

**APPROVED MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
CITY OF WYOMING, MINNESOTA
JANUARY 18, 2022
7:00PM**

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Lisa Iverson called the Regular Meeting of the Wyoming City Council for January 18, 2022 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, Alex Saxe, Assistant City Administrator, Mark Erichson-WSB, Neil Bauer - Public Safety Director, Fred Weck, Zoning Administrator/Building Official and Chuck Almhjeld, Public Works Superintendent

DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM:

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Pack #142

OPEN FORUM:

Neil Gatzow, 5481 East Viking Boulevard – Explained that his home was built in 1904 and is one of the oldest homes in the City. He stated that he and the Zoning Administrator Weck have a difference of opinion on whether his lot at 5481 is one or two lots. He read aloud portions of the ordinance related to setbacks, lot width, and architectural standards. He stated that he would like to petition the City to assign him one housing unit for the upcoming road project assessment.

Mayor Iverson – Suggested that Mr. Gatzow come back following the project when there is an opportunity to appeal.

The Council expressed the desire to have additional time to consider the information presented by Mr. Gatzow.

City Administrator Linwood – Stated that staff will do the due diligence with regard to precedence in prior projects with similar factors related to issues raised by Mr. Gatzow for the appeal process.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

1. Consider approving the minutes of the “Regular Meeting” of the Wyoming, Minnesota City Council for January 4, 2022

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 JANUARY 4, 2022 AS SUBMITTED.

Voting Aye: Nanko Yeager, Luger, Ohnstad, Iverson

Voting Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Schilling

SCHEDULED BID LETTINGS: NONE

SCHEDULED PUBLIC HEARINGS:

- 2. To consider Resolution 22-01-11 a resolution ordering the project and preparation of plans and specifications for the 2022 East Viking Boulevard Project**

City Engineer Erichson – Gave a brief explanation of the proposed East Viking Boulevard project, issues raised in the neighborhood meetings, the proposed project schedule, projected costs, funding sources, assessment details, and grant opportunities for portions of the project.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER OHNSTAD, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER LUGER, TO OPEN THE PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE 2022 EAST VIKING BOULEVARD PROJECT.

Voting Aye: Nanko Yeager, Luger, Ohnstad, Iverson

Voting Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Schilling

Neil Gatzow, 5481 East Viking Boulevard – Stated that he has lived on this street with sidewalks in front of his house since 1978 and has never seen a traffic tie up on the sidewalk from all the senior citizens who walk back and forth. He noted that the sidewalk in front of his property is in perfect condition. He stated that he doesn't think the sidewalk needs to be widened to 5 feet just to have new sidewalk. He stated that there may need to be some replacements made in a few places, but overall, he believes the sidewalk condition is very good.

Gary Sykes, 5710 East Viking Boulevard – Asked about traffic feedback signs and crosswalks. He stated that there is a speeding issue along this roadway and if this project continues, he feels there will be even more speeding along the roadway.

Tom Terry, 26752 Freeport Court – He stated that he is #17 on the City's map and noted that he was assessed when Freeport Court was done and his understanding was that he would not be assessed for East Viking Boulevard.

City Engineer Erichson – Explained that properties are assessed by where their driveway access is. He stated that he can verify this information for Mr. Terry.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER LUGER, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER OHNSTAD, TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE 2022 EAST VIKING BOULEVARD PROJECT.

Voting Aye: Nanko Yeager, Luger, Ohnstad, Iverson

Voting Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Schilling

Mayor Iverson – Explained that one of the goals for the City is to become ADA compliant noted that she believed that the sidewalks, in their current form are not ADA compliant.

City Engineer Erichson – Stated that they can do some more vetting and as they get into more of a final design, they will look at the possibilities of not having to replace things if they are in good condition. He stated that they want to use the City's limited resources as wisely as possible. He reiterated that they can spend more time vetting this issue and try to quantify it a bit better.

Mayor Iverson – Stated that she is strongly in favor of walkability and getting access for everybody, so she would like additional study to be completed on the sidewalk issue.

Council Member Nanko Yeager – Asked if the study would consider a work around or some sort of alternate, creative solution for the walkway.

City Engineer Erichson – Stated that they will look at a number of different alternatives and find a few things to present to City Council for options.

There was a Consensus of the Council to direct City Engineer Erichson to look into the sidewalk issue.

City Engineer Erichson – Explained that he will look into the suggestions made regarding driver feedback signs and crosswalks as part of this process.

City Administrator Linwood – Stated that he was able to access the assessment roll to address Mr. Terry's question and his assessment is \$0.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER LUGER, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER IVERSON, TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 21-01-11 A RESOLUTION ORDERING THE PROJECT AND PREPARATION OF PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE 2022 EAST VIKING BOULEVARD PROJECT.

Voting Aye: Nanko Yeager, Luger, Ohnstad, Iverson

Voting Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Schilling

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.

3. To consider authorizing the payment of recommended bills, payroll and journal entries for the period of January 5, 2022 through January 18, 2022
4. To consider the resignation of Eric Rydeen from the City of Wyoming
5. To consider **Resolution 22-01-12** a resolution approving BergankDV to conduct annual audit services for the year ended December 31, 2021 in the amount of \$35,500
6. To consider **Resolution 22-01-13** a resolution approving payment for pay voucher to Dresel Contracting, Inc. for the 2020 street improvement project (WSB Project 013882-000) (City Project 20-01) in the amount of \$71,202.82
7. To consider the resignation of Anthony Sarff from the Wyoming Fire Department

Mayor Iverson - Asked to pull item #6 and #7 for discussion.

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

Voting Aye: Nanko Yeager, Luger, Ohnstad, Iverson

Voting Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Schilling

#6 - To consider **Resolution 22-01-13** a resolution approving payment for pay voucher to Dresel Contracting, Inc. for the 2020 street improvement project (WSB Project 013882-000) (City Project 20-01) in the amount of \$71,202.82

Mayor Iverson – Stated that this says it is 'final' but she believes there are still some issues and things that the City has stated need to be fixed on that project.

City Engineer Erichson – Explained that this is the 2020 street improvement project which is on the west side of the freeway.

#7 – To consider the resignation of Anthony Sarff from the Wyoming Fire Department

Mayor Iverson – Asked Public Safety Director Bauer to pass along the message to Mr. Sarff that the City has appreciated his service and time he has volunteered to the City and that the Council wishes him well.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER IVERSON, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER OHNSTAD, TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEM #6 RESOLUTION 21-01-13 A RESOLUTION APPROVING PAYMENT FOR PAY VOUCHER TO DRESEL CONTRACTING, INC. FOR THE 2020 STREET IMPROVEMENT PROJECT (WSB PROJECT 013882-000) (CITY PROJECT 20-01) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$71,202.82, AND #7 TO APPROVE THE RESIGNATION OF ANTHONY SARFF 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

8. Report of the Public Safety Director, Neil Bauer for January 12, 2022
9. Report of City Building Official, Fred Weck, IV for January 13, 2022
10. Report of City Attorney Tom Loonan for January 13, 2022
11. Report of City Engineer Mark Erichson, WSB for January 14, 2022
12. Report of Public Works Superintendent Chuck Almhjeld for January 12, 2022

Council Member Ohnstad – Explained that there was a speed limit sign that he noticed on Kettle River Boulevard that was down. He stated that he informed City Administrator Linwood and within 24 hours, the sign was back up. He stated that he wanted to express his appreciation to Public Works because that is a very dangerous spot for cars to travel over the speed limit and the pole sticking up out of the ground also could have been a danger to snowmobiles traveling through the area.

COMMUNICATIONS: NONE

OLD BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS

13. To consider a request to apply for the Minnesota DNR Emerald Ash Borer Grant

Assistant City Administrator Saxe – Gave an overview of the available grant from the Minnesota DNR to help get rid of Emerald Ash Borer. He shared details from the City's tree inventory and the expected out of pocket costs for the City even if the grant is received. He stated that the Park Advisory Commission has recommended that the City apply for this grant.

Council Member Nanko Yeager – Asked what would happen if the City does not receive the grant.

Assistant City Administrator Saxe – Explained that the City would have to explore other options and noted that the Tree Fund only has about \$31,000 currently. He noted that there may be other grant options available.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER OHNSTAD, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER LUGER, TO AUTHORIZE STAFF TO APPLY FOR THE MINNESOTA DNR EMERALD ASH BORER GRANT.

Voting Aye: Nanko Yeager, Luger, Ohnstad, Iverson

Voting Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Schilling

- 14.** To consider **Resolution 22-01-14** a resolution approving the purchase of a 2022 Stepp SPHOJ-3.0 Asphalt Trailer in the amount of \$51,804.00 from Stepp Manufacturing

Public Works Superintendent Almhjeld – Explained that the City currently has a 30 year old asphalt trailer that was purchased used from another government agency. He stated that it was involved in a hit and run incident in St. Paul. He stated that after a claim was submitted to the insurance agency, the trailer was totaled.

Council Member Nanko Yeager – Asked if the City was able to get any kind of settlement from the individual who hit the trailer.

Public Works Superintendent Almhjeld - Stated that the person who hit it, got out of their vehicle and informed the Public Works employee that he already had a warrant, that he had no insurance, and asked the employee to just forget about it. He stated that when the employee declined to do that and called the police, that individual left the scene.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER LUGER, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER OHNSTAD, TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 21-01-14 A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE PURCHASE OF A 2022 STEPP SPHOJ-3.0 ASPHALT TRAILER IN THE AMOUNT OF \$51,804.00 FROM STEPP MANUFACTURING.

Voting Aye: Nanko Yeager, Luger, Ohnstad, Iverson

Voting Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Schilling

- 15.** To consider the hiring of Brandon Rice for the Maintenance Worker 1 position with a starting wage of Step 1, \$25.04/hr with a tentative start date of February 9, 2022

Public Works Superintendent Almhjeld – Noted that there were 11 applications for this position. He explained that Brandon Rice was the top candidate following the interview process and explained that he is currently working for the City of Fridley.

Council Member Nanko Yeager – Asked if the department was currently down 2 people and if Mr. Rice will receive training in sewer or if he would remain on streets.

Public Works Superintendent Almhjeld – Explained that Mr. Rice would be trained in water and sewer.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER LUGER, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER OHNSTAD, TO APPROVE HIRING BRANDON RICE FOR THE MAINTENANCE WORKER 1 POSITION WITH A STARTING WAGE OF STEP 1, \$25.04/HR WITH A TENTATIVE START DATE OF FEBRUARY 9, 2022.

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

16. To consider holding a Council Work Session on February 9, 2022 at 6:00 PM

City Administrator Linwood – Explained that the Council has an annual exercise of looking through initiatives and goals for the current work year and staff is suggesting this be done at a work session on February 9, 2022. .

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER IVERSON, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER LUGER, TO APPROVE SCHEDULING A COUNCIL WORK SESSION ON FEBRUARY 9, 2022 AT 6:00 PM

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

COUNCIL REPORTS:

Council Member Ohnstad – Attended the franchise fee public meeting, the Swenson Park ribbon cutting ceremony.

Council Member Nanko Yeager – Attended the franchise fee open house and the East Viking Boulevard neighborhood meeting.

Council Member Luger – Attended the franchise fee public meeting, the neighborhood meeting for East Viking Boulevard, the Park Advisory Commission meeting, and the Swenson Park ribbon cutting ceremony.

Mayor Iverson – Attended the franchise fee public meeting, the neighborhood meeting for East Viking Boulevard, the Park Advisory Commission meeting, and the Swenson Park ribbon cutting ceremony.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER LUGER, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER IVERSON, TO ADJOURN THE JANUARY 18, 2022 “REGULAR MEETING” OF THE WYOMING, MINNESOTA CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING AT 8:03 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:
FEBRUARY 1, 2022
7:00PM