

CITY OF WYOMING, MICHIGAN  
Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting  
June 20, 2016

- PRESENT: Councilmembers Bolt, Burrill, Pastoor, Vanderwood, Voorhees, Mayor Poll (5:39 p.m.)
- ABSENT: Ver Hulst
- STAFF: Balfoort, Bloem, Carmody, Dooley, Englesma, Erickson, Holt, Nemastil, Ooms, Oostindie, Rynbrandt, Stowell, VandenBerg
- GUESTS: Robert Hicks and Glen Van De Venter of Lighthouse Insurance

Holt called the meeting to order in the West Conference Room, City Hall, at 5:36 p.m.

Oostindie explained the progression of health care reform and the need to address the unique circumstances presented by T.E.A.M. 21 site coordinators. Addressing these changes required a team of people including Scott Bloem, T.E.A.M. 21 Coordinator, Kate Balfoort from Finance, Robert Hicks and Glen Van De Venter from Lighthouse Insurance and Trip Vanderwall from Miller Johnson. The continual changes in the Affordable Care Act (ACA) presented significant challenges in implementing the requirements of the act, but we are now at a point where we need to take action or suffer penalties.

Mayor Poll joined the meeting at 5:39 p.m.

Oostindie discussed the requirements of ACA, including the definition of an employee, thresholds for coverage and penalties for failing to offer minimum insurance coverage. Through this process a minimum value plan was developed, which includes a \$6500 deductible with 100% coverage in-network after that point. Oostindie noted the monthly premiums are currently \$358.54 per month for a single, \$752.94 for a double and \$1,003.92 for a family. Additional changes in ACA now require that we offer coverage to dependents. Our recommendation is that we offer the minimum coverage, with the T.E.A.M. 21 employees contributing 20% of the monthly premium like other city employees. Balfoort noted that employees would be held responsible for additional coverage of dependents. Oostindie cautioned ACA could have possible implications for other employee groups such as part-time firefighters. For this reason, these employee groups are carefully monitored to ensure hours are below the threshold established by ACA.

Vanderwood asked why this is being considered at all. Oostindie explained that while these employees are not covered under contract, the ACA requires coverage of this group. Burrill asked about types of coverage. Van De Venter explained the thresholds are established by the ACA. Burrill inquired about the grant funding provided for T.E.A.M. 21. Rynbrandt clarified that the grant would completely fund this, but the grant could not be used to cover penalties if we fail to meet ACA requirements. Oostindie explained overall cost will vary depending on who

ultimately participates. Based on the demographics, it is possible many in this group have coverage elsewhere. Van De Venter explained that once the City offers coverage, regardless of whether the employee accepts coverage or refuses, the City has fulfilled its obligation to the ACA. Poll asked how this group can be offered a lesser policy. Van De Venter explained this is a definable group and as such they can be offered a different policy. Oostindie noted that Miller Johnson did review this for discrimination concerns.

Oostindie noted this will appear on tonight's agenda for Council's consideration and with approval, coverage for T.E.A.M. 21 site coordinators would be available September 1, 2016.

Dooley introduced Tom Engelsma to explain the residential cross connection program. Dooley explained we have done inspection of these systems with commercial and industrial users, but recent developments suggest we will now be required to inspect residential users. Engelsma explained what a cross connection is and the safeguards it offers to our system. We would look to begin inspecting all commercial and residential systems every five years. In May, the test notification would go out to home and business owners, with an inspection required by the end of July. Failure to schedule the inspection could result in a water shut-off. Property owners would also be required to cover the cost of repairs and the inspection, which could be between \$40 and \$90. In order to implement this, ordinance changes have been recommended to reflect recent legislative changes to the Safe Drinking Water Act. Erickson is finalizing the ordinance changes and anticipates bringing that to Council within the next month. DEQ approval and the ordinance changes would be required to implement these changes. It is proposed that 20% of the City would be reviewed each year. Dooley thinks it is important to allow property owners the opportunity to choose the company performing the inspection as it will allow for negotiation of the price of the inspection. Vanderwood asked about those residents on well service. Dooley noted that this is intended to protect the public water system, so it would only apply to those using the public water system.

Balfort discussed the budget amendment that will appear on tonight's agenda, detailing items related to the budgets of the District Court, the City Manager's Office, Parks and Recreation and Solid Waste and costs related to the Community Clean Up Day. Dooley offered that a significant portion of this budget amendment is related to bond processing costs.

The meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

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Kelli A. VandenBerg, City Clerk