

**APPROVED MINUTES  
CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
CITY OF WYOMING, MINNESOTA  
DECEMBER 19, 2023  
7:00PM**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

*Mayor Lisa Iverson called the Regular Meeting of the Wyoming City Council for December 19, 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, Brett Ohnstad, and Claire Luger*

*ABSENT: Councilmember Dennis Schilling*

*Also Present: Tom Loonan, Eckberg Lammers, Robb Linwood, City Administrator, Grant MacFarlane, Assistant 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:**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

1. Consider approving the minutes of the “Regular Meeting” of the Wyoming, Minnesota City Council for December 5, 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 DECEMBER 5, 2023 AS SUBMITTED**

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

*Voting Nay: None*

*Abstain: None*

*Absent: Schilling*

**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 December 6, 2023 to December 19, 2023
3. To consider the resignation of Amy Erickson from the Wyoming Police Department effective January 1, 2024 and the posting of the Public Safety Administrative Assistant position
4. To consider the retirement of Keith Woinarowicz from the Wyoming Fire Department
5. To consider **Resolution 23-12-135** a resolution accepting a donation to the City of Wyoming from Wyoming Holiday #3550 for the Railroad Park Project in the amount of \$2,000

6. To consider **Resolution 23-12-136** a resolution declaring certain Public Works items as surplus property and authorizing the Public Works Department to dispose of such items through online auction or disposal process
7. To consider **Resolution 23-12-137** a resolution accepting a donation from Eckberg Lammers for a donation to the 7<sup>th</sup> annual tree lighting ceremony at Railroad Park.
8. To consider **Resolution 23-12-138** a resolution approving the Wyoming Fire Relief Association Request to the City of Wyoming raising the relief association's pension level to \$4,750 per year of active service
9. To consider **Resolution 23-12-139** a resolution authorizing the Chisago lakes Joint Sewage Treatment Commission to issue, sell, and deliver a \$1,019,000 general obligation sewer revenue note, series 2024A, and award the sale thereof

**Mayor Iverson** – Asked to pull item #4 for further discussion.

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER LUGER, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER OHNSTAD, TO APPROVE #2, #3, #5. #6, #7, #8, and #9 OF THE WYOMING CITY COUNCIL CONSENT AGENDA**

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

**Mayor Iverson** – Explained that she had wanted to pull item #4 to acknowledge one of the firemen that was retiring. She thanked Keith Woinarowicz for his nine years of service to the community.

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER IVERSON, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER OHNSTAD, TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEM #4 TO CONSIDER THE RETIREMENT OF KEITH WOINAROWICZ FROM THE WYOMING FIRE DEPARTMENT**

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

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

10. Report of the Public Safety Director, Neil Bauer for December 14, 2023
11. Report of City Building Official, Fred Weck, IV for December 13, 2023
12. Report of City Attorney Tom Loonan for December 15, 2023
13. Report of City Engineer Mark Erichson, WSB for December 15, 2023
14. Report of Acting Public Works Superintendent Joe Keding for December 19, 2023

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

**OLD BUSINESS:**

15. To consider **Resolution 23-12-133** a resolution amending the existing conditional use permit for the expansion of exterior storage in the industrial district at 26443 Fallbrook Avenue

**Zoning Administrator/Building Official Weck** – Reviewed past discussion on this request and the direction for it to be sent back to the Planning Commission. He outlined details of the request for expansion of exterior storage and the reviewed the recommendation for approval from the Planning Commission, subject to the conditions as outlined.

**Mayor Iverson** – Stated that currently there is a lot of stuff that is above the 8 foot fence-line.

**Zoning Administrator/Building Official Weck** – Explained that this was why the wording of the proposed resolution was 'below' the 8 foot fence. He stated that they are not supposed to be storing anything above the fence line now, so this language was saying that will be removed and then quantify an additional 20% from that point.

**Mayor Iverson** – Stated that thinks the City has done a great job with the industrial park and getting it cleaned up and looking good. She expressed concern about the hazard that is present and referenced the two incidents in the last year that involved fire or injuries.

**Councilmember Luger** – Asked about the timing and if her understanding was correct that if the terms of this were not met within a year then the process would need to start over.

**Zoning Administrator/Building Official Weck** – Clarified that if the terms were not met the CUP would be null and void and they would be in violation of their existing CUP, so the Council could consider proceedings to revoke their permit.

**Councilmember Luger** – Stated that she drove by and noticed debris that rises above the level of the fencing and also debris that climbs up the building and asked if the intent was for that material to also be cleared away.

**Zoning Administrator/Building Official Weck** – Stated that it should be included and noted that the fence is just around a portion of the perimeter.

**Councilmember Luger** – Asked how frequently the City would be checking for compliance and who would be responsible for them..

**Zoning Administrator/Building Official Weck** - Explained that it would be his responsibility and assured the Council that he would be diligent in following up.

**Councilmember Luger** – Stated that she will support this request, but admitted that she still had some safety concerns about this request.

**Councilmember Nanko Yeager** – Asked about the 20% calculation is if it would be done by eyeballing the area or by using a ruler.

**Zoning Administrator/Building Official Weck** – Explained that he would use a tape measure, measure the height and width, and then calculate it from there.

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER OHNSTAD, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER NANKO YEAGER, TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 23-12-133 A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE EXISTING CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT FOR THE EXPANSION OF EXTERIOR STORAGE IN THE INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT AT 26443 FALLBROOK AVENUE, WITH ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE FOR CONDITION #4, AS PRESENTED PRIOR TO THE MEETING.**

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

*Voting Nay: None*

*Abstain: None*

*Absent: Schilling*

16. To consider **Resolution 23-12-134** a resolution approving a site plan review application for the expansion of exterior storage in the industrial district at 26443 Fallbrook Avenue

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER NANKO YEAGER, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER OHNSTAD, TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 23-12-134 A RESOLUTION APPROVING A SITE PLAN REVIEW APPLICATION FOR THE EXPANSION OF EXTERIOR STORAGE IN THE INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT AT 26443 FALLBROOK AVENUE, WITH THE ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE FOR CONDITION #4 AS PRESENTED PRIOR TO THE MEETING.**

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

*Voting Nay: None*

*Abstain: None*

*Absent: Schilling*

## **NEW BUSINESS**

17. To consider the conditional offer to Rebekah Peterson for the Reserve Cadet Officer position

**Public Safety Director Bauer** – Explained the request to provide a conditional offer to Rebekah Peterson for the Reserve Cadet Officer position. He shared some background of Ms. Peterson's experience with the Department.

**Mayor Iverson** – Asked for details on how things like tuition reimbursement would be paid.

**Public Safety Director Bauer** – Explained that the tuition reimbursement would be part of the Public Safety State aid money that they will be receiving.

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER IVERSON, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER OHNSTAD, TO APPROVE CONDITIONAL OFFER TO REBEKAH PETERSON FOR THE RESERVE CADET OFFICER POSITION.**

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

*Voting Nay: None*

*Abstain: None*

*Absent: Schilling*

18. To consider adopting an Earned Sick and Safe Time (ESST) Policy as required by Minnesota State Statute and updating the Wyoming Personnel policy to reflect the addition of the approved policy

**City Administrator Linwood** – Explained that a new law passed during the 2023 legislative session related to a requirement for ESST. He gave an overview of the ESST policy and details related to eligibility

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER LUGER, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER OHNSTAD, TO APPROVE EARNED SICK AND SAFE TIME (ESST) POLICY AS REQUIRED BY MINNESOTA STATE STATUTE AND UPDATING THE WYOMING PERSONNEL POLICY TO REFLECT THE ADDITION OF THE APPROVED POLICY**

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

*Voting Nay: None*

*Abstain: None*

*Absent: Schilling*

19. To consider **Resolution 23-12-140** resolution approving a contract extension with Hylden Advocacy & Law as a lobbyist for the City of Wyoming

**City Administrator Linwood** – Introduced Alysene Nesse and Brian McDaniel of Hylden Advocacy & Law. He explained the assistance that has been provided by Hylden Advocacy & Law since February of 2023 and their plans to continue bringing awareness to the City and its projects. He stated that staff recommends approval of a contract extension through June of 2024 and shared examples of how he feels their services have already helped the City.

**Alysen Nesse** – Shared what she felt was significant amount of progress going through the State agency MMB process. She noted that the House Capital Investment Committee visited the Public Safety center in September and the Senate tour will happen in January.

**Councilmember Ohnstad** – Asked about the outlook for the upcoming legislative session.

**Brian McDaniel** – Stated that Minnesota is on a two year budget cycle, and explained that going into 2024 there is a \$2.4 billion surplus. He stated that what they have hearing from the house and senate majorities is that they are encouraging lower expectations on supplemental budgets. He noted that he has done this kind of work for over 20 years and he felt it was very encouraging that the City will have both a House and a Senate tour, because that does not happen very often.

**Mayor Iverson** – Stated that she was extremely excited about what has happened in the last 9 months the City has been working with Hylden. She stated that Wyoming is a non-partisan City and she felt Hylden has given the City a lot of opportunity to be in front of as many people at the State capital as possible, which she does not feel the City could have done on their own.

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER IVERSON, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER OHNSTAD, TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 23-12-140 RESOLUTION APPROVING A CONTRACT EXTENSION WITH HYLDEN ADVOCACY & LAW AS A LOBBYIST FOR THE CITY OF WYOMING THROUGH JUNE 2024**

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

*Voting Nay: None*

*Abstain: None*

*Absent: Schilling*

**City Administrator Linwood** – Noted that the Senate visit that will happen on January 17, 2024 at 11:20 a.m. and noted that the Council was all invited to attend.

## **COMMUNICATIONS:**

## **COUNCIL REPORTS:**

**Council Member Ohnstad** – Attended the Council work session.

**Council Member Nanko Yeager** – Attended the Council work session prior to this meeting. She wished everyone a Happy Holiday season.

**Council Member Luger** – Attended the Council work session and the Joint Sewer Commission meeting.

**Mayor Iverson** – Attended the Planning Commission, the Joint Sewer Commission, and the Council work session. She stated that Public Safety Director Bauer had recently received a donation for the City and asked him for an explanation.

**Public Safety Director Bauer** – Stated that the Masonic Lodge in Forest Lake donated 7 fire suppression tools. He explained that this was a very generous donation because it means that they now have one for every police vehicle.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER LUGER, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER OHNSTAD, TO ADJOURN THE DECEMBER 19, 2023 "REGULAR MEETING" OF THE WYOMING, MINNESOTA CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING AT 7:37 PM

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

*Voting Nay: None*

*Abstain: None*

*Absent: Schilling*

***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:***

***JANUARY 2, 2024***

***7:00PM***