

**MINUTES - BENSON CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING
CITY HALL
FEBRUARY 17, 2023**

The meeting was called to order at 12:03 p.m. by Mayor Evenson. Members present: Jack Evenson, Dan Enderson, Chris Carruth, Gary Landmark & Mark Schreck. Members Absent: None. Also present: City Manager Rob Wolfington, City Attorney Don Wilcox, City Clerk Valerie Alsaker, Director of Finance Lisa Kent and Reed Anfinson.

The Mayor called the meeting today to discuss if we have enough qualified City Manager Candidates for the interviews on February 22, 2023. There was discussion on the process, David Drown's role in selection, and how the interview process will work. Experience of the candidates in city government was discussed. Evenson said if none of the candidates fit what we are looking for we don't have to hire any of them.

Schreck stated he and Evenson have been through the process twice before. The last candidate did not work out, and we want to be sure we are making a good decision on the next City Manager. It was stated by the Mayor we paid \$21,000 to David Drown for the search. There was further discussion on the agreement.

Wolfington said each time we go out for a City Manager search, it is listed on the League of MN Cities website. All Cities see this, and if we do not conduct interviews, and go on for a fourth search, there will be questions why Benson is struggling to hire. He also asked if we do not interview, what is the plan for phase 4. He added Liza Donabauer, our consultant with David Drown is in the middle of 5 City Manager searches, and 4 are repeat searches. After more discussion, it was moved by Schreck, seconded by Landmark and carried unanimously to continue with the scheduled interviews.

There being no further business to come before the Council a motion was made by Schreck, seconded by Landmark and carried unanimously to adjourn the Council meeting at 12:34 p.m.

Mayor

City Clerk