

**THE WORKSESSION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
OF BENSON, ARIZONA HELD APRIL 30, 2008
AT CITY HALL AT 7:00 P.M.**

**MAYOR FENN
OPENED THE MEETING AT 7:00 P.M WITH
THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.**

**PRESENT WERE: MAYOR FENN, VICE MAYOR KING,
COUNCILMEMBERS LODZINSKI, McGOFFIN, SACCO, SUAGEE, and TIPTON**

NEW BUSINESS:

Capital Improvement Plan Work
Session for the City of Benson, Fiscal
Year 2008-2009; this will include
discussion of various projects for
improving public infrastructure, the
costs of implementing those projects
and developing the funds to pay for
those projects:

City Manager Martin Roush addressed Council stating the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) is very similar to the CIP from last year. Mr. Roush stated the first section contains the narrative, with the next section containing all the projects, the year they are programmed and the amount required for the project. Mr. Roush then stated the CIP would be presented as a team with Finance Director Jim Cox leading through most of it. Councilmember Lodzinski requested historical information on the CIP be added including projects completed and the status of on-going projects. Mr. Roush indicated this information was in the form of the power point presentation being given this evening, but would be converted to a narrative and added to the CIP.

Finance Director Jim Cox then began the power point presentation, which reviewed what a Capital Improvement Plan is; a five year blueprint that will enable the City to create and maintain critical infrastructure that will support the continued development and growth of the City. The presentation also addressed how CIP projects can be funded through the general fund, the enterprise funds, special taxes approved by Council, grants or long-term debt. Mr. Cox stated the CIP gives the City flexibility, which is important when planning in a changing environment.

Mr. Cox then stated the preliminary CIP was drafted after he and the City Manager met with all the Department Heads in conjunction with budget planning. Mr. Cox stated a public participation meeting was also held to encourage public input, comments and project requests.

Council then discussed the Capital Improvement Plan Projects focusing on the Fiscal Year 2008-2009. After discussing the proposed projects in the General Fund, Mayor Fenn made the motion to move the Volunteer Firefighters Memorial project to Fiscal Year 2009-2010. Seconded by McGoffin. Motion passed 7-0.

Council then discussed the proposed projects in the Capital Projects Fund. After discussing these proposed projects, Councilmember Lodzinski moved to change Lions Park, Phase I to 500,000 in Fiscal Year 2008-2009 and 900,000 in Fiscal Year 2009-2010. Seconded by Councilmember McGoffin. Motion passed 7-0. Council then discussed the Anticipated GADA Loan item, with Mr. Roush explaining the GADA Loan is a government funding mechanism for municipalities under 50,000, that don't need to go to an election and have low interest rates. Mr. Roush stated including this line item gives Council flexibility in the budget if Council so desired to utilize it. Mr. Roush then indicated with the motion to change Lions Park, Phase I, it would drop the Anticipated GADA Loan amount to 1.5 million.

Discussion was then had regarding the use of a loan as a funding source for certain projects. Councilmember King stated this could be a good idea and using the park and streets as examples, indicated that those who will use the park and streets in the future would help fund the project through future collections. Mayor Fenn then stated the City has always paid for projects as they were completed, but for Council to be progressive and to see results in the City, Council would need to be open to this option. Mr. Roush stated for that very reason, the GADA loan was placed in the previous, as well as the current draft budget.

Council then discussed the proposed projects in the Enterprise Funds and the Airport Fund and made no changes.

Adjournment:

Councilmember McGoffin moved to adjourn at 8:51 p.m. Seconded by Vice Mayor King. Motion passed 7-0.

Mark M. Fenn, Mayor

ATTEST:

Vicki L. Vivian, City Clerk