

CITY OF WYOMING, MICHIGAN  
Minutes of the City Council Work Session  
Monday, June 14, 2021

PRESENT: Councilmembers Fitzgerald, Postema, Postler, Vanderwood, Mayor Poll and Mayor Pro Tem Bolt

ABSENT: Councilmember DeKryger

STAFF: Balfourt, Bennett, Erickson, Hofert, Holt, McCarter, Oostindie, Rynbrandt, P. Smith, S. Smith, Snyder, Stowell, VandenBerg and VanTassell

**1. Call to Order**

Mayor Pro Tem Bolt called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

**2. Student Recognition**

None.

**3. Public Comment on Agenda Items**

None.

**4. Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Station Update**

Hofert described staff efforts since this information was initially presented at the February work session. Hofert explained staff has obtained a quote for an EV charging station, as well as a rebate through Consumers Energy worth \$5,000 toward its installation. Staff has had discussions with Consumers Energy regarding its PowerMIFleet Program which offers a free electrification assessment of the city's fleet. Hofert also discussed text amendments to the zoning code that might encourage other entities to support an EV charging station.

Council discussed the items identified in Hofert's report, including whether and how much users might be charged if using an EV station at City Hall and overall demand and usage.

Council requested additional information related to costs and installation of an EV charging station at City Hall, but does support moving the zoning amendments forward to Planning Commission for consideration.

**5. 28<sup>th</sup> Street Development Discussion**

Hofert explained with the completion and approval of the city's master plan, staff has begun a review of the city zoning codes and alignment with the vision identified through that plan. Staff is specifically focusing on the area within the 28<sup>th</sup> Street Special Area Plan (Clyde Park Avenue to Burlingame Avenue) and is recommending a pause in new development in this area so staff can spend time on this analysis. Upon completion, staff will make recommendations to ensure the Form Based Code and the master plan are in alignment. Hofert anticipates completion of this review by the end of summer.

This pause would be accomplished through a resolution and Council supports moving this item to the next regular meeting.

## **6. Boards and Commissions**

### **a. Reappointments**

VandenBerg discussed the reappointment process and noted the recommendations for reappointments based on this process. In reviewing the list of renewals, VandenBerg noted several members have exceeded their terms of service. To address the requirement within the City Council Policy regarding exceeding terms of service, the resolution will waive Section 4.01 of the policy.

Council held lengthy discussion about the policy and reappointment of individuals who have exceeded terms of service. Council requested additional information to illustrate vacancies and applications on file for each board, but supports moving these reappointments forward to the next regular meeting.

VandenBerg noted several resolutions of appreciation will also be presented as part of this process.

### **b. Appointments**

VandenBerg identified the two recommendations for appointments that have developed since the last work session. These are Council appointments and will be prepared for Council consideration at the next regular City Council meeting.

## **7. Continuation of Retreat Discussion**

Bolt began the discussion by sharing his thoughts on the staffing and funding issues the City Council has discussed recently through the retreat. He further shared the opportunities to enhance revenue and address these funding concerns. Bolt encouraged Council to act and noted he asked Chief Bennett to show a video of a recent house fire.

Holt noted Bennett will be presenting additional information and the video is part of this presentation. If council is okay with this, he would like to have Bennett do his full presentation before showing the video.

Bennett presented information, including staffing, historical data on calls and mutual and automatic aid given and received. Information was also provided on structures in the city that have higher call volume. Bennett showed a video from a recent structure fire in Wyoming.

Council discussed aid given and received, staffing needs, shift structure and related topics. Holt discussed goals Council has identified including a reduction in mutual aid, shorter response times and other proactive fire efforts. Additional staff will be needed to achieve these goals.

Holt reviewed data related to existing millages to address questions Council noted during previous discussions. Holt reviewed each dedicated millage and identified some limited opportunities to use this funding to address public safety issues and many of these proposals

would require a public vote. Holt also discussed a proposal that would shift funding from water main replacement and other utility work to public safety, but this would require voter approval and an increase in water rates. Holt distributed a graph of city millage proposals.

Lengthy discussion was held regarding the history of city millage requests and whether and what funding opportunity council might wish to pursue.

Holt noted this will continue to be a topic of discussion throughout the summer and hopes to have some direction by fall. Staff will continue to evaluate funding opportunities to address questions raised by council.

## **8. Any Other Matters**

Holt distributed information on an application for COPS funding. This grant application is due next week. Staff intends to apply for 6 police positions. If approved, this funding will provide 6 police officers for 3 years and these officers will be used to assist in some of our higher demand areas. Beyond the 3 years, staff is trying to determine if ARPA funds can be used to fund these positions. ARPA funding guidelines have not been finalized at this time. It may be possible to maintain these officers through a staffing reduction through attrition.

## **9. Acknowledgement of Visitors**

None.

## **10. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

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Kelli A. VandenBerg, City Clerk