Comment request sent by the Lago Vista Watchdog, Oct. 26, 2026

Sent from the newsroom inbox. Text as sent.

From: newsroom@lagovistawatchdog.com
To: citysecretary@lagovistatexas.gov, to forward to City Attorney Brad Bullock
Date: Oct. 26, 2026
Subject: Request for comment: chamber agreement talks and the Oct. 19 draft

Mr. Bullock,

(City Secretary: please forward this to the City Attorney. We could not find a public email for him.)

I'm writing from the Lago Vista Watchdog, an independent local news site. We are publishing a story about the Oct. 22 hotel tax class and the city's agreement talks with the North Lake Travis Chamber of Commerce. The chamber's executive director sent us a written account, which we will publish in her name. We want the city's side included, and we will update the story with any response.

The chamber says:
1. Its attorney emailed the city attorney eight times from Sept. 4 to Sept. 28, 2026, asking to meet, and no meeting took place. The first reply came Oct. 1 and said no revisions would be considered until the council's strategy and planning meetings.
2. On Aug. 11, 2026, the chamber was told the city attorney would not meet with the hotel association's attorney unless the council directed it.
3. The chamber got the city's first draft agreement in April 2026.
4. On Oct. 19, 2026, the city sent a proposed three-month agreement for $10,177 a month (not to exceed $30,531), paid first from the General Fund. Visitor center costs would stay on the General Fund unless the chamber shows they attract overnight visitors, and the city's decision is final. For costs the city approves for hotel tax, the chamber would write an equal check back to the General Fund within five business days.
5. On Sept. 3, the council voted unanimously to repay only qualifying event costs, excluding visitor center operating costs, then voted 6-1 on the talks. (The minutes we have show one motion, passed 6-1.)
6. The council did not discuss or review the chamber's financial documents on Oct. 15.
7. The city accepted a Lago Fest hotel tax report with no receipts, and confirmed in June 2026 that Lago Fest did not go through the city's hotel tax application.

Our questions:
- Is each point accurate? What would the city correct or add?
- Will the city share the Oct. 19 draft agreement?
- Has the city set a written return or reporting standard for the chamber?

We expect to publish soon and will update the story with any response that arrives afterward.

Jack Britton
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