

**APPROVED MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
CITY OF WYOMING, MINNESOTA
OCTOBER 17, 2023
7:00PM**

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Lisa Iverson called the Regular Meeting of the Wyoming City Council for October 17, 2023 to order at 7:00 PM

CALL OF ROLL:

On a Call of the Roll the following members of the Wyoming City Council were present: Councilmembers Lisa Iverson, Linda Nanko Yeager, Dennis Schilling, Brett Ohnstad, and Claire Luger

ABSENT: None

Also Present: Tom Loonan, Eckberg Lammers, Robb Linwood, City Administrator, Mark Erichson-WSB, Neil Bauer - Public Safety Director, Fred Weck, Zoning Administrator/Building Official and Joe Keding, Acting, Public Works Superintendent

DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM:

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

OPEN FORUM:

Gabriel LaPray, Troop #1421 Minnesota, introduced himself and explained that he was at the meeting working towards one of his merit badges.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

1. Consider approving the minutes of the “Regular Meeting” of the Wyoming, Minnesota City Council for October 3, 2023

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER LUGER, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER OHNSTAD, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE “REGULAR MEETING” OF THE WYOMING, MINNESOTA CITY COUNCIL FOR OCTOBER 3, 2023 AS SUBMITTED.

Voting Aye: Schilling, Nanko Yeager, Luger, Ohnstad, Iverson

Voting Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

SCHEDULED BID LETTINGS: NONE

SCHEDULED PUBLIC HEARINGS: NONE

CONSENT AGENDA:

Items under the “Consent Agenda” will be adopted with one motion; however, council members may request individual items to be pulled from the consent agenda for discussion and action if they choose.

2. To consider authorizing the payment of recommended bills, payroll, and journal entries for the period of October 4, 2023 to October 17, 2023
3. To consider **Resolution 23-10-96** a resolution approving payment for Pay Voucher #1 to Forest Lake Contracting for the 2023 Fallbrook Avenue and 264th Street Improvements Project in the amount of \$204,824.46

4. To consider **Resolution 23-10-97** a resolution approving payment for Pay Voucher #2 to Olson's Sewer Service, Inc for the Helium Court Sewer Repair/Feriday Avenue Storm Sewer Extension Project in the amount of \$4,471.96.
5. To consider **Resolution 23-10-98** a resolution approving payment for Pay Voucher #4 to Dresel Contracting, Inc. for the East Viking Boulevard Improvement Project in the amount of \$524,849.74.
6. To consider **Resolution 23-10-99** a resolution authorizing payment to Hugo's Tree Care for Tree Removal, Stump Grinding, and Tree Planting in the amount of \$26,500.
7. To consider **Resolution 23-10-100** a resolution accepting a donation from the Forest lake Masonic Lodge to the Wyoming Police Department of seven fire suppression tools.
8. To consider **Resolution 23-10-101** a resolution approving the transfer of funds from the General Fund to the Capital Revolving Fund.
- ~~9. To consider updates and revisions of the City of Wyoming Personnel Policy (Pulled for separate discussion)~~

Councilmember Nanko Yeager – Asked to pulled item #9 for further discussion

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER LUGER, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER OHNSTAD, TO APPROVE #2, #3, #4, #5, #6, #7, and #8 OF THE WYOMING CITY COUNCIL CONSENT AGENDA

Voting Aye: Schilling, Nanko Yeager, Luger, Ohnstad, Iverson

Voting Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

#9 - To consider updates and revisions of the City of Wyoming Personnel Policy

Councilmember Member Nanko Yeager – Stated that section has two paragraphs, one that deals with grade point average and the other with the amount of reimbursement. She stated that she was asking for clarification of the reference to the reserve cadet position applied to the entire Section 22.07 or just one of the paragraphs

City Administrator Linwood – Noted that he understood why she raised this question and explained that the intent was for it to be just for tuition reimbursement.

Councilmember Member Nanko Yeager - Suggested a wording change to make it more clear what did not apply to the reserve cadet position.

Public Safety Director Bauer – Noted that he believed that the grade point average issue was addressed within the reserve cadet's contract agreement paperwork.

City Attorney Loonan – Clarified that the intent was that the entire section wouldn't apply because the agreement itself would have the requirements on GPA and noted that, as written, this would be the entire section.

Councilmember Nanko Yeager – Stated that there is a huge difference between what a reserve cadet and a regular employee gets and explained that she was a bit uncomfortable with this because she believes employees should be treated equally.

City Administrator Linwood – Explained that staff had looked at this as a recruiting tool due to the officer shortage crisis and council had approved it as well, but it could be changed if the Council would like.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER IVERSON, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER LUGER, APPROVING CONSENT AGENDA #9 UPDATES AND REVISIONS OF THE CITY OF WYOMING PERSONNEL POLICY, AS PRESENTED.

Voting Aye: Schilling, Luger, Ohnstad, Iverson
Voting Nay: Nanko Yeager
Abstain: None
Absent: None

ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF REPORTS OF OFFICERS, BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND DEPARTMENT HEADS:

10. Report of the Public Safety Director, Neil Bauer for October 10, 202
11. Report of City Building Official, Fred Weck, IV for October 12, 2023
12. Report of City Attorney Tom Loonan for October 12, 2023
13. Report of City Engineer Mark Erichson, WSB for October 12, 2023
14. Report of Acting Public Works Superintendent Joe Keding for October 17, 2023

COMMUNICATIONS:

OLD BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS

15. To consider **Resolution 23-10-102** a resolution declaring the cost to be assessed and ordering preparation of proposed assessment roll for the 2023 Fallbrook Avenue and 264th Street Improvement Projects

City Engineer Erichson – Reported that the project is progressing nicely. He reviewed the total project cost and outlined the assessable portion. Staff recommends approval.

Council Member Nanko Yeager – Asked when this project would be completed.

City Engineer Erichson – Stated that it will be completed sometime this fall. He noted that the concrete curb and gutter would be placed this week with paving taking place most likely next week. He noted that the intent is to be completed before the snow flies and noted that the restoration work would happen sometime in the spring because they are already beyond the growing season.

Council Member Nanko Yeager – Asked about restoration efforts and watering and referenced information within the report regarding past problems.

City Engineer Erichson – Noted that it had been a terrible two year stretch for restoration with drought conditions. He stated that they did include watering this year which has helped, but the weather made it difficult. He explained that restoration taking place in the spring should be a positive thing when there is typical rain and cooler weather to help promote grass growing.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER SCHILLING, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER OHNSTAD, TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 23-10-102 A RESOLUTION DECLARING THE COST TO BE ASSESSED AND ORDERING PREPARATION OF PROPOSED ASSESSMENT ROLL FOR THE 2023 FALLBROOK AVENUE AND 264TH STREET IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

Voting Aye: Schilling, Nanko Yeager, Luger, Ohnstad, Iverson
Voting Nay: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

16. To consider **Resolution 23-10-103** a resolution approving calling a public hearing on assessments for the 2023 Fallbrook Avenue and 264th Street Improvement Project

City Engineer Erichson – Explained that this public hearing will be scheduled for November 21, 2023

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER SCHILLING, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER LUGER, TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 23-10-103 A RESOLUTION APPROVING CALLING A PUBLIC HEARING ON ASSESSMENTS FOR THE 2023 FALLBROOK AVENUE AND 264TH STREET IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Voting Aye: Schilling, Nanko Yeager, Luger, Ohnstad, Iverson
Voting Nay: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

17. To consider the selection of a consultant to complete a utility rate study for the City of Wyoming for years 2024-2028

City Administrator Linwood – Explained that the City placed an RFP on the League of Minnesota City website and had received 4 proposals in response to the RFP. Staff is recommending Erickson Northstar, LLC, be selected for completion of the utility rate study and reviewed their past work with the City.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER IVERSON, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER LUGER, TO APPROVE THE SELECTION OF ERICKSON NORTHSTAR, LLC BE SELECTED FOR COMPLETION OF A UTILITY RATE STUDY FOR THE CITY OF WYOMING FOR YEARS 2024-2028.

Voting Aye: Schilling, Nanko Yeager, Luger, Ohnstad, Iverson
Voting Nay: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

18. To consider the purchasing of two disc golf baskets to be installed at Fireside Park and Verges Park

City Administrator Linwood – Explained that the Park Advisory Commission has been discussing various improvements at Fireside Park and Verges Park including installation of a disc golf basket that essentially will serve for ‘putting’ practice in these locations.

Mayor Iverson – Asked what funds would be used to pay for these baskets.

City Administrator Linwood – Explained that the funds would come out of the normal Park Improvement Funds

Mayor Iverson – Asked if signage may be needed in order to explain to people what it is and suggested that be brought back to the Park Advisory Commission for further review.

Council Member Luger – Noted that she loves the idea of broadening some of the amenities in the City and asked if there had been discussion about the usage of the existing disc golf course at Comfort Park.

Council Member Ohnstad – Stated that he does not have usage numbers, but imagines that it is fairly well used and noted that he feels these additions will be a great extension of the existing course. He noted that the baskets are moveable, so if it doesn’t work well in one park, the City will be able to relocate them.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER LUGER, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER OHNSTAD, TO APPROVE THE PURCHASING OF TWO DISC GOLF BASKETS TO BE INSTALLED AT FIRESIDE PARK AND VERGES PARK

Voting Aye: Schilling, Nanko Yeager, Luger, Ohnstad, Iverson

Voting Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

COUNCIL REPORTS:

Council Member Ohnstad – No report.

Council Member Nanko Yeager – No report.

Council Member Luger – No report.

Council Member Schilling – Attended the EDA meeting last week.

Mayor Iverson – Attended the EDA meeting and the Joint Sewer Commission meeting

City Administrator Linwood – Noted that the Veteran's Memorial work is substantially complete.

Mayor Iverson – Suggested that the City consider holding some time of event there on Veteran's Day

Public Safety Director Bauer – Noted that the Coffee with a Cop event went well and had good attendance. He stated that the Stuff a Squad event will be coming up in November and the Santa collection of gifts and food shelf donations will be done in December.

Mayor Iverson – Recessed the Council meeting at 7:26 p.m. and reconvened at 7:33 p.m.

19. To consider entering a closed session under MN State Statute 13D.05, Subd 2(a)(3) and (4) for a personnel matter

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER OHNSTAD SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER LUGER TO ENTER INTO A CLOSED SESSION UNDER MN STATE STATUTUE 13.D.05 2(A)(3), AND (4) FOR A PERSONNEL MATTER AT 7:33PM

Voting Aye: Nanko Yeager, Luger, Ohnstad, Schilling and Iverson

Voting Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER LUGER SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER OHNSTAD TO RETURN TO OPEN SESSION UNDER MN STATE STATUTUE 13.D.05 2(A)(3), AND (4) FOR A PERSONNEL MATTER AT 8:14PM

Voting Aye: Nanko Yeager, Luger, Ohnstad, Schilling and Iverson

Voting Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER IVERSON SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER SCHILLING TO PROVIDE SUPERINTENDENT CHUCK ALMHJELD NOTICE OF INTENT TO PLACE MR. ALMHJELD ON UNPROTECTED JOB LEAVE PENING THE EXPIRATION OF ANY VETERANS PREFERANCE APPEAL PERIOD

Voting Aye: Luger, Ohnstad, Schilling and Iverson
Voting Nay: Nanko Yeager
Abstain: None
Absent: None

Council Member Nanko Yeager - stated the reason she voted nay that she felt this was not the best option for the employee.

Mayor Iverson – Recessed the Council meeting at 8:18p.m.and reconvened at 8:23 p.m.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER OHNSTAD SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER SCHILLING TO ENTER INTO A CLOSED SESSION UNDER MN STATE STATUTUE 13D.03 TO DISCUSS LABOR NEGOTIATION STRATEGIES FOR A CONTRACT WITH THE BARGAINING UNITS OF LAW ENFORCEMENT LABOR SERVICES (LELS) GROUP 507 AND 365 AND LOCAL 49 AT 8:23PM

Voting Aye: Nanko Yeager, Luger, Ohnstad, Iverson and Schilling
Voting Nay: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER LUGER SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER SCHILLING TO RETURN TO OPEN SESSION UNDER MN STATE STATUTUE 13D.03 TO DISCUSS LABOR NEGOTIATION STRATEGIES FOR A CONTRACT WITH THE BARGAINING UNITS OF LAW ENFORCEMENT LABOR SERVICES (LELS) GROUP 507 AND 365 AND LOCAL 49 AT 10:06PM

Voting Aye: Nanko Yeager, Luger, Ohnstad, Iverson and Schilling
Voting Nay: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

City Administrator Linwood gave a summation of the closed session

The closed meeting was relative to the matters for bargaining purposes and contract negotiations between the City of Wyoming and bargaining unit of Law Enforcement Labor Services groups 507, 365 and Local 49. The meeting was closed under MN State Statute 13D.03. The closed meeting was attended by Mayor Lisa Iverson and City Council Members Dennis Schilling, Linda Nanko Yeager, Claire Luger and Brett Ohnstad. Also, in attendance was City Administrator, Robb Linwood, Public Safety Director, Neil Bauer and Labor Attorney, Soren Mattick. The council reviewed the proposed contract from the bargaining units. The city council provided advice and direction to legal and city staff but made no formal votes or motions

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MAYOR IVERSON TO ADJOURN THE OCTOBER 17, 2023 “REGULAR MEETING” OF THE WYOMING, MINNESOTA CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING AT 10:07PM

Voting Aye: Schilling, Nanko Yeager, Luger, Ohnstad, Iverson
Voting Nay: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

A portion of this public meeting may be closed to discuss “Labor Negotiation Strategies”; “Misconduct allegations or charges”; “Attorney-client privilege”; or “Performance evaluations” as per MN State Statute 13D.01-.05.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING:
NOVEMBER 7, 2023
7:00PM