

**APPROVED MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL
BUDGET WORK SESSION MEETING
CITY OF WYOMING, MINNESOTA
JULY 28, 2022
6:00 PM**

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Lisa Iverson called the Budget Work Session Meeting of the Wyoming City Council for July 28, 2022 to order at 6:00 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, Brett Ohnstad and Claire Luger.

Absent: Dennis Schilling

Also Present: Robb Linwood- City Administrator, Alex Saxe- Assistant City Administrator, Chuck Almhjeld- Public Works Superintendent, Fred Weck- Zoning Administrator/Building Official, Neil Bauer- Public Safety Director, Mark Erichson- WSB, Jessi Sturtz- Abdo Financial (via zoom) and staff from Wold Architects/Kraus Anderson.

DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM:

Mayor Iverson determined a Quorum was present.

PLEDEGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Public Safety Building Update Wold Architects/Kraus Anderson

City Administrator Linwood- Introduced the Wold and Kraus Anderson team who are going to give a brief presentation on the Public Safety building.

Wold/Kraus Anderson Team- Gave an overview of the process of design to this point. They walked through some of the value engineering and explained how they were able to reduce square footage while maintaining the integrity of the building. They collaborated a lot with both the Fire Chief and Public Safety Director to make sure the building would still function well for staff. The changes made brought the building design under budget. It is a very modest but great design that the city will be proud of for many years.

Councilmember Ohnstad- Asked if the building will function the way police and fire need it to serve the public properly.

Public Safety Director Bauer- Said the building is great and will function the way it needs to.

Council appreciated the presentation and were happy with the design and budget numbers. Next step would be to start moving into Construction Document phase.

2. City of Wyoming Draft 2023 Budget

Jessi Sturtz, Abdo Financial- Gave a presentation on the first draft of the 2023 budget. She walked through the tax levy. The preliminary tax levy is set at 10.18%. The tax capacity has decreased and the tax rate has increased, which spreads taxes over more residents resulting in a decrease in property taxes. She then gave an overview of the general fund revenues and expenditures.

Councilmember Iverson- Asked why the building inspections increase in training and instruction saw a large increase.

Building Official Weck- Explained that the new inspector is not a licensed septic inspector and those classes are out of state and multiple days which resulted in an increase.

3. Streets Capital Improvement Plan Discussion

City Administrator Linwood- Gave an overview of the proposed 5 year streets CIP plan. He informed council the city did not receive the Federal EDA grant for the East Viking Blvd. project. That project will occur in 2023 with some modifications. That led staff to shift dollars around in the CIP to fill the gap of not receiving those funds. The biggest change is adding numerous overlays to treat the poor roads that cannot wait. Performing the overlays will extend the life of the roads 7-10 years. There could be a future traffic signal installed at 250th and highway 61, staff is communicating with MnDOT on that to see when that might happen and have a placeholder in the CIP for the signal. There is also a potential roundabout at Kettler River and East Viking Blvd. It will most likely be a cost share project and the city is budgeting \$1 million at the moment.

Councilmember Iverson- Asked if staff have notified residents on East Viking that that project is not happening.

City Administrator Linwood- Stated that the city did send a letter out on July 16 and have not heard from many residents. There is a different EDA grant that the city might explore.

Council discussed how much time pothole patching takes and by doing overlays that will eliminate time spent on pothole patching and allow public works staff to take better care of parks and perform more stormwater tasks. Currently public works has to pothole a poor street almost every year, after an overlay, it would be once during that 7-10 year period.

There were some concerns from Council that if the city overlays streets, will they last long enough or will they need to be redone sooner. Staff said the types of soils should allow overlays to last for 10 years. There was some discussion on changing the assessment policy to allow for assessment of overlays.

Discussion will continue with staff on the assessment policy and the overlay strategy in the 5 year CIP.

Mark Erichson, WSB- Brought up the CUP of Pinehaven Farm and how the traffic impacts Kettle River Blvd. which is a gravel road and is the most expensive road to maintain in the city.

City Administrator Linwood- Explained how at a previous meeting, Council voted to reopen the CUP with Pinehaven. Staff have only had a brief conversation with the operator and is looking for some more direction from Council on how to handle the gravel road. He explained the haunted hayride part is at capacity due to online scheduling, but the farm side of it has the potential to expand. Traffic counts on that road to Pinehaven are up to 5,000 trips a day during that event time. The CUP is from 2004 and does not establish or identify what the event is today. He walked

through some options that staff have initially discussed for how to pay for the upkeep of the road.

Council had some discussion on if attendance is truly capped, staff will have that conversation with the operator. There is no other access points that could be added due to Carlos Avery, making it a very challenging location. If the city chose to pave the road, it would only be the mile long stretch up to the farm.

There was discussion on how public safety would handle an active shooter with only one way in and one way out. Staff said it would be challenging, the road is wide enough to get public safety vehicles through, paving the road would help get those vehicles there faster.

Council came to a consensus to have staff look at the CUP and meet with the operator to discuss long term plans for the property.

4. Water Meter Replacement and Discussion of funding options

Public Works Superintendent Almhjeld- Gave an overview on the benefits of installing new water meters. He gave the number of current meters that need to be replaced across the city. The last meter change out was 2005 and the approximate life of a meter is 20 years. The estimate received from Ferguson waterworks for the complete replacement of all remaining meters is \$443,905.00. Ferguson provides all the service from setting up appointments, installation of the meters, and installing the units into B&A. The cost savings show an approximate 6 year pay-back from the water usage captured with new meters and staff time reading meters. Staff is looking for direction from Council on how to fund the purchase of these meters.

Councilmember Nanko Yeager- Asked how this benefits snow birds who are not using their water during the winter.

City Administrator Linwood- Stated they are identified in our system and there is a minimum use set by the City several years ago. If snow birds are not home to monitor their water, these meters would flag the system if there was an uptick in usage.

Council came to a consensus that these new meters are a benefit and directed staff to come back to council with some ideas on how to finance them.

MAYOR IVERSON ADJOURNED THE JULY 28, 2022 BUDGET WORK SESSION MEETING AT 7:45 PM.