

**BIG LAKE CITY COUNCIL,  
PLANNING COMMISSION, EDA, and PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**COMMITTEE WORKSHOP MINUTES**

**DECEMBER 3, 2013**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

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

**2. ROLL CALL**

Council Members present: Mayor Raeanne Danielowski, Council Members Dick Backlund, and Nick Christenson.

Planning Commission Members present: Ketti Green, Doug Hayes, and Patricia May.

EDA Members present: President Doug Hayes, Greg Green, Norm Leslie, and Steve Pflughhaar.

Parks Advisory Committee Members present: Chair Katrine Nau, Bev Anderson, Gene Earney, Renee Rossman, and Janae Stern.

Also present: City Administrator Todd Bodem, City Clerk Gina Wolbeck, Finance Director Jessica Green, Public Works Director Mike Goebel, Police Chief Joel Scharf, EDA Manager Heidi Steinmetz, Consultant City Planner Ben Wikstrom, and Assistant City Engineer Jared Voge from Bolton and Menk, Inc.

**3. PROPOSED AGENDA**

Council Member Backlund motioned to adopt the proposed Agenda. Seconded by Planning Commissioner Ketti Green, unanimous ayes, agenda adopted.

**4. DISCUSSION**

Mayor Danielowski thanked all members for their service. Mayor Danielowski invited the Committee Members to give updates on accomplishments and needs of the various committees.

Planning Commission Vice Chair Ketti Green reviewed projects and developments brought to the Planning Commission in 2013. Items discussed included the Northern Star Apartment project, Dill Dental, The Commons project, general ordinance housekeeping, and potential changes to the I-4 design standards.

EDA President Doug Hayes reviewed projects the EDA accomplished in 2013. Topics discussed included the Dill Dental project, Northern Star Apartments, Kelco, the Cargill expansion, refinancing of EDA Bonds, and noted the need to cultivate public/private partnerships. Hayes reviewed possible 2014 projects which could include completion of the walkability corridor, and continued support of the proposed rail park. Hayes also discussed the need to continue to focus on what is happening in Big Lake and recognized that Big Lake could be the "Talk of the Northwest Metro area".

Parks Board Chair Katrine Nau discussed accomplishments of the Parks Advisory Board and also addressed future Park planning in the City. Items discussed included the clean-up and redevelopment of the new River Oaks Park along CR 5, the Graniteman Triathlon, the upcoming winter Get Outdoors Day event, the Living with Lupus event, Music in the Park events, Community Education Programs, Eagle Scout projects, the community garden site, and the Farmer's Market. Nau also thanked Gene Earney for his years of service on the Parks Board. Council discussed the grants and donations the Parks Department has obtained in the last year.

Todd Bodem reviewed the 2013 Strategic Plan and reviewed the City's development and marketing efforts from the past year.

Joel Scharf discussed the current condition of the police department site and how they hope to utilize space at the 790 Minnesota Avenue commercial property.

Mayor Danielowski discussed the possibility of including members from each committee in the Council's Goal Setting Session in 2014. Danielowski also discussed the City's need to encourage public/private partnerships and seek public engagement.

## **5. ADJOURN**

Parks Advisory Board Member Janae Stern motioned to adjourn at 7:38 p.m. Seconded by Parks Advisory Board Chair Katrine Nau, unanimous ayes, motion carried.

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Gina Wolbeck  
City Clerk

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12/11/13  
Date Approved By Council