

**APPROVED MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL
WORK SESSION
CITY OF WYOMING, MINNESOTA
APRIL 21, 2026
5:15 PM**

CALL TO ORDER: *Mayor Lisa Iverson called the Work Session Meeting of the Wyoming City Council for April 21, 2026 to order at 5:15 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, Claire Luger, Dennis Schilling and Brett Ohnstad who joined the meeting at 5:35PM

Absent: None

Also Present: Robb Linwood - City Administrator, Grant MacFarlane - Assistant City Administrator, Steve Reeves – Public Works Superintendent, Fred Weck – Building Official / Zoning Administrator, Mark Erichson – City Engineer, and Tom Loonan – City Attorney

DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM:

Mayor Iverson determined that a Quorum was present.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Liberty Ponds HOA Community Septic Discussion

City Administrator Linwood – Stated that the City had received a letter from the Liberty Ponds HOA asking to discuss their septic system further and to review specific options presented by their attorney. Added that the discussion included infrastructure hookups, Clean Water Partnership (CWP) Loan, and Sanitary Sewer Districts (SDS).

Engineer Erichson – Reviewed some of the options presented by the HOA. Stated that connecting to the Forest Lake sewer system was not feasible due to their MET Council association and Forest Lake's disinterest in connecting to the HOA. Also shared that connecting to Chisago City would not be possible due to Chisago City not planning on extending their own sewer infrastructure at this time. Added that when the city brings in infrastructure they have to do it for the entire area that includes upsizing of sewer pipe, lift stations and the potential for water infrastructure as well.

Mayor Iverson – Inquired if connections to an outside system may also require that the City hire an additional Public Works employee which would bring new costs to the City as well.

Councilmember Nanko-Yeager – Inquired as to where the funds for a new position would be budgeted from and whether the other 8,000 residents would be asked to pay for this.

Attorney Loonan – Informed the Council that he would review the Sanitary Sewer District request. Stated that the City has a right to establish the district, but doing so would require that the City take ownership of the septic system and be responsible for all maintenance. The

City could levy a property tax or service charge against all systems users to pay for it, but city ownership, operation and maintenance would remain a requirement.

Councilmember Nanko-Yeager – Clarified that the fees would be directly attributed to the owners of the properties and not the HOA. Stated that the entire Wyoming community would be responsible for paying for the septic system in the event that an individual owner refused to pay the fee or a home was foreclosed on

Councilmember Ohnstad – Asked who would be responsible for paying the fees in the event that an empty home received a bill.

City Administrator Linwood – Explained that the city would be responsible over the short term, but it was more a timing issue on payment. If a home was foreclosed on the city would eventually receive money once it had a new owner but that could take time and would require the city to pay those costs

Attorney Loonan – Provided an overview of funding options that did not involve City ownership of the septic system. Stated that the CWP loan would provide roughly \$1.5 million for the project and that the HOA would need to secure the remaining \$1.5 million. Shared that the City could create a contract with strict conditions outlining the requirements of the HOA for the loan to be applied for.

Mayor Iverson – Thanked staff for their research and asked fellow councilmembers for their thoughts.

All members of the Council agreed that the CWP Loan was the preferred option with significant conditions as outlined by the city attorney.

Councilmember Nanko-Yeager – Questioned the fairness of paying for this septic system and not others in town. Added their fear of a loan default situation.

Mayor Iverson – Asked Attorney Loonan how long it may take him to create a draft contract with conditions for the CWP Loan agreement between the City and the HOA.

Attorney Loonan – Stated that he could provide the draft agreement at the next Council meeting held on May 5, 2026.

Councilmember Luger – Asked what the timeline for this agreement and loan process would look like.

Attorney Loonan – Informed Council that they would need a resolution to proceed with the draft agreement and that the City and HOA would then engage with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency. Stated that the City would sign off on the agreement when all conditions of the agreement are met by the HOA.

Mayor Iverson invited two representatives from the Liberty Ponds HOA to speak if they desired.

Mike West, Liberty Ponds HOA – Stated that he spoke with engineers who claimed it would be easy to pump their sewage the 10 miles required to connect with outside infrastructure.

Engineer Erichson – Informed Mr. West that it would be possible but that cities plan for

community-wide infrastructure. This would present significant hurdles, including a cost which is much greater than implementing a new septic system within the HOA.

Mike West – Stated that the understood that the SDS would require City ownership but that creating one would be helpful in obtaining grants.

Councilmember Nanko-Yeager – Shared that they were also thinking of the remaining 8,000 citizens of the City that would bare the burden of cost if the HOA defaulted the loan.

Mayor Iverson – Stated that the Council was most open to the CWP loan and asked that staff bring an agreement to the next regular council meeting.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER OHNSTAD, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER LUGER, TO ADJOURN THE APRIL 21, 2026 WORK SESSION OF THE WYOMING, MINNESOTA CITY COUNCIL AT 6:44PM