

**MINUTES - BENSON CITY COUNCIL - REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 16, 2012**

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Mayor Kittelson. Members present: Paul Kittelson, Gary Landmark , Ben Hess, Mike Fugleberg, and Sue Fitz. Members Absent: None. Also present: Director of Public Works Elliot Nelson, Director of Finance Glen Pederson, Police Chief Mike Jambor, Fire Chief Mark Schreck, 1st Assistant Fire Chief Rob Lee, Swift County Assessor Ed Pederson, Deputy County Assessor Wayne Knutson and Beth Schlangan.

At 5:30 p.m. Mayor Kittelson opened the Board Of Equalization Public Hearing. Swift County Assessor Pederson came forward and gave a presentation on property valuations for the City of Benson. There was no one in attendance to address the Council on property valuations. He stated values are staying constant. The Council left the hearing open and continued with other business.

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

- April 2, 2012 City Council Meeting

Swift County Relay for Life requested the use of Northside Rec on June 15th for their Relay for Life fundraising event, and also requested the hours of the park be extended until 8am on June 16th due to the overnight nature of the event. It was moved by Fitz, seconded by Hess and carried unanimously to grant the request of the Swift County Relay for Life.

Mayor Kittelson informed the Council of the League of Minnesota Cities Conference June 20-22, 2012.

Finance Director Pederson presented the Swift County Auditor's bill for Parcel Assessment for 2012. It was moved by Landmark, seconded by Hess and carried unanimously to approve paying the Auditor's parcel assessment bill of \$17,380.00.

Mayor Kittelson conveyed the results from the State of Minnesota, the City of Benson is in compliance with the Local Government Pay Equity Act.

It was moved by Fugleberg, seconded by Fitz and carried unanimously to approve an On-Sale Liquor license, a Sunday Liquor License and a Sidewalk Café Permit for Patrick's Pub & Grill, LLC.

It was moved by Landmark, seconded by Hess and carried unanimously to approve a cigarette license for the Family Dollar Store.

It was moved by Fitz, seconded by Fugleberg and carried unanimously to appoint Sally Jones to the City of Benson Park Board for a term of 4/16/12 – 12/31/2014, and the Benson Area Tourism Board for a term of 4/16/12 – 12/31/2013. It was noted there is an opening on the Airport Commission Board.

Mayor Kittelson opened the Public Hearing to Consider an Ordinance to Vacate Alleys south of the Swift County Benson Hospital.

Mayor Kittelson noted City Manager Wolfington is currently in Colorado at the International Biomass Conference. Also the Mayor will be attending the Annual Mayor's conference April 27-28, 2012 in Winnona, Minnesota.

Mayor Kittelson reviewed the Arbor Day Proclamation. It was the consensus of the Council to approve the following proclamation:

ARBOR DAY PROCLAMATION

Whereas, in 1872, J. Sterling Morton proposed to the Nebraska Board of Agriculture that a special day be set aside for the planting of trees, and

Whereas, this holiday, called Arbor Day, was first observed with the planting of more than a million trees in Nebraska, and Arbor Day is now observed throughout the nation and the world, and

Whereas, trees reduce the erosion of our precious topsoil by wind and water, cut heating and cooling costs, moderate the temperature, clean the air, produce oxygen and provide habitat for wildlife, and

Whereas, trees are a renewable resource giving us paper, wood for our homes, fuel for our fires and countless other wood products, and

Whereas, trees in our city increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas, and beautify our community, and

Whereas, trees, wherever they are planted, are a source of joy and spiritual renewal, and

Whereas, Benson has been recognized as a Tree City USA by The National Arbor Day Foundation and desires to continue its tree-planting practices.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Paul Kittelson, Mayor of the city of Benson, do hereby proclaim April 27, 2012 as

ARBOR DAY

in the City of Benson, and urge all citizens to celebrate Arbor Day and to support efforts to protect our trees and woodlands, and

Further, I urge all citizens to plant trees to gladden the heart and promote the well-being of this and future generations.

Mayor Kittelson read and reviewed an ordinance to vacate alleys South of the Swift County-Benson Hospital. City Attorney Don Wilcox explained to the Council where these were located. Beth Schlangan questioned how she would access her back yard that borders the alley going north and south on the Hospital east property line where the proposed parking lot will be located. She also expressed concerns about where her Charter Cable would be relocated to. After discussion, It was moved by Landmark, seconded by Fugleberg and carried unanimously to approve the first reading of An Ordinance To Vacate Alleys. The following vote was recorded: AYES: Kittelson, Landmark, Fugleberg and Hess. NAYS: None. ABSTAIN: Fitz

Wilcox presented a quit claim deed for consideration to the Council, for a small triangle piece of land on the property south west of the Swift County-Benson Hospital the City still owns. After discussion, it was moved by Hess, seconded by Fugleberg and carried unanimously to approve the quit claim deed to the Swift County-Benson Hospital. The following vote was recorded: AYES: Kittelson, Landmark, Fugleberg and Hess. NAYS: None. ABSTAIN: Fitz

Councilmember Landmark offered the following Resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO ISSUE ORDER TO RAZE AND REMOVE DANGEROUS OR SUBSTANDARD BUILDING. (RESOLUTION NO. 2012-09)

WHEREAS, the City Council has heard the report of the City Building Inspector regarding the garage on the property located at 212 15th St. S. in Benson, Minnesota, legally described as Lot 7 and the S ½ of Lot 6, Block 42, Morris & Payte's addition to the City of Benson, Swift County, Minnesota,

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined, based on said report, that the garage on the above described property is a dangerous or substandard building,

NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to Chapter 97 of the City of Benson Code of Ordinances and Minnesota Statutes, chapter 463, The City Council of the City of Benson, Minnesota resolves:

1. That the garage located on the above described property is a dangerous or substandard building according to the definitions provided by the City of Benson Code of Ordinances, chapter 97 and Minnesota Statutes, chapter 463.
2. That an order to raze and remove the above described garage be served upon the owners of the above described property in accordance with the City of Benson Code of Ordinances, chapter 97 and Minnesota Statutes, chapter 463.
3. That along with said order, the owners of the above described property will be served with notice of a hearing at which the Council will consider any evidence offered by the person or persons having any estate or interest in the above described structure.

Member Fugleberg seconded the foregoing motion and the following vote was recorded: AYES: Landmark, Fubleberg, Kittelson, Hess, Fitz. NAYS: None. Whereupon the Mayor declared Resolution No. 2012-09 duly passed and adopted. Wilcox reminded the Council about a public hearing and the time frame of 30 days to give the property owner notice to remove the damaged building.

Next Fire Chief Schreck and 1st Asst. Fire Chief Lee approached the City Council with their bid results for the new pumper truck. Three bids were submitted. The bids were as follows: Midwest Fire Equipment and Repair Co., \$149,870.00, Heiman Fire Equipment \$155,776.50 and Great Plains Fire \$179,292.00. Upon reviewing and analyzing the bids, Chief Schreck & 1st Assisstant Lee's recommendation to the Council was to accept the low bid from Midwest Fire Equipment . It was moved by Fitz, seconded by Hess and carried unanimously to approve the bid from Midwest Fire Equipment and Repair Co. in the amount of \$149,870.00.

Benson Police Chief Jambor presented a request for the purchase of a new squad car to replace the department's 2005 Ford Explorer. Jambor reviewed the current vehicle inventory and options for purchase and trade of the old vehicle. It was moved by Landmark, seconded by Fugleberg and carried unanimously to approve the squad car purchase in the amount of \$32,011.20.

Public Works Director Nelson requested authorization to go out for bids to crush the stock pile of concrete the City public works has accumulated. It was moved by Fugleberg, seconded by Hess and carried unanimously to proceed in obtaining concrete crushing bids.

Next Nelson explained the chlorination system at the swimming pool is a pellet style system and it has been plugging the equipment as well as corroding the equipment in the chlorine room. He would like to put in a gas chlorine system which would be better for the equipment. The pool staff will not be involved in changing the gas tanks, only City trained staff. After discussion, it was moved by Landmark, seconded by Fugleberg and carried unanimously to approve the purchase of a new chlorine system at the pool for \$6,300 plus an exterior cabinet for \$1,800 and installation.

The computer system at the new water treatment plant was next on the agenda. Nelson gave a recommendation of computer equipment from Automatic Systems Company. It was moved by Fitz,

seconded by Hess and carried unanimously to approve the purchase of the equipment in the amount of \$6,883.17.

Next was pay a request from Stantec for construction engineering services at the water treatment plant. It was moved by Fugleberg, seconded by Fitz and carried unanimously to approve the pay request to Stantec in the amount of \$7,095.25.

It was moved by Landmark, seconded by Fugleberg and carried unanimously to approve the bills and warrants in the amount of \$583,794.31.

There was discussion on several projects around the City. The Mayor closed the Public hearings at 6:23 p.m.

There being no other business, a motion was made by Fitz, seconded by Fugleberg and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 6:24 p.m.

Mayor

City Clerk