

**APPROVED MINUTES  
CITY COUNCIL  
BUDGET WORK SESSION MEETING  
CITY OF WYOMING, MINNESOTA  
MAY 16, 2023  
5:30 PM**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

*Mayor Lisa Iverson called the Budget Work Session Meeting of the Wyoming City Council for May 16, 2023 to order at 5:30 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, Dennis Schilling, Brett Ohnstad and Claire Luger.*

*Absent: None*

*Also Present: Robb Linwood- City Administrator and Alex Saxe- Assistant City Administrator*

**DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM:**

Mayor Iverson determined a Quorum was present.

**PLEDEGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Preliminary factors influencing the 2024 budget and Council priorities

**City Administrator Linwood-** Gave an overview of the budget calendar for 2023 and the factors for the Council to consider that may influence the 2024 budget and Council priorities. Mr. Linwood discussed that the Council just had their retreat a few weeks ago and that a summation of the goals and priorities that were set would be coming to Council at a future meeting.

Mr. Linwood provided a handout for a 72 unit apartment complex proposed by Reuter Walton Development that was presented to the EDA last week for a parcel just west of City Hall. The process for this project has just started and EDA viewed this potential project as a viable project. Mr. Linwood wanted some initial feedback from Council on this proposed project. He stated they may explore TIF or other financing options.

**Council Member Schilling-** Asked what the long narrow parcel in the area is.

**City Administrator Linwood-** Stated that is right-of-way that the developer may ask for a vacation at some point and it could become a road in the future.

**Council Member Nanko Yeager-** Asked how that building would be taxed.

**City Administrator Linwood-** Stated it would be taxed as a multi-family building and would be taxed higher than a single family home. He will present more info to Council when he has it.

**City Administrator Linwood-** Continued to run through some of the factors for the budget. The city continues to utilize the long range plan to assess priorities and plan for the future. He talked about staff levels and the city's service levels.

**Council Member Schilling-** Stated the city is understaffed in Public Works and would like to see an increase in staff.

**Mayor Iverson-** Stated during the Strategic planning session she liked the idea of a Community Development Director and would like staff to explore what that would look like.

**Council Member Schilling-** Agreed with Mayor Iverson and said he rather prioritize a Community Development Director and then increase staffing as more development comes.

**City Administrator Linwood-** Stated Chisago County estimates for Wyoming are showing an 8% increase in valuations this year. He ran through some of the healthcare and insurance costs through the League and stated that we have not received costs for the upcoming year yet.

**City Administrator Linwood-** Talked about the Streets CIP and that staff will be meeting in the coming weeks to re-prioritize some of the streets based off the road tour done a few weeks ago. He also brought up that the city is doing an overlay on the East Side of the Polaris Gate as part of the East Viking Project and it was discussed that Polaris may consider a financial contribution to the project. The city currently does not assess for overlays and this would be an assessment agreement if it were to occur. Polaris wanted more information and wanted to know what the city would ask for a contribution. The city is going to do the overlay regardless of if Polaris contributes. Mr. Linwood wanted Council to provide staff direction on an amount they would want to ask Polaris to contribute.

**Council Member Nanko Yeager-** Asked if it would have to be an assessment or a donation.

**City Administrator Linwood-** Stated it would have to be an assessment agreement. He could consult legal to see if a donation is a possibility, but legal's recommendation was an assessment agreement.

**Mayor Iverson-** Stated we don't currently assess anyone on overlays and she would not want to force Polaris. But if they are willing to contribute, she is okay with any amount they would be willing to give.

***The council agreed that the city will still pay the cost of the overlay as planned, but if Polaris is willing to contribute, the city will take what they offer.***

**City Administrator Linwood-** Reminded Council that it is a bargaining year for our three unions and that will have some budgetary impacts once negotiations begin.

**Assistant City Administrator Saxe-** Ran through some things to consider for the 2024 elections. There will be three elections: Presidential Primary, Primary and General Elections. For the first time the city will have two polling locations and will need more election judges and will most likely need to increase election judge pay.

**City Administrator Linwood-** Provided the bond runs and tax impacts for the Public Safety Building to the Council that they asked for during the last work session. He did state it is not likely the project will be included in this year's bonding bill. The city is starting the process to submit a capital project request through MMB and continues to work with our lobbyist to get federal money.

**Mayor Iverson-** Stated that we would pay a fee to Wold and Kraus Anderson to go out for bid. Later if we receive money from the State we would have to have them go through a redesign and pay them another fee to bid the project again. She would not want to move forward with bidding the project until we know if we receive state or federal funding.

**Assistant City Administrator Saxe-** Stated there are not too many budget impacts coming from parks in the coming year. He did state that at the next Council meeting Staff will be presenting bids for the Railroad Park Project.

**City Administrator Linwood-** Stated staff will provide Council and updated CIP list, he does not anticipate too much change from the prior year. Equipment is still extremely challenging to receive right now due to the supply chain issues. He wrapped up by talking about the ARPA funds. We have to have all the funds allocated by the end of 2024 and expended by 2026. So far, the city has spent approximately \$194,000 out of the \$888,000 we received from the federal government for the water meter upgrades and the Trunk Watermain Project.

**Council Member Schilling-** Asked staff to review Council pay and to present information at a future meeting.

**MAYOR IVERSON ADJOURNED THE MAY 16, 2023 BUDGET WORK SESSION MEETING AT 6:50 PM.**