

December 1, 2025

**Glen Elder City Council Minutes
December 1, 2025**

The Glen Elder City Council met in regular session on Monday night at 7:00 p.m., December 1, 2025, at City Hall with Mayor Sheila Paxson presiding and council members: Lori Augustine, Lindsey Clark, Landen Cleveland, Kevin Noller, and Angie Behymer present. Also in attendance: Scott Smith, Eldon Behymer, Garry Clark, Attorney Scott Wright, Devon Housh, and Jerri Senger.

Minutes & Claims

The minutes of the November 3, 2025, meeting were reviewed. Angie made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 3rd meeting. Kevin seconded the motion and the vote carried with four ayes.

The claims on hand for the month of November amounted to \$54,746.80, plus the outstanding Sunflower Electric Power, Rolling Hills Electric, Beloit Ready-Mix, Kansas One-call, Kansas Gas Service, Cawker City Ledger, City Attorney, and WorldPay bills were reviewed. Landen made a motion to approve the claims. Lindsey seconded the motion and the vote carried with four ayes.

Lori Augustine arrived.

Public Comment

Scott Smith mentioned that he came to a council meeting four years ago about out-of-town residents that don't pick up their fallen leaves. He is still concerned about this issue. He feels folks should take pride in their properties and clean up the leaves. Scott suggested maybe youth groups could help folks with their yards as a fundraiser and will talk to Cody Fears about the idea. The council does not want to become an HOA and start regulating tree leaves. They agree with the idea of groups offering a service for residents and asked the clerk to put a note in future newsletters.

Council Members

The Clerk took the official oath of office from mayor - Sheila Paxson, and council members – Lori Augustine and Angie Behymer.

Public Hearing

Mayor Paxson opened the public hearing on the renewal of the Neighborhood Revitalization Plan Tax Rebate Program. With no public comments, the mayor closed the public hearing. Landen made a motion to approve Ordinance #769 adopting a neighborhood revitalization plan and designating a neighborhood revitalization area, through January 13, 2031. Lindsey seconded the motion and the vote carried with five ayes.

Dream Big 2.0 Grant Committee Report

The Clerk informed the council Chelsa Anderson has submitted the Dane G. Hansen grant application and has a T-Mobile grant application ready to be submitted as soon as she receives the support letters. \$21,960.00 has been raised with the help of the GiveButter campaign for the multi-court renovation project. The Mayor and Chelsa were interviewed by the KDNS radio station, that interview can be heard on the station's podcast. A fundraising New Year's Eve party is in the works by the radio station.

Code Enforcement

Code Enforcement Officer, Lucas Wiseman, asked the council how many warnings he can give before a resident is fined. The council felt two verbal warnings and a red tag were

enough to be fined. Lucas said he and the attorney will start court proceedings on Tracy Smith. Lucas also asked about residents that will not come to the door or answer through the ring camera. The council instructed him to leave a red tag in those situations.

Lucas reported the only trailer in the street belongs to Andrew Clark. Andrew has been asked to move the trailer off the street but has not done it yet.

Lucas reported he was contacted by Ryan Staley about the property at 200 N. Vine. The paperwork is in process for him to be the new owner and he will be cleaning up the yard and tearing down the house in the spring when the weather permits. Lucas said Mr. Staley has followed through with all his plans so far, so he is confident this will be the same. The council read the letter from Ms. Hale concerning the ownership change of 200 N. Vine.

Attorney Wright stated he will have a couple municipal court cases this month.

Utility Rates

Angie and the council asked how long the power demand charges have been at their current rate. The clerk found an ordinance dating back to 1988. Angie said demand will drive future electric costs and mentioned eventually we will need to charge residents demand charges. The council reviewed the letter from Sunflower Electric Power Corp concerning the increase in the demand charges effective January 2026. These charges will be higher than what the city currently charges customers. The council asked the clerk to recalculate demand meters with the new charges and send the examples to the council. The council will review electric demand charges at the January meeting.

The council discussed the electric monthly customer charges, which were last increased in February 2023. They also discussed the per kilowatt rate and reviewed the electric rate study done in 2024.

Landen made a motion to increase the per kilowatt rate by 5% starting in January 2026. After a brief discussion, he amended his motion to include leaving the monthly electric customer charges the same and increase demand charges during the 4 summer months (June – September) to \$12.85 per kW and increase the demand charge for the rest of the year to \$8.14 per kW. Lindsey seconded the motion and the vote carried with five ayes.

The council decided to leave water, sewer, and trash fees as is, for now.

Executive Sessions

At 8:09 pm Lindsey made a motion to go into executive session for 10 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel, with the mayor, council, city attorney, and Devon present. Landen seconded the motion and the vote carried with five ayes.

At 8:19 pm Mayor Paxson re-opened the regular council meeting with no decisions being made in executive session.

At 8:20 pm Lindsey made a motion to go into executive session for 10 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel, with the mayor, council, city attorney, and Jerri present. Lori seconded the motion and the vote carried with five ayes.

At 8:30 pm Mayor Paxson re-opened the regular council meeting with no decisions being made in executive session.

At 8:31 pm Lindsey made a motion to go into executive session for 10 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel, with the mayor, council, and city attorney present. Lori seconded the motion and the vote carried with five ayes.

At 8:41 pm Mayor Paxson re-opened the regular council meeting with no decisions being made in executive session.

At 8:42 pm Landen made a motion to go into executive session for 5 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel, with the mayor, council, and city attorney present. Angie seconded the motion and the vote carried with five ayes.

At 8:47 pm Mayor Paxson re-opened the regular council meeting with no decisions being made in executive session.

Wage Review

Landen made a motion to increase the following hourly wages for 2026: Devon to \$28.12, John to \$21.01, Joe to \$21.01, Jerri to \$24.30, and the part-time office assistant to \$11.78 with the rest of the wages staying the same. Kevin seconded the motion and the vote carried with five ayes.

Building Permits

Lori mentioned not seeing any problems with the building permits presented. Lori made a motion to approve building permit #25-34 - a new car port for Vicki Stuart at 101 N. Nash Street, and #25-35 - a new 16' x 27' concrete driveway for Rick Gruwell at 208 E. Allen Street. Angie seconded the motion and the vote carried with five ayes.

Employee Report

Devon said he and his crew have been busy working on the dump truck since they finished the Christmas lights.

Clerk's Report

The council reviewed the November connect & delinquent reports.

Angie instructed the clerk to learn the new overtime rules in the Big Beautiful Bill. She said the new rules became effective January 1, 2025, and will change calculations of overtime on the W-2's going out next month. She also mentioned checking into the new comp time regulations.

Council

Kevin stated he attended Discover Mitchell County's meeting last month and asked if the city should become a partner. The council tabled this until the January meeting.

Landen informed the council Darel Stuart contacted him and they sold their downtown building to Mahin Insurance Company.

Lori thanked the council for the beautiful plant she received for her father-in-law's funeral. She also mentioned the Christmas lights look good.

With no other business, Landen made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Lori seconded the motion and with five council members voting aye, the meeting was adjourned at 9:07 p.m.

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

Jerri Senger
City Clerk