



Town of Wyoming  
Wyoming Municipal Building  
May 20, 2016  
3:30 P. M.

**SPECIAL BUDGET MEETING & BOARD OF APPEALS**

CALL TO ORDER – Mayor Rife called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Mayor Rife

MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR OUR TROOPS – Mayor Rife

Council attending: Mayor Dale Rife, Vice-Mayor Terry Witt, Secretary Georgette Williams, Treasurer Kyle Dixon

Council Absent: Open Seat

Staff attending: Nicole Armour, Finance Clerk & Pamela Haddick, Town Clerk

Audience attending: Doug Denison

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

*Ms. Williams moved to accept the agenda as published. Mr. Witt seconded the motion. Mr. Dixon, Mr. Witt, Ms. Williams ~ Aye. Motioned carried.*

The Town Council sat as the Board of Appeals from 3:30 p. m. – 4:30 p. m.

Mayor Rife went over the list of Senior/Disabled exemptions from Kent County.

*Ms. Williams moved to honor Kent County's Senior Citizen/Disability list for Wyoming Tax discount, which was seconded by Mr. Witt. Mr. Witt, Ms. Williams, Mr. Dixon, Aye. Opposed, none. Motion carried.*

Mayor Rife read a letter of resignation from Ms. Armour. Ms. Armour thanked the council for allowing her to serve them. *Mr. Dixon moved with a second from Ms. Williams to accept Ms. Armour's resignation effective May 27, 2016. Mr. Dixon, Ms. Williams, Mr. Witt, Aye. Opposed, none. Motion carried.*

The Council discussed the budget. Mayor Rife stated that she went through it line by line with Ms. Armour and that she in turn went over it with Mr. Dixon. After several scenarios the budget sitting in front of them was the end result. The draft budget reflected a raise in the base tax from \$85 to \$100, and the town covering the cost of the insurance increase 100%. This budget also does not allow for any raises due to covering the insurance. Ms. Williams agreed that raising the

base tax was the best choice, and that it was most fair and “across the board” for all of the residents. Mr. Denison asked when the COPS grant ran out. Mayor Rife stated that we still have 1.5 years left. Mr. Denison asked when the last time the base tax had been increased. Ms. Williams stated that it had been at least 10 years. Mayor Rife stated that this increase was necessary to ensure that the town remained debt free and to cover the insurance. She stated that they are now covering an employee that never participated in the health insurance, and they are still covering an employee and spouse plan that went up double what the single plan went up. Ms. Williams brought up a decision council made the previous year when the council gave an employee a \$5,000 a year raise to offset no longer covering his family plan. She went on to explain that that employee then cancelled his children from the insurance. She went on to explain that the town puts out \$10,000 more a year on this one employee than any other employee, and she feels that at some point we need to cap what we are going to put out on the employee/spouse plan since it goes up double what they cover on any other employee every year. Mr. Witt agreed. Mayor Rife stated that this year the single insurance plans went up \$443.04 and the employee and spouse plan went up \$916.08. Ms. Williams stated that she would like to see the employee cover the difference from here on out. Mr. Denison asked a few questions about the health insurance. Ms. Armour stated that we have the same plans as the state since we piggy back off from them. Mr. Dennison asked about Capital Improvements. Ms. Armour stated we list it as “Capital Outlay” on the budget. Ms. Williams stated that our Transfer Tax income could be higher this year as well, but Ms. Armour stated that she would rather err on the side of caution and Ms. Williams agreed. Mayor Rife revisited the “no raises.” She stated that last year it was decided that there would no longer be across the board raises. That it would be based on performance. Mr. Witt questioned why the Municipal Building electric didn’t go down but the Annex/Police Department went up. Ms. Armour explained that she would rather overestimate the expenses and make adjustments as the year goes on. Since everything has just been switched over there was nothing to go on and it was all just a guessing game for now.

*Ms. Williams moved with a second from Mr. Witt to set the tax rate at \$1.10 per \$100 of assessed value. Mr. Witt, Ms. Williams, Mr. Dixon, Aye. Opposed, None. Motion carried.*

*Ms. Williams moved with a second from Mr. Dixon to increase the base tax from \$85 to \$100 per property. Mr. Dixon, Ms. Williams, Mr. Witt, Aye. Opposed, None. Motion carried.*

*Ms. Williams moved with a second from Mr. Witt to approve the 16/17 FY Budget as published. Mr. Dixon, Ms. Williams, Mr. Witt, Aye. Opposed, None. Motion carried.*

Mayor Rife stated that she talked to All Seasons and that they could haul in certified playground mulch for about \$500 a load. Mr. Dixon stated that he would think that we would need about 4 loads which is the \$2,000 we spent last year. Ms. Williams stated that since council had already voted on getting the mulch that we should just go ahead and order it from All Seasons. Mayor Rife stated that Pam would write up a work order for Lew telling him that he must spread it with a yard rake and not to use the tractor and bucket.

Mayor Rife contacted Ron Loockerman about the limbs at 321 Broad Street. She is waiting to hear back from him. She went on to say that we cannot burn down the house until October, but she had Dave Reed get a price for a roll off and we will be checking into what the cost to rent destruction equipment would be. There still may be a chance that we can do the demolition ourselves.

Mayor Rife stated that there is a dead tree on Jenkins and Mechanic. She would like to have Richard go out and look at it. If it belongs to the home owner then we need to send them a letter to have it taken down or the town will have to take care of it and bill them.

Mayor Rife stated that the bids have come in for Wingate, Wyoming Mills, and S. Layton Avenue between Southern Boulevard and Camden-Wyoming Avenue. She stated that Jerry's Paving was able to give us a discount if we did them all at the same time making them the lowest bidder. With all the money we have carried over in CTF funding we will only be \$32,000 short which Sen. Bushweller has agreed to give us. Mayor Rife stated that we should be ready to award this job the July meeting.

Council moved into Executive Session at 4:55 p.m.

Council moved out of Executive Session at 5:28 p. m.

*Ms. Williams moved with a second from Mr. Dixon to uphold all decisions made by Council in Executive Session. Ms. Williams, Mr. Dixon, Mr. Witt, Aye. Opposed, None. Motion carried.*

*Ms. Williams moved with a second from Mr. Dixon to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Williams, Mr. Dixon, Mr. Witt, Aye. Opposed, None. Motion carried.*

Meeting was adjourned 5:29 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nicole Armour  
Finance Clerk