

City of Wyoming
March 8, 2022
Venue: Paramount Theater
Council Meeting

The Regular Council Meeting was called to order by Mayor Pat Maher at 6:00 p.m. The group in attendance pledged their Allegiance to the Flag. The Wyoming, Illinois City Council **met Tuesday, March 08, 2022, at the Paramount Theater located at 104 S. 7th Street, Wyoming IL.**

Mayor Maher was presiding with **Alderswoman Ginger Carlisle and Kathy Hardy** of the First Ward, **Aldermen Dave Lindahl and Jim Mercer** of the Second Ward, and **Alderman Steve Hansard** of the Third Ward, were present. **Ald. Dan Hardman** was absent.

Minutes from the February 08, 2022, Regular Council Meeting were reviewed. The motion to approve the minutes was made by Ald. Carlisle and seconded by Ald. Mercer. Voice votes all ayes and the motion carried.

The Treasurer's Report and Bills were reviewed. The Treasurer's Report showed a General Operation and CDs balance of \$2,295,623.26. The motion was made by Ald. Hansard to authorize Treasurer Lisa Evans to pay all the bills listed on the City of Wyoming Board Listing dated 3/08/2022 and the extra bill submitted the night of the meeting. The bill was Garden of Grace Floral invoice #1130 dated 3/04/22 for \$53.75. The motion was seconded by Ald. Mercer. Roll call votes all ayes and the motion carried.

Treasurer Evans mentioned that Murphy's Container Service added a \$500.00 monthly surcharge due to the rising cost of gas.

Peg Gray, representing the Stark County Fall Festival, thanked the City for their support in the last few years by paying the Commercial Liability Insurance for the Festival. She asked the Council if they would be willing to support the festival in this way again. She presented them with the current insurance quote. Last year the cost was \$651.00, and this year is \$697.00. Ald. Mercer made the motion to pay the Stark County Fall Festival insurance premium of \$697.00. The motion was seconded by Ald. Carlisle. Roll call votes all ayes and the motion carried.

Economic Development Advisor, Denny Rewerts informed the Council that the sidewalks going through Thomas Park need to be fixed.

In regard to the Illuminate Real Estate Project, he reported that our Engineer, Ed Andrews, has talked to the developer and realizes that something needs to be done with South Street to accommodate the new development. Ed will be meeting with their engineering group to review the site and decide what needs to be done. The next step is for the City to survey the border lines of the acre of property being sold.

Denny mentioned we have a new owner of Seventh Street Boutique. Her name is Marnae Benz and her grand opening is this Saturday.

Ernie Unhold purchased the Fabry house and garage at 114 S. 7th Street. The garage will possibly be turned into a business.

Engineer Ed Andrews with Farnsworth Group informed the Council that the Pre-Bid meeting for the WWTP improvements met on March 3 & March 4, 2022. Regarding MFT, Ed rode around town with Superintendent Joe Kinsella to look over the streets in town that need worked on. He passed out a copy of the 2022 MFT Budget Analysis and considering the high prices of oil at this time, the Council agreed to appropriate the sum of \$100,000.00 of Motor Fuel tax funds.

Attorney Zach Lessard, with Barash & Everett filled in for Atty. Justin Raver. Justin had prepared an Ordinance Amending the **City of Wyoming Raffle Code for not-for-profit organizations**. The Council reviewed the Ordinance, and a motion was made by Ald. Carlisle to accept the Ordinance as presented. The motion was seconded by Ald. Hansard. Roll call votes all ayes and the motion carried.
Ordinance No. 21/22-7

The Mayor asked Atty. Lessard if he could address the issue with Metro Communications saying they don't have to pay the city anything to lay fiber optics through the city. Ald. Carlisle asked why this company wants to lay fiber optics through town. The mayor stated that they are beginning in Peoria, through Princeville, through Wyoming to a tower north of town, continuing through Toulon and to another tower SW of Toulon. Engineer Ed Andrews explained they are connecting towers to increase band width. He came across this issue with a company trenching through Washington, IL and will send a copy of the paperwork to Atty Lessard. The Mayor asked **Atty Lessard to inform Atty Raver of our concerns and review the information and hopefully present a document to the Council for the next meeting.**

Mayor Maher informed the council that the City is covered under our current insurance in case of trenching through cables underground if JULIE is contacted before digging.

The Mayor reported that the City has been leasing property along the Rock Island Trail for years. The property is in between City buildings. We recently received an email from the Illinois Dept of Natural Resources that they are currently working on the deed to turn the property over to the City.

The North Central Illinois Council of Governments (NCICG) prepared a Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan for Stark County in 2015. They are now updating the City of Wyoming Community Risk information. Mayor Maher and City Clerk Diane Baker removed some mitigation actions that the City has not been responsible for or no longer continues doing. NCICG made those changes and asked the Council members to review and discuss the information. The Council felt that there was nothing more to add or remove from the document. Diane will send a copy of the minutes of this meeting to NCICG.

Superintendent Joe Kinsella was absent.

Water and Sewer Manager Greg McCauley reported that the new flow meters are in and working great. The RO membranes are in Rockford and the cost for shipping totals \$8400.00. There are 60 membranes at \$140.00 shipping charge each. Greg asked if the City guys could pick them up or if we could pay someone to do it for the City. The mayor agreed the City will pick them up. Ald. Lindahl asked Greg what the status of replacing O-rings at the RO plant. Greg will contact Meister plumbing and ask for an updated quote for this.

Ald. Hansard talked with Ernie Unhold regarding the property he purchased. He wants to restore the old gas station to its original state. He is requesting TIF 1 Beautification and loan applications for that purpose. The mayor asked if Ernie is planning on having a business in the old gas station? The City will need to know that before processing TIF Applications. Ald. Hansard mentioned there is a City street light right in front of the garage's drive that needs be moved. There are water draining issues that need to be fixed along 7th street in front of the garage. He just wanted the Council to be aware of problems that will need addressed in the future.

Police Chief Mark James was absent.

Ald. Mercer has received complaints about the muddy rutted alleyway behind City Hall. Something needs to be done. The property is owned by Jarod Ely and the City has right-of-way through a section of it. Ald. Mercer will get with Jarod and see if he could grate the area first and the City will provide the gravel.

Ald. Lindahl received a complaint about someone tripped and almost fell on the sidewalk in front of One Eleven. The sidewalk needs to be replaced or repaired in several places.

Motion to Adjourn was made by Ald. Hansard and seconded by Ald. Mercer. Voice votes all ayes and the meeting adjourned at 7:06 p.m.

Minutes submitted by,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Diane Baker". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Diane Baker
City Clerk**