

**BIG LAKE CITY COUNCIL  
WORKSHOP MINUTES  
NOVEMBER 19, 2014**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Danielowski called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**2. ROLL CALL**

Council Members present: Dick Backlund, Raeanne Danielowski, Seth Hansen, and Mike Wallen. Council Member Nick Christenson was absent. Also present: Interim City Administrator/Finance Director Jessica Green, Public Works Director Mike Goebel, Police Chief Joel Scharf, City Clerk Gina Wolbeck, Liquor Store Manager Jan Muehlbauer, and City Engineer Brad DeWolf of Bolton & Menk, Inc.

**3. PROPOSED AGENDA**

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

**4. BUSINESS**

**4A. Proposed 2015 Fee Schedule Changes/Additions**

Jessica Green reviewed proposed changes to the 2015 Fee Schedule. Changes included listing the current sod fee/escrow, identifying charges for use of police staff and squads, listing the garden plot and farmer's market vendor fees, listing snow removal and weed/grass violation charges, and solid waste dumping fees. Green also reviewed discussions held with the firm that conducted the recent rate study. Staff is recommending the rates stay the same as last year until the rate study can be presented to Council at the beginning of the year.

**4B. 2015 Budget and Levy Discussion**

Jessica Green discussed the proposed final figures for the 2015 Budget and Levy. In September 2014 the Preliminary Levy was set at 3.8% and the Final Levy proposed is at a 3.30% levy increase. Green also reviewed various Enterprise Funds and CIP items. Green stressed that there is an immediate need to correct some of the issues the Sewer Enterprise Fund is experiencing. Green reminded Council that the Public Input Hearing is scheduled on Tuesday, November 25<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m.

**5. OTHER**

Jessica Green discussed a request from Metro Transit to be allowed to install fencing around the Maintenance Facility located near the Big Lake train station. Council directed staff to draft an Ordinance Amendment for future consideration.

Green discussed a request from a resident regarding agriculturally zoned land in the City limits and whether the City would be open to authorize hunting in these types of zoning districts. Council authorized staff to work on potential ordinance language changes for review at a future Council Workshop.

Joel Scharf discussed the department's use of a temporarily donated ATV. Staff is asking for Council to consider a budget adjustment to allow the department to purchase the ATV outright. Council directed staff to proceed with the purchase of the ATV.

Scharf also discussed a concern with the Wreckless Driving Academy space and the use of it by the Crossings Church. Scharf noted that the noise has become an issue with the tenants, and explained that if Wreckless doesn't renew their lease, the Police Department could use the room as a training room. It was also discussed that the City could allow Wreckless to use the room on a limited basis for their driving classes. The Church has indicated that they do need that space to operate, and staff noted that the Church's current lease does not include language allowing them to use the Wreckless suite. Green noted that the City would be losing approximately \$9,000 in lease revenue if Wreckless doesn't renew their lease.

Mike Goebel updated Council on equipment and staffing issues the department experienced during the first snow storm of the year. Goebel also updated Council on upcoming staff changes.

Jan Muehlbauer updated Council on the November 14<sup>th</sup> Wine Fest.

Brad DeWolf updated Council on the Quiet Zone improvements.

**6. ADJOURN**

Council Member Wallen motioned to adjourn at 6:53 p.m. Seconded by Council Member Hansen, unanimous ayes, motion carried.

Gina Wolbeck  
Recorder

12/10/14  
Date Approved By Council