

**City of Wyoming
Special Council Meeting
March 02, 2024**

(This was a Retreat located at the Paramount Theater to brainstorm projects for the City)

The Special Council Meeting was called to order by Mayor Pat Maher at 8:15 a.m. Those in attendance pledged their Allegiance to the Flag. The Wyoming Illinois City Council met Saturday, March 02, 2024, at the Paramount Theater located at 104 S. 7th Street, Wyoming IL. Roll call was taken, and Alderpersons Dave Rumbold, Dan Hardman, and Jim Mercer were present. Aldermen Dave Lindahl, Ginger Carlisle, and Steve Hansard were absent. This retreat was Sponsored by Stark County for Continuous Improvement, SCCI, of which the city is a member. Stark County School Superintendent Brett Elliott, who is also involved with SCCI, led the program. This is the first of many Retreat Meetings for city project planning, forming committees including Aldermen and citizens, monitoring them and being proactive instead of reactive to government grant releases. Engineer, Zach Knight with Farnsworth Group addressed the Council on how to be prepared for the OSLAD Grant that is a yearly grant. He and Landscape Architect, Bruce Brown, observed the City's Parks last year and gave recommendations on what projects to focus on for each park (this information is attached) Zach explained that a point system is used to determine who will receive the grant. The OSLAD Grant is highly competitive, and he recommended at least 4 recreational improvements to a park to be part of the grant submittal. All improvements will need to be ADA Compliant. OSLAD Applications are best received when based off a long-range plan. OSLAD is a matching grant, dollar for dollar, up to a \$600,000 match. The Grant cycle for applications typically opens in June/July with awards being announced the following January or February. The applicant needs to prove they have the funds available to cover the cost of the grant when applying. It helps to have a Public Open House for the community to have input. That information can help in developing a long-range plan. Letters of support from the community and going through North Central Council of Governments (NCICG) for grant writing will also add points to your application.

A presentation was given by Samantha McAvoy and Kim Dahl, with The Society of Growth, a not-for-profit organization in Wyoming. They recognized that the City of Wyoming is in dire need of a daycare facility and are currently looking for an existing building large enough for that purpose. They are excited to work with the City in helping with future projects.

Please see the attached results of our 4-hour meeting. The next step is to form committees for priority projects. There will be Reports of Committee's on the Council Meeting Agendas. To keep this momentum going the City will need to schedule another Retreat Meeting soon.

The motion to adjourn was made by Ald. Mercer and seconded by Ald. Hardman. Voice votes all (4) ayes and the meeting adjourned at 12:10p.m.

Minutes submitted by,



**Diane Baker
City Clerk**

2024 City of Wyoming Spring Retreat

Facilities/Project Wish List

Remove old Elevator/Duryea
Use NCICG-grant writing
Parks/Grants
Bring in New Businesses
Community Brain Storming Forums
Grant Ready Planning
Society of Growth Partnership
On Going Committees
Fundraising
Landowner Planning Meeting
Daycare
Pickle ball Court
Crisis Services/Behavior Health
Dog Park
Retirement/Senior Living
Careerlink/Student workers for city projects
Build Municipality Center
Energy Development
Windmill Farms
Sanitation Upgrades
Improve Sidewalks/Downtown Beautification
Repurpose Buildings
Buildings for new businesses
Water Collection System
Proactive vs Reactive
Clean up delinquent properties
Unlicensed vehicles
Grocery store
Expand downtown area east
Lack of downtown parking

Facilities/Project Committees

Committees:

1. *Facilities/Projects*

Jim Mercer

2. *Mission/Vision/Why Chair*

3. *What's Next?*

4. *Next Retreat?*

****Add to monthly city council agendas**

- ◆ Set up committee chairs/ members
- ◆ Committee reports
- ◆ Committee Side meetings
- ◆ Add community members to focus
- ◆ Groups
- ◆ Set first meeting date
- ◆ Prioritize List
- ◆ Set meeting with NCICG

2024 City of Wyoming Retreat—Glows/Grows

Adversity-Opportunity for Growth

Glows

Have good community groups

Accomplishments

Grows

Create community events for families

Youth action groups-what do kids want

Do town hall meetings every quarter

Involvement

Be open to new businesses/no bad ideas

Celebrate accomplishments

Reach out to others for help where needed

Shared rural community support

Ability to problem solve & connect

Personal values-networking involvement

Energy-Optimism, Focus, Vision

Glows

We have the best people

Passionate about school/football

Downtown development

Spoon River Days/Moonlight Madness

School relationship

Good vibes when you drive through town

Good community events

Grows

More people to move to area

Be more open to everyone's ideas

Plan for the future

New/fresh ideas needed

Welcoming young community members

Stuck in the past

Afraid of change

Lack of branding

Optimism/Pride—constant pessimism

Need to refresh from time to time

Encourage young leadership

City leadership needs to be more present in the community

City needs to participate more in community events

Culture—Who & What Are We?

Glows

Pride/Ownership

Welcoming/Friendly

Rockwell Community

Grows

Innovation

Dreaming

Following Through

Optimism

Lack of Branding

Proactive

Set timeline for goals

Act on problems faster

Present Rockwell community

Environmental Control

2024 City of Wyoming Retreat—Glows & Grows

Process-How We Do Business

Glows

Financially Stable

Employees

Website

Plans, models in place

Businesses know of TIFF

We know what to do

Grows

No communication

Lack of networking

Strategic Platforms

Grant work

Strategic development

Reactive mindset

Legislation

Define roles/responsibilities

Youth opportunities

Social media lack of

Use of Discover Peoria

Trust in Progress/innovation

“Old Mindset”

Expect others/groups to incur cost to improve

Excellence-What is our “Why”

Glows

Have people/ambition-together & present always

Downtown Development

Discover Peoria/SCCI group

Developing new businesses

Model of growth for other communities

Employees

Grows

Be better than excellent

Wyoming/Spoon River Days

Think beyond physical facilities

Plans for the future

Dreaming

Progress Monitoring

Ask businesses what we can do for them

Evaluation process

Goals/mission of excellence

Roadmap for the future of the town

How do we get there, where are we

Downtown Facelift/welcoming appearance

How to encourage new young business leaders

Stronger/forward thinking council

2024 City of Wyoming Retreat—Glows & Grows

Relationships-Partnerships, Networking, Communication

Glows

Strong w/lifers

Strong School connection

Support Local

Strong biz community

Pride in Farming/Ag

SCAP athletic program

Close-knit community

Grows

Struggle w/new residents

Need to find the under 40

Pushing one another on council

Hold council members accountable

Diversify council need more youth & women

Highlight under 40

Mentorship

Lack of motivation

Need more volunteers

Lack of Chamber

Varied personalities

Function of leadership behavior

Citizen board-advise the advisory

Learn to work with outside groups

Humility—Remove “We’ve always done it this way”

Glow

Good development support for local businesses

Listen to others

Always accepting & helping new businesses

As a town-strong on individual ownership

Grows

Ownership needs to be a collective group

Need to create positive atmosphere

Need to work together as a team

Listen more to others ideas

Stop the pessimism from city hall down

Make committees more responsible

“Old” mindset- the way it is here

Try new things

Stop expecting others /groups to pay for ideas or improvements

Need to continue to support local businesses after they open

Need to be willing to try new things

Forward thinking