

**BIG LAKE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 13, 2010**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Lori Kampa called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3. ROLL CALL

Council Members present: Dick Backlund, Raeanne Danielowski, Chuck Heitz, Lori Kampa, and Duane Langsdorf. Also present: City Administrator Scott Johnson, Finance Director Corey Boyer, Community Economic Development Director Jim Thares, City Clerk Gina Wolbeck, Senior Planner Katie Larsen, Public Works Director Mike Goebel, Police Chief Sean Rifenberick, Fire Chief Tony Eisinger, and City Engineer Brad DeWolf of Bolton & Menk, Inc.

4. OPEN FORUM

Mayor Kampa opened the Open Forum at 7:01 p.m. No one came forward. Mayor Kampa closed the Open Forum at 7:02 p.m.

5. PROPOSED AGENDA

Council Member Danielowski motioned to adopt the proposed Agenda. Seconded by Council Member Backlund, unanimous ayes, agenda adopted.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

Council Member Heitz motioned to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Seconded by Council Member Langsdorf, unanimous ayes, consent agenda approved. The Consent Agenda consists of: 6A) Approve Regular Council Meeting Minutes of September 22, 2010, 6B) Approve Resolution No. 2010-72 calling for the Meadows of Big Lake Improvement Project Public Hearing on November 10, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chamber, 6C) Approve Waiver of Temporary Sign Permit Fee for the Spudspookular Trail of Terror

Event, 6D) Approve Resolution No. 2010-73 Appointing Election Judges for the November 2, 2010 General Election, 6E) Approve Debt Service Fund Transfer, 6F) Approve 2011 Ground Lease Agreement with Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church, 6G) Approve Use of the Big Lake Fire Station for the Fire Relief Association's Chili Cook-Off Event to benefit the Big Lake Food Shelf, 6H) Approve SHIP Grant Contract, and 6I) Approve Resolution No. 2010-74 approving a Complete Streets Policy.

7. BUSINESS

7A. Orange Cab Update

Dean Syvertson from Orange Cab presented information on their business and their plans for providing service to the Big Lake Station site. Council stressed the need for cab service at the Northstar site on weekends.

7B. PROCLAMATION - Community Planning Month

Mayor Kampa read a Proclamation proclaiming the month of October as Community Planning Month in the City of Big Lake.

Council Member Langsdorf motioned to approve Resolution No. 2010-75 proclaiming the month of October as Community Planning Month in the City of Big Lake. Seconded by Council Member Danielowski, unanimous ayes, motion carried.

7C. Hwy 10/25 Intersection Improvement Project – Receive Bids and Award Contract

Brad DeWolf informed Council that the Minnesota Department of Transportation Office of Civil Rights has determined that the low bid submitted for the Highway 10/25 Intersection Improvement Project satisfies the Good Faith Efforts for solicitations of Disadvantaged Business Enterprises. DeWolf noted that five bids were received for the project and that the low bid was submitted was from Hardrives, Inc. from Rogers, MN in the amount of \$1,729,760.49. DeWolf also noted that the low bid is approximately 17% below the Engineer's Estimate for the project. DeWolf discussed the proposed timeline of the project and informed Council that the old BP Gas Station will be demolished this year.

Council Member Heitz motioned to approve Resolution No. 2010-76 receiving bids and awarding the Contract on the Highway 10/25 Intersection Improvement Project to Hardrives, Inc. from Rogers, MN in the amount of \$1,729,760.49. Seconded by Council Member Langsdorf, motion passed with a vote of 4:1 with Council Members Backlund, Heitz, Kampa, and Langsdorf voting aye, and Council Member Danielowski voting nay. Motion carried.

7D. LELS Police Union Contract

Scott Johnson reviewed the proposed changes to the LELS Police Contract which include changes to the procedure in designating arbitrators, funeral leave, insurance, duration of the contract, wage table, uniform allowance, and various other housekeeping changes. Johnson noted that Article 14.1 referencing insurance will be reopened for negotiation when the City insurance renewal information is available in November 2010.

Council Member Danielowski discussed her concern with the City committing to wage increases in 2012 without knowing how the economy will be in the future, and the annual change to the insurance portion of the contract. Members from the Personnel Committee reviewed discussions held relating to budget forecasting, the benefits to a three year contract term, and the need to retain quality officers. Corey Boyer discussed budget forecasting information and explained that it is hard to look into the future to anticipate potential revenue increases. Council Member Heitz explained that if the City were to agree to a one-year contract, the union would have most likely requested an increase this year instead of waiting until 2012. Council Member Danielowski discussed her concern with the possibility of not having the revenue income to cover the 2012 wage increase. Council Member Heitz noted that the 2012 budget would get balanced through additional cuts if needed. Council Member Danielowski further reiterated that if staff needs to be cut, the cuts would not come from the Police Department due to the Cops Grant requirements and that the cuts would fall onto other departments. Council Member Danielowski also questioned if non-union wages would be affected in 2012. Johnson indicated that historically, if there are changes to the Police Union Contract, the same changes are made to non-union staff. Council Members Backlund and Danielowski stated that they are not in favor of the Contract based on the three year term and the 2012 wage increase commitment.

Council Member Heitz motioned to approve the proposed LELS Contract effective January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2012. Seconded by Council Member Langsdorf, motion passed with a vote of 3:2 with Council Members Heitz, Kampa, and Langsdorf voting aye, and Council Members Backlund and Danielowski voting nay. Motion carried.

7E. Personnel Policy Amendment

Scott Johnson reviewed the Personnel Policy changes recommended from the Personnel Committee. Funeral leave changes were brought forward during negotiations with the Police Union and these changes would be consistent with the 2010 – 2012 Police Contract.

Council Member Danielowski motioned to approve an Amendment to Section 16.8 of the City Personnel Policy relating to funeral leave. Seconded by Council Member Heitz, unanimous ayes, motion carried.

8. LIST OF CLAIMS

8A. Consider List of Claims

Council Member Danielowski motioned to approve the List of Claims ranging from Check No. 59401 through Check No. 59566 with the exception of Check No's. 59440 and 59510 for separate consideration, and Electronic Payments #1177E to #1199E. Seconded by Council Member Langsdorf, unanimous ayes, motion carried.

8B. Consider AutoStop Payment in the Amount of \$1,791.35

Council Member Heitz motioned to approve payment of Check No. 59440 in the amount of \$1,791.35 payable to AutoStop, Inc. Seconded by Council Member Danielowski, vote passed with a vote of 4 to 0 with 1 abstention with Council Members Backlund, Danielowski, Heitz, and Kampa voting aye and Council Member Langsdorf abstaining. Motion carried.

8C. Consider Audio Communications Payment in the Amount of \$19.22

Council Member Danielowski motioned to approve payment of Check No. 59510 in the amount of \$19.22 payable to Audio Communications. Seconded by Council Member Langsdorf, vote passed with a vote of 4 to 0 with 1 abstention with Council Members Danielowski, Heitz, Kampa, and Langsdorf voting aye and Council Member Backlund abstaining. Motion carried.

9. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Tony Eisinger informed Council that the Fire Department will not be hosting a Halloween Party this year as they do not want to compete with the Spud Fest/Lions Club Spudspookular event. Fire personnel have committed to volunteer at the Spudspookular events on October 22/23 and 29/30 at Lion's Park.

10. MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORTS and QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

Council Member Backlund: Reviewed the third quarter Fire Board Meeting.

Council Member Danielowski: Discussed the BR&E committee meeting, and Katie Larsen updated Council on the status of the installation of the Way-finding signage.

Council Member Heitz: Discussed the October EDA Meeting and updated Council on the Met Council consideration of an increase to Northstar ridership fees in Big Lake and Elk River. Heitz indicated that he has contacted the Met Council Members to request that the current fares remain in place.

Mayor Kampa: Provided additional information on the third quarter Fire Board Meeting. Mayor Kampa also discussed her meeting with 90+ Northstar riders who rode the train to Big Lake.

11. OTHER

Chief Eisinger reviewed the Fire Department Open House that was held on October 3rd.

Council thanked the Big Lake Chamber of Commerce and the Sherburne Wright Cable Commission for hosting and video taping the 2010 Candidate Forum.

12. ADJOURN

Council Member Heitz motioned to adjourn at 7:56 p.m. Seconded by Council Member Langsdorf, unanimous ayes, motion carried.

Gina Wolbeck
Clerk

Date Approved By Council 10/27/10