

CITY OF WYOMING, MICHIGAN
Minutes of City Council Work Session
Monday, March 11, 2019

PRESENT: Councilmembers Bolt, Burrill, DeKryger, Postema, Postler, Vanderwood and Mayor Poll (5:37 p.m.)

ABSENT: None

STAFF: Dooley, Hofert, Holt, Koster, Look, Oostindie, Sall, Smith and Vandenberg

1. Call to Order

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

2. Student Recognition

None.

3. Public Comment on Agenda Items

None.

4. 2019-20 Budget Review

Holt introduced this agenda item, noting this is a continuation of the budget review process. Tonight's discussion will focus on the budgets of Public Works and Utilities.

a. Public Works and Utilities

Dooley provided budget documents for Council review and discussed the metrics and goals used in creating Wyoming's street, sewer and water budgets. Where available, state and federal comparisons were offered. Dooley further discussed funding sources, reporting requirements and how these have affected strategic planning, capital improvement projects and managing fund balance.

Dooley discussed water and sewer rates and provided detailed information on the capital improvement program by service area. Dooley briefly explained three millages that support Public Works operations and Motor Pool projects planned for fiscal year 2020.

5. PUD-4 General Planned Zoning District

Hofert provided information on the proposed PUD-4 ordinance, noting this ordinance has been suggested based on the City's experience with existing PUDs that focus on low-density residential, commercial and health care development. The City's existing PUDs were all created to help encourage development. The intent behind PUD-4 is to provide a tool that adapts to

Wyoming's new growth trends, namely the shift from the development of large greenfield sites to smaller infill sites. Hofert discussed features of the PUD-4 and outlined the application process.

Based on council comments, language will be added to this ordinance to prohibit the rezoning of existing PUDs to PUD-4.

Council supported moving this item forward for final reading at an upcoming City Council meeting.

Holt noted the next two agenda items surfaced during budget preparation discussions. There are existing funds available in the current fiscal year that would allow for the purchase of these items and that is why they are being presented at this time.

6. Police Motorcycles

Koster explained the desire to purchase four new police motorcycles and introduced Sergeant Look who is a certified rider and the operational supervisor of the motorcycle unit. Koster noted this purchase would allow for the replacement of three existing units. There is still trade-in value in the used motorcycles and this can be used toward the purchase of the new units.

Look provided some background on the motorcycle unit and the operational challenges that have developed based on the age of the existing units. There is significant interest among staff to support a motorcycle unit and there is great value in the motorcycles at public events. The motorcycles have a great presence and provide a platform to connect with the public and they are able to access areas and navigate traffic that typical patrol vehicles cannot. There are currently three units and it is hoped to replace these with four units as these units are typically put into service in pairs.

Holt explained that this item is being presented to determine Council's support in pursuing replacement of these units. If Council is supportive, formal bids will be sought. If purchased, these motorcycles will be put into our Motor Pool vehicle tracking system to allow for future replacement.

Council supported moving this item forward to an upcoming City Council meeting.

7. High Speed Voting Scanner

VandenBerg provided background on election equipment and general satisfaction with the equipment that was acquired in 2017; however the existing equipment is causing concern in the Absentee Voter Counting Board (AVCB). This concern stems from the passage of Proposal 3 in November 2018, which greatly expanded opportunities for voters to participate in elections via absentee ballot. While the existing equipment has sufficed in processing current absentee ballot volumes, we anticipate a marked increase in the number of absentee ballots cast with this change.

Several jurisdictions in Kent County have high speed scanners and based on a recent review and demonstration of this equipment with members of the AVCB, VandenBerg is requesting

approval of the purchase of a high speed scanner for the processing of absentee ballots. A budget amendment will also be presented as part of this approval.

Holt noted there is a significant cost difference between the standard tabulator and the high speed scanner, not only in terms of unit cost, but also in annual maintenance costs. With the passage of Proposal 3 though, it is possible that we will see a significant shift from precinct voting to absentee voting.

Council supported moving this item forward to the next regular City Council meeting.

8. Gypsy Moth Suppression Program

VandenBerg noted the purpose of tonight's discussion is to review the special assessment process and to explore the concept of conducting a double spray in the treatment of gypsy moths. VandenBerg explained the option of a double spray has been recommended by the consultant. A double spray is a fairly new concept in the treatment of gypsy moths and would allow for two treatments within a span of several weeks in hopes of having greater effectiveness.

Council discussed the special assessment process and past treatments, noting resident dissatisfaction with the results of the spray in 2018.

Council supported moving this item forward to the next regular City Council meeting.

9. Any Other Matters

None.

10. Acknowledgement of Visitors/Public Comment

None.

11. Closed Session (Contract Negotiations – Fire)

Councilmember Vanderwood moved, seconded by Mayor Poll, to hold a closed session of the City Council to discuss contract negotiations with the Fire Union.

Motion carried: 7 Yeas 0 Nays

There was a brief recess. The City Council went into closed session at 7:11 p.m. The City Council reconvened the work session at 7:26 p.m.

12. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

Kelli A. VandenBerg, City Clerk