

**BIG LAKE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 10, 2022**

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, Acting Police Chief Sam Olson, Liquor Store Manager Greg Zurbey, Streets/Parks/Fleet Superintendent Norm Michels, Water/Wastewater Superintendent Dan Childs, and Big Lake Student Liaison Allie Cross.

4. OPEN FORUM

Mayor Knier opened the Open Forum at 6:01 p.m.

John Henry, 2705 Lilac Court, St. Cloud, MN – addressed the THC moratorium being considered by the City Council. Henry commented that none of the towns he listed who have passed a moratorium have brick and mortar CBD stores. He has spoken with St. Cloud City officials and their concern is to not get it in the hands of children. They don't want gas stations getting a hold of it and where people who are under the age of 21 being able to purchase it. They will be licensing THC products with specific regulations and fees. There are advantages to licensing the product other than just putting a moratorium on it, noting that this type of licensing program would allow a City to police the product. Henry also discussed the economic advantages of not putting a moratorium in place explaining that \$0.67 of every \$1.00 spent in a community stays in that community. The average age of Profusion's customer base is 45 to 85 years of age, and they serve people that live in or near Big Lake, and these people are going to have to drive to other communities to purchase product and spend their dollars there.

Todd Witte, 1055 Sunwood Park Lane, Waite Park, MN and owns and operates Profusion CBD Wellness located at 421 Jefferson Blvd – stated that he is concerned how the proposed moratorium will affect his business. Witte expressed that they have done their due diligence to run a lawful business and provide a service to local customers. He hopes that the City can come up with a different option as far as the moratorium goes, and suggested a special workshop be held to help figure out what policies will need to be applied so everyone can operate a good quality business and do things lawfully.

Gloria Vande Brake, 271 Shore View Estates - provided an update on upcoming Big Lake Chamber of Commerce events including the 12th Annual Block Party at McPete's on Saturday, August 20 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The Chamber will also be hosting their 4th Annual Golf Scramble on Thursday, September 15 at the Monticello Country Club.

Donald Vierimaa, 149 Hill Street – Offered ways to keep drunk drivers off the roads, for reducing alcohol related violence and disturbances, and for helping those addicted to alcohol. Vierimaa also discussed arbitrary and capricious traffic laws pertaining to bicycles, asking Council to make Big Lake a sanctuary city where state bicycle laws are not enforced.

Stacy Hollenbeck, 16714 County Road 43, and owner of the Big Lake Smoke Shop – discussed the THC moratorium being considered by the Council tonight. Hollenbeck reviewed the impact a moratorium would have on their small business, noting that three months of sales are \$73,000, and the potential loss of sales and loss of income over a year will amount to almost \$400,000 and they will need to fire three to four employees in order to withstand that amount. This would increase their unemployment rates and taxes by \$16,000 once they get back to full staffing levels. This would be a significant loss to our community, and explained that they sell 500 to 600 orders on a monthly basis, and those people would now go to another community to purchase their products which could impact neighboring Big Lake businesses. Hollenbeck also provided a sample ordinance she wrote that would regulate THC products, provided licensing and inspection samples, and provided copies of statutes. Hollenbeck asked Council to not approve the moratorium, but to push off to the next planning meeting so she can educate them on the different laws and how to regulate it. Hollenbeck reviewed that they have found a place in the City that is selling illegal products, and had issues with labeling and quantity. There are legal ways to stop them, noting that the Board of Pharmacy has a cease and desist order that the police can use to stop them. The City also has code 130 that provides another way for the police to go in to stop these products from being sold illegally. She noted that she agrees that licensing should be implemented.

Becki Glanz, 1141 Powell Street – asked that her time be deferred to Stacy Hollenbeck, which was allowed by Mayor Knier – Hollenbeck continued that there are ways around what the City is trying to do, and stressed how deeply it will impact Big Lake small businesses and their employee's lives. She stated that she believes there should be regulations, but not an immediate moratorium.

Hollenbeck provided sample products and a sample Certificate of Analysis (COA) to law enforcement that show the ingredients in each product. Credit card companies require that stores have the COA. It can be reported to a credit card company and they will shut them down. You have to have the COA in order to sell that product with payment being made with a credit card. They have been doing that since almost the first of the year. They have those on file in their store so anyone can come in at anytime and see that paperwork. There is also labeling requirements and a scan code on each product. If they don't have these requirements, they should not be able to sell it. They have followed the rules from the beginning and she asked Council to take into consideration the research she has done and deny the moratorium. She offered to work with the City at the planning meeting and with the police to find the laws that will allow the City to go in and stop someone who isn't following the laws. Hollenbeck noted that in addition to other smoke shops selling these illegal products, she has seen them at bars, liquor stores, gas stations, tobacco stores, chiropractors, and Milaca Unclaimed Freight has it as well as novelty shops, and health/nutrition stores. A liquor store up in Cross Lake has it, it is sold everywhere so she does see the Council's reasoning for it, but we don't need a moratorium in the interim when there are people who are following the law exactly how it is written from the State.

Jeff Zierdt, owner of Lupulin Brewing, 570 Humboldt Drive – Reviewed the new State Law that allows for the manufacture and distribution of THC products. The craft beverage industry is changing at lightning speed, with new products being introduced weekly, while at the same time, they are facing significant increases within the costs of operations. For Lupulin to remain financially viable long term in the City of Big Lake, this is a huge opportunity to get in on the front end of a new innovative product. There are several breweries in the state that are already selling and distributing products, noting Bent Paddle, Indeed Brewing, Minneapolis Cider, East Lake Brewing, and Kinney Creek. As far as Lupulin Brewing, they are an intoxicant manufacturing company and are highly regulated in their manufacturing processes. They are controlled by the TTB, and the FDA. They have one of the best testing labs in the City of Big Lake. They follow regulatory agencies already and what better company from a manufacturing end to be producing these types of products. Zierdt urged the Council to not adopt a moratorium. They don't foresee any taxpayer or community benefits to doing this. If the Council deems it necessary to have a moratorium, he urged that the Council provide a non-alcoholic THC product manufacturing/distributing exception to Lupulin Brewing per the guidelines passed by the state without selling in Big Lake until the policy is established. Zierdt stated that they have all the processes, systems and they understand what needs to be going on, and they have fellow brewers in the state that they are working with.

Mayor Knier closed the Open Forum at 6:21 p.m. Knier reminded the public about recent changes to the Council bylaws to allow for speaking on items on the agenda during Open Forum.

5. PROPOSED AGENDA

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

6. CONSENT AGENDA

Council Member Halverson motioned to approve the Consent Agenda with the removal of item no. 6F for separate consideration. Seconded by Council Member Seefeld, unanimous ayes, Consent Agenda approved. The Consent Agenda consisted of: 6A. Approve List of Claims, 6B. Approve Council Workshop Minutes of July 27, 2022, 6C. Approve Regular Council Meeting Minutes of July 27, 2022, 6D. Approve 2022/2023 Liability Coverage Waiver, 6E. Approve Hire of Part-time Liquor Stock Clerk Daniel Kollodge, 6F. Approve Ordering two Police Vehicles for Delivery and Payment in 2023, and 6G. Approve the Purchase of a Public Works Trailer Compressor.

6F. Approve Ordering two Police Vehicles for Delivery and Payment in 2023

Acting Police Chief Sam Olson provided an update on changes made to the City's police vehicle purchase program. Olson reviewed the current process for funding police vehicles through the City CIP fund with a rotation schedule of one vehicle being purchased one-year, and then two vehicles being purchased the following year, with a three-year program being followed. The department has started a rigorous maintenance program with Public Works, who are now doing all maintenance on the police squads. This has allowed the program to go to a 4-year program instead of a 3-year program. Olson also reviewed that they currently have two squad cars in the fleet that have become too costly to maintain and the Department is asking for approval to order new vehicles for delivery in 2023, and the proposed purchase would replace these two vehicles.

Council Member Noding motioned to approve the order of two 2023 Ford Explorer Police Package Vehicles for the total amount of \$76,396 (each squad costing \$38,198.00). Seconded by Council Member Halverson, unanimous ayes, motion carried.

7. BUSINESS

7A. Big Lake Ambassador Program

Katrine Nau Jackson from the Big Lake Ambassador Program provided information on the program and introduced out-going and newly crowned Ambassadors. The out-going 2021-2022 Ambassadors recognized included Senior Ambassadors Sophia Gerou and Aspen Erickson, Junior Ambassadors Amara Obia and Emily LeMire, and Little Miss Ambassadors Chloe Miller and Kylie Johnson. The newly crowned 2022-2023 Big Lake Ambassadors are Senior Ambassadors Andraya

Eisenschenk and Kaelyn Dietz, Junior Ambassadors Ruby Berthiaume and Alexis Gosewisch, and Little Miss Ambassadors Sophia Sigafus and Amelia Anderson.

Mayor Knier and Council Members thanked the out-going Ambassadors for their service over the past year and congratulated the newly crowned royalty. Mayor Knier noted his high regard for the Ambassador Program, stressing they are truly ambassadors for the community and are the face of Big Lake.

7B. Conditional Offer of Employment to John Kaczmarek for the Police Chief Position

Hanna Klimmek reviewed the Conditional Offer of Employment Agreement with John Kaczmarek for the Police Chief position.

Council Member Seefeld motioned to approve a Conditional Offer of Employment to John Kaczmarek for the Police Chief position contingent on a satisfactory evaluation with Martin-McAllister. Seconded by Council Member Hanson. Mayor Knier asked for any further discussion.

Council Member Halverson reviewed that at the time the interviews were done, the Mayor stated that his perception was that he sees Kaczmarek as much more malleable and he doesn't see that as a bad thing. Halverson indicated that upon searching the definition of this word, one of the definitions of the word means capable of being altered or controlled by outside forces or influences. Halverson stated that it concerns him that the statement was made and he hopes that the Police Chief stands on his own two feet, because the statement was made that he is really young and aggressive and that he is malleable. Knier asked if the statement was made that he is aggressive. Halverson clarified that he was energetic, which Knier responded that energetic is different than aggressive. Halverson restated that the malleable part scares him to think that one of the points is that he will be easily influenced. He spoke his peace at the workshop and encouraged anyone that wants to listen to the conversation do so. Knier responded that Halverson's definition of malleable is only one of the definitions, and clarified that the whole context of it was, will he fit in to Big Lake, and he did make the comment that he is younger, and he does feel he would be more malleable than the other candidate at the time, meaning he would fit in to Big Lake better.

Council Member Noding discussed her concern with how the hiring process and voting was done, noting that it felt very impersonal. She felt pretty strongly, as did Council Member Halverson, that there was a need for another person to be interviewed and that didn't happen. They moved on from that as the majority ruled. During the second half of the interview process she felt the other candidate would be more-broad and well rounded, and she again was disagreed with by the majority of the Council. She feels that she needs to be true to herself about how this process played out. Noding made it clear that she will support the new Chief and continue to be a strong

supporter of our Police Department. At the same time, she feels like she needs to be a voice for the people who were not entirely happy about how this process happened. There was quite a bit of community outcry over it and she understands it. Noding clarified that she is not voting specifically against a candidate, but is staying true to where she stood to begin with.

Motion passed with a vote of 3:2 with Council Members Hanson, Knier, and Seefeld voting aye, and Council Members Halverson and Noding voting nay. Motion carried.

7C. Ordinance Enacting a Moratorium on the Sale, Testing, Manufacturing, and Distribution of THC Products

Hanna Klimmek reviewed that the City Council at their workshop on July 27, 2022 directed staff to work with the City Attorney to draft ordinance language establishing a moratorium on the sale, testing, manufacturing, and distribution of THC products while staff studies the issue. The purpose is to provide time for staff to review the issues as it relates to enforcement, regulation and licensure of the retail sales of these products.

Council Member Halverson asked Chief Olson about the manufacturing of THC, and if it means they would be manufacturing it here, or will they manufacture drinks from it here. Sam Olson reviewed that his understanding is if you manufacture the product you need to be licensed through the MN Department of Agriculture, which Lupulin Brewing is. If you have a license to manufacture THC products, that is policed by the State of MN. They will come in and do their inspections and take care of it on their end so the Police Department nor the City would have to police it because it is already under the State's umbrella. Halverson discussed that everyone seems to be against the one-year moratorium, but that the Police Department doesn't know how to handle it and staff doesn't know how to handle it. He has been advised that our City Attorney is working on this for Big Lake and many other communities, and there is a very strong possibility that the moratorium wouldn't be guaranteed to be in force for a full year. The moratorium would give our City Attorney time to research, and noted that it is on the front burner to get done.

Council Member Noding expressed that we are trying to give ourselves time to figure out something that is so broad, noting that a lot of cities don't know how to handle this. Noding asked Olson if he can foresee any problems with leaving it as is. Olson responded that the biggest question he has on the law enforcement side is that it is so new and there are so many unknowns due to the law being passed so quickly by the Senate. We don't have City policies or regulations in place to control the sale. Olson acknowledged that Stacy provided a packet of information tonight that will probably be very helpful, but we do have to do our due diligence. Olson reviewed that State Representative Edelson commented in a news release that local governments could create local ordinances to regulate the sale of THC products based on what makes sense for their communities. Olson stressed that nothing is created yet, so we need time to create appropriate

regulations. This is so new to everybody and it was dropped on all of us by the State, who seemed to question whether or not they just legalized marijuana and questioned who is going to regulate it.

Council Member Seefeld commented that numerous people spoke at open forum about someone selling something illegal, and questioned what the legal percentage allowed is, as well as questioned how someone is selling product at an illegal level if they are all licensed and regulated well. John Henry responded that the City of St. Cloud lawyers have been working on it, and noted that the law specifies what is legal to sell, which is a limit of 5 milligrams, be no more than 50 in a packet, and has to be child proof. Mayor Knier asked if there is a limit on the number of packets that can be sold. Henry responded that they didn't put a limit on the number of packets a person can buy. They snuck it in by saying non-intoxicating because one 5 milligram gummie is really not very much, noting that 10 milligrams would be considered intoxicating which is how they snuck it through like they did. Henry reviewed dosage calculations and what plants are used to make the final products. Henry presented the St. Cloud licensing ordinance that they will be adopting, and while there are questions about what can be sold, he feels it is pretty clear what can be sold. Henry acknowledged that a licensing program would help cities regulate the product. Seefeld stressed that his question still remains, which is how are people still selling illegal product if they are licensed by the State. Henry responded that there is no licensing in place and there isn't anyone to police it, which is needed. Seefeld commented that there are things that need to be put in place and questioned why we shouldn't put a moratorium in place to give us time to develop the needed licensing.

Council Member Hanson stated that he is not for the moratorium because this is something that the State created, and that they need to fix it. Hanson noted that he feels St. Cloud did a good job on their proposed ordinance language and suggested some of that language to model our licensing program. The State is already working on changes to fix these issues, and we should not be the bad guys in this.

Council Member Noding asked if we can work on developing something without locking down sales, or will we have issues with someone selling something that they shouldn't be. We don't have local regulations yet, and it was commented that we aren't even sure what the State regulations are. Stacy Hollenbeck responded that the local regulation should be similar to what is in your tobacco licensing ordinance. You are not going to give a license to a transient person who will move from one place to another, and we should also require certain secure structural components to the site location. Knier commented that we don't have that language written yet so how do we make that happen. Hollenbeck responded that she has written it for us already. The other thing is making sure it is compliant with the new law that was passed effective on July 1st. That is where the COA should be required to be sure a retailer is stocking the right products.

Council Member Halverson questioned if we don't have a policy in effect for us to enforce, what will keep someone from going on the street corner and selling. Council Member Hanson commented that they do it already. Hollenbeck referenced City Code Section 130 which could be amended to regulate these sales.

Mayor Knier asked if Council Member Halverson is correct in saying that we have nothing to regulate these sales. Hanna Klimmek responded that we don't have any policy regarding THC products. There is state law that was recently enacted so regulation would default to that. Knier noted that there is a law there, it just isn't a City regulation. Klimmek discussed that per our City Attorney, the state law requires that whoever consumes the THC product must be 21 years of age, but other than that, we have questions on everything else. Council Member Hanson expressed that from the statements made tonight, it seems like everyone seems to want regulation, that they want us to make sure that everything that everyone else is doing is proper, but if we stop their sales and manufacturing we will be hurting our local businesses and will be driving them out of this city. We need to figure this out and get it to planning in the next two to four weeks.

Council Member Halverson asked how many places in City limits are selling these products. Olson responded that he believes there are three sites that are selling, and Lupulin would be manufacturing. Halverson clarified his question to be how many places would a moratorium affect. Olson confirmed that currently it would affect three locations, as he was not aware that there was a planned fourth. Jeff Zierdt stated his concern that no one even considered them. Zierdt directed at Halverson, that Lupulin is a licensed manufacturer already. They aren't asking to sell at this point, but it would be great if he could sell out of his taproom which all the other breweries he has listed have. What they are asking for is don't lock them out from being able to manufacture and distribute outside of our walls because he can make a lot of money that way. Zierdt stressed again that Lupulin Brewing wasn't even considered in this, but yet numerous breweries have been announcing it since July 1st. Halverson commented that is the problem in that they are over there doing it and nobody knows. Zierdt clarified that they aren't doing it noting that Halverson is totally wrong. Halverson asked Zierdt to remain calm and not yell. Zierdt responded that Halverson yelled at him last time. Halverson responded that he will be asked to leave if he doesn't get under control. Olson again stated that he was under the impression that we had three people selling THC products. He did not know that Lupulin was manufacturing it. Zierdt clarified that they are not yet manufacturing THC. Olson corrected himself in that he wasn't aware that Lupulin wanted to manufacture THC products, and he also wasn't aware that other brewers were doing it until today when he did his own research. When they first passed the law, he did go around to the three locations and talked to them. One of them informed him that when they first ordered product, they were sent product that was above the legal limit of what they could sell and they sent it back because they wanted to abide by the state laws.

Mayor Knier discussed that we are giving a lot of leeway tonight on the structure of our meeting. We don't often have conversation back and forth between the Council and attendees, but this is a new thing that just came down from the state that we are all learning so we are giving some leeway and he is appreciating the information, but asked that everyone keep it respectful between each other and asked that questions/comments be directed to him as the Mayor. Mayor Knier asked if there was any further comments. Zierdt noted that he appreciated the Mayor's comments and expressed that there has obviously been vendettas and he is not going to bring that up. Halverson commented that he just brought that up. Zierdt asked Halverson to let him talk as he allowed Halverson to talk on public record at a past meeting. Zierdt discussed that this is a very touchy subject, noting that it will be a financial boost in the arm to get ahead of everyone else. He stated that he can tell us that right now a case of Hooley that they sell takes 21 days to manufacture and sells at a less price and less volume than what Hornstein is starting to sell in the market from Indeed and from Minneapolis Cider that takes less than two days to manufacture. That profit margin is 90%+. Everything that they are going up against as a company is huge in terms of financials on their business. Zierdt discussed the recent meeting with City staff going through wastewater where it will be a 253% increase in his industrial wastewater that he will have to pay in the next year, and well over the hundreds of thousands of dollars of SAC/WAC charges, noting that he can't afford it and that they will move their business. Big Lake won't be the home of Lupulin Brewing eventually because he is not going to be able to keep going on here. Does this community really want to lose that opportunity of a business that has put Big Lake on the map for the state. Financially, it is huge for them and why should Lupulin Brewing be put to the side when all they are asking the City to do is to be able to do what other breweries in this state have already started doing. They are rolling it out into the market for distribution. They have been approached by several to do contract manufacturing, not even to sell it in this county, but to contract manufacture it. Zierdt expressed that we need to try to separate manufacturing from selling. He is not opposed to putting more policies in place around the selling of the product, but they want to have the ability to manufacture. They have the best quality testing, they are already regulated, they are controlled by the FDA and follow policies and guidelines all the time. Council Member Noding stated that she had no idea that breweries were involved in this, and asked if it is subject to the same percentage limitations. Zierdt confirmed that their product will be subject to the same milligram limitations and it will be put in non-alcoholic seltzers and non-alcoholic beer, which is not regulated by the federal government.

Mayor Knier asked how many milligrams does it take to have an effect on the human body. John Henry responded that everyone is different. He noted that he hasn't been a THC user since 1976, and as he wanted to have an answer when people asked him what it was like, he tried a 5-milligram gummie and it didn't do anything. He then did two gummies and it took an hour and a half and he felt a little dizzy and didn't like the feeling. Henry commented that the industry is so hot right now, if a person comes to their store and wants the new Delta 9 and they aren't allowed to sell it, the customer won't come back. The moratorium will cause us to lose customers. One

week, he drove 300 miles to get 45 packets and the next week he drove to get 300 packets. Noding also asked if Lupulin will be manufacturing this product for other retail outlets located outside of Big Lake and in different states. Zierdt clarified that he cannot sell out of states which is regulated by the federal government. Noding asked if there is a limitation in terms of the packaging. Halverson asked why Lupulin is choosing not to put THC product in beer. Ben Haugen from Lupulin Brewing reviewed that there is an exponential impact if you combine the two so the idea is to not have them together in the same package. Halverson asked if it is regulated that they can't be combined. Haugen indicated that Halverson is correct in that it can't be combined with alcohol. Halverson asked how the THC is extracted. Haugen responded that they don't do any of the extractions, there are plenty of Hemp growers that already can do that for them. It would be a product that they would bring in-house. Haugen explained that they make a water-soluble product out of it. What they do is extract the compounds from the hemp the same way you would do it with marijuana, but it is a molecular biological component. Zierdt explained that Lupulin would buy it as a water-soluble product that they would blend with the end product. Halverson stated that he understood that they would be manufacturing the TCH product so there is confusion on what the activity would actually be. Haugen discussed that they would get a secured container from molecular and they would then blend it in at the right dosing rate into their tanks, and then carbonate and can the product. The product would leave the City initially. As they would be manufacturing in-house, they could sell it over the counter but he feels that would be a bad idea.

Council Member Noding stated that she is not for hampering business here at all. As everyone can tell by the many questions being posed, we are kind of searching for guidance and information and everything. She stated that she would have no problem with a Lupulin manufacturing and shipping product out of the City. At the same time, we need to get a fire lit under this and get it done a little faster than a 12-month moratorium which has scared people. That wasn't our intent at all, we just didn't know what to do with this and we are trying to grasp around at straws for information. Noding thanked attendees for all the information given during the meeting.

Mayor Knier asked Hollenbeck if they sell anything other than gummies in their smoke shop. Hollenbeck noted they sell chocolate, drinks and gummies at their store. Hollenbeck also reviewed that there is a farmer in Becker that grows hemp. He sends out all of his hemp to an extraction lab, which there are very few of these in Minnesota due to the high cost of the equipment.

Council Member Noding asked if it is possible to expediate the moratorium. Klimmek responded that there are great resources out there, noting that there are other City Administrators that are working with their attorneys and other surrounding communities who have decided not to do the moratorium and just work on this as fast as they can. Staff can't advise Council on when it will come because we need the right information and the right guidance from the state as well as guidance from our attorneys to come up with a template. Most definitely, our attorney has said that if we don't do the moratorium, it defaults to state law, and during that time we would be

working on it as a priority to get a policy in place.

Mayor Knier discussed that he has been in conversation with people about the gummies, noting that is his biggest concern because they look like candy and could be a dangerous thing for our children. We have complained about kids vaping and marketing these things to children, and now we are making gummies so it is a concern of his.

Council Member Halverson asked if Council can table the moratorium until we can get the information handed out tonight reviewed by the City Attorney. That would at least give us a chance to not drop the hatchet and would allow us to move this item to the August 24, 2022 meeting. Klimmek responded that Council could table the item, which is the same as just not passing the moratorium, to provide time for review. Council Member Seefeld suggested Council consider directing staff to work on a licensing program as we already have been. Mayor Knier stated his concern that it is hard to stop a moving train once you let it move down the track. We can see even now that it has been out for a month or two and we already feel like we don't want to squelch our businesses. What happens if we get another month down the road and all of a sudden there is actual ordinances we want to put in, like putting a moratorium on gummies. Then we are farther down the road than we are today and he is concerned about that for our businesses. He is not opposed to tabling the item, but he wanted to caution that it doesn't mean that it is just going to be off and running.

Council Member Halverson motioned to table the Ordinance establishing a 12-Month Moratorium on the Sale, Testing, Manufacturing, and Distribution of THC Products until the next Council Meeting. Seconded by Council Member Hanson, unanimous ayes, motion carried.

Council Member Halverson further noted that the item was tabled to provide our attorney time to further review information, with the understanding that regulations could be coming in the future. Halverson encouraged attendees to be at the next meeting in hopes that staff will be ready to provide more information. Mayor Knier noted that we don't want to make a promise, but that we will do our very best to move it along as fast as we can.

7D. Donations towards the Big Lake Police Department

Sam Olson reviewed recent donations made to the Police Department towards the Canine Program. Donations included \$1,500 in cash donations from the Big Lake American Legion Post 147, \$870 in cash donations from Lupulin Brewing Company from funds raised at their anniversary party, \$88.25 in cash donations raised from a local lemonade stand, and a \$5,000 cash donation from the Big Lake Spud Fest organization.

Council Member Seefeld motioned to approve Resolution No. 2022-63 accepting donations towards the Big Lake Police Department as presented. Seconded by Council Member Noding, unanimous ayes, motion carried.

7B. Department Reports

Fire Department – Fire Chief Seth Hansen provided statistical information on calls for service for the months of June and July. Hansen reviewed department training that included wildland refreshers with the MNDNR, training on pumps and water supply, and use of Grass Rig No. 3. Hansen also reviewed community events the Department participated in including Spud Fest, Night to Unite and the upcoming Fire Dance scheduled on August 13th. Hansen also noted that the Fire Department Roof Replacement project is expected to start next week.

Council Member Noding asked what types of hazardous conditions the fire department would be called out for. Hansen explained that hazardous conditions could include gas leaks, downed power lines, chemical spills, ammonia leaks, and train derailments.

Police Department – Acting Chief Sam Olson updated Council on police statistics, calls for service and significant arrests for the months of June and July. Olson reviewed events the Department participated in including Spud Fest, Music in the Park, and the Farmers Market. Olson reviewed a call that officers responded to recently that involved online communications between youth and encouraged monitoring of children’s cellular devices. Olson provided a traffic fatality update, discussed the new canine vehicle, and the City’s Dangerous Dog ordinance. Olson also informed Council that we received a grant for new AED’s from the University of MN and recommended our current devices be donated back to the University of Minnesota.

There was unanimous consensus of the Council to donate the current AED devices back to the University of Minnesota.

8. ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

City Administrator Hanna Klimmek discussed the August 9th Primary Election that was held yesterday, and the upcoming November 8th General Election. Two candidates have filed for the 2 City Council Member seats that will be on the November 8th ballot which were filed by Kim Noding and Ken Halverson, and noted that the filing period closes at 5:00 p.m. on August 16th. Klimmek also reviewed that the Community Development Director/Big Lake EDA Executive Director position has been posted and the City will be accepting applications through August 19th. Klimmek discussed that the first Budget Workshop is scheduled for tomorrow, August 11th beginning at 4:00 p.m. and will focus on the CIP Plan and Enterprise Funds. Klimmek also reminded Council that the City of Big Lake Employee Picnic is next Tuesday, August 16th at 5:00 p.m., noting that Council

Members, employees, and their family members are invited to attend at the Lakeside Park Pavilion area.

9. MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORTS and QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

Mayor Knier: Reviewed the August BLEDA Meeting. Mayor Knier also discussed that the Highway 25 Coalition, now called the Central Mississippi River Regional Planning Partnership (CMRP), entered into a Professional Services Agreement with a consultant on June 27, 2019 to perform a scope of services for the group. The completion date of those services was to be completed by December 31, 2020, and the work has been completed. Knier reviewed that Council Member Seefeld represents the City Council during the CMRP meetings, and asked that in the event that the CMRP discusses the consultants Professional Services Agreement, he'd like for a consensus of the Council that gives Council Member Seefeld support to vote in favor of terminating the Agreement. Seefeld reviewed that the main focus of the group needs to be a bridge crossing to alleviate traffic on Hwy 25, explaining that every dollar we spend away from that delays it. Seefeld also discussed that the project the consultant was hired to do is complete and the contract has expired, which makes it hard to understand how this person is still getting paid. Council Member Noding asked what the consultant is doing for the CMRP. Seefeld responded that she is controlling the meetings. Knier questioned if it is still necessary for her to be guiding the meeting. Seefeld noted that the CMRP has hired an executive director and he should be the person running the meetings, not the consultant. The Council unanimously directed that they were supportive of terminating the Professional Services Agreement if the item is brought forward to the CMRP.

Council Member Halverson: Discussed that he helped out at the Graniteman event, and thanked Sam for doing a great job.

Council Member Noding: Discussed the August BLEDA Meeting, and the Night to Unite event. Mayor Knier thanked everyone for their hospitality at the event. Knier also reminded the community about the last Music in the Park event of the season that is tomorrow night.

Council Member Seefeld: Reviewed the July CMRP Meeting.

10. OTHER – No other.

11. ADJOURN

Council Member Seefeld motioned to adjourn at 7:44 p.m. Seconded by Council Member Halverson, unanimous ayes, motion carried.

Gina Wolbeck
Clerk

Date Approved By Council 08/24/22