After discussion, it was moved by Collins, seconded by Evenson and carried unanimously to approve \$600 to the annual Easter Egg Hunt event.

Collins said the liquor committee met before the Council meeting. Purchasing a new cooler for the liquor store was discussed. The cooler on the north wall would be replaced with an open cooler with better display and would be much easier to stock. The liquor committee recommended approval. After discussion, it was moved by Collins, seconded by Evenson and carried unanimously to approve the purchase of a refurbished open cooler at a cost of \$11,400 plus installation.

Pederson approached the Council with the latest layout of the proposed addition of City Hall to the Armory. The Council reviewed the drawing. Pederson said this plan will use up to 40% of the Armory gym space which is a big loss for community events held there. Pederson suggested a meeting with the Building Committee for further discussion.

Hodge approached the Council with an update on the new Police Department building.

Wolfington conducted a Council training on how the City handles Planning. He discussed the following: Comprehensive Plan, Central Business District Plan, Emergency Management Plan, All Hazards Mitigation Plan, Arc Flash Hazard Plan, Electric Rate Study, 20 year Master Overhead to Underground Electric Plan, Swift County Housing Study, Wellhead Protection Plan, Railroad Crossing Grade Study, zoning map and flood plain mapping and the City code of Ordinance zoning map. The current plan is where to locate the next industrial park.

There being no other business, a motion was made by Evenson, seconded by Collins and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 6:32 p.m.

City Clerk

Mayor