

MINUTES
Wyoming City Council
March 20, 2023

The Wyoming City Council met in regular session on March 20, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers. Mayor Monich called the meeting to order. In attendance were:

Council Members:

Dan Driehaus
Grant Hoffman
Melissa Monich
April Robles
Sarah Stankorb Taylor
Jodi Woffington

Others:

Rusty Herzog, City Manager
Emily Supinger, City Solicitor

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

Ms. Woffington moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Mr. Hoffman seconded the motion. There being no discussion, the motion to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda carried with all voting yes:

- January 23, 2023 Special City Council Meeting Minutes
- February 21, 2023 City Council Meeting Minutes
- February 27, 2023 Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes
- Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into an Agreement with the Ohio Department of Transportation for the Installation of Signage Along the U.S. Bicycle Routes in the City of Wyoming
- Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into a Contract with Ford Development Corporation for the Vermont Avenue Improvements Project
- Resolution Honoring the Services of Lynn Bueckman Serving on the Board of Zoning Appeals
- Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into a Joint Agreement Between Hamilton County and the City of Wyoming for the Construction Improvements to Bonham Road
- Resolution Authorizing the Then and Now Certificate

SPECIAL REPORTS/MINUTES:

No comments were received.

VERBAL REPORT FROM THE CITY MANAGER:

City offices will be closed on Friday, April 7 for the Good Friday holiday. The Recreation Center will be open regular hours, 5am to 7pm. The Recreation Center will be closed on Easter Sunday.

The annual Easter Egg Hunt will be Saturday, April 8th at 11:00 a.m. at Oak Park. The event is free, the Easter Bunny may hop in for a visit.

There is plenty of free mulch available with free delivery. Instructions on how to place an order can be found on the home page of the City's website.

Spring clean for yard waste items will be April 15. The junk day will be April 22. The third annual UpCycle event will be held on April 21. Details for all three spring clean-up events can be found on the home page of the City's website.

Spring curbside leaf pick up starts March 27 and will run through April 14. Rake your leaves to the curb and public works will pick them up. Please do not rake the leaves into the street or into the storm sewers, this can cause flooding.

The Urban Forestry & Beautification Commission is hosting a spring Wildflower Walk & Talk at Stearns Woods on March 26, April 8, and April 22. Additional details and how to register can be found on the home page of the City's website.

REPORTS OF STANDING COUNCIL COMMITTEES:

No reports were received.

REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

No reports were received.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION:

Ms. Candace Woodside, 609 Van Roberts Place, addressed Council and expressed concern with the proximity of the railroad tracks to her house. She wanted to be sure that the City continues to be involved in railroad safety discussions even though Wyoming does not have legislative authority over the tracks. Railroad safety has not generally been an issue in the past but given the recent events in northern Ohio, she wanted to remind Council of the dangers and risk the railroad brings to her house and her neighbors.

Mr. Bob Byrns, 1202 Morts Pass, addressed Council. He commended the City Manager and staff for the Annual Report, it was very well done. He referenced the February City Council minutes and comments made by Council and the Mayor over having a stressful February in Wyoming. He stated that he was unsure what events were stressful and asked if someone could let him know. Mr. Byrns referenced the Committee of the Whole meeting minutes regarding the operation of the Water Treatment Plant and water processing that Mike Lippert conducted. He felt that this information would also be helpful if it were published on the City's website because he felt that it was valuable information for everyone to read. Lastly, Mr. Byrns commented that as the meeting opened with the

Pledge of Allegiance, and we refer to our Nation as under God, he recommended that the meeting also open with a prayer.

BUSINESS:

A. Resolution Designating April 16-22, 2023 as Volunteer Week in the City of Wyoming: Ms. Stankorb Taylor moved to adopt the Resolution. Mr. Hoffman seconded the motion. There being no comments or questions, the motion to adopt the Resolution Designating April 16-22, 2023 as Volunteer Week in the City of Wyoming carried with all voting yes. Mayor Monich read the Resolution.

B. Proclamation Honoring Chip Skidmore as Exemplary Volunteer of the Year: Mayor Monich read the Proclamation and presented it to Mr. Skidmore.

C. First Reading of the Ordinance Amending the Personnel Ordinance and Declaring an Emergency: Mr. Driehaus moved to suspend the rules. Ms. Robles seconded the motion. By roll call vote, the motion to suspend the rules carried with all voting yes. Ms. Stankorb Taylor moved to adopt the Ordinance. Mr. Hoffman seconded the motion. By roll call vote, the motion to adopt the Ordinance Amending the Personnel Ordinance and Declaring an Emergency carried with all voting yes.

NEW BUSINESS NOT OTHERWISE ON THE AGENDA:

None was received.

MISCELLANEOUS:

Ms. Robles commented that she is looking forward to seeing community members get outside this spring and enjoy time with each other and their neighbors. She asked that everyone drive carefully as more people get out to walk and ride bikes. She added that she enjoyed Emily Dengler's posts on Women's History Month to the City's social media outlets highlighting some of our City employees and honoring the women who work for our community. She likes the tidbits of info that she is learning about everyone.

Ms. Stankorb Taylor congratulated Chip Skidmore and stated that she feels that wherever there is a stream or a trail, Chip is there to help make it better. There are many committed volunteers in the community, however Chip is one of a few people that shows up to put the physical work into a project and gets his hands dirty in the process. This exemplifies the spirit of a volunteer of the year and she is happy that he has received this recognition and it is well deserved.

Ms. Woffington commented that this month she would like to highlight the often-overlooked work of the Urban Forestry & Beautification Commission. Not only do they meet monthly to look at the green spaces and understand how to best lead that for the

City but also put in a lot of volunteer hours. They do all things to make sure we keep up with our Tree City USA designation, they clean up Stearns Woods from invasive species, and write grants for new plants and trees to be put in, all with a lot of passion and volunteerism. She feels very lucky that we have this talented and dedicated group of volunteers. Also, coming up, is the Wildflower Walk & Talk series in Stearns Woods that is being organized by the UFBC and some outside volunteers as well. She encouraged others to continue to thank them for all they are doing to keep our City beautiful.

Mr. Hoffman thanked Mike Lippert and his team for giving Council a tour of the Water Treatment Plant. He enjoyed watching the staff display their expertise and explain why our water tastes good. He thanked the Water Works staff for the work that they do 24/7 to make sure that we have good drinking water especially considering the concerns people have expressed lately following the train wreck in northern Ohio. He appreciated them helping Councilmembers better understand the water treatment process. In conjunction with Ms. Robles comments on people coming outside as the weather gets warmer, he reminded everyone that block party season is approaching. Residents can block off a portion of all of their street after obtaining a permit from the City. This is a great opportunity for neighbors to get out and about together, and to spend time with each other after our winter hibernation.

Mr. Driehaus congratulated everyone that put the time and effort in putting together the Annual Report this year. The reports were easy to read, and the articles were interesting. He also received positive feedback from a few people in the community about the report as well. Additionally, he congratulated Chip Skidmore on his recognition. Mr. Driehaus stated that he has only lived here for three years and of all the subjects that he's heard of that bring communities together one theme that keeps coming back is the Mill Creek cooperation among jurisdictions that are working on it together. This is a subject that keeps coming up again and again, but always in a positive light and it is very inspiring.

Mayor Monich congratulated the Wyoming School Foundation for their annual dinner event. It is exciting to see so many people come out and enjoy an evening together all in support of the students and teachers. She also congratulated Rob Nicolls and the Public Works crews for getting the new equipment storage building up so quickly, it looks great.

EXCUSAL OF ABSENT MEMBERS:

Mr. Hoffman moved to excuse Mr. Woodside. Ms. Stankorb Taylor seconded the motion. There being no discussion, by roll call vote, the motion to excuse Mr. Woodside carried with all voting yes.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Personnel Matter: Mr. Hoffman moved to adjourn to Executive Session under Section 121.03(b)(1) of the Codified Ordinances for the City of Wyoming to Consider an appointment to the Civil Service Commission and the Environmental Stewardship Commission. Ms. Stankorb Taylor seconded the motion. By roll call vote, the motion to adjourn to Executive Session carried with all voting yes. The meeting adjourned to Executive Session at 7:25 p.m.

Council came out of Executive Session at 7:35 p.m. Ms. Woffington moved to appoint Caroll Ambrose to the Civil Service Commission and Rob Shimp to the Environmental Stewardship Commission. Mr. Hoffman seconded the motion. All voted yes, the motion carried.

ADJOURN:

Ms. Stankorb Taylor moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Robles seconded the motion. The motion to adjourn carried with all voting yes. The meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Debby Martin, Executive Assistant

Karen Zeilman, Clerk of Council

Melissa Monich, Mayor