

**MINUTES - BENSON CITY COUNCIL - REGULAR MEETING
MAY 21, 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 Finance Glen Pederson, City Manager Rob Wolfington, Agralite General Manager Kory Johnson

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

- May 7, 2012 City Council Meeting
- May 7, 2012 Planning Commission Meeting

Wolfington reviewed a letter from the Swift County-Benson Hospital Foundation thanking the City for support in their Emerald Eve event.

A letter was reviewed from Charter Communications stating rate changes in equipment, unreturned equipment pricing, and installation/service call fees.

Wolfington notified the Council a Notice of Termination of Lease was served on the Benson Market South property.

Next was a policy on the Small Cities Development Grant #CDAP-O-FY11 stating we have a plan documenting how we promote economic opportunities for low income persons. It was moved by Fugleberg, seconded by Hess and carried unanimously, the policy was approved

Wolfington reminded the Council of board vacancies on the Airport Advisory Board and Park Board.

The Mayor will be attending the Annual LMCIT Conference in Duluth June 20-22, 2012. The City Manager will be attending FEMA training in Maryland June 17-22, 2012.

Wolfington invited Kory Johnson to approach the Council. He went on to explain a memo from the Secretary of Energy Steven Chu addressing Power Marketing Administrators (PMAs), stating they have the responsibility to help pay for 4 upgrades, which would increase our preferred rates. Missouri River Energy Services (MRES) is encouraging us to write our representatives stating our concerns with Secretary Chu's position. Kory Johnson stated they have been monitoring this situation as well. He talked about added concerns Western Area Power Administrators (WAPA) have with possible added costs being proposed by the Pollution Control Agency. Wolfington stated how important it is for Agralite and the City of Benson to have a unified front. It was moved by Hess, Seconded by Fitz and carried unanimously to direct staff to draft a letter to our representatives signed by the Mayor expressing our concern on the increased costs to PMAs.

Next was the Transmission Owner Revenue Sharing Services Agreement between MRES and the City of Benson. Wolfington reviewed the agreement from the May 7, 2012 Council meeting. After discussion Wolfington recommended approval. It was moved by Landmark, seconded by Fugleberg and carried unanimously to approve the Transmission Owner Revenue Sharing Services Agreement with MRES.

Wolfington reviewed the Midwest Independent Transmission System Operator, Inc. (MISO) Transmission Facilities Assignment Agreement between MRES and the City of Benson from the May 7, 2012 Council Meeting. After Discussion, it was moved by Landmark, seconded by Fugleberg and carried unanimously to approve the MISO Transmission Facilities Assignment Agreement between MRES and the City of Benson.

Next was a request for approval from Swift County HRA for a Small Cities Grant project approval. It was the consensus of the Council to approve the project in the amount of \$18,750.00.

Wolfington presented a sample Stormwater Ordinance and Resolution. After discussion, it was decided by the Council to send an informational stuffer with the June utility bills. There is an anticipated first reading of the ordinance at the June 4 Council meeting.

The City Council reviewed the new airport hangar project. This project will be 90% federally funded, with a 10% City cost. The new hangar is estimated to cost \$400,00.00, and engineering services would come to \$66,000. Wolfington recommended approval. After discussion, it was moved by Fitz, seconded by Hess and carried unanimously to approve TKDA's Authorization for Performance of Services and FAA Terms & Conditions agreements.

Next was a pay request from Stantec for engineering services at the water treatment plant. It was moved by Hess, seconded by Fugleberg and carried unanimously to approve Stantec's pay request in the amount of \$13,384.22.

There was a second pay request from Stantec for general engineering services, public works-storm sewer, streets and trails. It was moved by Hess, seconded by Fugleberg and carried unanimously to approve Stantec's pay request in the amount of \$6,229.54.

Wolfington presented a request from Duffy's Bar & Grill for a pro-rated liquor license refund. They renewed their license, and shortly thereafter Patrick's Bar & Grill purchased their business. It was moved by Hess, seconded by Fitz and carried unanimously to prorate a liquor license refund to Duffy's Bar & Grill in the amount of \$912.33.

There was discussion on adding the second water slide at the Benson Swimming Pool. The cost estimate is \$95,400.00. The funding source would be money saved by refinancing the pool bonds. Also discussed was to develop a program with the Electric Utility to reduce our summer peak load and use the savings for local projects.

Pederson reviewed the April 2012 budget report and bills and warrants. He expressed the budget looks good right now, and the Liquor Store numbers were looking very good. It was moved by Landmark, seconded by Fitz and carried unanimously to approve bills and warrants in the amount of \$682,672.19.

There being no other business, a motion was made by Hess, seconded by Landmark and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 6:13 p.m.

Mayor

City Clerk