



Town of Wyoming
Public Hearing Minutes
September 9, 2024, 5:30 P.M.

PUBLIC HEARING-TOWN COUNCIL

CALL TO ORDER – Mayor Denison called the Meeting to order at 5:30p.m.

ROLL CALL

Council attending: Mayor- Doug Denison, Vice- Mayor, Tracy Johovic, Treasurer- Kyle Dixon, Secretary- Melissa Wooleyhand, and Parks and Streets Commissioner, Cathy George.

Council Absent: None

Staff attending: Chief Baker, Patrolwoman McCullough, Town Manager, Michael Wooleyhand, Town Clerk, Roseann Lamar and Clerk of Council, Audrey Lindale.

Audience attending: Jared Stalnaker, Elaine Bilow, Rebecca Marasco, Mike Marasco, Jane Sweeney, Sheryl Ford, Gwen Colston, Randy Musselman, Frederik Ruhe, James Winchell and Donna Storan.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Ms. Johovic moved with a second by Mr. Dixon to adopt the agenda as presented. Mayor Denison, Ms. Johovic, Mr. Dixon, Mrs. Wooleyhand and Ms. George, Aye. None Opposed. Motion carried.

New Business:

An Ordinance amendment to the Town of Wyoming Land Use and Development Code of the Town of Wyoming to authorize the use of land in certain zoning districts for Marijuana-Based businesses pursuant to conditional use approval.

- Mayor Denison gave an overview of the ordinance change. Starting on page 2. Section 1. Permitted Uses: Marijuana Establishments under Zone and what would be required for this permitted use would be Commercial Zone-Conditional Use and Light Industrial Zone-Conditional Use required. Page 4. #10. Marijuana establishments, number of active conditional use permits in commercial or light

industrial zones only two business in that zone at a time. Letter c. is key by adding a moratorium until April 1st, 2027, to see how the first set of state licenses that are going to be issued starting November 2025 will impact other municipalities and to gather data from those towns to see the impact of these types of facilities in their communities. Why do we need this ordinance in place now? Currently our land use and development code does not have anything that defines Marijuana-based establishments. Mayor Denison added that by adding a conditional use this gives the council the authority to restrict these establishments, implementations can be put into place such as hours of operation, signage, parking, etc.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Ms. George read an anonymous letter from a concerned resident stating while they have given this ordinance a tremendous amount of consideration, they do not understand the benefit that these types of establishments would bring to the town. Furthermore, this is a family-friendly oriented town. We have many activities that are inviting within in the town and should not even consider allowing any type of marijuana establishment regardless of additional approval process. Let's keep the town clean and once again family friendly instead of allowing anything to do with marijuana to come into our town limits.
- Ms. George stated that she feels that these types of establishments are not needed here. The towns of Camden and Dover are already doing. This is a family-oriented town, the town is not getting anything from this. Feels that this would destroy the town.
- Mr. Stalnaker stated that he has worked for Columbia Care at a cultivation facility in Milford for two years now. These facilities are beneficial, they help create jobs, there is money in the industry, it creates a competitive job market.
- Mr. Stalnaker has been to all the dispensaries in the state, and they are insured to be safe.
- Ms. Sweeney stated she is against this. She has lived here all her life and only sees bringing marijuana into town causing problems and does not want to see the town go to crap.
- Ms. Storan is a medical facility, and a grow facility allowed?
- Mayor Denison yes, they are allowed in Light Industrial zone and the facilities are very secure.
- Mr. Winchell stated why go through all of this if you would deny it. Who makes the money from it? On page 1. All the whereas the, whereas pursuit just say no to begin with. Everybody that smokes pot is the only ones that want it. Mr. Winchell is against.
- Mr. Marasco first off wanted to thank the council for being proactive.
- Mr. Marasco questioned page 4. 10.a two permits for a total of one type of facility where can these types of facilities potentially go zone wise? What is the stance on smoke shops and/or vape shops? And additionally, what is the police stance on additional issues with these types of facilities being brought into municipalities?

- Mayor Denison commented that the facilities are only permitted in commercial and light industrial zones. Smoke shops/vape shops are not regulated or state regulated. As far as marijuana use is concerned, state law is still in place.
- Chief Baker stated that this could bring more people into town, especially younger people.
- Ms. Bylow for clarification this ordinance gives the council more control, as it stands now anyone can come in and do apply.
- Mayor Denison yes, this ordinance allows us to be more restrictive, but with a conditional use process.
- Ms. Storan why allow two grow facilities and one retail store. Does not want to see it in her back yard.
- Mayor Denison stated that this is why a moratorium is in place to see how it affects other municipalities.
- Mrs. Marasco questioned so as of April 2027 can we revisit this issue and see where we are at that time and how we want to proceed.
- Mayor Denison agreed that was correct.
- Ms. George stated that she has been to retail facilities, they are strict to get into. They are secure, she has concerns about how these facilities could possibly affect our police department.
- Mayor Denison reiterated that we don't know what effect this will have yet. We will just have to see how it goes at this point over the next two and a half years with other municipalities and after all the state licenses have been issued
- Further discussion ensued.
- No discussion or accepting of any conditional uses will take place until April 1, 2027.

Ms. George moved with a second by Ms. Johovic to adjourn the meeting at 6:22 pm. Mayor Denison, Ms. Johovic, Mr. Dixon, Mrs. Wooleyhand and Ms. George, Aye. None Opposed. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned.

Roseann Lamar
Town Clerk