

**APPROVED MINUTES
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING
CITY OF WYOMING, MINNESOTA
OCTOBER 10, 2023
5:30 PM**

CALL TO ORDER:

CALL OF ROLL:

On a Call of the Roll the following members of the Wyoming EDA were present:

EDA Members: Mayor Iverson, Council Member Schilling, Andrew Buccanero, and Eric Nault

Also Present: Robb Linwood - City Administrator, and Nancy Hoffman – Chisago County HRA/EDA and Emily Herold, MSA.

ABSENT: Alex Bulmer

DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM:

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

OPEN FORUM:

“An opportunity for members of the public to address the EDA on items not on the current Agenda. Items requiring EDA action maybe deferred to staff for research and future EDA Agendas if appropriate.”

1. Consider approving the minutes of the “Regular Meeting” of the Wyoming, Minnesota City EDA for September 11, 2023

A MOTION WAS MADE BY EDA MEMBER SCHILLING SECONDED BY EDA MEMBER NAULT TO APPROVE THE “REGULAR MEETING” MINUTES OF THE WYOMING, MINNESOTA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY FOR SEPTEMBER 11, 2023

Voting Aye: Iverson, Schilling, Nault, and Buccanero

Voting Nay:

Abstain:

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.

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

COMMUNICATIONS:

NONE

OLD BUSINESS:

2. Wyoming Downtown Master Plan – MSA

Emily Herold from MSA was present to discuss the current timeline and progress to date of the project. Ms. Herold went through the actives leading up to the October meeting and the goals at this meeting were to Review of Redevelopment Concept and Action Plan and complete Draft Document and Action Plan for Implementation.

Summary of Latest Engagement Feedback

- Reviewed community engagement results, existing conditions analysis, and preliminary thoughts/concepts
- Introduced the “Ideas and Opportunities” framework at August meeting, voted on highest-priority items
- Most popular items were Connect the Dots (6), Follow Felton (6), Frame the Main (5), and Park at the Heart (5)
- Presented the three Stagecoach Day concepts at the September meeting

Stagecoach Day

- Voting on 3 preliminary concepts: Connect & Gather, Walk & Play, and Live & Work
- Connect & Gather(focused on community gathering spaces/destinations) was the most popular, especially the farmers market idea
- 2nd place: Walk & Play
- 3rdPlace: Live & Work
- Interest in additional gathering spaces/engaging destinations aligned with results from previous engagement methods

Summary of Latest Engagement Feedback –Stakeholder Interviews

Community Strengths

- Small-town feel, strong connection between residents and local businesses
- Mobility assets and proximity to Twin Cities
- Diversity of businesses throughout community

Community Weaknesses

- Run-down building facades, no incentive to improve appearance
- Community lacks identity and public gathering spaces
- Fast-moving roadways create safety concerns and physically divide community

Notable Potential Redevelopment Areas

- Lakes Gas tank farm north of Railroad Park
- Area near Lakes Gas/car wash is underutilized
- Light industrial area across Hwy 61
- Sidewalk system is discombobulated

Business-Specific Items

- Wyoming Drug’s parking lot feels exposed and unsafe, causing customers to park in other parking lots
- Grace Church has previously discussed moving its Thursday farmer’s market elsewhere in downtown Wyoming, has reservations about lack of amenities, permanent infrastructure, and volunteer support
- Hallberg Center for the Arts is interested in contributing to the arts-centered ideas proposed in the redevelopment concepts, but wants to balance outsourcing art/events with attracting people to Arts Center

Project Next Steps

- Develop preferred downtown concept and specific recommendations based on EDA feedback
- Draft Master Plan document, including but not limited to:
 - Existing conditions analysis
 - Summary of community engagement feedback
 - Concept development process
 - Final recommendations and implementation strategies
- Review the drafted document at the November 13th EDA meeting
- Edit document as needed based on EDA feedback

NEW BUSINESS:

3. To consider a Proclamation declaring October 1st - October 31st 2023 as "Manufacturer's Month" in the City of Wyoming

The proclamation is concurrent with the Wyoming city council. Staff discuss the importance of manufacturing businesses in the Wyoming economy, Chisago County and the state overall. Nancy Hoffman discussed the manufacturing event that was to be held on October 11th at Split Rocks. They will be offering tours of businesses to students from surrounding school districts, a job fair where local companies will be present to discuss what they do and Luke Greiner from DEED to present to the students about the manufacturing economy in the state of Minnesota.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY EDA MEMBER BUCCANERO SECONDED BY EDA MEMBER NAULT TO APPROVE A PROCLAMATION DECLARING OCTOBER 1ST - OCTOBER 31ST 2023 AS "MANUFACTURER'S MONTH" IN THE CITY OF WYOMING

Voting Aye: Iverson, Schilling, Nault, and Buccanero

Voting Nay:

Abstain:

UPDATES

4. Wyoming EDA Updates

City Administrator Linwood gave updates on the business of the month and business expansion activities.

ADJOURN

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MEMBER SCHILLING SECONDED BY MEMBERS NAULT TO ADJOURN THE OCTOBER 10, 2023 "REGULAR MEETING" OF THE WYOMING, MINNESOTA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY MEETING AT 6:16P.M.

Voting Aye: Iverson, Buccanero, Nault, and Schilling

Voting Nay:

Abstain: