

**MINUTES - BENSON CITY COUNCIL - REGULAR MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 19, 2016**

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Mayor Landmark. Members present: Terri Collins, Jack Evenson, Jonathon Pogge-Weaver, Gary Landmark & Stephanie Heinzig. Members Absent: None. Also present: City Manager Rob Wolfington, Director of Finance Glen Pederson, Police Chief Ian Hodge, City Attorney Don Wilcox, UMVRDC Representatives Jackie Anderson and Laura Ostlie, and Maggie Boese with Safe Community Coalition.

The Council recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Landmark asked for any additions to the agenda. Wolfington asked to add estimates from Kennedy Excavating for demolition costs related to taking two houses down. No consent agenda items were moved to the regular agenda. A motion was made by Collins, seconded by Evenson and carried unanimously to approve the agenda as amended. It was moved by Evenson, Seconded by Heinzig and carried unanimously to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda:

- September 6, 2016 City Council Minutes
- August 1, 2016 Planning Commission Minutes

Mayor Landmark asked for people with unscheduled business, to which there were none.

City Hall lost power at 5:37 p.m.

Wolfington reviewed the Findings of Facts with the Willmar Fabrication Tax Abatement Request. He stated the council could accept, amend or reject the request. Collins asked if there were any steps available or ability for annual review of the request. Wilcox reported that the abatement could be reviewed annually. Heinzig asked if the abatement could be reduced over a period of years, if the abatement could be tied to job growth, and are terms and amounts negotiable. There was discussion on different term options, and the possibility of placing conditions on the abatement. Heinzig made a motion to approve the abatement request on new tax growth over the next 10 years with the addition of 1 full time employee per year with a net grown about the 25 employees. After discussion, Heinzig withdrew her motion. It was moved by Evenson, seconded by Heinzig and carried unanimously to table the abatement decision until the next meeting.

Power was restored at 5:50 p.m. Public Works Director and Lineman John Goulet reported the power outage was due to a failure in the Great River Energy Substation.

Boese and Hodge reviewed the South West Central Safe Communities coalition's activities in our community.

Wolfington reviewed the new state law pertaining to Temporary Family Health Care Dwellings. The Planning Commission reviewed the law at their September 6, 2016 meeting, and gave a recommendation to the Council to opt out of the state law. After discussion Councilmember Evenson made a motion to approve the 1<sup>st</sup> reading of an Ordinance Option-out of the Requirements of Minnesota Statutes, Section 462.3593 referring to family healthcare dwellings. The motion was seconded by Pogge-Weaver and the motion carried unanimously.

Next Wolfington presented an agreement between the City of Benson & MnDOT to provide payment for the City's share of concrete and bituminous for the MnDOT 2017 project. The City's share of concrete

and storm sewer is estimated at \$197,169.56, and bituminous is \$40,000. After discussion, Councilmember Collins offered the following resolution:

**A RESOLUTION FOR  
JOINT EXPENSES BETWEEN MnDOT AND THE CITY OF Benson  
FOR CONCRETE AND BITUMINOUS IN 2017  
(RESOLUTION 2016-24)**

**IT IS RESOLVED** that the City of Benson enters into MnDOT Agreement No. 1026272 with the state of Minnesota, Department of Transportation for the following purposes:

To provide for payment by the City to the State of the City's share of the costs of the grading, bituminous pavement, drainage, signals and ADA improvements construction and other associated construction and design engineering to be performed upon, along and adjacent to Trunk Highway No. 29 from Clarke Avenue to Wood Avenue and on Trunk Highway No. 9 from west of the Chippewa River to Sunwall Avenue and on Trunk Highway No. 12 from west of 19<sup>th</sup> Street to west of County State Aid Highway No. 25 within the corporate City limits under State Project No. 7608-19 & 7607-32 (T.H. 29) State Project No. 7606-29 & 7602-17 (T.H. 9) State Project No. 7604-21 & 7605-90 (T.H. 12).

**IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Mayor and the City Manager are authorized to execute the Agreement and any amendments to the agreement.

Councilmember Evenson seconded the foregoing Resolution and the following vote was recorded  
AYES: Collins, Heinzig, Landmark, Evenson, Pogge-Weaver. NAYES: None. Thereupon the Mayor declared Resolution 2016-24 duly passed and adopted.

Wolfington suggested the Council hold a strategic Planning meeting with Bill Radio in January of 2017. It was moved by Pogge-Weaver, seconded by Evenson and carried unanimously to approve a Strategic Planning Session on January 20-21, 2017 with Bill Radio.

Next was a request from Prairie 5 for Council support for the upcoming heating season. It was moved by Evenson, seconded by Pogge-Weaver and carried unanimously to approve \$1,000 out of the electric fund to go to the Reach Out for Warmth program with Prairie 5.

Next Wofington reported he met with the facilities committee and reviewed the Loen building remodel and addition for a possible Police station. Estimate of cost was discussed. Wolfington also presented the armory remodeling options. Mayor Landmark stated eventually something will have to be done with the armory and why not use it for a Police Station or a possible City Hall location. It was the consensus of the Council to study the proposals and discuss it at the next meeting.

Councilmember Collins recommended the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION TRANSFERRING \$80,000 FROM  
THE LIQUOR FUND TO THE GENERAL FUND  
(RESOLUTION NO. 2016-25)**

WHEREAS, the City of Benson owns and operates a Municipal Liquor Store, and

WHEREAS, the City Council has budgeted to transfer \$80,000 from the Liquor fund to the General Fund for calendar year 2016.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council authorized the transfer of \$80,000 from the Liquor Fund to the General Fund.

Councilmember Evenson seconded the foregoing Resolution and the following vote was recorded  
AYES: Collins, Heinzig, Landmark, Evenson, Pogge-Weaver. NAYES: None. Thereupon the Mayor  
declared Resolution 2016-25 duly passed and adopted.

The Council reviewed the August Budget. Pederson reported that the Sewer Fund would not be  
meeting the budgeted revenues and he would be reviewing the rate study that was presented in 2015 for  
possible revisions.

Wolfington talked about two houses that are ready for demolition. Swift County HRA would  
participate in a portion of the cost of demolition of these two houses. T & K Kennedy submitted a quote  
for demolition of each house. It was moved by Evenson, seconded by Heinzig and carried unanimously to  
accept T & K Kennedy's quote for 1620 Atlantic Avenue in the amount of \$8,760.00, and 305 – 16<sup>th</sup>  
Street South in the amount of \$9,510.00.

It was moved by Evenson, seconded by Collins and carried unanimously to approve the bills and  
warrants in the amount of \$306,152.64.

There being no other business, a motion was made by Evenson, seconded by Heinzig and carried  
unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:02 p.m.

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City Clerk

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Mayor