City of Wyoming
Council Meeting
March 24, 2026

The Regular Council Meeting was called to order by Mayor James Mercer at 5:59 p.m. Those in attendance pledged their Allegiance to the Flag. The Wyoming Illinois City Council met Tuesday, March 24, 2026, at the Paramount Theater located at 104 S. 7th Street, Wyoming IL, in Regular Session. Alderpersons, Carolyn Conover and Carol Potter of the First Ward, Michelle Owens and David Lindahl of the Second Ward, and Dan Hardman and Steve Hansard of the Third Ward were all present.

Citizens wishing to be heard. Bill Strode and Jamie Berchtold raised strong concerns about replacing stop signs with four-way yield signs, especially regarding pedestrian safety, speeding and confusion at intersections. It was mentioned that additional signage (e.g., children-at-play signs) should be posted.

Consent Agenda:
Approved Minutes January 6, 2026, Regular Council Meeting, February 17, 2026, Regular Council Meeting, March 2, 2026, Finance Committee Meeting, March 9, 2026, Parks and Trees Committee Meeting, March 10, 2026, Water and Sewer Committee Meeting, March 10, 2026, Streets and Alleys Committee Meeting.

Treasurer's Report, including the operation and CD balances totaling $1,586,484.73.
Approval of Bills and Claims totaling $68,710.98
Staff Reports
Mayor Mercer reported there are three abandoned houses that will be demolished. One is located at 511 N. Galena, the other two are located on N. Main Street.He is working with the County to clean up the properties on N. 7th Street that are outside city limits. He is also working with LOCIS, our accounting program, on making the monthly reports easier for everyone to understand. He had a meeting with Senator Durbin's office to request federal funding to complete the sewer plant upgrades including outdated piping and valving. He also held the same meetings with Tammy Duckworth's office.

Joe Kinsella was absent so the Mayor mentioned they have been using a sweeper on the skid steer to sweep the streets and cleaning the leaves out of the storm sewer grates around town.

Denny Rewerts, Economic Development, informed the council that as a member of SCCI, he went on a trip to Indiana with Brett Elliott and Jon Knoblauch to see how another SCCI group is making great changes to their community. They took a blight area have cleared an old trailer park and replaced it with a nice park and with the help of high school kids, have built 7 houses. This was a great way for these kids to learn a trade. Habitat for Humanity matched them and built 7 additional houses. Jon Knoblauch mentioned that crime has gone down 80% in this area and houses around this area have increased in value.

City Engineer, Justin Reeise has been in touch with Senator Duckworth's office regarding available grants. He is writing two Federal Grants for updating the WWTP and improvements to the Sidewalk and City Parking Lot on W. Williams Street.
He also reported the MFT bid opening will be April 1st at 10:am at City Hall.
Justin will be there to open the bids.
He reported there are some EPA violations written up at the WWTP that need to be addressed. He will work with Chris Schaefer and write a draft of the steps we are taking to be in compliance.

Police Chief Phil Wells reported receiving 58 calls, multiple traffic stops and citations for speeding, and failure to stop at stop signs. There were a lot of questions and confusion on the 4-way yield intersections. After explaining how to navigate them they were more understanding. He informed the Council that Officer Copeland is doing well with his Field Training and is on track to be a great asset to this Police Department and the City of Wyoming.

The motion was made by Ald. Dave Lindahl to approve the Consent Agenda and seconded by Ald. Potter. Discussion: Several Aldermen expressed frustration trying to understand the Treasurer's financial reports from the upgraded financial software LOCIS Version 8. There was discussion about holding a work session with staff, the CPA, or the software vendor to improve transparency and understanding. **Roll call vote (6) ayes from Ald. Potter, Conover, Owens, Hardman, Lindahl, Hansard, and the motion passed.**

New Business

Consideration of Ordinance No. 25/26-51 Approving and Authorizing the Execution of a TIF Redevelopment Agreement between the City of Wyoming and Courtney Westefer (D.B.A. Westefer Chiropractic) totaling $5,961.17. This grant was for replacing the office building furnace, water heater, and basement staircase. **The motion was made by Ald. Hansard to approve Ordinance 25/26-51 and seconded by Ald. Potter. Discussion: None. Roll call vote all (6) ayes by Ald. Conover, Owens, Potter, Lindahl, Hardman, Hansard and the motion passed unanimously.**

Consideration of Ordinance No. 25/26-52 Clarifying the Separation of Powers and Responsibilities of the City of Wyoming Aldermanic form of government and a blending of authority between the strong and weak mayoral form of Aldermanic Governance. **The motion was made by Ald. Owens to table Ordinance 25/26-52 for 30 days to allow the Alderpersons more time for further discussion and research. This was seconded by Ald. Hansard. Roll call votes all (6) ayes by Ald. Lindahl, Conover, Owens, Potter, Hardman, Hansard and the motion passed unanimously.**

Consideration of Resolution No. 25/26-53 Authorizing the City of Wyoming to purchase two body cameras and required bundled accessories for the Police Department through Axon Enterprise, Inc. as a part of a 60-month program totaling $15,404.24. (quotes attached to Ordinance) **After discussing the quote options the Council decided the 10-year option for $25,029.64 would be best.**
The motion was made by Ald. Lindahl to approve the amended Ordinance 25/26-53 to include the 10-year program totaling $25,029.64 and seconded by Ald. Potter. Roll call vote all (6) ayes by Ald. Owens, Lindahl, Hardman, Hansard, Owens, Potter and the motion passed.
The Motion was made by Ald. Conover to approve the Amended Resolution No. 25/26-53 Authorizing the City of Wyoming to purchase two body cameras and required bundled accessories as a part of a 10-year program totaling $25,029.64 and was seconded by Ald. Owens. Roll call vote all (6) ayes by Ald. Potter, Owens, Hardman, Hansard, Lindahl, Conover and the motion passed.

The motion to Adjourn was made by Ald. Hansard and seconded by Ald. Potter. Voice votes all ayes and the meeting adjourned at 7:41 p.m.

Minutes Submitted by,

Diane Baker,
City Clerk