

**MINUTES - BENSON CITY COUNCIL MEETING
CITY HALL
OCTOBER 5, 2020**

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Mayor Collins. Members present: Jack Evenson, Terri Collins, Mark Schreck, Jon Buyck & Lucas Olson. Members Absent: None. Also present: City Manager Rob Wolfington, Director of Finance Glen Pederson, Police Chief Ian Hodge, Public Works Director Dan Gens and Head Librarian Nicole Schmiesing with Benson Public Library.

The Council recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Mayor asked for any changes to the agenda. Wolfington asked to add a briefing on planned land issues. It was moved by Olson, seconded by Schreck and carried unanimously to approve the amended agenda.

It was moved by Evenson, seconded by Olson and carried unanimously to approve the following items on the consent agenda:

- September 14, 2020 City Council Minutes
- August 17, 2020 EDA Minutes

- Electronic Transfers:
 - Payroll: \$90,626.73 – September 24, 2020
 - Journal Entry:\$1,976,661.19 – August 2020

The Mayor called for anyone with unscheduled business to which there was none.

Schmiesing approached the Council. She said Friends of the Library member Hege Herfindahl has been a board member since 2012 and recently became a lifetime member of the Friends of the Library. She went on to say Hege Herfindahl received the Friends of the Library award for 2020, and even if she wasn't able to be here tonight, Schmiesing thanked her for all she has done at the Library and thanked the Council for their continued support for the Library.

Next was a request from the Police Department asking for authorization to apply for a Minnesota Department of Public Safety grant in the amount of \$16,825.00. If awarded, the monies will go for additional patrolling focused on distracted driving, seatbelt enforcement, DWI enforcement and speeding. After discussion, Councilmember Schreck offered the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AGREEMENT
(RESOLUTION 2020-28)**

Be it resolved that the Benson Police Department enter into a grant agreement with the Minnesota Department of Public Safety, for traffic safety enforcement projects during the period from October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021.

The Benson Police Chief is hereby authorized to execute such agreements and amendments as are necessary to implement the project on behalf of the Benson Police Department and to be the fiscal agent and administer the grant.

Councilmember Evenson seconded the foregoing resolution and the following vote was recorded: AYES: Evenson, Collins, Olson, Schreck, Buyck. NAYES: None. Thereupon the Mayor declared Resolution 2020-28 duly passed and adopted.

There was a pay request from Stantec for work on the Wastewater Treatment Facility Flood Protection project. It was moved by Olson, seconded by Evenson and carried unanimously to approve the pay request from Stantec in the amount of \$7,730.25. Wolfington said he has not yet heard on the grant we applied for on this project that will also help with replacing the forced main sewer line from the Fibrominn site to the pool. The old line became hardened from all the ash that ran through there.

Next were two pay requests for work on the arrival-departure building at the airport. It was moved by Evenson, seconded by Olson and carried unanimously to approve the pay request from TKDA for construction administration fees in the amount of \$8,946.00. It was then moved by Schreck, seconded by Olson and carried unanimously to pay Kalcon LLC for pay request #3 in the amount of \$90,250.00.

Wolfington said the roof in the power plant has started to leak, causing plaster to fall down. He said the rubber membrane roof needs to be replaced. He presented 3 quotes:

Buttweiler's Do-All Inc - \$74,370.00
West Central Roofing Option #1 - \$79,569.48
West Central Roofing Option #2 - \$75,633.85

After discussion, it was moved by Olson, seconded by Buyck and carried unanimously to approve the quote from Buttweiler's Do-All in the amount of \$74,370.00. Wolfington said the ceiling will be repaired this winter and will include a project to remove the plaster containing a high level of asbestos. The asbestos abatement is estimated to cost \$40,000 plus labor and material to replace the plaster.

Next was an application for the Swift Demolition Program for a garage at 714 – 11th St. S. Wolfington reminded the Council Swift County HRA has a demolition program offering property owners an incentive to improve their property by demolishing blighted structures. The program pays up to 50% of the demolition cost not to exceed \$2,500. The program also requires the City to pay one half of the incentive. Total cost of demolition was \$1,358.00. It was moved by Evenson, seconded by Schreck and carried unanimously to approve the application request in the amount of \$339.50.

Wolfington presented road barrier sign request from the Street Department. They need to replace the homemade barricades with DOT approved signage. It was moved by Evenson, seconded by Olson and carried unanimously to approve purchasing new street barricades from M-R Sign in the amount of \$10,295.00.

Wolfington presented Armory Demolition Bidding Documents prepared by Wiseth Engineering to the Council. Included in the report is a demolition scope of work, project notes, quotes, contract and a MDOT Permit. The time line stated quotes are due by February 23, 2021. Demolition will occur in April 2021. The asbestos removal will be under a separate contract and will take place in March 2021. Evenson asked if the costs in the report include all costs. Wolfington said we will have to haul the cement basement to the old dump site for recycling at our cost. After discussion, it was moved by Schreck, seconded by Olson and carried unanimously to approve the Armory Demolition Bidding documents as presented.

It was moved by Olson, seconded by Buyck and carried unanimously to approve the following election judges for the 2020 General Election:

Marti Benson	Gail Brehmer
Sue Fitz	Karen Wolfington
Dixie Golden	Sharon Hagen
Jim Hilleren	Pam Lawatsch
LoAnn Hagen	Patty Schreck
Marcia Ebnet	Luther Pederson
Grant Herfindahl	Glen Pederson

Val Alsaker

Next was a request for support from the Benson Schools Renaissance Program. The Renaissance program quarterly rewards students for high academics as well as exemplary social skills. After discussion, it was moved by Olson, seconded by Buyck and carried unanimously to approve donating soda as we have done in the past for their parties.

Councilmember Evenson presented the following resolution:

**CITY OF BENSON
RESOLUTION ACCEPTING DONATIONS
(RESOLUTION NO. 2020-29)**

WHEREAS, The City of Benson is generally authorized to accept gifts and bequests pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 465.03 and Minnesota Statutes Section 471.17 for the benefit of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, the following persons and entities have offered to contribute the cash amounts set forth below to the city:

**Library Patrons \$64.77 to Benson Public Library
Benson Residents \$822.00 for Beautify Benson Shirts
Joe Rajewski \$46.61 Parks Donation**

WHEREAS, all such donations have been contributed to assist the various city departments and programs as allowed by law; and

WHEREAS, The City Council finds that it is appropriate to accept the donations offered.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BENSON, MINNESOTA, AS FOLLOWS:

1. The donations described above are accepted and shall be used to benefit the departments listed above, as allowed by law.

ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Benson on October 5, 2020.

Councilmember Schreck seconded the foregoing resolution and the following vote was recorded: AYES: Evenson, Collins, Olson, Schreck, Buyck. NAYES: None. Thereupon the Mayor declared Resolution 2020-29 duly passed and adopted.

Wolfington informed the Council he received a land use application from the owners of the Shell Station. The public hearing required for the application that was scheduled for October 13, 2020 is now cancelled. He informed the Council the Land use part of the comprehensive plan needs to be amended before any development can happen on the land to the south of the station. If this change is successful, a public hearing can then be held to consider a conditional use application, a rezoning request from R-1 to B-2 and site plan review of the project. He presented a time line of events.

There being no further business to come before the Council a motion was made by Evenson, seconded by Schreck and carried unanimously to adjourn the Council meeting at 5:56 p.m.

Mayor

City Clerk