

**APPROVED MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL
WORK SESSION MEETING
CITY OF WYOMING, MINNESOTA
FEBRUARY 10, 2021
6:00 PM**

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Lisa Iverson called the Work Session Meeting of the Wyoming City Council for February 10, 2021 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, Claire Luger, Brett Ohnstad and Dennis Schilling

Also Present: Robb Linwood-City Administrator and Kelly Dumais, Assistant City Administrator

Mayor Iverson – Read aloud a statement explaining that the Council is meeting via teleconference due to the COVID-19 pandemic. She explained that tonight's meeting would be held according to State Statute 13D.021, will be live streamed on the City's YouTube page, and will be recorded as part of the public record on the City's website

DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM:

Mayor Iverson determined a Quorum was present.

1. Review of 2021 Goals – Highlights and Outcomes

City Administrator Linwood began discussion for the night asking each council member to provide something they were proud of that happened in the community in 2020 and something that they were proud of that the council accomplished in 2020. The council made the following lists

Community Accomplishments

- Community coming together for COVID
- Covid – Community coming together
- Increased support of community and business with impact of Covid.
- Re-envisioning of celebrations Don't Touch a Truck, Tree Lighting, Elections
- Food Drive – No Hunger November – Santa Clause on Fire Trucks
- Congratulations Video to Seniors Graduating
- Utilization of Videos for Communications

City Council Accomplishments

- Contract Negotiations Accomplished
- Railroad Park Spur Installed

- Continued drop in city taxes
- Continued commitment to transparency
- Utilizing Cares Dollars for Ipads and agenda management software that allows for better transparency
- Collaboration between council and staff
- 2020 Street Project
- DNR Grant for Swenson Park
- Continued Capital Improvement Plan for Street Projects
- Safety precautions staff implemented due to Covid-19
- Council and Staff adaptability due to Covid-19
- Don't Touch a Truck
- Graduating Seniors Video
- When we were in the news it was for POSITIVE Items!

City Administrator Linwood then reviewed the council's ongoing 2020 goals and new goals. He then went through a presentation of accomplishments the city had in 2020 largely based on the council goals.

The Council then went through an exercise to identify internal and external trends and factors that the city should take into consideration for 2021.

INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL TRENDS/FACTORS

What are some positive trends or factors that are impacting the city in 2021?

- StarTribune listed Wyoming as the 22nd hottest housing market in the twin cities metro area
- Social Media giving more individuals access to information – Helps with Transparency – City needs to self-promote – Public Safety does a tremendous job
- Community Identity – City Events – Touch a truck, tree lighting – Bringing the community together has been huge benefit
- Exiting of conditions of Covid will have positive effect on community
- People that are working together that haven't been previously – cooperation between community members due to COVID

What are trends or factors that present challenges in 2021?

- Covid will present challenges in 2021
- Social Media being used as a complaint format than usual avenues calling or emailing city
- Changes from Covid – What is normal and adopting new trends – potential growing pains
- Covid causing business disruption/downward trends on operations. We need to have businesses in Wyoming to offset taxes
- Covid economic impacts that applies to our residents

The Council then went through a SWOT exercise to identify items for 2021 and beyond.

SWOT Analysis	
Strengths	Weaknesses
• Social Media Presence • Strong community identity • Community resiliency • Staff and Employees • Community working together due to Covid • Communication/Transparency/City responsiveness calls to different departments staff works quickly • Council plans for future – Roads • Public Safety Department	• Covid Pandemic presents challenges to business and residents – What is the new norm? • Overall condition index of streets • Business Growth – Bringing new businesses into town • City Facilities – Conditions • Limited financial resources • Available Land that can be developed
Opportunities	Threats
• 35 corridor and Hwy 8 Corridor • Constant Contact Marketing City Economic Development • Businesses are relocating from larger municipalities • Expanding businesses due to interest rates • Community Partners – park developments – support from businesses – boy scouts/girl scout partnerships • Small Businesses – retail and food centric business's locating here • Council and Staff communications • Marketing Opportunities – working with high schools through businesses and utilizing local residents for job force in Wyoming – Cooperative Mayors and Cities that will work together for growth of area	• Land locked and not enough land to develop for industrial business • Cyber Threats to city systems • Impact of financial challenges to residents • External economic factors • Expanding in a way that doesn't bring value or isn't in the best interest of our community (Land Use)

City Administrator Linwood explained that the City Council sets the vision for the City and adopts guiding principles and goals to reflect that vision and guide decision-making at all levels of City government. The goal setting process builds Council consensus on policies and projects that impact City residents, businesses and the community as a whole. The City Staff uses the City Council's vision, principles, and goals to set priorities, direct work activities, and allocate staffing and financial resources

City Administrator Linwood discussed about the council having a visions statement and guiding principles moving forward. He did explain that this is a significant process and there may not be enough time tonight but something the council could work on throughout the rest of the year. The council were in favor of reviewing a vision statement and working on guiding principles in 2021.

The council then had considerable discussion about 2021 goals and completed with the following list:

Continued Development of parks

- Swenson ADA Grant
- Veterans Memorial at Railroad Park
- Development of Fireside Park
- Utilize Sunrise Trail to draw people here
- Work to ensure Hawk meadows snowshoeing and cross country skiing has trails
- Address Eagle Scout Projects and make sure they are repaired or updated
- Advertise Farmers Market
- Continue and have more partnerships with youth groups
- Look for potential area for a Dog Park

Continue work on City Budget/Services/Amenities

- Minimize financial impacts to residents and businesses as much as possible
- Be thoughtful of our taxes to our business's, residents and make sure they can continue to live here

Continue work evaluating city facilities

- Completion of needs assessment

Continued effort on community building

- Inclusiveness/Equity Policy Making
- Celebrating our identity – Stagecoach Days – Celebrate Wyoming's History overall, farming, railroad, continued events

Walkability/Safety

- Ensure new developments have trails
- Year round accessibility and promote fitness

Continue Street Replacement and Maintenance Programs

- Focus on Neighborhood Streets

Continue to attract new business/Retain Existing

- Duncan Donuts
- Look for opportunities for new styles of business
- Food options
- Strip mall that encompass a large group of businesses

Communications/Community Engagement

- Marketing campaign where to go with city complaints or concerns

Continued evaluation of blighted properties and programs for it

- Program to deal with nuisance properties

The Wyoming City Council Adjourned at 7:40pm