

CITY OF WYOMING, MICHIGAN
Minutes of the City Council Work Session
Monday, January 8, 2024

PRESENT: Councilmembers Arnoys, Brann, DeKryger (5:42 p.m.), Hill, Postler, Mayor Vanderwood and Mayor Pro Tem Postema

ABSENT: None

STAFF: Erickson, Hofert, Shay, Smith, VandenBerg, Waterman 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. Utility Rate Study Presentation

City Manager Shay introduced this item, noting the city entered a contract with Stantec to conduct a review of water and sewer rates.

Tracey Moher, representative for Stantec, presented results of the review of the water and sewer funds and their findings related to rate adjustments. Moher explained the process involved in reviewing the water and sewer funds and how rate recommendations are generated. Moher further explained assumptions and demonstrated how rate adjustments might impact different user scenarios. The overall recommendation for the water fund is a 9% increase over the next 5 years. For the sewer fund, the recommendation is a one-year increase of 15%, followed by 3 years of a 9% increase and one year with a 5% increase.

Council discussed the proposed rates. Council also discussed wholesale rates. Shay noted part of Stantec's contract includes a review of the wholesale customer contracts. That information will be provided to council when complete.

Shay explained the recommendation is to present council with a budget that contains these rates. If council wishes, further discussion on these rates can be held prior to final budget consideration. Councilmembers with questions or concerns can contact City Manager Shay.

5. Spongy Moth Suppression Program

City Manager Shay introduced this topic, noting the history of the program, costs and inquired whether this should be funded through a special assessment or if this should be funded through the general fund.

The majority of council was supportive of continuing a special assessment as a funding source for the spongy moth program. Action items for the spongy moth program and special assessment program will be presented to the City Council beginning in March.

6. 28th Street Businesses Survey Results

City Manager Shay explained staff efforts to better understand the Metro Cruise event and the opinions of area businesses related to that event and other matters.

Deputy City Manager Waterman explained the methods used by staff to visit businesses and collect survey information from business representatives. Waterman reviewed the responses, including perspectives on Metro Cruise and understanding of the City Center project. Based on feedback, staff is developing information to better inform this area about the City Center project.

Shay noted some of this exploration is to better understand community support of Metro Cruise and to help council determine whether financial or other support should be provided to this event. Council supports staff's continued discussions with the event organizer of Metro Cruise. Depending on those discussions, this item may come back to council for further consideration.

7. Any Other Matters

None.

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

None.

The meeting adjourned at 7:04 p.m.

Kelli A. VandenBerg, City Clerk