

**APPROVED MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL
WORK SESSION MEETING
CITY OF WYOMING, MINNESOTA
JULY 15, 2025
5:30 PM**

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Lisa Iverson called the Budget Work Session Meeting of the Wyoming City Council for July 15, 2025 to order at 5:30 P.M.

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, Bret Ohnstad, and Claire Luger

Absent:

Also Present: Robb Linwood- City Administrator, Grant MacFarlane – Assistant City Administrator, Neil Bauer - Public Safety Director, Fred Weck- Building Official/Zoning Administrator, Steve Reeves - Public Works Superintendent, and Jessi Sturtz- Abdo Financial

DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM:

Mayor Iverson determined a Quorum was present.

PLEDEGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

NEW BUSINESS:

1. To discuss preliminary 2026 budget and considerations

City Administrator Linwood – Stated that Finance Director, Jessi Sturtz from Abdo Financial would be giving an overview of the Draft 2026 Budget.

Jessi Sturtz- Abdo Financial – Mrs. Sturtz gave an overview of the first draft 2026 city budget. She summarized key items including:

- LGA will decrease by approximately \$10,096 for a total of \$378,142 in 2026.
- The total 2026 tax levy is proposed to increase \$425,243 or 7.34% from 2025.
- The general levy increased \$233,762 or 5.29%
- The debt levy decreased by \$108,119 or -14.87%. This is due to the scheduled bond payments and the GO Bond falling off for 2026.
- The capital levy increased \$299,600 or 47.53%.
- The street replacement levy increased by \$100,000 or 20%.
- All employees are projected to receive a COLA increase of 3% and eligible employees will receive a step increase.
- We have estimated a 10% increase to health insurance and is split 50/50 between employer and employee.

Expenditure Key Changes:

City clerk office

- Increase in wages and benefits due to COLA and step increases
- Increases in network municipal computers due to IT's growing needs

Elections

- Increase due to elections in 2026

Police Department

- Increase in wages and benefits due to COLA, step increases, and the addition of a part-time CSO position in 2026

Fire Department

- Increase in wages and benefits due to COLA and addition of a new part time firefighter position
- Increase in contracted services due to relocating hose testing and Lexipool
- Increase in Wellness to \$3k

Hwys, streets and roads

- Increase in wages and benefits due to COLA and step increases
- Increase in contracted services, equipment rentals, and vehicle maintenance to align with the budget from the previous two years

City Administrator Linwood – Provided an overview on the Clean Water Partnership (CWP) Loan provided by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) as it related to the Liberty Ponds community septic situation. Highlighted rates, potential timeline, and financial risks before asking the Council to provide Staff direction.

The members of the City Council questioned the City's ability to take on this project at an unknown cost which had not been planned for. They further discussed the difference in cost per household between the Liberty Ponds situation and a normal septic replacement. Staff time, potential loan defaults, and private loans were also discussed. The Council was overall not in favor of pursuing the MPCA's CWP loan.

City Administrator Linwood – Provided background on the City's current IT Services provider regarding scope of service, ability to maintain compliant with State standards, and proposed costs for 2026. Informed the Council that Metro Inet had put together a proposal for the City with a greater ability to meet City needs at a less expensive cost.

The members of the City Council inquired about the length of the contract, average yearly increase in contract cost, the data migration process, email swapping, and potential training. Council provided consensus to move forward with Metro Inet as the City's IT Services provider.

City Administrator Linwood – Informed the City Council that the City was seeing an increase in the amount of fraud attempts made against the City and against vendors that appear in the Claims section of the Council agenda packet. Provided examples of spoof invoices that contracts had received from scammers pretending to be the City. Stated that the City's insurance provider has best practice suggestions to limit the ability of scammers to target the City, including making changes to how the City provides claim information.

The members of the City Council expressed interest in revisiting this topic at a future Work Session meeting.

MAYOR IVERSON ADJOURNED THE JULY 15, 2025 WORK SESSION MEETING AT 6:58 PM.