

CITY OF WYOMING, MICHIGAN
Minutes of the City Council Work Session
Monday, December 12, 2022

PRESENT: Councilmembers DeKryger, Fitzgerald, Hill, Postler, Mayor Vanderwood and Mayor Pro Tem Postema

ABSENT: Councilmember Arnoys

STAFF: Erickson, Hofert, Holt, McCarter, Oostindie, Shaffer, Paul Smith, Scott Smith, VandenBerg, Vis and Yenchar

1. Call to Order

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

2. Student Recognition

None.

3. Public Comment on Agenda Items

None.

4. Michigan Homeowner Assistance Fund

Shaffer explained the Michigan State Housing Development Authority has invited the City of Wyoming to participate in this program. Shaffer described the program, noting it offers assistance with housing-related hardships and does not limit support to low-income households. Shaffer recommended council consider participation in this program, indicating positive outcomes from a similar program that offers assistance with utilities for low-income homeowners.

Holt noted this item does not require council approval. Unless council has concern, staff will take the necessary steps to initiate participation in this program.

5. Location-Based Analytics with Placer.ai

Paul Smith described the services provided by Placer.ai, which offers location-based data analytics using cellphone location data. Smith reviewed how staff might use this type of data to guide development of businesses, infrastructure, and other public service demands. Smith explained how this tool might be used to analyze an event like Metro Cruise to determine what businesses or areas see high traffic or crowds and assist with planning future events. Pricing is based on population and staff was able to negotiate a reduced price of \$28,000. The Planning Department has budget to support the first year of this service. Once staff determines the value of this tool, continued participation and budgeting can be considered.

While initially intended for use by real estate professionals, Hofert noted other jurisdictions throughout the country use this type of service.

Council discussed applications that might collect this data.

Council supports moving this item forward for consideration at the next regular city council meeting.

6. Boards and Commission Appointments and Reappointments

VandenBerg shared proposed appointments and reappointments to various boards and commissions. Mayor Vanderwood noted there are several other appointments that are being considered and will be brought to council in the future.

Council supports moving this item forward for consideration at the next regular city council meeting.

7. Pension Plan Valuation Report

Yenchar provided a copy of the actuarial valuation of the City of Wyoming Retirement System, noting the city's work with GRS to conduct this review. Yenchar discussed the process and outcomes of this review and how market conditions have affected the plan over the last year. Yenchar also discussed how the retirement board serves to assist with oversight of the pension plan.

This item has been provided for informational purposes only.

8. Water Plant Updates

Erickson provided an update on several water-related topics, including the third transmission line, water rates and asset management planning and reliability studies. Erickson noted there is no council action required on these items at this time, but these items will be presented to council in the coming months for further consideration.

9. Any Other Matters

McCarter noted the City Council retreat is happening this Thursday. McCarter has provided a small homework assignment and will send additional information to council to further assist in preparing for this day.

Vanderwood shared some details on the efforts of the City Manager search team. To date, the committee has reviewed several requests for proposals and will be making a recommendation at the next regular city council meeting to engage with Baker Tilly.

10. Acknowledgement of Visitors/Public Comment (3-minute limit per person)

None.

11. Closed Session (Real Estate Acquisition)

At 6:42 p.m., Councilmember Fitzgerald moved, seconded by Councilmember Postler to go into closed session to discuss real estate acquisitions.

Motion carried: 6 Yeas 0 Nays

There was a brief recess. The City Council went into closed session at 6:46 p.m.

The City Council reconvened the regular session and the meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Kelli A. VandenBerg, City Clerk