

CITY OF COSMOPOLIS
Workshop Meeting Minutes
April 17, 2019

Mayor Frank Chestnut presiding.

Councilmembers present: Debbi Moran, Carl Sperring, Kyle Pauley, Dale Andrews, and Jim Ancich.

Staff Present: City Administrator Darrin Raines, Attorney Steve Johnson, Police Chief Casey Stratton, Fire Chief Jerry Schreck, and Clerk-Treasurer Julie Pope.

Mayor Frank Chestnut called the workshop to order.

This workshop is to discuss a potential purchase of new software for City Hall. Clerk-Treasurer Pope stated that they have had many issues with the current software as she has mentioned during previous Council Meetings. The current software that City Hall uses for Utility Billing, Cash Management, Financials, and Payroll is Vision Municipal Software. There have been lots of errors with the software and the customer support has been severely lacking. Clerk-Treasurer Pope showed the Council the latest error that she spotted. On the expenditure report total page was a balance for a BARS number that is inactive. When she looked up the account activity in the system, there was nothing there. This is just one example of the many issues that have occurred.

Since the last Council meeting, Clerk-Treasurer Pope met with both Springbrook software and BIAS software and was given a demonstration. Springbrook software never came back with a quote and was difficult getting the demonstration set up. She felt that this is an indication of what their customer service would be like. She stated that BIAS was quick to set up the demo and to get the quote back. After reviewing both software companies, she felt BIAS was the best fit. BIAS had worked extensively with the State Auditor's office to ensure that their reporting and system requirements met their standard. She stated most of the reports that the software created automatically was very similar to the reports she has had to manually create for the Council. She gave the Council sample reports provided by BIAS. Councilmember Pauley stated that the example reports look professional. Mayor Chestnut stated the reports were easy to read. She spoke with the Clerk-Treasurer of McCleary who uses BIAS software and had been a previous customer of Vision Municipal Software. Wendy stated that she loves the software and that they have had very few issues with the Auditor's office then they switched to BIAS.

City Administrator Raines stated that we could take the funds out of the Equipment Reserve Fund or we could bundle it in the loan for the water line repairs. He stated that the BIAS software seems to fit our needs.

Mayor Frank Chestnut adjourned the meeting.

Clerk-Treasurer

Attest:

Mayor