

THE
record

THE CITY OF WYOMING, MICHIGAN NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2010

Wyoming City Council Identifies Direction for City Budget, 2 Mill Request Planned for May

After several months of study, discussion and input from various stakeholders, the Wyoming City Council has recommended that Wyoming residents be given the choice in May to approve a 2 mill increase in the City's general millage in order to maintain police and fire services.

The recommendation came as a result of deliberations at the Council's annual retreat. The decision to pursue a 5-year, 2-mill increase in the general millage will help the City achieve financial stability by generating \$4 million to maintain public safety services, which represent nearly 70 percent of the City's general fund.

To further stabilize the budget, the City Council is considering funding cuts to code enforcement, the graffiti abatement program and WKTV. Additional cuts to

the workforce will likely take place, adding to the 20 percent staff reduction that has occurred since 2004.

"Wyoming leaders are hesitant to make such cuts, but we are running out of options," said newly elected Mayor Jack Poll. "We have been elected to represent our citizens and make the best decisions on their behalf. After carefully evaluating options, we believe a 2-mill increase to support public safety services will provide the greatest benefit for our residents over the next five years and will give them the choice to decide."

Like other communities in the region, the City of Wyoming has been hurt by cuts to state revenue-sharing, business closures and significant reductions in property values.

Results of Community Survey Released

In an effort to improve communication with residents, the City of Wyoming has released the findings of a community survey that evaluated city services and identifies potential areas of improvement.

The survey, conducted this summer and fall, gave the city high marks for quality of life and the caliber of services provided. Wyoming residents had the opportunity to rate the city on everything from parks and public safety to snow removal and taxes. They also had the opportunity to share areas of concern with city leaders and identify ways for the City to improve its communication with residents.

Results were shared with the Wyoming City Council at its annual leadership retreat held at the Wyoming library. A complete version of the survey is available at www.wyomingmi.gov.

Odd/Even Parking Now in Effect

Please note that odd/even parking is now in effect to help facilitate winter snow maintenance. Be sure to park on the correct side of the street, or you will be ticketed. As a reminder, between the hours of 12:00 a.m. midnight and 7:00 p.m. of the same day, any motor vehicles, licensed trailers or equipment should be parked on the even numbered side of the street on even calendar days, and on the odd numbered side of the street on the odd calendar days. Questions? Contact the Public Works department at (616) 530-7260.



MAYOR'S

Message

Greetings in 2010! We begin this year with cautious optimism as news reports tell us that this is the year of turnaround for our country. Everyone has been impacted by these tough economic times, and our families struggle with even the bare necessities of food and shelter. In these times, we have to work together as a community to reach out to those who need a helping hand.

The leaders of your city have worked hard to continue to make cuts and stretch every dollar. We have reduced our number of employees and combined services when possible. In addition, our employees have taken a decrease in pay. It is truly our desire to keep the services you deserve and expect to the highest level within our financial framework.

My hope is that as changes occur in our city, you will be an active participant by expressing your opinion and looking at all the proposals we bring you with an open mind. The way government has been run and financed for many years is not a model that can continue in the future. Please join with us as we continue to move Wyoming forward as the City of Vision and Progress. Be involved and be informed.

News Briefs

LIBRARY NEWS

CULTURAL DISCOVERIES at the Library! Make sure to pick up an “Experience China Stamp Card” at the Wyoming Branch! When you receive at least three stamps on your card from attending one of our explore China programs you will be entered into a drawing for a \$50 gift certificate to the Shang Hai Ichiban restaurant. January 9th at 2:00 p.m. -- Tai Chi basics; January 16th at 2:00 p.m. – Dragon Dancing: A Book Comes to Life (for younger children); January 23rd at 2:00 p.m. – Yoga Basics; January 30th at 2:00 p.m. – Tastes of Asia. **ROBOTS AT THE LIBRARY!** Have you ever wanted to know more about robots? Now is your chance! Team members from Code Robotics will be at the library to teach you about Chinese robots and demonstrate a robot of their own on February 20th at 2 p.m. **ADULT BOOK CLUB.** We have a friendly, informal discussion on the third Tuesday of each month. Call the library to find out this month’s book title!

For further details on these and all of our programs, stop in the library to pick up a program guide, check out our web page at www.kdl.org, or call us at (616) 647-3985/3987! Plus, KDL is now on Twitter! Follow us @KDLNews for all the latest updates on programs, events and resources at your library.

MONTHLY E-MAIL NEWSLETTER KEEPS YOU UPDATED!

The Wyoming Parks and Recreation Department began sending out a monthly e-mail newsletter in January to keep you informed of important activities and events, plus providing additional information to assist you in the enjoyment of your recreation and leisure experiences. If you would like to receive future newsletters, please e-mail us at parks_info@wyomingmi.gov or call (616)530-3164 to sign-up today.

2010 CENSUS - IT'S IN YOUR HANDS!

In 2010 the U.S. Census Bureau will conduct its 22nd national census. And this time, it’s in your hands! Your participation is crucial, as census numbers are used to distribute over \$400 billion in federal funds each year. They also determine Michigan’s representation in the U.S. House of Representatives, and they provide valuable statistics for government and community advocates. So spread the word, and encourage your friends and family to fill out the census form when it arrives in March. Remember, it’s in your hands!

Traveling this Winter? Keep Your Home Safe

If you plan on traveling this winter, keep your home safe while you’re away. Follow these important safety tips from the Police Department and you’ll be sure to have a great winter.

- Get an automatic timer for your lights.
- Ask a neighbor to watch your home, shovel snow, and park in the driveway from time to time.
- Don’t forget to have mail and newspaper delivery stopped. If it piles up, it’s a sure sign you’re gone.



Snowflake ❄️

Family Game Night

January 28

6pm-8pm



**Picture Bingo * Snacks * Musical Chairs
Ladder Ball * Prizes * Board Games**

Call 616-530-3164 to Register ❄️

Telephone Numbers

Mayor’s Office	530-7227
City Manager.....	530-3173
City Clerk	530-7296
Police Department.....	530-7300
Fire Department	530-7250
Public Works.....	530-7260
Utilities	261-3550
Planning & Community	
Development.....	530-7258
Parks & Recreation.....	530-3164
Building Inspections.....	530-7285
Assessor	530-7231
District Court.....	257-9814
Treasurer.....	530-7280
Utility Billing.....	530-7389
Wyoming Senior Center.....	530-3190
Wyoming Public Library.....	647-3980

Meetings

City Council Meeting | on the first and third Mondays of the month at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall in the Council Chambers.

City Council Work Sessions | on the second Monday of the month beginning at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall in the Council Chambers.

Planning Commissions Meetings | on the third Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall in the Council Chambers.

Zoning Board Of Appeals | on the first and third Monday afternoons of the month at 1:30 p.m. at City Hall in the Council Chambers.

Parks & Recreation Commission | on the second Wednesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall in the West Conf. room.

Wyoming City Council

Jack Poll, Mayor

Sam Bolt, Mayor Pro tem,
Councilmember-at-Large

Dan Burrill, Councilmember-at-Large

Kent Vanderwood, Councilmember-at-Large

Bill VerHulst, 1st Ward Councilmember

Richard K. Pastoor, 2nd Ward Councilmember

Joanne Voorhees, 3rd Ward Councilmember