

City of Wyoming
April 12, 2022
Venue: Paramount Theater
Council Meeting

The Regular Council Meeting was called to order by Mayor Pat Maher at 6:03 p.m. The group in attendance pledged their Allegiance to the Flag. The Wyoming, Illinois City Council met Tuesday, April 12, 2022, at the Paramount Theater located at 104 S. 7th Street, Wyoming IL. Mayor Maher was presiding with Aldermen Dave Lindahl and Jim Mercer of the Second Ward, and Alderman Steve Hansard and Dan Hardman of the Third Ward, were present. Alderwomen Ginger Carlisle and Kathy Hardy of the First Ward were absent.

Minutes from the March 08, 2022, Regular Council Meeting and March 30, 2022 TIF Committee Meeting Minutes were reviewed. The motion to approve the minutes was made by Ald. Hansard 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 \$2,310,904.35. The motion was made by Ald. Mercer to authorize Treasurer Lisa Evans to pay all the bills listed on the City of Wyoming Board Listing dated 4/12/2022 and the extra bill submitted the night of the meeting. The bill was Eagle Enterprises Recycling, Inc statement dated 4/04/22 for \$2299.84. The motion was seconded by Ald. Hansard. Roll call votes all ayes and the motion carried.

Renee Beard, of Cunningham Recreation "Game Time", was invited by Ald. Carlisle, Parks & Trees Committee, to address the Council with some options for playground equipment. She visited Thomas and Duryea Parks with the Mayor and will do a full presentation of the equipment that would meet our needs at the next Council Meeting May 10, 2022. The Mayor would like to have the equipment installed in time for the Fall Festival. The freight will be around \$3,000.00. She will email the pricing before next month's meeting so that the council can review and make any changes prior to her presentation.

Engineer Ed Andrews with Farnsworth Group presented the Council with this year's MFT Resolution 21/22-8 for \$100,000.00. The motion was made by Ald. Mercer to accept the MFT Resolution for \$100,000.00. The motion was seconded by Ald. Hardman. Roll call votes all ayes and the motion carried.

Ed also informed the Council that Leander Construction was the low bidder at the bid opening for the Wastewater Treatment Improvements. The bid totaled \$2,673,000.00. This is much higher than our IEPA Debt Ordinance 20/21-23 for \$1,606,000.00 that was figured in 2018. This was based on a 20 year loan at a 1.75% interest rate with a potential principal forgiveness of \$442,000.00. The Mayor asked Ed to get with the IEPA and request an increase in the loan with a 30 year term if possible. **The IEPA allowed a 30 year loan for the aggregate principal amount of \$3,303,828.00 to cover the increased costs of the Project. The interest rate is .83% with a potential principal forgiveness of \$991,148.40.** This project will require the City to increase the sewer base price fee by \$12.00. The Amended Ordinance No. 21/22-9 must be posted in a local paper for a 30 day objection period. The Mayor suggested raising the basic sewer charge rate by \$6.00 at this time and increase an additional \$6.00 again at the end of the project. The motion was made by Ald. Mercer to approve Ordinance 21/22-9 authorizing the IEPA loan to \$3,303,828.00 for 30year term at .83% rate and increase the basic sewer charge by \$6.00 at this time and increase \$6.00 again when the project is finished. The motion was seconded by Ald. Lindahl. Roll call votes all ayes and the motion carried.

Ald. Hardman mentioned that he noticed the Recycling fund was \$48,921.00 and that money can only be used for recycling. He suggested we decrease the recycling rate so we can offset the sewer rate increase. The Mayor responded that the Garbage fund is a negative amount and the rates should be adjusted between the recycling and garbage to make them more in line.

Attorney Zach Lessard with Barash & Everett presented two documents that will help limit our risk with Right of Way Utilities. They are a Permit Application and a 5 year Bond for a suggested amount of \$50,000.00. The bond would make them obligated to keep that amount of money to fix any damaged they might cause. If the Utility company would go bankrupt they have to let us know 30 days in advance and have to find some other way to put up that money. The motion was made by Ald Mercer to approve the Permit and the Bond for \$50,000.00 for Utilities Right of Way. The motion was seconded by Ald. Hardman. Roll call votes all ayes and the motion passed.

Economic Development Advisor, Denny Rewerts presented a TIF 1 Beautification Application from Spoon River Bowl to replace the front entry door. The TIF Committee decided on a Grant for \$2175.00 A motion was made by Ald. Lindahl to accept the Grant amount of \$2175.00. The motion was seconded by Ald. Hansard. Roll call votes four ayes, one abstain and the motion carried. The Spoon River Bowl also filled out a TIF 1 Loan application for replacing the bowling lanes at a cost of \$36,067.00. The TIF Committee decided to offer a Grant for \$18,000.00 and a Loan for \$10,000.00 at 2% interest and 5 year term. This will be voted on at next months meeting when the paperwork is completed by the Economic Development Group.

A new business, Rough and Tumbled, located at 104 N. 7th Street submitted a TIF 1 Beautification Application to fix up the front of the building. The TIF Committee was able to suggest a Grant of \$3000.00 based on the costs submitted. The motion was made by Ald. Hardman to accept the Grant of \$3000.00 for Rough and Tumbled. The motion was seconded by Ald. Hansard. Roll call votes all ayes and one abstain and the motion carried.

Ald Lindahl asked what was happening with the old building at 119 E. Williams Street. Denny stated that the new owner plans to fix up the building and make 2 apartments upstairs and a business downstairs.

Superintendent Joe Kinsella presented a quote from Johnston Construction to raise and re-roof the baseball dugouts at Duryea Field. The bid totaled \$4,200.00. A motion was made by Ald. Hansard to accept the Johnston Construction Bid for \$4,200.00. The motion was seconded by Ald. Mercer. Roll call votes all ayes and the motion passed. Joe also reported that he has hired John & Colby Carroll for Summer time help. They should be starting on May 10, 2022.

Ald. Mercer asked when the City will be fixing N. 3rd Street. Joe said he plans on putting in a new grate and then concrete over the street when the weather allows. Joe also said they will be sweeping the downtown streets in the near future.

Water and Sewer Manager Greg McCauley informed the Council the membranes are ready to be picked up in Rockford. They fit on 2 pallets, 30 per pallet.

Greg reported that on March 23, 2022 there was a voltage drop from 500 range to 460 volts. This caused our well to shut off when the 60 hp electric motor for the R/O starts up. He contacted Ameren that day and a lineman came out and told him there was nothing he could do as 460 volts is within the range they are legally required to maintain. Their engineer followed up with Greg and said they were not going to fix the problem. Greg was able to change the well turnoff to 80% of voltage from 90% of voltage so the well will no longer turn off during the voltage drop. He believes the voltage drop is caused by a blown fuse on a transformer, probably at the electrical substation south of town. Ald. Mercer will contact someone he knows at Ameren and get back to Greg.

Police Chief Mark James reported the Tahoe is ready to be sold. It's a 2012 2-wheel drive Tahoe with a newer motor and good tires. We need to do a closed bid in paper with a minimum bid of \$2000.00. The City boys will use the black truck and Chief James will have the new police car.

Mayor Maher suggested increasing the sewer rate by \$6.00 per month now and another \$6.00 per month in a year from now. We will put a notice in the paper that the sewer bill will be raised in the next 30 days from the date of notice. The motion was made by Ald Hardman to raise the sewer rate by \$6.00 per month to cover the cost to update the antiquated Wastewater Treatment Plant. The motion was seconded by Ald. Hansard. Roll call votes all ayes and the motion carried.

The Mayor also presented a letter from the 4-H Equine Speed Show taking place on July 29 & 30, 2022. They are requesting sponsorships for the event. The motion was made by Ald. Mercer to donate \$500.00 to the 4-H Equine Speed Race. The motion was seconded by Ald. Hansard. Roll call votes all ayes and the motion carried.

Alderman's report: Ald. Mercer asked if the City was going to provide a dumpster again this year during City Clean up Days. The Mayor said we would not provide the dumpster this time.

Ald. Hardman had 2 complaints of nuisance properties. One is located near Thomas Park and the other is a trailer on S. 6th Street. Chief James will contact both home owners.

The motion to go into Executive Session on Personnel was made by Ald Mercer at 7:25 p.m. The motion was seconded by Ald. Lindahl. Voice votes all ayes and the motion carried. The motion to go back into Regular Session was made by Ald. Hansard and seconded by Ald. Mercer. Voice votes all ayes and the Regular Meeting began at 7:31 p.m.

The motion was made by Ald. Lindahl to raise part time police pay to \$22.00 per hour starting immediately. The motion was seconded by Ald. Mercer. Roll call votes all ayes and the motion carried.

Motion to Adjourn was made by Ald. Mercer and seconded by Ald. Hansard. Voice votes all ayes and the meeting adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

Minutes submitted by,



**Diane Baker
City Clerk**