

STATE OF TEXAS

CITY OF BIG LAKE

MINUTES  
CITY OF BIG LAKE CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
FEBRUARY 18, 2020 6:15 P.M.

1. Call to order by Mayor Phil Pool at 6:15 p.m.
2. Roll Call (Establish Quorum): Mayor Pool, Mayor Pro Tem Melms, Councilmembers Cindy O'Bryan, Lissa Cammack, Robin Collins and Larry Hallmark was present.
3. Mayor Phil Pool led the Council Chambers in the Invocation and Pledges of Allegiance to the National Colors and State Colors.
4. Citizen Comments: No Citizen comments.
5. Consent Items: The minutes of February 4, 2020 Council meeting and Monthly Reports were presented for approval. Mayor Pro Tem Melms made the motion to approve the Consent Items as presented, seconded by Councilmember Collins. No discussion. Vote: 5/0/0.
6. Discussion and/or action on awarding the Beautification contract to Corner Garden, LLC in the amount of \$32,761.00. One other bid from BEB Enterprises, Inc., in the amount of \$45,000.00 was received. Councilmember Larry Hallmark recused himself from the Council Chambers because of a vendor conflict of interest filed by Mrs. Nina Hallmark as Corner Garden, LLC. Councilmember Hallmark left the Council Chambers at 6:18 p.m. Minimum discussion with motion to award the contract to Corner Garden, LLC in the amount of \$32,761.00 made by Councilmember Collins, seconded by Councilmember Cammack. Vote: 4/0/0. Councilmember Hallmark returned to the Council Chambers at 6:19 p.m.
7. Discussion and/or action on Resolution 200218-01: Authorizing an expenditure of \$10,000 or more by the BLEDC for the maintenance contract concerning the Beautification Project for 26 project sites throughout the City of Big Lake, Texas. First-Reading by Gloria Baggett, BLEDC Director. No discussion. Motion to pass Resolution 200218-01 made by Mayor Pro Tem Melms, seconded by Councilmember Collins. Vote: 5/0/0.
8. Discussion and/or action to enter into an agreement to be written to allow Texas Sky Network to keep their equipment on the City of Big Lake water tower. Shanna Geuea of Texas Sky Network made the request. They are the previous provider for city internet services with four City of Big Lake remote locations. They would like to stay on the water tower for the current customer base of Texas Sky Network.

9. Cyber Security Update by Donna Holden: Donna Holden has contacted underwriter about the increase in coverage for the Aggregate Limit of Liability from \$50,000 to \$100,000. The annual cost of this level is \$25.00 per year more. The City is still in the process of exploring increased levels of coverage. There were no questions, Council thanked Donna for her efforts so far.
10. Discussion and/or action on General Bills. Councilmember Collins made the motion to pay General Bills as presented, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Melms. No discussion. Vote: 5/0/0.
11. Discussion and/or action on BLEDC Assistant. Mayor Pool opened the discussion with comments that this is a budgeted position being fully funded. This is a full-time position. The position was tabled back in 2019. Councilmember Collins made the comment about this not being a new thing but a budgeted position. Mayor Pro Tem Melms made comments to effect that the prospective candidate would need to appear before Council. Councilmember Collins made the motion to have an EDC Assistant. Councilmember Hallmark seconded the motion. Vote: 5/0/0.
12. Discussion and/or action on payment of Barclays Pay Request #2 for work on the 12<sup>th</sup> Street Project. John Voller with EH-T commented the water and sewer portions are finished. This is the balance before any paving starts. Several councilmembers made comments about the condition of 12<sup>th</sup> Street being very rough. There is a delay right now for asphalt, the plants are not making any hot mix. Voller will have Barclays put in some base in cutlines, etc. to help smooth out the street. Being a truck route, ongoing school construction and replacement of the water and sewer lines, the street is in very bad shape. Councilmember Collins made the motion to pay the pay request as posted in the Agenda. Mayor Pro Tem Melms seconded the motion. Vote: 5/0/0.
13. Discussion and/or action to BLEDC questions – Mayor Pro Tem David Melms:
  - a. Update on all loans and grants beginning of every month to City Council? Gloria Baggett, BLEDC Director responded “Yes, of course, there are updates in each packet of information presented to Council members with the upcoming Agenda also enclosed. Property is being utilized but BLEDC cannot run their business.”
  - b. Initial comments about the “incubator program” were made by Melms. Question was “What is the status of the incubator program. City was told in process but was put on hold immediately after demolition approval. Was the City Council mislead or deceived on this property?”. Gloria Baggett, BLEDC Director recognized delay. She spoke of spouse’s health issues that popped up unexpectedly. This led to delays. She reiterated that action, structure, architect, set program criteria and ultimately Council approval will be needed. Gloria said the BLEDC is waiting for her to be able to act. The BLEDC welcomes any visitors to attend their meetings and ask questions.
  - c. Property on Highway 137; we were told it was a “good investment”, that was going to be used for Texas Diesel Performance as per BLEDC notes; they have defaulted on their grant. Was the City mislead on this property? BLEDC purchased the property for \$200,000, appraised at \$280,000. Mrs. Baggett reiterated that the appraisal versus purchase price tells them the property is a good investment. Melms made the statement,

“wants everything above board”. Collins made mention of the fact that until renter was kicked out of building, he was in compliance. Out of the building led to defaulting.

- d. Update on what is the current status on all of our vacant property. Mrs. Baggett made mention of the fact that BLEDC will purchase and hold property for future development. Property in Big Lake is expensive and difficult to obtain. She stressed the need to have properties in inventory to be able to make offers to future retail/business/commercial investors looking to come into the City of Big Lake. Mrs. Baggett reminded Council of information packets, open doors, open office regarding information about BLEDC endeavors. Collins said “read it”. No further discussion.

14. Mayor/Council discussion for action by City Staff for future agendas: Get with Texas Sky Network concerning them leasing space on our facilities.

15. Meeting adjourned at 6:56 p.m. by order of Mayor Pool.

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Douglas Box, City Secretary

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Phil Pool, Mayor