

July 8, 2021

**Glen Elder City Council Minutes  
July 8, 2021**

The regular Glen Elder City Council meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, July 6, 2021 at 6:00 pm. Those in attendance: Mayor Darel Stuart, council members Sheila Paxson and Dan Winkel. Also in attendance: Thomas Depew, Kevin Noller, Emily Benedick, City Attorney Scott Wright, Eldon Behymer, and Jerri Senger. Larry Wheeler, Barry McPeak, and Landen Cleveland were unable to attend the meeting. Due to a lack of quorum, the meeting was adjourned to Thursday, July 8 at 6:00 pm.

The Glen Elder City Council met in regular session on Thursday night at 6:00 p.m., July 8, 2021 at City Hall with Mayor Darel Stuart presiding and council members: Sheila Paxson, Landen Cleveland, Dan Winkel, Barry McPeak, and Larry Wheeler present. Also in attendance: Thomas Depew, Kevin Noller, City Attorney Scott Wright, Eldon Behymer, and Jerri Senger.

**Minutes & Claims**

The minutes of the June 7, 2021 meeting were reviewed. Barry made the motion to approve the minutes, Larry seconded the motion and the vote carried with five ayes.

The claims on hand for the month of June amounted to \$73,141.49, plus the outstanding Sunflower Electric Power, the attorney, and Kansas One-call bills were reviewed. Sheila made a motion to approve the claims. Dan seconded the motion and the vote carried with five ayes.

**Steak Cook-off**

Thomas Depew asked the council's permission to host a steak competition in October, around the square. He said the competition will bring into town approximately 20 to 40 teams from out of the area. He said each competitor will have a 10' by 10' area to do their cooking in. He wants that to be located in the street, not on the grass. Thomas said the competition will be from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. The council liked the idea as long as cooking areas will not be on the sidewalks. There was some discussion about leaving streets open and which side of the square Thomas wanted blocked off. The council approve blocking off the east side of the square for a steak competition in October 2021.

**Code Enforcement**

The council reviewed the June activity report from Code Officer James Reed.

The mayor and council expressed concern about fireworks that were shot off after 11:00 pm, by one family in particular. The council asked to have a letter sent to the family.

It was mentioned Wes Thompson's fireworks display was ran very well. The fireworks were done and cleaned up by 11:00 pm.

**Capital Improvement Plan**

The council reviewed the Capital Improvement Plan presentation for the public meeting provided by Emily Benedick. The council liked the information in the presentation. The public meeting about the Capital Improvement Plan will be held on Thursday, July 15 at 7:00 pm. Residents are encouraged to come.

**City Sales Tax**

The mayor informed the council that from every dollar collected for property taxes, the city gets just 18 cents. A census representative gave a presentation this morning with the mayor, Sheila Paxson, and the clerk present. Glen Elder's population is down to 420 residents due to the

increasing number of summer/weekend homes in town. Lower population numbers mean less money received from the state and federal government when population is a calculating factor. The special highway money received from the state for street repairs is a perfect example. The clerk reiterated how important a city sales tax would be in repairing the streets, curbs and gutters in town. The clerk said the city does not have the money to properly repair Hobart with the existing budget funds. Darel Stuart and Lori Augustine are the city sales tax committee members. Residents can get more information about the city sales tax at public meeting on July 15, 2021.

### **Car Wash**

The car wash is up and running, using quarters. The clerk is trying to get ahold of the company to setup the debit and card reading system for the car wash. The council reviewed the car wash project cost list which totals \$15,306.70 to date. The mayor said Chris Wagner is willing to donate the vacuum, if the city will purchase the stand and light for \$600.00. Sheila made a motion to purchase the vacuum stand and light for \$600.00. Landen seconded the motion and the vote carried with four ayes. Dan abstained from voting.

### **2021 Audit Agreement**

The council reviewed the proposal from Jarred, Gilmore & Phillips, PA to prepare the 2021 audit for \$6,500.00. Landen made a motion to hire Jarred, Gilmore & Phillips to conduct the 2021 audit. Larry seconded the motion and the vote carried with five ayes.

### **Residential Trash Contract**

The current contract for residential trash collection will expire on December 31, 2021. The council discussed getting the process started and send requests for proposals to both Mitchell County trash collecting companies as well as companies in Jewell and Osborne Counties.

### **Building Permit**

Larry made a motion to approve building permit #21-13 to move in a 10'x12' storage shed for Wes Thompson at 121 W. College Street. Landen seconded the motion and the vote carried with four ayes. Barry abstained from voting.

### **Executive Session**

At 6:34pm Sheila made a motion to go into executive session for 10 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel with the mayor, council, and Eldon present. Larry seconded the motion and the vote carried with five ayes.

At 7:44pm Mayor Stuart re-opened the regular council meeting with no decisions being made in executive session.

### **Personnel Handbook**

The council asked the clerk to be sure the personnel rules and regulations have updated residency requirements. Full-time maintenance employees can live within a legal 15-minute drive from the city and can have up to 90 days to live within that area.

### **Clerk Report**

The clerk mentioned the public meeting on the new Floodplain Maps to be held in Beloit at the Municipal Building on July 21, from 2:00 pm to 6:30 pm. She encouraged residents and council to attend the meeting.

The clerk informed the council the office will be closed at times for sick and vacation leave, until a new office assistant can be found.

The clerk asked the city attorney if he has had any luck getting CB Trucking to pay for the fire hydrant damage from May 2020. Scott said he will work on that.

The clerk quickly went through the draft of the 2021 Budget. In order to budget a little more for street repairs and other necessary expenses, the city will need to exceed the Revenue Neutral Rate of 33.519 provided by the county clerk. Sheila made a motion to exceed the Revenue Neutral Rate by 5 mills and send the required notice to the county clerk by July 20, 2021. Larry seconded the motion and the vote carried with five ayes.

The clerk informed the council the city is to receive half (\$32,085.95) of the American Rescue Plan money any day. She said the money must be spent by December 31, 2024 and it is suggested not to get in a rush to spend the money. She stated it will come with lots of paperwork and reports, and the city will be limited as to what the money can be used for. As of now the money can be used for COVID-19 related negative economic impacts, or necessary investments in water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure.

### **Council Reports**

Landen said he is happy to have the car wash open. The mayor read the letter he received from Bob Kastrup about the excessive dust from the harvest trucks on the CVA driveway south of his apartment.

With no other business, Sheila made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Larry seconded the motion and with five council members voting aye, the meeting was adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

*(These are unofficial minutes, until approved at the next council meeting!)*

Jerri Senger  
City Clerk