

City of Wyoming Council Meeting June 09, 2026

The Regular Council Meeting was called to order by Mayor James Mercer at 6:10 p.m. Those in attendance pledged their Allegiance to the Flag. The Wyoming Illinois City Council met Tuesday, June 09, 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 of the Second Ward, and Steve Hansard and Dan Hardman of the Third Ward were all present. Ald. Lindahl of the Second Ward was absent.

Citizens wishing to be heard. Dave Bickett, Chairman of the Wyoming Community Fireworks was unable to attend the meeting.

Consent Agenda

A. Approved the Minutes of May 12, 2026, Regular Council Meeting and May 29, 2026 TIF Committee Meeting.

B. Treasurers Report: General Operation and CD's balance of \$1,351,126.79

C. Bills and Claims totaling \$35,105.96

D. Staff reports:

Mayor Mercer listed several items that need discussion;

- For now, Dollar General has decided not to move to the Family Dollar location.
- We received the final paperwork for the Grant for Northeast Park which states that this is a reimbursement grant. The City will pay up front and then will be reimbursed.
- Working with Lt. Governor Julieanna Stratton on getting some grant money for senior living and downtown revitalization.
- Have received several complaints and compliments about our Police Department. Mostly regarding adult children getting tickets. I believe Officer Copeland is doing a fine job. People are slowing down.
- Working with residents on nuisance properties. I asked Atty. Zac Lessard to put Liens on a couple of houses with outstanding fines and prepare a Quit Claim Deed for Cassidy Strom to sell property located at 511 N Galena to the City of Wyoming.
- Denny Rewerts and the Mayor have been attending several meetings in hopes of finding a partner to build homes and help develop Wyoming.
- The Council had a very good Workshop, and the Mayor believes this will lead to a better understanding of how our city should work.

Joe Kinsella was absent. Mayor Mercer informed the Council that the City boys have been trimming low hanging branches along roadways with the new chainsaw attachment to the skid steer. We have already paid for it in a week. Joe has ordered the street sweeper attachment and will start using it when it arrives. He has also built some very nice wood flower planters for downtown. This week and next week they plan on spray patching streets. We also need to decide what sidewalks need to be replaced.

Justin Reeise, City Engineer reported he is working on the CDBG Grant Application with North Central Council of Governments (NCICG) for WWTP improvements and replacing all underground rusted pipes in the city. The concept is done the City parking lot and he will get back to the Mayor on a date.

Denny Rewerts, Economic Development, reported that his daughter-in-law, Katrina Rewerts, offered to write the \$40,000 grant for Northeast Park. He suggested the City thank her for helping secure the grant.

The Chamber of Commerce still needs a president. They have several events going on this year including Moonlight Madness, a Car Show, and Spoon River Days which will be downtown this year. They requested a Stage location and Denny will discuss it further with Jon Knobloch.

Police Chief Phil Wells reported 107 calls for service from 5/12/26 to 6/9/26. Officer Kerry Copeland is in his last week of full-time officer training. Phil scheduled Richard Hart from the state for next Thursday 6/18/26 at 11:00 a.m. to set Kerry up with his LEDI access and to transfer the Chief title to Kerry.

Phil said he plans to remain with the department for now but will be reducing his hours.

The City might want to have a **Towing Ordinance**. Chief Wells explained that before cashless bail was enforced, the towing of vehicles for DUI's or suspended license etc. the bond money would go to the police department that the arrest was made. That is no longer the case as there is no bail. To make up for the loss, cities and counties are setting a Towing fee to get the vehicle out of impound. This will be discussed further in a Committee Meeting.

The motion was made by Ald. Lindahl to approve the Consent Agenda and seconded by Ald. Potter. Discussion: None. Roll call all (6) ayes by Ald. Conover, Owens, Potter, Lindahl, Hansard, Hardman and the motion carried.

Per the request of the Council, they agreed to add an additional speaker, Carol Potter, to the credit card application with The State Bank of Toulon and would like a vote taken for the record. **The motion was made by Ald. Hansard to agree with adding Carol Potter as an additional speaker for the credit card application with the State Bank of Toulon and seconded by Ald. Hardman. Roll call votes all (5) ayes by Ald. Conover, Owens, Potter, Hardman, Hansard and the motion passed.**

Consideration of Resolution No. 26/27-5 Agreeing that the City of Wyoming supports the Illinois America250 Commemoration. The United States of America will commemorate its 250th anniversary on July 4th, 2026, marking a historic milestone in the nation's history. **The motion was made by Ald. Hardman to approve Resolution 26/27-5 and seconded by Ald. Owens. Discussion: None. Roll call votes all (5) ayes by Ald. Owens, Potter, Conover, Hardman, Hansard and the motion passed.**

Consideration of Resolution No. 26/27-6 Authorizing the City of Wyoming to donate \$1,000.00 to the Wyoming Community Fireworks to be held on the evening of July 3, 2026 at Gary Johnson Field in Wyoming. This is a great event that the city supports every year. **The motion was made by Ald. Hansard to accept Resolution No. 26/27-6 and seconded by Ald. Conover. Discussion: None. Roll call votes all (5) ayes by Ald. Hardman, Owens, Conover, Potter, Hansard and the motion passed.**

Consideration of Ordinance No. 26/27-7 Approving the sale of city real estate located at 611 N. 7th Street, legally described as City of Wyoming-Castle's Addition Lots 2,3,6, & 7 Except S 8' 155 X 190. Parcel # 04-36-113-006

Minimum bid of \$2000.00

All bids shall be submitted to Wyoming City Clerk, at 108 E. Williams Street, Wyoming IL 61491, in **sealed envelopes clearly marked on the outside with "611 N 7th Street"**.

Bids will be accepted until 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 9, 2026, at City Hall.

Bids will be opened at the City Council Meeting on June 9, 2026 starting at 6:00 p.m. at the Paramount Theater, 104 S. 7th Street, Wyoming IL. The accepted bid will be determined by a 3/4ths vote of the corporate authorities to be in the best interest of the City. The City has the right to reject any or all bids received. The City requires the successful bidder to deposit Ten (10%) percent of the accepted bid with the City Attorney not more than 24 hours after acceptance and pay the balance within Thirty (30) days thereafter. There were two sealed bids for this property. The Mayor opened the bids at the Council Meeting. The first bid was from Justin and Cassie Williams for the amount of \$2,500.00. The second bid was from David and Marque Johnston for the amount of \$4117.00. The council approved the bid from David and Marque Johnston for a total of \$4117.00.

The motion was made by Ald. Hansard to accept the bid of \$4117.00 from Chris Cozad and Lorie McCullough and seconded by Ald. Hardman. Discussion: None. Roll call vote all (5) ayes by Ald. Potter, Owens, Hansard, Hardman, Conover and the motion passed.

Consideration of Ordinance No. 26/27-8 Approving the sale of city real estate located at 103 N. Galena Ave. The City of Wyoming is accepting sealed bids, for the sale of a vacant lot the City owns at **103 N. Galena Ave, legally described as Dana's Addition City of Wyoming N. part lots 1 & 2 & S 32 lot 16 block T 155x47. Parcel # 04-36-319-007**

Minimum bid of \$2000.00

All bids shall be submitted to Wyoming City Clerk, at 108 E. Williams Street, Wyoming IL 61491, in **sealed envelopes clearly marked on the outside with "103 N. Galena Ave"**. Bids will be accepted until 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 9, 2026, at City Hall.

Bids will be opened at the City Council Meeting on June 9th, 2026 starting at 6:00 p.m. at the Paramount Theater, 104 S. 7th Street, Wyoming IL. The accepted bid will be determined by a 3/4ths vote of the corporate authorities to be in the best interest of the City. The City has the right to reject any or all bids received. The City requires the successful bidder to deposit Ten (10%) percent of the accepted bid with the City Attorney not more than 24 hours after acceptance and pay the balance within Thirty (30) days thereafter. There was only one sealed bid and the Mayor opened the bid at the Council Meeting. The bid was from Chris Cozad and Lorie McCullough for a total of \$3600.00.

The motion was made by Ald. Hansard to accept the bid of \$3600.00 from Chris Cozad and Lorie McCullough and seconded by Ald. Hardman. Discussion: None. Roll call vote all (5) ayes by Ald. Hansard, Hardman, Potter, Owens, Conover and the motion passed.

Consideration of Ordinance No. 26/27-9 Approving and authorizing the Execution of a TIF Redevelopment Agreement between the City of Wyoming and Melody Anderson d.b.a. A Few of My Favorite Things. The City agrees to loan Melody \$6,455.00 at a rate of 2%. The City will also give Melody a Grant of \$6,455.00. For a total of \$12,910.00. This money is for fixing the roof of A Few of My Favorite Things. **The motion was made by Ald. Owens to approve Ordinance No. 26/27-9 and seconded by Ald. Hardman. Discussion: None. Roll call vote all (5) ayes by Ald. Conover, Owens, Potter, Hansard, Hardman and the motion passed.**

Consideration of Ordinance No. 26/27-10 Approving this Ordinance Clarifying the Duties of and Authority Delegated to the Mayor for the City of Wyoming, Illinois. The city operates under the Illinois Municipal Code and follows an Aldermanic form of municipal government. **The motion was made by Ald. Owens to approve Ordinance No. 26/27-10 and was seconded by Ald. Potter. Discussion: None. Roll call vote all (5) Ayes by Ald. Hansard, Hardman, Owens, Conover, Potter and the motion passed**

The motion was made by Ald. Hansard to go into Executive Session regarding Personnel and seconded by Ald. Owens. Executive Session started at 7:00 p.m. The motion was made by Ald. Owens to return to the Regular Session and seconded by Ald. Conover. Regular Session began at 7:08 p.m.

Consideration of Ordinance No. 26/27-11 Approval of the City of Wyoming to issue an annual cost of living pay increase for employee, Denny Rewerts, per the attached schedule. This increase must be effective retroactively to begin May 01, 2026.

The motion was made by Ald. Hansard to approve Ordinance 26/27-11 with the attached Schedule of 25% increase for \$10,000.00 per year salary and seconded by Ald. Owens. Discussion was made in executive session. Roll call vote all (5) ayes by Ald Conover, Potter, Owens, Hansard, Hardman and the motion passed.

Committee Reports: Discussion Only

The Finance Committee informed the Council that funds need to be transferred into four accounts to bring them into a positive balance. They discussed the appropriate and accounts to transfer from.

<u>Transfer from</u>	<u>Transfer to</u>
1) (TIF 1) <u>\$120,000</u> and (TIF 2) <u>\$40,000</u>	Water Account & Sewer Account
2) GL <u>\$15,000</u>	Parks & Trees Account
3) GL <u>\$15,000</u>	Refuge Account

Ald. Potter reported that her family demolished the house on 811 N. 7th Street.

Ald. Hansard reported that when driving north on 7th Street and you want to go straight off the curve, there are hanging branches in the way of seeing cars coming around the curve. This is in Ward 2 in the back yard of 404 N. Galena.

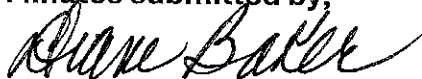
He met with Walt Emmer at 202 S. 7th St. about his nuisance property and he refuses to work with the city to clean up his property. The Mayor will be putting liens on the property. He also met with R.J. Groter about the pile of wood alongside his grain bin on E. Williams Street. He gave his approval for the City boys to be on his property and pick up that pile.

Ald. Conover talked to her neighbor about a wood pile that needs to be removed. She will talk to him again to offer help from the City boys.

The Mayor announced there will be another Council Meeting June 23rd to approve the Annual Budget and Appropriations.

The motion to adjourn was made by Ald. Hansard and seconded by Ald. Potter. Voice votes all ayes and the meeting was adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

Minutes submitted by,


Diane Baker, City Clerk