

**MINUTES - BENSON CITY COUNCIL - REGULAR MEETING
AUGUST 3, 2015**

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Mayor Kittelson. Members present: Paul Kittelson, Mike Fugleberg, Jack Evenson, Sue Fitz & Stephanie Heinzig. Members Absent: None. Also present: City Manager Rob Wolfington, Marty Siefert from the Coalition of Greater Minnesota Cities, Swift County HRA Director Vicki Syverson and Upper Minnesota Valley RDC Community Planner Jackie Anderson.

The Council recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Mayor opened the Small Cities Grant Review Public Hearing at 5:30 p.m.

The Mayor declared a recess at 5:31 p.m.

The Mayor reconvened the meeting at 5:40 p.m.

It was moved by Heinzig, seconded by Fugleberg and carried unanimously to approve the following minutes:

- July 20, 2015 City Council Minutes

Wolfington shared a memorandum from the League of Minnesota Cities (LMC) stating Senator Lyle Koenen has received the LMC Legislator of Distinction for 2015 for authoring legislation to extend the sales tax exemption and simplifying the sales tax exemption for city and county purchases.

Next was a notice from Missouri River Energy Services for the Dedicated Capacity Agreement Rate Adjustment increase of \$0.04 per KW for the power plant.

Recently the City had a Solid Waste Tax Audit. They informed us they find no changes to our tax liability at this time.

Next was a request for a pool pass donation to the Glacial Ridge Hospital for their Harvest Ball fund raiser. After discussion, it was the consensus of the Council to deny the request.

Marty Siefert, lobbyist for the Coalition of Greater Minnesota Cities approached the Council with a presentation of the past, current and future issues facing the Coalition.

Next Vicki Syverson and Jackie Anderson approached the Council. Vicki said two years ago the City offered a Small Cities Grant program for the south west corner of Benson. Twenty four owner occupied homes and 5 rental properties engaged in the grant, for a total of \$520,000 in grant money for the applicants. In the past 10 years, Benson has helped 80 homeowners make necessary improvements on their homes. Vicki also updated the Council on the improvements to the house at McKinney and 15th St. S. Jackie Anderson asked the Council if they had any questions going into the new grant application. She said they will survey the community for interest. Commercial properties will also be part of the grant this time.

The Mayor closed the Small Cities Grant Review public hearing at 6:18 p.m.

The following resolution was offered by councilmember Fitz:

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ENTERING INTO AN AGREEMENT
WITH THE STATE OF MINNESOTA TO PROVIDE
PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SERVICE IN THE CITY OF BENSON
(RESOLUTION NO. 2015-12)**

2016 City of Benson Heartland Express

Resolved that the City of Benson, MN to enter into an Agreement with the State of Minnesota to provide public transportation service in the City of Benson.

Further resolved that the City of Benson agrees to provide a local share of 20% percent of the total operating cost and 20% of the total capital costs.

Further resolved that the City of Benson agrees to provide 100% of the local share necessary for expenses that exceed funds available from the State.

Further resolved that the City of Benson authorizes the City Manager and the Finance director to execute the aforementioned Agreement and any amendments thereto.

Council Member Evenson seconded the foregoing Resolution and the following vote was recorded: AYES: Fitz, Kittelson, Heinzig, Evenson, Fugleberg. NAYS: None. Thereupon the Mayor declared Resolution 2015-12 duly passed and adopted.

Wolfington presented a memorandum from Brian Grogan with Moss & Barnett offering his services with the name transfer of Charter Communications. It was moved by Heinzig, seconded by Evenson and carried unanimously to approve using Brian Grogan with the necessary legal process in the name change and merger of Charter Communications.

The Public Works Report was reviewed.

Heinzig said she had a conversation with Roger Ebnet from the Kid Day Committee after tearing down the carnival booths, and moving all the supplies for it into the Armory. He hoped to have a permanent trailer designated for the Kid Day supplies. That way the items are all in one place and packed and unpacked only once a year which will save on damage of the items. The Kid Day Committee would like to use the profits from the carnival to apply toward the purchase of a trailer. Fitz stated she is in favor of the idea with the stipulation the items are not loaned out to any other party. After discussion, it was moved by Fitz, seconded by Evenson and carried unanimously to approve the purchase of a trailer from Dahlberg Sales in the amount of \$3,057.50.

Fitz said at the Planning Commission meeting today at noon, they discussed the 2005 stop sign plan. She said after reviewing it, it was the recommendation of the Planning Commission to the Council to adopt the plan as it was written. Wolfington presented the map and reviewed the plan with the Council. There was discussion on cost of installing more stop signs, and how long it would take to install them. Wolfington estimated cost to be around \$50 per sign. After discussion, the Council directed the City Manager to present maps of four quadrants of the City for the Council to look at for the next Council meeting.

There being no other business, a motion was made by Evenson, seconded by Fugleberg and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 6:46 p.m.

Mayor

City Manager