



Town of Wyoming
Budget Meeting
May 28, 2025, 5:30 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER – Mayor Denison called the Meeting to order at 5:33p.m.

ROLL CALL

Council attending: Mayor- Doug Denison, Vice Mayor- Tracy Johovic (arrived at 5:36pm), Secretary- Melissa Wooleyhand and Parks and Streets- Cathy George.

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

Audience attending: Donna Mason and Michael McFann.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Mr. McFann expressed concerns that public comments were not listed at end of meeting so that residents that have questions after the budget discussion can ask questions.
- Mr. McFann questioned whether or not employees are given a “report card” for their performance which would be used to determine salaries. If a tax increase for salaries is needed, wants to ensure that employees are performing up to standards.

NEW BUSINESS

○ **Park Ordinance**

- Mayor Denison explained that the ordinance was being put in place to help with the problems with trash being left behind and unauthorized parties being the issue.
- A fine would be issued if found in violation of ordinance.
- Discussion of wording for Section 5 (1).
- Suggestions were incidental use, casual use and putting a number.
- Suggestions will be sent to attorney for clarification.
- Ordinance will be presented at June Council Meeting.

- **Budget Discussion**

- Mr. Wooleyhand presented the proposed budget to council.

Income:

- ❖ Trash Income increases from \$379 to a minimum of \$395, suggest just doing \$400 per household.
- ❖ Building permits along with other subcategories increased due to the Business Park.
- ❖ Increase in Police Fines, per conversations with Chief Baker
- ❖ Increase in Peach Festival Rental Space due to increased rates charged to vendors
- ❖ Most other Items Remained unchanged.

Expenses:

- ❖ Current Budget DOES NOT include any increase in salaries but should be considered to remain competitive.
 - Salary Survey Completed and was previously viewed.
 - Town of Wyoming is one of, if not the lowest paid amongst the Municipalities that contributed to the survey, this includes general staff as well as police.
- ❖ Chief of Police and Town Managers Contracts to be renewed, both expire 6/30/2025 currently no increases included with draft 1 of the budget- terms to be discussed.
- ❖ Benefits Increase
 - State Health Insurance Rates include a 4.2% increase from last year.
 - One New officer added onto the policy- previously covered under parent policy but has aged out.
 - Slight increase in State Pension Plan
- ❖ Town's Liability Insurance Rate increased (increased this year) this is because of 2 factors- General Increase in Rates and our claims history (Vehicle and Police Liability Coverage).
- ❖ Utilities- Increase in overall utilities
 - Delmarva Power slated for a 3% increase
 - Internet / Phone Services, Plans Increased
 - Gas- Projected Increase
 - Sewer & Water Increased County Sewer Rate, talks of a 5% increase in water rates
- ❖ Supplies Expense- small decrease in Supplies
- ❖ Equipment- Will only purchase new equipment if we can get outside funding via grants etc. unless it is a necessity and then may have to come from Capital Outlay Funding
- ❖ Contracted Services Overall Increase
 - Police- Increase mainly due to accreditation
 - Axon, Lexipol, PMI Subscriptions
 - Town Hall- Tax and Billing Software Annual Fee- Previously utilized ARPA Funding- Exhausted
 - Trash Contract increase, offset by increase in billing
- ❖ Professional Services- Small Decrease due to not including any expenses for Town Engineer
- ❖ Repairs & Maintenance- Overall Decrease, however Police Vehicle Maintenance should be noted
 - 2 Older Police Vehicles, 2018 & 2019 and we have seen several issues this past year
 - 2018 Tahoe Current Transmission Problems and is being evaluated by Moore's Garage.

- ❖ Capital Outlay Estimated \$115k for CTF and \$140K for Reality Transfer
 - May need to Utilize Some Capital Outlay Funds towards Police Budget Items

Overall the proposed 2025-2026 Budget comes unbalanced with \$249,163 needed to balance the budget, once again without any increased Salary Amounts.

- Mayor Denison questioned prior year fund balance.
- Mr. Wooleyhand advised that it was \$375,000. No general funds and no ARPA to carryover.
- Mrs. Mason asked about assessments from county and the tax rate.
- Mr. Wooleyhand explained that the current tax rate would need to be adjusted so that the town revenue is neutral and then the tax rate would be increased according to council's decision.
- Discussion regarding items that were reality tax transfer eligible. Items include vehicles including repairs and replacement, capital expenditures and public safety.
- Most of the town's capital projects are funded by other sources.
- Mayor Denison recommended using some of the transfer tax for the police/public safety to make deficit \$65,000 less.
- Discussion ensued.
- Mrs. George suggested using multipurpose court for tournaments as a revenue source or a fall festival.
- Mayor Denison recommended that if taxes were raised, that other license fees be raised accordingly as well.
- Discussion ensued regarding upcoming developments and tax revenue.

Ms. Johovic moved with a second by Mrs. Wooleyhand to adjourn to executive session at 7:03pm. Mayor Denison, Ms. Johovic, Mr. Dixon, Mrs. Wooleyhand, and Mrs. George, Aye. None Opposed. Motion carried.

Ms. Johovic moved with a second by Mr. Dixon to return to regular session at 8:38pm. Mayor Denison, Ms. Johovic, Mr. Dixon, Mrs. Wooleyhand, and Mrs. George, Aye. None Opposed. Motion carried.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

- None

Mr. Dixon moved with a second by Ms. Johovic to adjourn meeting at 8:39pm. Mayor Denison, Ms. Johovic, Mr. Dixon, Mrs. Wooleyhand, and Mrs. George, Aye. None Opposed. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned.

Audrey Lindale - Clerk of Council