

**Special City Council Meeting
City Council Chambers - Telephonically
May 26, 2020**

City of Benson Mission Statement

Benson is a forward-looking community that values public safety,
Quality of life and treats people with dignity and respect.

Please use the FCC App on your device. (Activate video)

Call-in Information

Dial In: 1-425-436-6384

Access Code: 457987#

1. 5:30 p.m. Call the Meeting to Order (Mayor)
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Approval of Agenda
Additions? None 1. _____ 2. _____
Any Consent Agenda items to be moved to a regular agenda item?
Approval of Agenda ____ as Presented or ____ Revised **Action Requested**
4. Persons With Unscheduled Business to Come Before the Council
5. Consider Extension of Mayor's Emergency Declaration **Action Requested**
6. Consider Emergency Resolution for Outdoor Dining **Action Requested**
15. Adjourn: Mayor **Action Requested**

In compliance with the American Disability Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the City Manager's office at 320-843-4775. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City of make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting.

DECLARATION OF EXTENSION OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY

Pursuant to the power granted to me by Sections 36.03A and 36.07 of the Benson Code of Ordinances, I hereby declare existence of the local emergency as a result of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Unless extended by a vote of the City Council, this declaration shall expire at 5:30 P.M. on May 26, 2020.

Mayor

Ratified and extended by a _____ vote of the City Council on May 26, 2020.
The City Council directs that the Declaration of Local Emergency shall continue until terminated by the Mayor and City Manager.

RESOLUTION TO ALLOW OUTDOOR DINING DURING SPECIAL EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Benson has declared that a special emergency is in effect; and,

WHEREAS, The Governor of Minnesota has issued Executive Order 20-56, allowing bars and restaurants to open on June 1, 2020 for outdoor service so long as certain conditions including social distancing are maintained to prevent the spread of COVID-19; and,

WHEREAS, immediate action to respond to the situation is needed in order to allow local businesses to operate according to the Governor's order; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Benson wishes to allow local businesses to operate as allowed by the Governor's order; and,

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes allow expansion of outdoor business areas provided that:

- a. Retail alcoholic beverage licensed premises be compact and contiguous
 - b. Retailers provide proof that their liquor liability insurance covers alcohol sales in such expanded outdoor spaces
 - c. The city is allowed to approve a map of expanded service areas;
- and,

WHEREAS, Benson Code of Ordinances § 36.08 (A) authorizes the city, by resolution, to promulgate regulations, consistent with applicable federal or state law or regulation, respecting the conduct of persons and use of property during emergencies;

NOW THEREFORE IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that:

- a. The city manager is authorized to accept, review and either approve or deny applications from local businesses that wish to expand their outdoor service during the declared emergency.
- b. The city manager is authorized to allow the use of public areas, including local streets and sidewalks, for businesses that wish to expand their outdoor service during the declared emergency.

This resolution shall expire at the end of 30 days or at the end of the emergency, whichever comes first.