

**APPROVED MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL
BUDGET WORK SESSION MEETING
CITY OF WYOMING, MINNESOTA
NOVEMBER 9, 2022
6:00 PM**

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Lisa Iverson called the Budget Work Session Meeting of the Wyoming City Council for November 9, 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 and Jessi Sturtz- Abdo Financial (via zoom)

DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM:

Mayor Iverson determined a Quorum was present.

PLEDEGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

NEW BUSINESS:

1. To continue review of the 2023 draft City of Wyoming Budget

Jessi Sturtz, Abdo Financial- Gave a presentation on the updated draft of the 2023 budget. Then she walked through the tax levy. The current tax levy is now at 8.89%. The tax rate is set to decrease by 5.05%. Some of the increases are from Workers Compensation, General Property Insurance, fuel costs, health insurance increases and COLA increases. She then gave an overview of the general fund revenues and expenditures.

Councilmember Nanko Yeager- Stated she would like to see the levy cut down more. Some suggestions were to take out the park levy and rely on developer fees for parks, eliminate the seasonal public works positions and explore pushing off some capital equipment purchases into future years.

Councilmember Luger- Asked for more information on the seasonal public works positions.

Public Works Superintendent Almhjeld- Explained they are raising the wage range from \$13-\$15 hr. up to \$16-\$18 to try to attract more candidates, as well as better recruiting efforts.

Mayor Iverson- Asked if we have always levied for parks.

City Administrator Linwood- Explained it had been \$10,000 and now for 2023 it is proposed to

be \$20,000.

Councilmember Luger- Asked if the city decided to bring the park levy back down and remove the seasonal positions, what would the tax levy impact be.

City Administrator Linwood- Estimated that it would be about a half percent impact on the levy.

Mayor Iverson- Stated she heard there may be a special legislative session in December and she would want to push for the LGA because that would be another \$46,000 in revenue. She asked if the city adopts the 2023 budget on December 6th and the LGA gets approved later what would happen.

City Administrator Linwood- Explained that they have until December 30th to adopt the levy, so they could rescind the levy if adopted prior to more LGA money coming from the state. Those extra funds would take off just under one percent from the levy.

Mayor Iverson- Asked if a reverse referendum would happen due to the public safety building bonding what would that cost.

City Administrator Linwood- Explained that costs for a singular election would be between \$3,000-\$4,000. Those funds may have to come out of reserves if necessary.

Mayor Iverson- Asked if the city was applying for grants to buy ARMER Radios.

City Administrator Linwood- Said the city had been, but there are currently no grants. The city has been levying \$30,000 in capital since 2019 for the ARMER Radios. The city could also still use ARPA funds for the purchase of them.

Council had some discussion on what else the city could do for helps in the parks. There was discussion on using agencies that could employ individuals with special needs or restitution worker which would allow the city to levy less for seasonal employees.

Council provided direction to staff to explore some alternative methods for hiring seasonal park staff.

City Administrator Linwood- Provided a brief memo to City Council on the procurement of two public works trucks. With supply chain issues, he wanted to make Council is aware that there will be significant delays in getting these vehicles. The one truck was already approved by the Council and then rescinded due to no stock of the truck. Staff have a spot reserved to get that truck. The other truck there is a quote through the State contract of \$50,000 but until the ordering and pricing opens that is not guaranteed. The State contract period is expected to be open November 14 through December 16. This is an issue for many municipalities across that state. There are funds in the capital revolving fund if the truck needs to be ordered and paid for before the 2023 budget is adopted.

MAYOR IVERSON ADJOURNED THE NOVEMBER 9, 2022 BUDGET WORK SESSION MEETING AT 6:41 PM.