

**BIG LAKE CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL WORKSHOP MINUTES
JULY 18, 2012**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Kampa called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Council Members present: Dick Backlund, Raeanne Danielowski, Lori Kampa, Duane Langsdorf, and Mike Wallen. Also present: City Administrator Todd Bodem, Finance Director Paula Mastey, City Clerk Gina Wolbeck, Senior Planner Katie Larsen, Public Works Director Mike Goebel, Liquor Store Manager Jan Muehlbauer, and City Engineer Brad DeWolf from Bolton and Menk, Inc.

3. PROPOSED AGENDA

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

4. BUSINESS

4A. County Road 43 Cost Participation Agreement

Council Member Danielowski reviewed the need for further discussion on costs the City will incur for the CR 43 project. Danielowski stated her concern with the proposed costs as the project is a Sherburne County Road project, the impact the Quiet Zone improvements will have on our State Aid fund balance, and our ability to complete necessary City street projects. Brad DeWolf reviewed the railroad crossing improvements needed to complete the City Council's Quiet Zone goal. Planned improvements at the crossing include 2 Northbound Lanes, 8-inch high concrete medians, signs and striping, new crossing arms, precast crossing panels and signal components, and sidewalk from Humboldt Drive to the Northstar Transit Facility. DeWolf noted that to complete the Quiet Zone corridor after the CR 43 improvements are done, the only crossing left is at South Eagle Lake Road on the south side of the tracks. DeWolf reviewed the balance in the City's State Aid account which is at approximately \$618,000 and is expected to grow by approximately \$250,000 annually. DeWolf did explain that over the next 15 years, annual payments in the amount of \$115,000 to \$126,000 will be coming out of this account for payments towards the Hwy

10/CR 25 improvement project loan. DeWolf discussed the Sanitary Sewer improvements included in the cost analysis for the Northland Meadows Development. Staff clarified that escrow has been submitted for this project and that the developer has been made aware they will be responsible for 100% of the costs of this project. Sherburne County is aware that this part of the project will be removed if the developer doesn't provide the funds to pay for these costs. DeWolf noted that due to the high bid that came in, staff has already removed the Sanitary Sewer Abandonment from the project. DeWolf reviewed the proposed street Improvements for the project which include Curb & Gutter sections from 193rd Avenue to the North, a 55 mph speed limit south of Forest Road and a 30 mph speed limit north of Forest Road, storm sewer/ infiltration ponds/ treatment units north of 193rd Avenue, and some Quiet Zone improvements at the BNSF Crossing. DeWolf reviewed Utility Improvements which include installation of a 16-inch raw watermain, installation of an 8-inch distribution watermain, and construction of a 10-inch sanitary sewer near 193rd Avenue. Council discussed concerns with incurring utility improvement costs when there isn't any development going on. Staff analyzed the approximate cost to wait to do the raw watermain improvements until a later date and estimated that the costs could increase by \$458,000 if not done during the county road project. Staff expressed that the raw watermain project could be done in the future when development dictates a need. Council Member Danielowski discussed removing the quiet zone improvements from the project due to the tough economic times. Council Member Wallen expressed that he is not in favor of eliminating the quiet zone improvements and would like staff to check into what needs to be done on the remaining crossing at Eagle Lake Road South to complete the corridor. Wallen also discussed the TOD investment the City has made and how eliminating the quiet zone corridor could negatively impact that investment. Mayor Kampa discussed the possibility of removing the raw watermain costs from the project, but would like to see the quiet zone improvements completed. Council Member Backlund noted that the pricing seems to be excessive and needs to be trimmed. Council Member Langsdorf stated that he is in favor of waiting to do the raw watermain improvements, but that the median will offer better safety at the CR 43 crossing. Langsdorf also discussed the need to have staff to check into what would be needed at the Eagle Lake Road South crossing to complete the quiet zone corridor sooner rather than later.

Council directed staff to meet with Sherburne County to discuss more involvement on their part in funding some of the improvements, to remove the raw watermain and Sanitary Sewer Abandonment improvements from the project, and to contact BNSF Railroad to discuss what will be required to temporarily complete the Eagle Lake Road South crossing in order to complete the Quiet Zone corridor.

5. OTHER

Todd Bodem discussed the Library Subcommittee meeting held last week and reviewed their recommendation to contact the property owners of the Library facility to open up discussions about a possible purchase of the property. Mayor Kampa informed staff and Council that the employee appreciation picnic has been set for August 23rd at Lakeside

Park. Katie Larsen reviewed the junk and blight code and asked if Council wishes to continue on a complaint basis for violations, or if they want staff to seek out violations. The general consensus of the Council was to continue on a complaint basis for code enforcement.

6. ADJOURN

Council Member Langsdorf motioned to adjourn at 6:07 p.m. Seconded by Council Member Backlund unanimous ayes, motion carried.

Gina Wolbeck
City Clerk

07/25/12
Date Approved By Council