

**APPROVED MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
CITY OF WYOMING, MINNESOTA
FEBRUARY 15, 2022
7:00PM**

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Lisa Iverson called the Regular Meeting of the Wyoming City Council for February 15, 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, Dennis Schilling, and Claire Luger

ABSENT: None

Also Present: Tom Loonan, Eckberg Lammers, Robb Linwood, City Administrator, Alex Saxe, Assistant City Administrator, Mark Erichson-WSB, Neil Bauer - Public Safety Director and Chuck Almhjeld, Public Works Superintendent

DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM:

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

OPEN FORUM:

Dan Sandgren, 26122 Kendall Lane – Asked that the public hearing for the vacation of this property to be held on April 5, 2022 because they will be out of town in March.

City Administrator Linwood – Noted that this item is on tonight's Consent Agenda and explained that the Council can go with Mr. Sandgren's suggestion for a public hearing date. He stated that he will double check on the 60 day rule, but does not think it will cause a problem.

Gary Sykes, 5710 East Viking Boulevard – Stated that he has 2 issues to discuss with the Council. He stated that there are snowmobiles racing up and down East Viking Boulevard. He explained that they are up on the sidewalks and are pushing the snow back onto the sidewalks. He asked the Council to consider issuing fines for this type of use on the sidewalks and expressed his concern that someone would get hurt if it continues. He stated that he would also like to address #19 under New Business, addressing traffic calming and pedestrian crossings on East Viking Boulevard. He stated that it sounds like a great idea and would help to slow traffic.

Mayor Iverson – Asked Public Safety Director Bauer to take a look at the snowmobile issue and ways of dealing with the issue.

Gary Deegan, 5762 East Viking Boulevard – Explained that he had moved here in 1994 and shared experiences he has had with snowmobiles ripping through the area and what he feels the potential danger may be.

Mayor Iverson – Assured Mr. Deegan that the City would take a look at what is going on along East Viking Boulevard.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- 1. Consider approving the minutes of the "Regular Meeting" of the Wyoming, Minnesota City Council for February 2, 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 FEBRUARY 2, 2022, AS SUBMITTED.

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

Voting Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

- 2. Consider approving the minutes of the “Work Session Meeting” of the Wyoming, Minnesota City Council for February 9, 2022**

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER SCHILLING, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER LUGER, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE “WORK SESSION MEETING” OF THE WYOMING, MINNESOTA CITY COUNCIL FOR FEBRUARY 9, 2022, AS SUBMITTED.

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

Voting Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

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.

- 3.** To consider authorizing the payment of recommended bills, payroll, and journal entries for the period of February 3, 2022 to February 15, 2022
- 4.** To consider **Resolution 22-02-17** a resolution accepting a donation from Casey's to the Railroad Park Veterans Memorial
- 5.** To consider **Resolution 22-02-18** a resolution setting a public hearing on the proposed vacation of 26122 Kendall Lane
- 6.** To consider **Resolution 22-02-19** a resolution declaring certain Public Works items as surplus property and authorizing the Public Works Department to dispose of such items through the disposal process
- 7.** To consider **Resolution 22-02-20** a resolution setting a Public Hearing on the proposed vacation of Diamond Ridge
- 8.** To consider approving a solicitation permit for Gary Loren of Ace Solid Waste located at 6601 McKinley St, NW, Ramsey, MN 55303 for the hours of 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
- 9.** To consider approving a Request for Proposal (RFP) for Lawn Mowing Services for the City of Wyoming for 2022-2024
- 10.** To consider approving payment to the League of Minnesota Cities for Workers Compensation Insurance in the amount of \$119,668.00

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

Councilmember Ohnstad – Asked to pull item #5 for discussion.

Councilmember Nanko Yeager – Asked to pull item #8 for discussion.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER LUGER, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER OHNSTAD, TO APPROVE #3, #6, #7, #9, and #10 OF THE WYOMING CITY COUNCIL CONSENT AGENDA

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

#4 - To consider Resolution 22-02-17 a resolution accepting a donation from Casey's to the Railroad Park Veterans Memorial

Mayor Iverson – Expressed her appreciation to Casey's for their \$1,000 donation to the Railroad Park Veteran's Memorial

#5 – continued... To consider **Resolution 22-02-18** a resolution setting a public hearing on the proposed vacation of 26122 Kendall Lane

Councilmember Ohnstad – Noted that per the request, the date of the public hearing in this item should be changed to April 5, 2022.

City Attorney Loonan – Explained that they are looking into the 60 day rule and noted that April 5, 2022 may be outside of that 60 day rule. He stated that, if necessary, they may extend the 60 day deadline. He stated that if it needs official action, it can be done at the next Council meeting.

#8 – continued...To consider approving a solicitation permit for Gary Loren of Ace Solid Waste located at 6601 McKinley St, NW, Ramsey, MN 55303 for the hours of 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Councilmember Nanko Yeager – Stated that the permit states 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. but the agenda item says 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. and asked for confirmation that the hours of solicitation would be 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

City Administrator Linwood – Stated that if the Council approves it as presented, it will be 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Mayor Iverson – Noted that this issue comes up every single time and asked if the City needed to make a change to the ordinance that the hours are from 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. so there is no confusion in the future.

There was consensus of the Council to discuss a change in the ordinance to clarify the hours of solicitation.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER IVERSON, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER SCHILLING, TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS #4 AND #8, AS PRESENTED.

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

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER LUGER, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER OHNSTAD, TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEM #5, CHANGING THE PUBLIC HEARING DATE TO APRIL 5, 2022.

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

ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF REPORTS OF OFFICERS, BOARDS, COMMISSIONS

AND DEPARTMENT HEADS:

11. Report of the Public Safety Director, Neil Bauer for February 9, 2022
12. Report of City Building Official, Fred Weck, IV for February 11, 2022
13. Report of City Attorney Tom Loonan for February 10, 2022
14. Report of City Engineer Mark Erichson, WSB for February 10, 2022
15. Report of Public Works Superintendent Chuck Almhjeld for February 15, 2022

COMMUNICATIONS:

16. Communication from Chisago County Assessor announcing Board of Equalization date for the City of Wyoming on April 19, 2022, 6:00 PM at Wyoming City Hall

City Administrator Linwood – Explained that this meeting is an opportunity for anyone in the community to discuss their property taxes for 2023, or set up an appointment with the County Assessor to discuss them. He noted that this will be just prior to a City Council meeting on the same evening.

OLD BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS

17. To consider a request to apply for the Minnesota DNR Outdoor Recreation Grant Program

Assistant City Administrator Saxe – Reported that the City had applied for this grant for the upgrades at Swenson Park which has now been completed. He explained that staff, while exploring funding options for Railroad Park, spoke with the DNR, who suggested that the City once again apply for this grant. He noted that applications are due March 31, 2022 and reviewed the estimated project costs for Railroad Park and noted that the City has raised about \$213,000 towards those costs. He noted that staff will be requesting \$200,000 in grant funding, if the Council approves.

Councilmember Nanko Yeager – Asked how much of the funds raised so far have been because of the 'Buy-a-Brick' program.

City Administrator Linwood – Noted that he believed there have been 40-50 bricks purchased so far at \$100/brick.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER IVERSON, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER LUGER, TO APPROVE APPLYING FOR THE MINNESOTA DNR OUTDOOR RECREATION GRANT PROGRAM.

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

Voting Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

18. To consider a request to apply for the AARP Community Challenge Grant

Assistant City Administrator Saxe – Explained that last year, the City became an AARP Age-Friendly Community. He stated that they offer this community challenge grant which provides funding for quick action projects to help communities become livable for people of all ages. He stated that Railroad Park would be eligible under the Creating Vibrant Spaces category and noted

that applications are due March 22, 2022. He stated that staff will be requesting a grant in the amount of \$15,000.

Councilmember Luger – Asked when the City would be notified if they received the grant.

Assistant City Administrator Saxe – Stated that the City should hear back by mid-May.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER IVERSON, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER OHNSTAD, TO APPROVE APPLYING FOR THE AARP COMMUNITY CHALLENGE GRANT.

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

Voting Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

19. To consider, review, and discuss traffic calming and pedestrian crossings on East Viking Boulevard

City Engineer Erichson – Reviewed the common themes around discussion of the East Viking Boulevard project, including maintaining the existing parking, addressing speed, and improving pedestrian access. He reviewed some of the things staff has considered such as strategically placed bump outs. He explained that possible traffic calming efforts, the advantages to slowing down traffic, and the challenges they may create for plowing. He reviewed some of the possible design options for the Council to consider and asked if they would like staff to develop some specific ideas in the bump out idea.

Mayor Iverson – Asked about additional costs this design would create.

City Engineer Erichson – Explained that the extra costs would be minimal with the bump outs.

There was consensus of the Council that they were in favor of directing WSB to developer more details relating to bump outs on both sides of the street.

20. To consider the Wyoming City Council entering into a closed session under MN Statute 13D.03 to discuss labor negotiation strategies for a contract with the bargaining unit of IUOE Local 49ers

Mayor Iverson – Recessed the meeting at 7:35 p.m. and reconvened at 7:44 p.m.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER LUGER SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER SCHILLING TO ENTER INTO CLOSED SESSION UNDER MN STATE STATUTE 13D.03 TO DISCUSS LABOR NEGOTIATION STRATEGIES FOR A CONTRACT WITH THE BARGAINING UNIT OF IUOE LOCAL 49ERS AT 7:45PM

Voting Aye: Luger, Schilling, Nanko Yeager, Ohnstad, and Iverson

Voting Nay: None

Abstain: None

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER OHNSTAD SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER LUGER TO RETURN TO OPEN SESSION UNDER MN STATE STATUTE 13D.03 TO DISCUSS LABOR NEGOTIATION STRATEGIES FOR A CONTRACT WITH THE BARGAINING UNIT OF IUOE LOCAL 49ERS AT 7:58PM

Voting Aye: Luger, Schilling, Nanko Yeager, Ohnstad, and Iverson

Voting Nay: None

Abstain: None

City Administrator Linwood gave a summation of the closed session

The closed meeting was relative to the matters for bargaining purposes and contract negotiations between the City of Wyoming and bargaining unit of IUOE Local 49ers. The meeting was closed under MN State Statute 13D.03. The closed meeting was attended by Mayor Lisa Iverson and City Council Members Dennis Schilling, Linda Nanko Yeager, Claire Luger and Brett Ohnstad. Also, in attendance was City Administrator, Robb Linwood, Assistant City Administrator, Alex Saxe and Public Works Superintendent, Chuck Almhjeld. The council reviewed the current contract from the bargaining unit. The city council provided advice and direction to legal and city staff but made no formal votes

COUNCIL REPORTS:

Mayor Iverson – Councilmembers agreed to forgo council reports for the evening

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER OHNSTAD, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER SCHILLING, TO ADJOURN THE FEBRUARY 15, 2022 “REGULAR MEETING” OF THE WYOMING, MINNESOTA CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING AT 7:59PM

Voting Aye: Luger, Schilling, Nanko Yeager, Ohnstad, and Iverson

Voting Nay: None

Abstain: None

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:

MARCH 1, 2022

7:00PM