

**BIG LAKE CITY COUNCIL
WORKSHOP MINUTES**

JULY 12, 2023

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

2. 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, Community Development Director Therese Haffner, City Engineer Layne Otteson, Police Chief John Kaczmarek, Liquor Store Manager Greg Zurbey, Streets/Parks/Fleet Superintendent Norm Michels, Water/Wastewater Superintendent Dan Childs, and Big Lake Student Liaison Allie Cross.

3. PROPOSED AGENDA

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

4. BUSINESS

4A. Review Building Permit Fee Refund Request from BL Dalsin

Hanna Klimmek reviewed the building permit fee refund request from Cathy Smith, Vice President of BL Dalsin Roofing. In a letter received from Smith, she indicated they received a quote from the City Building Official in the amount of \$462.71. The quoted amount was used in their bid on the LISI Medical project. When they came in to pay for their building permit, they were charged \$3,462.62 which far exceeds the quoted number.

Council Member Noding discussed she understands the need for a quote when bidding a project, and that they accept a quote in good faith, but that they would try their best to get the refund if they can trace a mistake to someone else.

Council Member Halverson discussed this is a reputable company, and has a hard time believing they didn't know the quote was a mistake. He stated he feels the business should have known the quote was incorrect. He noted he understands we made the mistake, but if you are a reputable multi-million-dollar company doing this big of a job, they would have known the permit wouldn't have been \$400 on a \$275,000 job and feels they may have taken advantage of the mistake. Halverson stated he would maybe consider splitting the difference. Noding agreed they should have known the quote wasn't accurate. Council Member Hanson agreed they should have known the quote was a mistake, and indicated he

would be ok with splitting the difference.

Mayor Knier and Council Member Seefeld indicated splitting the difference sounds fine.

Council directed Staff to reimburse BL Dalsin Roofing for half the fee charged over the quoted amount totaling a refund of \$1,499.96.

4B. Lakeside Park Security Camera Project Discussion

Deb Wegeleben reviewed at the April 26, 2023 workshop, staff was directed to obtain additional quotes for the replacement of the camera system at Lakeside Park. Staff reached out to WH Security and received two additional quotes. Josh Neisch from WH Security discussed the quote for 15 Avycon Eyeball IP fixed lens cameras in the amount of \$26,560, as well as the other quotes submitted.

Council Member Halverson discussed he feels the Police Chief did his homework on what cameras are needed at Lakeside Park. There has been substantial vandalism and damage at the lake, as well as weapons calls, and we should have good cameras at the lake.

Mayor Knier asked what will stop them from vandalizing the cameras. Neisch responded the cameras will be placed high up on poles out of reach at approximately 10 to 12 feet high.

Council Member Halverson discussed issues with the workers at the gazebo, noting the cameras would give us the best opportunity to prosecute. Knier noted he feels the 15 camera package provides good coverage. Knier also asked how we would we identify culprits from the footage. John Kaczmarek discussed the footage from the cameras would help identify specifics of the person on the video. They would run through school records, and talk to various individuals/agencies. Kaczmarek stated he believes we all agree we need cameras out there, and stated he feels we should invest in good cameras that will be long-lasting. Cameras aren't going to solve every crime, but they do give us leads as footage can be shared with other agencies and the media. Knier asked if the higher quote is good cameras. Neisch reviewed the types of cameras on each of the three quotes, stating some have adjustable lenses verses fixed lenses, and some have greater distance and can see at night, noting the park is well lit so that should help with the night footage. Halverson acknowledged the camera system will cost a lot of money, and noted we have spent substantial dollars on discussing options for pinging water meters, and upgrading colors on a fire truck. He stressed this is our police department making a recommendation and it is concerning to tell the chief he doesn't need the best equipment, noting we need to give them the best opportunity to do their job.

Council Member Hanson discussed angles of the camera noting they will zoom out in 4K. Hanson stated he feels they would give a good shot, but might be a little grainy at certain angles. The 15 camera coverage map shows excellent coverage. Kaczmarek responded a grainy picture could affect prosecution.

Council Member Noding indicated the original two quotes will need to be adjusted to increase the hard drive and boom lift. Council Member Hanson suggested we do 16 cameras with the third quote. Seefeld responded he likes the 16 camera recommendation from Hanson. Halverson asked how much additional

money it would cost to commit to 20 cameras but only install 16 at this time, so later on down the road, our system isn't maxed out. Neisch responded it would add approximately \$3,000 to \$4,000 to the quote, making the final quote closer to \$30,000. Council consensus was to authorize up to \$30,000 toward a camera security system at Lakeside Park, and to authorize staff to execute the Scope of Order.

5. OTHER

Council Member Hanson provided an update on his discussions with the area fisheries person at the MNDNR relating to the City stocking the lake with fish on off years the DNR doesn't stock walleye. They didn't find it a conflict with the City supplementing on off years. Hanson stated, on behalf of the Lake Association, he will be fundraising and asked the City to cover half up to \$2,500 in unallocated funds and authorization for donated funds to come through the City, noting we have a Lake Maintenance Fund so we can accept charitable donations on behalf of that fund. Council Member Seefeld suggested Hanson should ask for the \$5,000 from area organizations, but he would be ok with the City funding half up to \$2,500 if need be. Layne Otteson asked who would oversee this project. Council consensus was to move forward with seeking donations for the \$5,000 and report back if he isn't able to get funds.

Mayor Knier discussed the current City Council appointments and requested the Council support additional review of the committees the City serves on at a future workshop. Knier noted he doesn't want it so cumbersome to be a Council Member that officials are at meetings three nights a week. Hanna Klimmek reviewed there are some areas we can look at removing from the committee assignments, and offer organizations time during meetings or workshops to provide updates to Council. Council directed Staff to prepare an item for review at an upcoming workshop.

6. ADJOURN

Council Member Seefeld motioned to adjourn at 5:46 p.m. Seconded by Council Member Noding, unanimous ayes, motion carried.

Gina Wolbeck
City Clerk

07.26.23
Date Approved by Council