

**Glen Elder City Council Minutes
January 7, 2019**

The Glen Elder City Council met in regular session on Monday night at 7:00 p.m., January 7, 2019 at City Hall, with Mayor Ryan Duskie and council members: Sheila Paxson, Landen Cleveland, Ken Kusler, Barry McPeak, and Larry Wheeler present. Also in attendance: Jeff Holling, Terry Collins, Tracy Smith, Jeff Shelton, Attorney Katie Schroeder, Eldon Behymer, and Jerri Senger.

Minutes & Claims

The minutes of the December 3, 2018 meeting were reviewed. Barry made the motion to approve the minutes, Sheila seconded the motion and the motion carried with five ayes. The claims on hand for the month of December amounting to \$43,199.63 plus the outstanding Mid-Kansas Electric, State municipal court fees and attorney bills were reviewed. Sheila made a motion to approve the claims. Ken seconded the motion and the motion carried with five ayes.

Tracy Smith

Tracy Smith asked the council for an extension to his property clean-up deadline. He received the code violation letter last week and stated that he needs more than ten days to clean up his property. After some discussion the council gave him until the next meeting, February 4, to get his property cleaned up. Tracy also asked for approval of his building permit application, stating he wants to put a fence across his driveway. He mentioned part of his driveway is on the neighbor's property, but he contacted the neighbor and will have written permission for a fence this weekend. Tracy also asked that "slow down, children at play" signs be put up around his corner. He said folks tear around the corner and there are several young children that live and play in the neighborhood. Tracy said he would even pay for the signs himself, it is that important to him. The council will look into requirements and prices for signs, and tabled the decision until the February meeting.

CVA

Jeff Holling addressed the council; Central Valley Ag is proposing to build two new grain bins west of the existing bins and moving the scale north of its current location. The new bins will be smaller than the last ones built and they need the bins up by September 1st for fall harvest. Jeff said the new bins should not add to the truck traffic on the city streets. There was some discussion on the maintenance of what is called Railroad Street, which is in fact located on railroad right-of-way and is leased by CVA. It was asked why CVA doesn't maintain that "street". Since the scale is proposed to be relocated onto Railroad Street, it was mentioned there will still be one 12-foot lane available to be driven on. Barry stated that he and others drive large farm machinery on Railroad Street and would need to adjust their route when the scale is relocated. It was asked if there are potential future plans to build any more bins. Jeff said yes, two smaller bins. He said with future bins it should help eliminate weekend and after 8-5 traffic on the streets. The council asked what CVA can do to help the city maintain the streets that take such a beating from the high volume of trucks. Jeff said he has his employees immediately pick up any grain that is spilled on the streets and he is willing to pay the city to sweep the streets to help cut down on the dust. There was mention of the council attending the October 2018 Mitchell County Commissioners meeting, asking for some of the tax money the county receives from the flats east of town. The Commissioners are open to helping out with a possible cost share project on Kansas Street, however at that time they did not want to adjust any tax money

received by the City from the County. Jeff said that CVA is a good company and they will not leave the city hanging on maintaining the streets, but he asked if the council would approve the building permit so he could begin the construction process. He mentioned possibly going to a County Commissioner meeting with the City and will definitely call CVA's CEO to see what help they can be to the city for the streets. Jeff will keep in contact with the Mayor. Larry made a motion to approve building permit #19-2 to build two new bins and move the scale. Ken seconded the motion and the vote carried with five ayes.

Building Permit

After some discussion, the council decided to table any decision on building permit #19-1 concerning a fence for Tracy Smith until next month. Barry made a motion to approve building permit #19-3 a house addition for Beth Ford at 312 N. Hobart Street. Ken seconded the motion and the vote carried with five ayes.

Code Enforcement Report

Code Officer, Jeff Shelton, presented the council with a report on the violations he addressed last year. There was some discussion on non-compliance of violations. The council wants to file complaints, schedule court, and charge fines for non-compliance.

Park Improvements

Eldon informed the council that Cindy Clausen will be writing the grant for park improvements. After some discussion it was determined to ask for \$5,000.00 in grant funds and the city will spend \$10,000.00 for their share of the project. The council would like to purchase new Christmas lights as well as install a new sprinkler system for this park improvement project. The grant application deadline is February 1st.

2001 Ford F150

The council opened nine sealed bids for the 2001 Ford F150. The highest bid was for \$2,260.00 from Lynn Christiansen.

Ordinances & Resolution

Larry made a motion to approve Ordinance #719 – new electric utility rates to begin with the January 19th meter readings. It was noted that the council voted last month to increase electric rates due to the cost of electric going up to the city. Sheila seconded the motion and the vote carried with five ayes.

Ken made a motion to approve Resolution #19-1 to waive GAAP requirements for 2019. Larry seconded the motion and the vote carried with five ayes.

After some discussion a decision was made to increase the office assistant's wage by fifty cents per hour. Larry made a motion to approve Ordinance #720 with the amendment of the office assistant wage increase. Barry seconded the motion and the vote carried with five ayes. Jeff Shelton requested to be paid an even amount throughout the year, making it easier for him to budget. The council approved the idea.

City Sign

The council discussed and liked the welcome sign idea that Larry Wheeler submitted. The city crew will build the frame and base. Larry will contact Roy Winkel about starting the sign and what materials should be used.

Electric-Read Meters

Eldon asked for council approval to set up a work session to have the electric-read meter salesman come visit with the council. Ryan asked to have several dates and times to choose from.

ATV Permits

Barry approved the following ATV permits: 2019: #1 – Lee Brinker, #2 – Lynn Root, #3 – Mike Ptacnik, #4 – Terry Cunningham, #5 – Eldon Behymer, #6 – Rick Gruwell. Larry seconded the motion and the vote carried with five ayes.

Employee Report

Eldon said he is looking for summer help. The council mentioned still taking applications for a pool manager.

Clerk's Report

The Clerk said she will send requests for proposals to CPA's this year for future audits. She mentioned that by doing the budget in-house it saved the city \$1,500.00. The clerk presented the council with a list of transfers and adjustments for 2018.

Council Report

Larry informed the council he had a request to put up signs prohibiting the use of engine brakes in town. Katie mentioned Beloit is passing a similar ordinance.

Barry mentioned being disappointed in a semi that parked overnight next to the square, blocking the Christmas lights. Council members received comments on how well the Christmas lights looked this year.

With no other business Sheila made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ken seconded the motion and with five council members voting aye, the meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

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

Jerri Senger,
City Clerk