

**APPROVED MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL
WORK SESSION MEETING
CITY OF WYOMING, MINNESOTA
MARCH 4, 2020
5:30 PM**

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Lisa Iverson called the Work Session Meeting of the Wyoming City Council for March 4, 2020 to order 5:30 P.M.

CALL OF ROLL:

On a Call of the Roll the following members of the Wyoming City Council were present: Councilmembers Lisa Iverson, Linda Nanko Yeager, and Claire Luger

Absent: Joe Zerwas and Dennis Schilling

Also Present: Robb Linwood-City Administrator, Mark Erichson – City Engineer, and Chuck Almhjeld, Public Works Superintendent.

DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM:

Mayor Iverson determined a Quorum was present.

1. Hwy 8 Draft Design for Access and Side Roads – Joe Triplet, Chisago County Engineer/Public Works Director

Joe Triplett, Chisago County Engineer/Public Works – Mr. Triplett gave updates on the potential project. They are still in the process of fundraising and have a bill at the Minnesota Legislature. He encouraged members of the council and public to talk to legislators about the importance of the project. They are also applying for federal dollars for the project. They are close to completing the Environmental Assessment Worksheet for all of the impacts of the project. They are reviewing the design of the sections of road and they are mainly working on access points on the highway. The county has presented a draft system of access roads and frontage roads. The county wants input from the public, city staff and council on the layout of those accesses. Mr. Triplett wanted everyone to know that this is till conceptual but we would like to have this included in the final design and paid for by the legislative dollars. The estimated project costs are currently at approximately \$40 to \$50 million dollar range. The county currently has \$9.5 million secured and they are asking for help from the state and federal legislators. County Engineer Triplett suggested that we will be designing the road for safety and for economic reasons to try to develop the corridor for future businesses. Safe access and the frontage roads will allow for access for future development. Mr. Triplett suggested that sewer and water infrastructure dollars will not be available for these funding processes. Mr. Triplett suggested there may be other grant opportunities out there, but would defer to the city engineer for those opportunities.

The council and city staff discussed that this would be an item that we would like the planning commission review on the comprehensive plan. They also discussed that the comprehensive should be reviewed for zoning and further economic development opportunities in the corridor.

Kenneth Tolzmann – 24738 Hamlet Ave. - Thanked the county and city for the effort and looked forward to the safety upgrades. Suggested the improvements are very overdue and would be happy to contact local legislators to support the project.

Neil Rever – 24679 Hale Ave. – Asked the county engineer where the lights would be, would they be at pioneer and greenway? What about the other accesses on the draft, do we know what kind of mechanisms would be in place, roundabouts, stop lights, etc?

Joe Triplett, Chisago County Engineer/Public Works – The intersection control will tell a lot of this information when completed. It will tell if a roundabout, light or possibly nothing. In this type of situation you are more likely to see lights than roundabouts, but they study will determine that.

Nick Kentros – 7584 244th Street – Mr. Kentros asked about the possibility of street lights on the project or intersections. Mr. Kentros asked about speed, rumble strips and weight on road because of semis. He also asked about potential landscaping around the highway, trees or berms. He would like the city to look at pushing water and sewer with the project. Mr. Kentros asked if there could be some sort of safe access if there was a trail on the road.

Joe Triplett, Chisago County Engineer/Public – The Street lights will most likely be present around intersections, but does not believe we will have lighting along the corridor unless it is an intersection. Mr. Triplet said the weight limit will not be changed because it is a major U.S. roadway for transport. They will review the potential for a new device called mumble strips that are quieter, but still provide notice to driver. Mr. Triplett suggested that they would look at landscaping for the project. Mr. Triplett explained that there should be pedestrian movements if there was a trail on the other side of Highway 8.

Mark Erichson, City Engineer – Liked the ideas presented, but an overpass or bridge would most likely not be a possibility.

Neil Rever – 24679 Hale Ave – Asked what would happen if the county did not receive the funds?

Joe Triplett, Chisago County Engineer/Public – We would still push the state for improvements for the mill and overlay. This would be turn lanes and as many safety improvements as they would do.

John Haider 24505 Holm Oak – Asked about how many miles of Highway 8 will this effect? Asked about the frontage road near Greenway why it was positioned where it was. Asked if the county was trying to reduce access spots on the road? Asked where the potential trail would be placed?

Joe Triplett, Chisago County Engineer/Public – The highway will be 8 miles in total from the interstate to Karmel Ave. in Chisago City. The frontage road is just a draft, but we are trying to provide access at this time. The access are being reduced for safety reasons and then draft frontage and accesses are being provided for the project. Stated that if the path was installed it would be on the north side of the highway.

City Administrator Linwood – Suggested the position of the frontage road is largely due to the wetlands on the front of the property. This is just a draft at this time.

Wyoming city council - asked if the city would be responsible for the frontage roads and who would pay for them?

Joe Triplett, Chisago County Engineer/Public – The city would be responsible for maintaining those roads and that they are trying to make sure those dollars for construction of those roads are inclusionary in the state and federal funding.

Adjourned at 6:28PM