

**APPROVED MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
CITY OF WYOMING, MINNESOTA
AUGUST 16, 2022
7:00PM**

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Lisa Iverson called the Regular Meeting of the Wyoming City Council for August 16, 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 Dennis Schilling

ABSENT: Councilmember Claire Luger

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:

OPEN FORUM:

County Commissioner Montzka – Gave an update on County activities, grants awarded, and other work that the County Commissioners have been undertaking.

Mayor Iverson – Stated that there were discussions a few months ago regarding ARPA and the possibility of the County using some of those funds for city grants to help with infrastructure projects. She asked if the County had moved forward with that action and if County Commissioner Montzka had brought up the idea to the board.

County Commissioner Montzka – Stated that there is not a plan to do that and noted that the City has their own ARPA funds and the County is not requesting to use their funds. He stated that the feeling related to the County's ARPA funds is that something like that is not likely to happen. He stated that the County is dedicating money to broadband and will partner with the cities on that effort.

Mayor Iverson – Stated that the City doesn't have a strong need for broadband. She stated that the discussion had been about using grants from the County for the cities to use for infrastructure projects, such as the City getting water over to the other side of the freeway for the development that is coming in. She explained that they are always trying to get more businesses to the City, so being able to have some infrastructure grants with the ARPA funds would help every single person in the community by lowering their taxes.

County Commissioner Montzka – Explained that they are limited in how they can use the funds and was unsure if that proposal would be possible, but assured the Council that he would continue to look into this possibility.

Mayor Iverson – Suggested that City Administrator Linwood work with County Commissioner Montzka to look into this possible use for the ARPA funds.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

1. Consider approving the minutes of the "Regular Meeting" of the Wyoming, Minnesota

City Council for August 3, 2022

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER OHNSTAD, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER SCHILLING, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE “REGULAR MEETING” OF THE WYOMING, MINNESOTA CITY COUNCIL FOR AUGUST 3, 2022 AS SUBMITTED.

Voting Aye: Schilling, Nanko Yeager, Ohnstad, Iverson

Voting Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Luger

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.

2. Consider authorizing the payment of recommended bills, payroll, and journal entries for the period of August 4, 2022 to August 16, 2022
3. To consider the appointment of Rick Ahartz to fill the vacant position on the Wyoming Park Advisory Commission
4. To consider **Resolution 22-08-71** a resolution accepting various cash donations from Night to Unit event in the amount of \$293.00

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER SCHILLING, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER OHNSTAD, TO APPROVE #2, #3, and #4 OF THE WYOMING CITY COUNCIL CONSENT AGENDA

Voting Aye: Schilling, Nanko Yeager, Ohnstad, Iverson

Voting Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Luger

ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF REPORTS OF OFFICERS, BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND DEPARTMENT HEADS:

5. Report of the Public Safety Director, Neil Bauer for August 11, 2022
6. Report of City Building Official, Fred Weck, IV for August 11, 2022
7. Report of City Attorney Tom Loonan for August 11, 2022
8. Report of Public Works Superintendent Chuck Almhjeld for August 16, 2022

COMMUNICATIONS:

OLD BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS

9. To consider **Resolution 22-08-72** a resolution receiving quotes and awarding a contract to Olson's Sewer Service Inc. for the Helium Court and Feriday Avenue Storm Sewer Improvements in the amount of \$96,813.02

City Engineer Erichson – Gave an overview of the areas that they looked at that had some stormwater issues and areas that they have found that need to be addressed. He gave an overview of how this work could be funded by using a combination of methods.

Public Works Superintendent Almhjeld – Explained that the plan will be to add drain tile underneath the culverts to address the heaving issue.

Mayor Iverson – Asked how much of a price difference there is from what it would have been one year ago.

City Engineer Erichson – Stated that he would say prices have increased by about 15% since this time last year. He noted that once this is approved the contractor can get the materials ordered, but noted that some of those things are 6-8 weeks out. He explained that the hope is that this work will be completed this fall.

Councilmember Nanko Yeager – Asked if there were plans to finish the restoration on Glen Oak.

City Engineer Erichson – Stated that he received an e-mail from the contractor with the plan to do that work. He stated that there have been some drought conditions this year, but all sides are aware that they have not met the City's standards for restoration. He stated that they are planning to reseed and spray weeds in a number of areas. He stated that staff will not bring this to Council for final payments and accepting of the project until those improvements have been made.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER SCHILLING, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER OHNSTAD, TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 22-08-72 A RESOLUTION RECEIVING QUOTES AND AWARDING A CONTRACT TO OLSON'S SEWER SERVICE, INC. FOR THE HELIUM COURT AND FERIDAY AVENUE STORM SEWER IMPROVEMENTS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$96,813.02.

Voting Aye: Schilling, Nanko Yeager, Ohnstad, Iverson

Voting Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Luger

10. Proclamation Recognizing and Commemorating the 32nd Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act

Assistant City Administrator Saxe – Gave a brief overview of the Americans with Disabilities Act and how it is has helped create equality for people with disabilities.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER IVERSON, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER OHNSTAD, TO APPROVE THE PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING AND COMMEMORATING THE 32ND ANNIVERSITY OF THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

Voting Aye: Schilling, Nanko Yeager, Ohnstad, Iverson

Voting Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Luger

11. To consider the donation and design of a sign for the Wyoming Library

City Administrator Linwood – Explained that area resident, Pay Rylander, approached the City and had asked to donate a sign for the south side of the Wyoming Library. He stated that it would be a wood sign that would be painted similar to a barn quilt type sign and would depict items relating to the City's heritage including a horse, stagecoach, train, Old Highway 61, and have a star marking the City's location on a symbol of the County. He noted that the proposed signage

has been reviewed and approved by the East Central Regional Library pending approval by both the City Council and Chisago County, because the building is owned by the County. He noted that staff would like the 'Established in' date changed to 1855.

Sherri Vincent – Noted that she sent a letter to the City outlining the position that the Library Society holds regarding this sign. She stated that they have three areas where they feel it doesn't meet the sign ordinance such as matching the architectural intent of the building. She noted that they also have concerns about the actual maintenance of the sign. She stated that this sign really has nothing to do with the library and is really simply proclaiming what the City is about. She stated that the gift is a lovely idea, but they do not feel that this is the proper place for the sign. She stated that they would be open to working with Ms. Rylander to find a place that may be more appropriate for the sign to be displayed, such as Railroad Park.

Councilmember Ohnstad– He stated that he feels this is a really neat design and if the City uses it in one space, he would also like to see if used elsewhere if there would be no copyright infringements.

Councilmember Nanko Yeager – She stated that if the County has to approve this because it is a County building, she doesn't understand why this issue was even being brought to the Council.

City Administrator Linwood – Explained that staff felt it would be appropriate place to start since it was located in the City and did not want to simply bypass the Council's opinion.

Councilmember Nanko Yeager – Asked County Commissioner Montzka to address the County policy for signs on their buildings.

County Commissioner Montzka – Explained that they do not have signs on any of the other buildings in the County, so it is unlikely that this would move forward without a policy change. He stated he is happy the Council is discussing this because he thinks it is appropriate for the County to know how the City feels about this before they take it under consideration.

Councilmember Nanko Yeager – Asked if this proposed sign would comply with the City's sign ordinance.

Zoning Administrator/Building Official Weck – Stated that it does meet the City's sign ordinance and noted that Ms. Vincent's comment about the sign matching the architectural intent of the building is subjective. He stated that the concern about maintenance happens with every sign.

The Council discussed maintenance and possible fading of the surface of the sign.

Councilmember Nanko Yeager – Noted that if the Library Foundation has reservations about the plans for this sign perhaps the City should try to find another place for the sign on another one of the City buildings, such as City Hall or the new Public Safety building, or in a park such as Railroad Park. She suggested that the Council accept the sign with the condition that it is placed on City property rather than the library building.

Councilmember Schilling – Stated that he likes the 'idea' of the sign, but from the renderings he was not sure he actually cared for it being placed on the library building itself. He stated that he supports the content of the sign as far as representing the community and its history. He stated that the City does not own the library, so he feels this is a bit of a non-issue for the Council to be discussing.

Mayor Iverson – Stated that she thinks it is important for the Council to talk about this idea because it would be placed in the City. She asked about the membership of the Wyoming Library Society and if they were still a non-profit organization.

Ms. Vincent - Gave an overview of the membership and noted that County Commissioner Montzka was a core member. She explained that they have given up their non-profit status because they have spent down their funds. She noted that they still take care of the plantings in front of the building and had also managed the grant funds that were given from Governor Elmer Anderson until last year. She noted that the remainder of the funds were dispersed to the three libraries and now the Friends of the Library manages those funds.

Mayor Iverson – Confirmed that the Friends of the Library was a different entity than the Wyoming Library Society.

Ms. Vincent – Explained that the was correct and noted that the Wyoming Library Society was the group that spurred on the building of the libraries. She noted that with the money that was raised they did things like upgrading the computers, installing granite countertops, and putting in the fireplace. She stated that the Friends of the Library works with the librarian on things like programming.

Mayor Iverson – Noted that she likes the different items displayed on the sign because she feels it really represents the City. She stated that she likes how it looks on the library building because it brings a bit of color to the building, but understands that the Council will not have the final decision.

County Commissioner Montzka – Noted that he is looking at an internet picture of the Chisago Lakes Library, where appears to be a sign on a post, not on the building, that he is not aware of the County Board ever approving, so that may have been done by just installing the sign on the City portion of the land. He suggested that perhaps the City could consider doing this same type of thing.

Mayor Iverson – Asked what property the City owned near the building.

Zoning Administrator/Building Official Weck – Gave an overview of the location of the land owned by the City and explained that the sign could be placed in the front yard or along Highway 61. He noted that the sign could be larger than they are proposing and still meet the City's sign ordinance

Mayor Iverson – Suggested that the Council table this item until they can look a bit further into whether this sign can go somewhere on the land owned by the City and communicate with Ms. Rylander to see if she would support this idea.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER IVERSON SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER OHNSTAD, TO TABLE CONSIDERATION OF THE DONATION AND DESIGN OF A SIGN FOR THE WYOMING LIBRARY UNTIL THE SEPTEMBER 6, 2022 CITY COUNCIL MEETING.

Voting Aye: Schilling, Nanko Yeager, Ohnstad, Iverson

Voting Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Luger

12. To consider entering into a Closed Session under MN State Statute 13D.05, Subd. 3(a) for an annual performance evaluation of City Administrator Robb Linwood

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER IVERSON, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER SCHILLING, TO TABLE THE ANNUAL PERFORMANCE EVALUATION OF CITY ADMINISTRATOR ROBB LINWOOD TO A FUTURE MEETING WHEN ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS CAN BE PRESENT.

Voting Aye: Schilling, Nanko Yeager, Ohnstad, Iverson

Voting Nay: None

Abstain: None
Absent: Luger

COUNCIL REPORTS:

Council Member Ohnstad – Attended the Planning Commission meeting.

Council Member Nanko Yeager – Attended the Sewer Commission meeting.

Council Member Schilling – No report.

Mayor Iverson – Attended the Planning Commission meeting and reminded residents that the Stomp Out Suicide 5K will be Saturday, August 20, 2022 and is expecting around 1,200-1,500 people. She thanked the City's police, fire, and staff for being so accommodating and taking part in this event.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER SCHILLING, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER OHNSTAD, TO ADJOURN THE AUGUST 16, 2022 "REGULAR MEETING" OF THE WYOMING, MINNESOTA CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING AT 7:47 PM

Voting Aye: Schilling, Nanko Yeager, Ohnstad, Iverson

Voting Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Luger

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:
SEPTEMBER 6, 2022
7:00PM