

**APPROVED MINUTES
PLANNING COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
CITY OF WYOMING, MINNESOTA
MARCH 22, 2016
7:00 PM**

CALL TO ORDER:

Planning Commission Chairman Frank Storm called the Regular Meeting of the Wyoming Planning Commission of March 22, 2016 to order at 7:00 P.M.

CALL OF ROLL:

On a Call of the Roll the following members of the Wyoming Planning Commission were present: Judy Coughlin, Mathew Engstrom, Mark Lobermeier, Ken Meyers, and Frank Storm.

Members Absent: None.

Also Present: Zoning Administrator Fred Weck.

DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM:

Chairman Storm determined a quorum was present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

OPEN FORUM:

"An opportunity for members of the public to address the Planning Commission on items not on the current Agenda. Items requiring Planning Commission action maybe deferred to staff for research and future Planning Commission Agendas if appropriate."

No members of the public spoke.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

1. **Consider approving the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Wyoming, Minnesota Planning Commission for February 23, 2016.**

Commissioner Engstrom requested the reference to Chair Strom be changed to Chair Storm.

Commissioner Coughlin indicated on Page 2, Paragraph 2, the third line should read traffic patterns were evaluated.

Commissioner Coughlin noted a change on Page 2, Paragraph 5, correcting the spelling of Thurnbeck Ponds.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY PLANNING MEMBER COUGHLIN, SECONDED BY PLANNING COMMISSION MEMBER ENGSTROM, TO APPROVE THE "REGULAR MEETING" MINUTES OF THE WYOMING, MINNESOTA PLANNING COMMISSION FOR FEBRUARY 23, 2016.

Voting Aye: Coughlin, Engstrom, Lobermeier, and Storm.

Voting Nay: None

Abstain: Meyers

SCHEDULED PUBLIC HEARINGS:

2. **None.**

NEW BUSINESS:

3. **None.**

OLD BUSINESS:

4. Ordinance Discussion Tree Replacement Fund

Zoning Administrator Weck explained he spent a great deal of time researching the potential for a Tree Replacement Fund and presented his results to the Commission.

Chair Storm believed this fund should solely cover trees.

Commissioner Engstrom supported the fund covering both trees and invasive species.

Commissioner Storm discussed the purpose of the Ordinance noting it was to protect trees and woodlands. He did not want tree money used for non-trees.

Commissioner Engstrom commented on how invasive species were killing trees. For this reason, he encouraged the Commission to consider what type of preservation the City would be offering, whether that be environmental or tree. He did not see the value in educating the public and did not see the purpose of spending money on a tree inventory.

Zoning Administrator Weck commented Wyoming was a Tree City USA and noted the education and tree inventory were requirements for this program.

Commissioner Coughlin supported the Ordinance addressing both invasive species and trees. She asked if trees were available to the City by being a Tree City USA. Zoning Administrator Weck reported this was not one of the perks of the program.

Commissioner Coughlin was in favor of the City offering its residents trees on Arbor Day through a cost share program.

Chair Storm questioned how this would be funded.

Commissioner Meyers discussed his thoughts on the tree replacement Ordinance. He did not believe funds should be used for preservation, mitigation, or landscaping. He supported tree funds being used for buffering and streetscaping.

Further discussion ensued regarding the use of tree funds for buffering and streetscaping.

Commissioner Lobermeier believed City sponsored events should be included in the tree fund. He stated he could support the Ordinance without Items 3 and 4.

Chair Storm believed the Commission consensus was to support the "or" portion of the Tree Replacement Fund as presented by staff.

Zoning Administrator Weck summarized the comments received from the Commission.

The Commission discussed oak wilt and emerald ash borer.

Chair Storm reported the previous City program offered 50% assistance with oak wilt. He discussed the work he has done to try and save his trees. In the end, he believed that private property was the responsibility of homeowners.

Commissioner Engstrom supported invasive species eradication (oak wilt and emerald ash borer) that negatively impact trees be written into the tree replacement fund document.

Chair Storm directed staff to redraft the document and call for a public hearing.

COMMUNICATIONS:

5. None.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY PLANNING COMMISSION MEMBER MEYERS, SECONDED BY PLANNING COMMISSION MEMBER COUGHLIN, TO ADJOURN THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE WYOMING, MINNESOTA PLANNING COMMISSION FOR MARCH 22, 2016 AT 7:30 P.M.

Voting Aye: Coughlin, Engstrom, Lobermeier, Meyers, and Storm.

Voting Nay: None

Abstain: None