

**AGENDA  
BIG LAKE CITY COUNCIL  
WORKSHOP**

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10, 2020**

**5:00 p.m.**

**1) CALL TO ORDER**

**2) ROLL CALL**

**3) ADOPT PROPOSED AGENDA**

**4) BUSINESS**

- 4A. Commercial Vehicle Parking Code Enforcement Extension Request
- 4B. Letter in Support of Options, Inc.
- 4C. New Ideas Discussion

**5) OTHER**

**6) ADJOURN**

**Disclaimer:** This agenda has been prepared to provide information regarding an upcoming workshop of the Big Lake City Council. This document does not claim to be complete and is subject to change.

**CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP – COVID-19 NOTICES**

**Attendance at Workshop:** All attendees are expected to follow CDC recommendations ensuring social distancing of at least 6 feet away from other persons. Some members of the City Council may participate in this Workshop via telephone or other electronic means on an as needed basis.

**Audience Attendance at Workshop:** To join this workshop via Zoom videoconferencing, please contact City Clerk Gina Wolbeck at 763-251-2973, or by email at [gwolbeck@biglakemn.org](mailto:gwolbeck@biglakemn.org) to obtain a meeting Identification and Password. **The deadline to obtain a password to join the meeting is 4:00 p.m. the day of the meeting.**



# WORKSHOP ITEM

Big Lake City Council

<b>Prepared By:</b> <i>Hanna Klimmek, Community Development Director</i>	<b>Meeting Date:</b> 6/10/2020	<b>Item No.</b> <b>4A</b>
<b>Item Description:</b> <i>Commercial Vehicle – Code Enforcement Extension</i>	<b>Reviewed By:</b> <i>Clay Wilfahrt, City Administrator</i>	
	<b>Reviewed By:</b> <i>Amy Barthel, City Planner</i>	

**ACTION REQUESTED**

Staff requests that Council discuss a possible extension to the grace period set in place for code enforcement in regards to non-compliant commercial vehicles parked in residential neighborhoods.

**BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION**

During the December 11, 2019 City Council Workshop, Staff was directed to begin enforcing the Code’s longstanding rule prohibiting any commercial vehicle larger than 12,000 pounds from being parked in a residential neighborhood. Enforcement was temporarily suspended while studying the issue prior to the Workshop discussion.

The City Council decided to offer a grace period for those in violation. Non-compliant properties were sent a notice of upcoming code enforcement action and were told they had until July 1, 2020 to find a compliant, alternative option to park their commercial vehicles. The City Council directed Staff to begin enforcing the ordinance on July 2, 2020.

Staff was approached by one of the non-compliant properties asking for an extension to the grace period due to the uncertainties of COVID and the inability to secure other options for parking their commercial vehicle.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT**

N/A

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends that Council discuss a possible extension to the grace period set in place for code enforcement in regards to non-compliant commercial vehicles parked in residential neighborhoods.

**ATTACHMENTS**

N/A



# WORKSHOP ITEM

## Big Lake City Council

<b>Prepared By:</b> <i>Hanna Klimmek, Community Development Director</i>	<b>Meeting Date:</b> 6/10/2020	<b>Item No.</b> <b>4B</b>
<b>Item Description:</b> <i>Letter in Support of Options, Inc.</i>	<b>Reviewed By:</b> <i>Clay Wilfahrt, City Administrator</i>	
	<b>Reviewed By:</b> <i>N/A</i>	

### **ACTION REQUESTED**

Consider directing Mayor, Mike Wallen, and City Administrator, Clay Wilfahrt, to sign a letter addressed to Legislators; urging them to consider emergency funding and allow Options, Inc. to resume operations with a safety plan.

### **BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION**

Due to the Governor's orders, Options, Inc. has been closed and has received zero funding from the Department of Human Services (DHS) since March 18, 2020.

Options, Inc. plays a vital role in the Big Lake Community. They are the 6th largest employer in the City of Big Lake and have been in business for 40 years. The services provided by Options, Inc. is critical to support people with intellectual, developmental disabilities to live and work in our communities.

Options, Inc. has a payroll of over \$2.6 million in annual wages, which goes into our local economy. They not only pay living wages above industry standards but also directly spend over \$160,000 on an annual basis to local vendors and small businesses. The majority of the 65 employees and 258 program participants live in the Big Lake area and Sherburne County. They count on over 80 business partners; providing critical employment opportunities and income for persons served.

Options, Inc. does have a safety plan put together in response to COVID-19 and is ready to open their doors but they cannot do so without DHS releasing their funding. The Options, Inc. board will soon have to engage in a very real conversation about closing their doors if they don't see positive movement from the legislature and DHS.

The letter will be sent to the Health and Human Services (HHS) committee members in the House and the Senate, as well as their staff contacts. Both Senator Mary Kiffmeyer and Representative Paul Novotny are on the HHS committees.

### **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

N/A

### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends The City Council direct Mayor, Mike Wallen, and City Administrator, Clay Wilfahrt, to sign a letter addressed to Legislators; urging them to consider emergency funding and allow Options, Inc. to resume operations with a safety plan.

***ATTACHMENTS***

Draft Letter



June 10, 2020

XXX  
Address  
Address

Dear XXX:

Options, Inc. plays a vital role in Big Lake as well as the broader community. As the sixth largest employer in the City of Big Lake and in business for over 40 years, their employees and persons served are a large part of the fabric of our community, i.e. volunteering for many community events and organizations. The services provided by Options, Inc. is critical to support people with intellectual, developmental disabilities to live and work in our communities.

Options, Inc. has a payroll of over \$2.6 million annually, which goes into our local economy. They pay living wages above industry standards and directly spend over \$160,000 annually to local vendors and small business. The majority of the 65 employees and the 258 program participants live in the Big Lake area and Sherburne County. They count on over 80 businesses as partners, providing critical employment opportunities and income for persons served.

Funding has been cut off to Options, Inc. since March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Although they have worked in good faith with the Minnesota Department of Services (DHS), complying with regulatory rules and providing critical services on their behalf, there has been no interest from DHS or the legislature to provide emergency funding for fixed cost relief to protect them from closing permanently.

The City of Big Lake as well as the Big Lake Economic Development Authority urges state leaders to consider emergency funding, as well as allow Options, Inc. to implement their robust COVID-19 safety plan and resume operations. The economic devastation caused by COVID-19 has our community anxious and during this time we certainly cannot lose such a vital community resource. Our hope is Options, Inc. will be able to remain open and resume full operations while keeping safety for program participants and Options, Inc. staff paramount.

Sincerely,

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Mayor, Mike Wallen

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City Administrator, Clay Wilfahrt

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EDA President, Alan Heidemann

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EDA Executive Director, Hanna Klimmek



# WORKSHOP ITEM

Big Lake City Council

<b>Prepared By</b> Clay Wilfahrt, City Administrator	<b>Meeting Date</b> 6/10/2020	<b>Item No.</b> <b>4C</b>
<b>Item Description</b> New Ideas Discussion	<b>Reviewed By:</b> N/A	
	<b>Reviewed By:</b> N/A	

### **COUNCIL DIRECTION REQUESTED**

None

### **BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION**

This item is dedicated for City Council Members to bring up any ideas/projects that they would like to discuss during the Workshop.

### **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

None

### **ALTERNATIVES**

None

### **ATTACHMENTS**

None