

**BIG LAKE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MAY 10, 2023**

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3. ROLL CALL

Council Members present: Ken Halverson, Sam Hanson, Paul Knier, Kim Noding, and Paul Seefeld. Also present: City Administrator Hanna Klimmek, City Clerk Gina Wolbeck, Finance Director Deb Wegeleben, City Engineer Layne Otteson, Community Development Director Therese Haffner, Police Chief John Kaczmarek, Liquor Store Manager Greg Zurbey, Streets/Parks/Fleet Superintendent Norm Michels, and Water/Wastewater Superintendent Dan Childs.

Denny Lundquist provided an invocation.

4. OPEN FORUM

Mayor Knier opened the Open Forum at 6:04 p.m.

Bret Collier, 22549 172nd Street NW - discussed the Lupulin Brewing 15-year Abatement Agreement, asking when the agreement is scheduled to end. Collier noted an Abatement was granted to the Garage Guys (Lupulin Brewing) by both the City and Sherburne County with stipulations associated with the Abatement. Collier discussed the April 23, 2023 drag show that was hosted by Lupulin Brewing and asked if the City of Big Lake had this in mind when they originally approved Lupulin's Tax Abatement. The show was billed as only available to those 18 and over and asked if that criteria was maintained, noting he parked outside the event to observe if any minors were allowed entrance to the facility. Upon his observance, it appeared that the age limit was being enforced. Collier described being to drag shows decades in the past when the performers had talent and looked like super models, noting that is not what drag has turned into as of late. Individuals are now using drag to influence our children. Collier suggested we ask

ourselves what type of town/city we want to be, asking if we want to be the type of community that allows for the creation of an environment where children can be exposed to age inappropriate materials which could lead to sexual abuse and trafficking.

Mayor Knier closed the Open Forum at 6:07 p.m.

5. PROPOSED AGENDA

Council Member Noding motioned to adopt the proposed Agenda as presented. Seconded by Council Member Seefeld, unanimous ayes, Agenda adopted.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

Council Member Halverson motioned to approve the Consent agenda as presented. Seconded by Council Member Hanson, unanimous ayes, Consent Agenda approved. The Consent Agenda consisted of: 6A. Approve List of Claims, 6B. Approve Council Workshop Minutes of April 26, 2023, 6C. Approve Regular Council Meeting Minutes of April 26, 2023, 6D. Approve Appointment of Police Reserve Officers Crystal Gassman, Mitchel Reasoner, Jada Isais, and Aaron Lee, 6E. Approve Appointment of Assistant Liquor Manager Megan Knopik, 6F. Approve Resolution No. 2023-31 approving the Highline Trail Plans and Specifications and Authorizing Advertisement for Bid, 6G. Approve 2023 Big Lake Spud Fest Licensing, and 6H. Approve Lease Agreement with SBA Network Services for the Communication Tower at the Wastewater Treatment Plan.

7. BUSINESS

7A. Proclamation – Designating May 15-21, 2023 as Police Week

John Kaczmarek thanked Council for recognizing Police Week, noting it reaffirms to the Officers the Council's support of the Department as well as support from the Community.

Mayor Knier read a Proclamation proclaiming the week of May 15 through May 21, 2023 as National Police Week and May 15 as Peace Officers Memorial Day in the City of Big Lake. Council thanked the Police Department staff for their dedicated service.

Council Member Halverson motioned to approve a Proclamation proclaiming the week of May 15 through May 21, 2023 as National Police Week and May 15 as Peace Officers Memorial Day in the City of Big Lake. Seconded by Council Member Noding, unanimous ayes, motion carried.

Mayor Knier expressed Big Lake has a long history of respect for our members in blue and thanked our officers for their service to the community.

7B. Department Reports

Engineering Department – City Engineer Layne Otteson provided an update on engineering projects underway in the City. Otteson reviewed grant applications for pedestrian safety and trail/walk gaps, discussed the status of the ST2022-1 street project noting work will resume about June 1 on the north side of the lakes, discussed the County Road 43 project that will likely commence in late summer 2023, reviewed discussions at a recent MNDOT State Aid Meeting, and provided information on upcoming AIS lake treatments and watercraft inspections. Otteson also discussed erosion control notifications which are generally verbal prior to a resident receiving written notice.

Council Member Noding discussed timing for lake treatments, and Otteson responded treatments are generally done in late July to early August. The applications are permitted through the DNR and are done based on the vendor’s schedule, who take guidance from the DNR.

Mayor Knier discussed plans for the Glenwood Avenue roundabout, indicating he is glad to see the plan is for a single lane with a low center.

Water/Wastewater Department - Dan Childs provided an update on the Water/Wastewater Department for the months of March and April. The Big Lake Wastewater Treatment Facility recently earned recognition from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency for Operational Excellence, discussed coring filter maintenance, replacement of check valves at a lift station, and removal of the pump and motor at well no. 2. Childs also reviewed revisions to the lead and copper rule that was originally developed in 1991.

Council Member Seefeld asked when restrictions on using lead paint went into effect. Childs responded restrictions were put into place in the 1950’s, noting grant money could fund replacement costs of lead pipes so there shouldn’t be an expense to the homeowner at this time.

8. ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

City Administrator Hanna Klimmek informed Council her and Mayor Knier will be visiting Options, Inc. for their monthly “Coffee and Conversation” gathering. On a monthly basis, Options will bring in local community leaders to meet the people they serve and to share what their role is in Big Lake. Klimmek discussed the upcoming staff tour of Waterous that manufactures fire hydrants as well as many other fire related products. Klimmek also discussed staff monitoring of pending legislation and how it affects the city, noting the LMC is hosting a webinar on June 1st that will provide a recap of the legislative session.

9. MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORTS and QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

Mayor Knier: reviewed the April CMRP Meeting, and discussed the May BLEDA and Fire Board Meetings. Mayor Knier also reminded the public of Saturday's Coffee with the Mayor event at Ember Coffee.

Council Member Noding: reviewed recent Fire Board, and BLEDA Meetings.

10. OTHER – No other.

11. ADJOURN

Council Member Seefeld motioned to adjourn at 6:34 p.m. Seconded by Council Member Noding, unanimous ayes, motion carried.

Gina Wolbeck
Clerk

Date Approved by Council 05.24.23