

**MINUTES**  
**WYOMING CITY COUNCIL**  
**January 21, 2020**

The Wyoming City Council met in regular session on January 21, 2020 at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Wyoming Municipal Building. Mayor Hoffmeister called the meeting to order. In attendance were:

Council Members:

Thaddeus Hoffmeister, Mayor  
Al Delgado, Vice Mayor  
Nancy Averett  
Zach Green  
Jeff LeRoy  
Jim O'Reilly  
Sarah Stankorb Taylor

Others:

Lynn Tetley, City Manager  
Emily Supinger, City Solicitor

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. O'Reilly moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Mr. Delgado seconded the motion. There being no discussion, the motion to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda carried with all voting yes:

- A. December 16, 2019 City Council Meeting Minutes
- B. January 8 and 9, 2020 City Council Retreat Minutes
- C. Resolution Requesting the Hamilton County Auditor to Make Advance Payment of Taxes
- D. Resolution Authorizing a Then and Now Certificate
- E. Resolution Honoring the 2019 Wyoming Citizens of the Year

SPECIAL REPORTS/MINUTES

No comments were received.

REPORTS OF STANDING COUNCIL COMMITTEES

No reports were received.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

No comments were received.

SWEARING IN OF POLICE SERGEANT JENNIFER LATTIRE

Ms. Emily Supinger, City Solicitor, administered the oath of office to Officer Jennifer Lattire, swearing her in as Police Sergeant. Chief Herzog commented that Sergeant Lattire has been with the department for 13 years having previously served seven years as a Deputy with the Hamilton County Sherriff's Department at the jail. She is an asset to the

department in helping with investigations and road patrol as well as community programs. If anything is needed, she is the one the officers go to and Sergeant Lattire will be a great asset to the management team as well. Chief Herzog added that Sergeant Lattire comes from a family of law enforcement having a sister with the Hamilton County Sherriff's Department, and a sister with the West Chester Police Department. Sergeant Lattire is also a newlywed and her husband, Dan, who is with her today, is with the Reading Police Department. Together they have three children. Chief Herzog wished her well.

## BUSINESS

A. Resolution Honoring the Services of Barry Porter to the People of the City of Wyoming Serving on City Council: Mayor Hoffmeister read the Resolution and presented it to Mr. Porter.

B. Resolution Honoring the Services of Jenni McCauley to the People of the City of Wyoming Serving on City Council: Mayor Hoffmeister read the Resolution and presented it to Ms. McCauley.

C. Public Hearing on Legislation Approving an Application for a Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area and Establishing a Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area in the City of Wyoming: Ms. Tetley presented a PowerPoint presentation outlining this item.

What is a DORA? DORA stands for Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area and is a specifically designated area that allows patrons over the age of 21 to purchase alcoholic beverages from an establishment and carry them within a clearly defined area within the City.

DORA's were established in April 2017 by Section 4301.82 of the O.R.C., it creates an exemption from the Open Container Law; under the statue, a person who purchases beer or intoxicating liquor from the holder of a permit with a DORA designation is permitted to have that beverage in an open container at any outdoor location within the DORA.

The 2018 Master Plan identifies as a priority the creation of "additional opportunities for and promotion of night-out events for parents/adults (e.g. beer/wine and social events)."

Ms. Tetley shared the map of the proposed DORA area and explained that the DORA district must be a contiguous area. The proposed area does not exclude any Wyoming restaurant establishment or business from the benefits of the DORA. All businesses located in the DORA area will have the option to allow DORA patrons to enter by the use of a window cling that will help identify each business. The DORA window clings will identify if a business sells the special DORA cup, whether it allows DORA beverages inside its establishment, or identifies the business as non-participating. Patrons can only carry DORA beverages in the defined area.

The DORA operating hours have been changed from what was originally suggested at the public hearing held at the November City Council meeting. Based on resident feedback the proposed hours would be: Monday through Thursday, 5:00-11:00 p.m., Friday, 5:00p.m.-midnight, Saturday, noon to midnight, and Sunday, noon to 9:00 p.m. DORA beverages may not be consumed outside of these hours. Additionally, the DORA may be limited if there are special events (i.e. May Fete) or private fundraising events which hold an F-2 Liquor Permit (i.e. Exotic Wheels and Wine) in which DORA beverages may be unwelcome or competition to the event.

A special plastic, reusable, designated cup, identified as the DORA cup, will be sold at all participating restaurant establishments. The cup changes color when filled with a beverage. The cup will be sold to restaurant establishments at cost and patrons can purchase the cup at restaurants for a nominal fee. The intent is to have patrons keep the cups and reuse them. Additionally, it should be noted that each restaurant that has a liquor permit in effect must also have rules and regulations to follow and they will be diligent in following the rules so as not to violate their permit.

Once a DORA beverage has left a restaurant, it must be consumed before entering another restaurant. Empty cups may be taken into a different restaurant for another beverage.

At this time, the Wyoming Civic Center, Wyoming Community Coffee, Tēla Bar + Kitchen, LaRosa's, CWC, the Restaurant, Station Family + BBQ, and Gabby's Café have agreed to be DORA participating establishments. Each of these businesses currently has a "D" Permit from the Ohio Division of Liquor Control.

Patrons will not be permitted to pour their own alcoholic drink into a DORA cup and carry it around. Beverages must be purchased from participating restaurants. No cans, glass bottles, or outside alcoholic beverages are allowed within the DORA boundaries. Further, alcoholic beverages may not be carried outside of the boundary area or patrons are subject to legal consequences.

It is not anticipated or expected that the area will become littered, unruly, or noisy due to the DORA. Currently, Mason, Milford, Hamilton, and Loveland all have DORAs. The Administration has made inquiries to those communities and none have negative experiences to report. The City has numerous garbage cans in the DORA area, however, cups are intended to be kept and reused. The Police will provide coverage to the DORA area and will be visibly present and readily available should concerns or issues arise. Special events may require additional Police and Public Works staffing, as is already the practice.

Except as provided in the DORA statute, all State of Ohio and City of Wyoming laws regarding public intoxication, impaired driving, and open containers apply to areas both inside and outside of the DORA boundaries. Failure to comply with the rules as stated is a crime!

Ms. Stankorb Taylor asked for procedural clarification, if the proposed changes in the hours of the DORA need to be changed this evening or at the Special City Council meeting. Ms. Supinger explained that if all Members of Council are in agreement with the revised hours she would prefer to leave tonight with that agreement in order for her to make the necessary changes to the Ordinance in time for the Members to have the most up-to-date version to consider on January 27.

By verbal acknowledgement, Council agreed that the revised hours of: Monday through Thursday, 5:00-11:00 p.m.; Friday, 5:00p.m.-midnight; Saturday, noon to midnight; and Sunday, noon to 9:00 p.m. are acceptable.

Ms. Stankorb Taylor commented that there is a perception that there are some people who are drinking in public, maybe in a personal mug, and they are not being stopped. She questioned how the procedure might differ to catch the people who are doing that once the DORA has been started. Chief Herzog stated that the officers cannot stop everyone on the street holding a cup and ask to smell what is in it. The officers will watch a person's behavior or whether a person is acting out of the ordinary. If a person is acting abnormally, the officers will investigate and if a person is found to be in violation of the public intoxication law the issue will be dealt with appropriately.

Mr. Delgado asked what the process might be if a new restaurant were to open inside the DORA boundary and how do they become added to the DORA and how would residents know that the restaurant has been added as a DORA facility. Ms. Supinger stated that there is already a process in place. A new business can be added as a DORA facility if they have the proper permit issued by the Division of Liquor Control. Once approved, they will receive the proper signage from the City. Mayor Hoffmeister asked clarification if the City would provide the approval first. Ms. Supinger explained that the City designates the DORA area and her understanding is that they would be entitled to also participate but they would need to go through the process and get their liquor permit from the state. Mayor Hoffmeister asked if a new business opens in the DORA, with a liquor permit, is there a subsequent approval by the City required. Ms. Supinger stated that is her understanding that the City does not need to approve but it is not 100% clear from the statute what will be required but it shouldn't be a long process. Ms. Tetley added that a new business could be admitted to the DORA by the City by the time the establishment obtains a liquor permit. Mr. Delgado stated that is the basis of his question, what the timing is of the two and what the process would be.

Ms. Stankorb Taylor commented that she recalls from the emails Ms. Tetley forwarded to Council, information on the increased revenues by businesses in DORAs in other cities, and she asked if the City Manager got any sense that either new retail establishments or new restaurants were attracted to those districts because they contained a DORA. Ms. Tetley stated that she did not get that level of feedback but that what she received was more anecdotal type information. The longest DORA that has been in place in the area has been in effect for less than a year and when asked, the businesses owners indicated they were pleased with the DORA and their respective increases in revenue as well.

Mayor Hoffmeister opened the public hearing.

Ms. Nancy Theobald, 1111 Springfield Pike, stated that she is pleased to hear of the progress this has made from the November Council meeting. She is very pleased in that she has contacted the City Manager with several questions and she has answered all of her questions and has addressed her concerns. Ms. Theobald commented that evaluations will take place every five years and asked if these evaluations will come from the businesses standpoint or can resident feedback be taken into consideration as well. She added that Wyoming Avenue has a 25 mph speed limit and Springfield Pike is 35 mph speed limit with a lot more traffic; she wants to make sure that the evaluations will be on-going taking into consideration resident feedback because she is one of them, this is a big concern for her, she does not want her property value to go down because there are beer cans laying in her yard as a result of this but it is good for the businesses. She does not anticipate anything negative but she would like to be assured that people will be looking at this constantly and saying, what are the residents thinking and what are the businesses thinking and maybe we can come to some agreement before five years.

Ms. Tetley commented that she believes the DORA should be reviewed every year. After the busy summer schedule is completed and the fall events are over, she would like to conduct an analysis at that time with a survey among the business owners and the residents adjoined to the DORA district as well as an interview with the Police Department to determine if there were any negative issues up to that point. Ms. Supinger added that there is a clause in the proposed Ordinance indicating that the state statute requires that the DORA application be reviewed by the state every five years at a minimum however it does not prevent the City from creating its own evaluation schedule.

Pastor Jackie Jackson addressed Council and stated that he lives at 1414 Springfield Pike and his family home is 1127 Burns Avenue. He stated that he recently stopped working for the Community Outreach Advocacy for the City of Cincinnati where we respond to homicides and shootings on a 24 hour basis. One of the main issues that always seemed to be involved in these incidences is alcohol. If it wasn't the cause of the homicide it would always be the cause of problems that were going on. This was the City of Cincinnati and it was more in Over the Rhine areas but it is deceiving to think that alcohol only affects

certain people in certain areas because alcohol affects people everywhere. One of his joys of coming home was that he left these areas where it was dangerous and people were on the streets high and intoxicated. His worry is that Wyoming is a quiet area and from 4:00 p.m. to midnight; every day that people are allowed to walk the street intoxicated, you will have some responsible people but what happens when you get the younger people, 21 year old adults that have just been allowed to start drinking, what happens when you get people coming in from other communities because once you open it up, and people have said we have an awesome Police Department, but they cannot stand on the borders and prevent outsiders from coming in, nor can they be everywhere at once. What happens when you start having situations spill over into the community when you have people outside at 11:00 at night, maybe drinking maybe since 4:00 p.m., using Mrs. Theobald's front yard as a restroom, and these are things that are possibilities he believes Council needs to think about what they are inviting into the community. It is great for business but at the same time, this is a residential community where people are raising their children. This is where people are coming home and when you are saying that people will be allowed to walk up and down the street, six or seven hours just drinking and you can't take the drink into another restaurant or place but you can stand outside and drink to your heart's content, in his opinion, it sounds like a recipe for potential problems. This is up to City Council to decide but he believes it's not a good idea. At 4:00 p.m., children are still coming from activities at school, not all children are inside their homes safe by 4:00 p.m. and all it will take is someone to decide that they haven't had too much to drink and believe they can drive or alcohol can sometimes give a person liquid courage and then the officers are out because there is an issue out on the street that paints Wyoming in another light. These are his opinions and he thanked Council for letting him speak.

Mr. Brian Butler, 224 Brocdorf Drive, commented that he applauds City Council on considering this legislation. This program will be good for the businesses and for the community. He anticipates people from outside of the community coming to Wyoming to experience our businesses and also sees residents spending their money in town verses elsewhere in the suburbs. He personally, does not anticipate seeing people walking down the street intoxicated as he believes our Police Department already does not allow that to happen and will continue to do so, however he stated that he has confidence that immediate action would be taken if the situation presents itself.

Ms. Trista Manigault, 11 Elm Avenue, commented that she began her career over 20 years ago on Wyoming Avenue and after a long break of working from home, she is now partnering with Inez Baird on Wyoming Avenue. She believes the DORA is a great idea. It's always important to the business owners to pull in Wyoming residents into the Wyoming businesses. Two years ago when her daughter met some Council members running for office, she conducted a video interview of the Council candidates for her daughter, and many had said that they had never been in some of the businesses. Anything that Council can do to educate the residents about the business owners, to learn what we are doing in a

friendly and engaging way, is a positive thing. There was an event over the holidays among the Wyoming Avenue business owners, in an open house format during the holidays, it was wonderful to see people come in and some were enjoying alcohol and everyone was being responsible. This is a family friendly community and people are generally responsible adults. She is very excited about the DORA and thinks this will be a good thing for the community and she is excited about people being engaging in the community, she thinks it is very important to have parameters in place and it sounds like to her that the parameters are in place. She is encouraged to see that we are doing something to collect revenue and bring it into our community.

Ms. Brad Bonham, 516 Hickory Hill Lane, commented that she would like to add to the positive comments but also recognizes the Pastor's concerns. She believes that the community does not have the underlying policing problems and pressures on them that demands their time to the point they would not be able to respond quickly to any issues in the DORA. She knows many of the business owners and she believes that they know that any negative influence on their name would have a black mark on the community and she expects that the business owners will continue to, as always, watch the alcohol consumption levels of its patrons. If people witness patrons having issues while consuming alcohol, one can simply contact the Police Department, who are very responsive in our community, which is a luxury that many communities do not have. If the DORA creates any negative activities she believes that this Council would act swiftly and make adjustments rapidly especially to the operating hours of the DORA. This is a good program to try.

Mr. LeRoy asked for clarification that under the DORA, public intoxication is still illegal within the DORA. Ms. Tetley confirmed that it is. Mr. LeRoy asked Chief Herzog for the legal definition of public intoxication. Chief Herzog stated that he would have to refer to the Ohio Revised Code for the exact legal definition. The officers will look for people creating a disturbance or who is under the influence of alcohol. Even if it does not rise to that level, the officers may still have a conversation with the individual. If people are concerned about something going on, the officers engage in conversations all the time. We are part of the community, and try to help the community work through its problems. We will have a conversation with them reminding them of the neighborhood they are in and remind them on the boundaries and limits of the DORA and remind them of their own responsibilities if they are approaching an unsafe limit.

Mr. Green asked Chief Herzog if it is illegal to serve someone alcohol that is already intoxicated. Chief Herzog confirmed this is correct. Mr. Green asked if a drinking establishment sees that someone is intoxicated they cannot keep serving that person. Chief Herzog commented that this is correct and added that the DORA does not take away any of the businesses' responsibilities. Their liquor permits are very important to the business and the businesses will not want to do anything that gets their license revoked.

Ms. Averett questioned if the vision of the DORA would be that it would be used primarily during events and concerts in the summer where someone might buy a drink at Station and go into the shops on Wyoming Avenue. Ms. Tetley stated that currently, when we have special events at Village Green, the Wyoming Recreation Foundation or some other non-profit organization is having to pull a temporary liquor permit and all the aspects of that, the insurance and fencing, for example, is a cumbersome undertaking. Through this we are able to allow the businesses to take advantage of that revenue and we don't have to worry about putting in the temporary fencing that we have to do and there's no limit to the number of special events that we can do. For example, this summer we have a concert and a fitness event every Wednesday. Normally we would only be able to do a concert once a month and pull an F2 liquor permit because we were only allowed to pull a permit once every 30 days, so 12 times a year. Station has plans to do activities on Saturdays through the summer. Tēla is planning to do some kind of tailgating on the weekends. She cannot see a scenario where a business is going to be suggesting that a resident walk from Tēla to the Civic Center; you could, but the cups are pretty small, so there would be no place to stop along the way.

The businesses are going to want to try and keep their patrons on their own properties to patronize them so there might be shared events we may do throughout the year but she does not foresee a lot of them. She believes that the DORA patrons will be largely confined to the Village Green property, the lot by Tēla, and potentially the lot by the Civic Center. Ms. Supinger added that we would not have drawn the map the way we have if we didn't have to because under Ohio law with our population, we are only allowed to have one district.

Ms. Averett added that she was trying to imagine any scenario where you would take a drink from say, CWC, and walk, if you lived on the Pike you could walk home, but you can't get in your car with it. Unless there was an event all the way down the Pike she can't envision why that would happen. Ms. Tetley added that along with the Chief's point, the businesses are not going to want encourage their patrons to do anything to put the DORA or their liquor permit in jeopardy. She does not envision a business sending someone outside with a full cup with no place or plan to go, there is too much for the business to lose. Their liability would be so much greater than ours. They would be criminally responsible and financially responsible and there is too much to lose, this is their livelihood. We have had conversations at length with all our business owners and they recognize that the potential for this not to succeed for irresponsible behavior so they are equally vested in this success than we are. Knowing how people behave at the events that we have had she has never seen an event where people behave poorly because they recognize that we don't have to continue to do this.

Mayor Hoffmeister added that we can pull the DORA if we choose. Ms. Tetley replied yes and added that we can modify it or eliminate it.

Ms. Stankorb Taylor asked for clarification regarding driving versus walking with a DORA cup, for example, a person uses a DORA cup and it becomes empty and they put it in their cup holder in their car. Does this qualify as an open container? Ms. Supinger stated that not if the cup is empty. Ms. Tetley stated that if a person has an empty DORA cup in their car it is not considered an open container. Chief Herzog concurred. However, if the cup was filled then yes, it would be considered a violation.

Ms. Averett questioned the homecoming parade where people are lined up on both sides of the street and she asked if the DORA would be in effect then. Ms. Tetley stated that the hours of the DORA could be exempted during the parade hours. Those are all things we will need to work through and work with our businesses just because they can sell the DORA cups doesn't mean they have to. May Fete has been a topic of discussion, is it appropriate or not.

Ms. Theobald stated that she wasn't concerned initially but now wonders about tailgating and wonders if anyone will be in Tēla's parking lot watching people going into the stadium. Chief Herzog stated that would be the school's decision on how they wanted to handle that. Currently, the schools at football games will employ police officers to stand at the entrance gate into the stadium so there is no officer in the stands. Mrs. Theobald questioned that there would be no one admitted to the stadium with a DORA beverage. Chief Herzog stated that the football field is not considered a part of the DORA boundary so they cannot carry a DORA beverage in. Ms. Tetley added that the high school parking lots are not in the DORA boundary as well as there is no drinking permitted on school grounds.

Pastor Jackson reiterated that he was not implying that the business owners would be irresponsible, he was saying that if he has a DORA cup that is permitted in the district that his alcohol might not come from a business. Someone can easily stop by their car and refilling their DORA cup from a cooler. The liquor is not going to have a label on it telling you where they purchased the drink from.

Mr. LeRoy asked for clarification that the application can be amended and the map as well on a monthly basis if we wish. Ms. Tetley confirmed this is correct but added that the City would have to submit a new application to the state for each change.

There being no further comments received Mayor Hoffmeister closed the public hearing.

D. First Reading of the Ordinance Approving an Application for a Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area and Establishing a Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area in the City of Wyoming, Ohio and Declaring an Emergency: Mayor Hoffmeister noted this is the first reading of the Ordinance and set the second reading and public hearing for the Special City Council meeting on January 27, 2020.

E. Public Hearing on Legislation Authorizing the Transfer of 637 and 641 Oak Avenue, Owned by the City of Wyoming, to the Wyoming Community Improvement Corporation: Ms. Statt Blake provided the background. The two vacant lots are part of the Housing Infill Project and subsequent Development Agreement with Homewood Development. They will be combined with the vacant lot at 639 Oak Avenue, currently owned by the CIC, and then split into two buildable lots, on which Homewood Development will construct two single family houses. Mayor Hoffmeister opened the public hearing. Having received no comments, the public hearing was closed.

F. First Reading of the Ordinance Authorizing the Transfer of Certain Properties Owned by the City of Wyoming to the Wyoming Community Improvement Corporation: Mr. Delgado moved to suspend the rules. Mr. O'Reilly seconded the motion. There being no discussion, the motion to suspend the rules carried with all voting yes. Mr. Delgado moved to adopt the Ordinance. Ms. Stankorb Taylor seconded the motion. There being no discussion, the motion to adopt the Ordinance Authorizing the Transfer of Certain Properties Owned by the City of Wyoming to the Wyoming Community Improvement Corporation carried with all voting yes.

G. Proclamation Declaring Black History Month: Mayor Hoffmeister read the Proclamation.

H. Fourth Quarter Financial Summary: Mr. Jeremiah Caudill, Finance Director, presented the report in a PowerPoint presentation. The fourth quarter report reflects the financial activity as of December 31, 2019.

General Fund Revenue:

- \$10,838,486 total revenues which are comprised of:
- Real Estate taxes of \$3,130,852
- Income Tax receipts of \$6,580,410
- Local Government Fund of \$112,355
- Charges for services of \$144,977
- Permits-\$32,466
- Court costs/fines/forfeits of \$132,791
- Interest of \$77,301
- Other Revenue of \$627,351

General Fund Expenditures:

- \$11,146,845 total expenditures comprised of:
- Police Department/Mayor's Court expenditures-\$2,107,491
- Other Operating expenditures-\$2,484,327
- Public Works/Facilities expenditures-\$1,726,833
- Fire/EMS expenditures-\$448,811

- Administrative/Legislative/Community Engagement expenditures-\$448,811
- Customer Service/Finance expenditures-\$280,704
- Legal expenses-\$47,047
- Community Development expenditures-\$214,840
- Transfers-\$2,318,344
- Debt Service-\$1,016,403

#### General Fund Highlights:

- Income tax receipts are up 9.7% compared to 2018 and up 6.1% compared to budgeted amount.
- Property tax receipts \$3,130,852 down 0.59% compared to 2018 actual receipts.
- Expenses of \$11,146,845 – 96.97% of budgeted amount compared to 100% of year complete
- Transfer to Health/Life Fund - \$450,000
- Debt Service - \$1,016,403

#### Recreation Fund Revenues:

- Total Recreation Fund revenues: \$1,002,881
- Major Revenue Sources:
- Recreation - \$577,902
- Civic Center - \$165,260
- Aquatic Center - \$173,546
- Parks & Fields - \$86,173

#### Recreation Fund Expenditures:

- Total Recreation Fund expenditures: \$1,213,446
- Major Expenditure Sources:
- Recreation - \$703,080
- Civic Center - \$171,386
- Aquatic Center - \$261,089
- Parks & Fields - \$77,891

#### Capital Improvement and Water Works Capital Improvement Program Funds:

- Total CIP Fund expenses-\$8,430,684
- Sidewalk Repairs - \$8,550
- Street Improvements - \$400,000
- Ritchie/Garden Circle - \$1,323,920
- Tennis Courts - \$44,027
- Congress Run Traffic Improvements - \$14,650
- Promenade Parking Lot Engineering - \$27,000
- Springfield Pike Project - \$5,425,573
- Community Gardens - \$133,080

- Chisholm Park Improvements - \$35,440
- Debt Service - \$1,018,403

Water Revenue Fund:

- 2019 Revenues: \$2,083,835
- 2019 Expenditures: \$2,067,612

Total Water Works CIP Fund Expenses - \$930,297

- Water Works Check Valve - \$71,600
- Ritchie/Garden Circle - \$520,335
- Debt Service - \$338,362

Non-Major Funds:

- Street Construction Fund
- Total Revenue-\$965,359
- Total Expenses-\$777,167

State Highway Fund:

- Total Revenue-\$38,844
- Total Expenses-\$20,150

I. First Reading of the Ordinance to Adopt a Plan of Operation and Governance for Electric Governmental Aggregation and Declaring an Emergency: Ms. Averett moved to suspend the rules. Mr. LeRoy seconded the motion. There being no discussion, the motion to suspend the rules carried with all voting yes. Mr. Green moved to adopt the Ordinance. Mr. LeRoy seconded the motion. There being no discussion, the motion to adopt the Ordinance to Adopt a Plan of Operation and Governance for Electric Governmental Aggregation carried with all voting yes.

J. Second Reading of the Ordinance Amending Sections 549.10 and 549.13 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Wyoming Pertaining to the Possession of Firearms and Declaring an Emergency: Mayor Hoffmeister noted that this is the second reading of the Ordinance and set the third reading for the February 18, 2020 City Council meeting.

MISCELLANEOUS:

Mr. LeRoy noted that he will be absent for the Committee of the Whole meeting.

Mr. O'Reilly reported that at a previous session, during the Miscellaneous section of the Council meeting, he reported on the Mill Creek Valley Conservancy District that the proposed property tax was to be reduced. In the October 16, 2019 meeting minutes, it sounded as if he reported that the tax was going away. So he attended their meeting and asked them directly and they said there has been no decision on that and the Board has

not taken any position on the issue. The minutes you were reading were only about certain portion of this tax, which was the portion dealing with recreation facilities in which they do intend to use taxes for replacement and upgrading of the Mill Creek facilities. He has written to the judge in charge of the hearing as a member of the First Suburbs Consortium to ask if members of the Consortium can attend the hearings and hear the judge's views. Correcting what he said earlier in a previous session, there is not at this time an elimination of the property tax it is rather postponing the decision and possibly a reduction, he continues to be concerned with what is the 1915 law is being distorted.

Mr. Delgado thanked the City Manager and her staff for setting up the training for the City Council Retreat. He learned a lot from the presenters. There were three things the trainer spoke about and he keeps going over them in his head as he appreciates the opportunity to learn something and to be with the other council members to get to know them better.

Mayor Hoffmeister acknowledged Mr. Joseph Dickhaus from the Census Bureau. Mr. Dickhaus commented that the Census Bureau is hiring. The pay is currently \$23.50 per hour. There are a variety of jobs available and all of them do not require walking door-to-door. However, an accurate count of the number of people living in nursing homes and in group homes, for example, is critical. Citizens will be able to complete their Census questionnaire either on-line, over the phone, or by mail, which is how 95% of the population receives its questionnaire. The last phase of the Census process is for volunteers to knock on doors of homes that have not responded, which is a very small amount. There will be approximately 300 people hired this week in Hamilton County followed by approximately 800 people next week and by late February, 1,400 positions will hopefully be filled. Several of the positions include supervisors, office workers, recruiters, and field supervisors. Applicants must be 18 years old and need to have an email address. Applications will be accepted until April 1, 2020 which is Census day.

**EXCUSAL OF ABSENT MEMBERS:**

All members were present, there were none to excuse.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

There were no items to discuss in Executive Session this evening.

**ADJOURN:**

Mr. O'Reilly moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Delgado seconded the motion. By roll call vote, the motion to adjourn the meeting carried with all voting yes. The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Debby Martin, Executive Assistant

Approved:

Karen Zeilman, Clerk of Council

Thaddeus Hoffmeister, Mayor