

**MINUTES - BENSON CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
CITY HALL
APRIL 1, 2024**

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Mayor Evenson. Members present: Jack Evenson, Chris Carruth, Dan Enderson and Nancy Maanum. Members Absent: Mark Schreck. Also present: City Clerk Valerie Alsaker, Director of Finance Lisa Kent, City Manager Kyle Harris, Assistant City Attorney Stephen Kowal, Police Chief Ian Hodge, Public Works Director Elliot Nelson, CEDA Representative Hillary Tweed, Ben Vadnais, Kid Day Representatives LeAnn Simonson, James O’Leary Heather Fahje and Reed Anfinson.

The Council recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Mayor said they will be removing number 6 on the agenda, Business Incubator Program, as the gentlemen presenting fell ill, and number 8 Variance Application is tabled upon receipt of more information. It was moved by Maanum, seconded by Carruth and carried unanimously to approve the amended agenda.

Enderson stated in the consent agenda, he offered a correction to the draft minutes from the March 18, 2024 City Council meeting. These minutes will be presented at the next Council meeting for consideration. It was moved by Schreck, seconded by Carruth and carried unanimously to approve the following items on the consent agenda:

- February 12, 2023 EDA Minutes
- Charter Communications Channel Changes
- Swift County Ditch Meeting Notice
- Electronic Transfers:
Payroll - March 21, 2024 - \$95,706.59

There was no one with unscheduled business.

Simonson and Fahje approached the Council to discuss Kid Day for 2024. They said they conducted a poll last year to see what if anything people would like to see at Kid Day. One request is a rib fest during the car show and the other is a request to provide some activities for the 7-12 grade age kids. Simonson handed out a drawing of the south side of northside rec and proposed holding a teen event from 8:30-11:30 p.m. with games such as glow volleyball, bags, food, other games and a laser tag event. Their ask is for permission to use this area of Northside Rec and for support with tables, snow fence, spray for mosquitos and to waive the 10 p.m. noise ordinance regulation. Evenson and Enderson are on the Kid Day committee for the Council and asked if they could meet with the committee which is April 8, 2024 to further discuss the activities. It was agreed to discuss this added activity on City property. Simonson also asked to close Idaho Avenue between the Post Office and Roosevelt Park during the carnival to set the food vendors up on.

Hodge approached the Council with a capital authorization request to outfit the new Chief pickup. He said the cost will be \$21,147.44. This will bring the total cost of the new vehicle up to \$72,536.24. He went on to say he is going to apply for a “Toward Zero Death” grant which could bring the total cost of the vehicle down to around \$70,000. After discussion, it was moved by Maanum, seconded by Carruth and carried unanimously to approve the capital authorization request in the amount of \$21,147.44.

Next Harris presented quotes for bituminous work for the 2024 season. Quotes were opened on March 27, 2024 and came in as follows:

- Ferguson Asphalt Paving Inc. - \$85,027.50
- Joe Riley Construction - \$94,092.50

Harris said they decided to take the 17th St. S. & Minnesota Ave. project out of the work for 2024, which brought each bid down to the following:

- Fergus Asphalt Paving - \$61,627.50
- Joe Riley Construction - \$72,257.50

After discussion, it was moved by Carruth, seconded by Enderson and carried unanimously to approve the Ferguson Asphalt Paving Inc. as presented.

Harris then presented a quote for concrete work for 2024 from BG Amundson. Harris stated this was the only quote for concrete we received. It was moved by Carruth, seconded by Maanum and carried unanimously to approve the quote from BG Amundson in the amount of \$28,400.00 for concrete work for the 2024 season.

Next were quotes for two lift station rail systems. Harris explained two lift stations on the east end of Benson have old cable systems to raise and lower the pumps. They have deteriorated, and are in need of replacement. The rest of our lift stations around town are all on a rail system. Harris presented the quotes as follows:

Old A & W Lift Station:

- WW Goetsch - \$24,976.00
- Quality Flow Systems - \$9,976.00

Case Lift Station:

- WW Goetsch - \$19,294.00
- Quality Flow Systems - \$9,766.00

After further discussion, it was moved by Carruth, seconded by Enderson and carried unanimously to accept the quote from Quality Flow Systems for the A & W Lift station in the amount of \$9,976.00. It was moved by Carruth, seconded by Enderson and carried unanimously to approve the quote from Quality Flow Systems in the amount of \$9,766.00.

Nelson presented a quote for a back-up lift station pump. He said we have 2 pumps per lift station, and we have 22 lift station around town, and we have no back-up pumps. Lead times on these pumps can be about a week or so. In the past we have had a back-up pump, but we do not have one currently. After discussion, it was moved by Carruth, seconded by Enderson and carried unanimously to approve the quote for a back-up lift station pump from Quality Flow Systems in the amount of \$8,959.00.

It was moved by Enderson, seconded by Maanum and carried unanimously to approve support of the 2024 Meander event in the amount of \$200.00.

Next was a pay request from Stantec Engineering for work on the Clearwell. Nelson said their total cost for engineering on the project is \$200,000, so far they have billed \$180,000. All that is left is some painting on the part of the sub-contractor. After discussion, it was moved by Enderson, seconded by Maanum and carried unanimously to approve the Pay request from Stantec in the amount of \$23,701.35.

Harris presented a pay request from Magney Construction for work on the Anaerobic Digester refurbishment. After this payment, all that is left is the retainer fee of \$7,643.96. Nelson commented \$142,560 was taken out of the original contract for this project as we didn't need to do the work this cost

covered. After discussion, it was moved by Enderson, seconded by Carruth and carried unanimously to approve pay Request #14 to Magney Construction Inc. in the amount of \$30,575.86.

Councilmember Enderson offered the following resolution:

**CITY OF BENSON
RESOLUTION ACCEPTING DONATIONS
(RESOLUTION NO. 2024-08)**

WHEREAS, The City of Benson is generally authorized to accept gifts and bequests pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 465.03 and Minnesota Statutes Section 471.17 for the benefit of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, the following persons and entities have offered to contribute the cash amounts set forth below to the city:

**Patron – 2nd Slide Donation - \$25
Shelly Mikkelson – 2nd Slide Donation - \$25
Shelly Mikkelson – 2nd Slide Donation in memory of Mary Langan - \$50**

WHEREAS, all such donations have been contributed to assist the various city departments and programs as allowed by law; and

WHEREAS, The City Council finds that it is appropriate to accept the donations offered.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BENSON, MINNESOTA, AS FOLLOWS:

1. The donations described above are accepted and shall be used to benefit the departments listed above, as allowed by law.

Councilmember Carruth seconded the foregoing resolution and the following vote was recorded: AYES: Maanum, Carruth, Evenson, Enderson NAYS: None, Thereupon the Mayor declared Resolution 2024-08 duly passed and adopted.

Lastly Harris said we are bringing dump truck #15 to auction. Unit #16 is still waiting to be repaired as Huston's are short staffed. Harris speculated on what we could get at auction for unit #15. He said the Street Department needs to replace unit #15. New trucks run around \$200,000, and have a long lead time. He said Swift County has ordered 2 new dump trucks. They will not receive them until next year. They are in good condition, and they are asking trade-in cost of \$75,000 for a truck. Swift Country said they could possibly help us out with a truck this summer if the trucks being traded are not in use. Harris asked for Council approval to pursue committing to purchasing one of the dump trucks. Carruth asked what kind of shape they are in and Nelson commented they have all of their repair logs and they seem to be in good shape. There was discussion about the need for 2 trucks. Enderson stated he would like to see a binding agreement signed by the commissioners committing us to buying a truck and them selling a truck to us. After discussion, Council directed Harris and Nelson to meet with Swift County about purchasing one or both trucks.

There being no further business to come before the Council a motion was made by Carruth, seconded by Maanum and carried unanimously to adjourn the Council meeting at 6:33 p.m.

Mayor

City Clerk