

**Glen Elder City Council Minutes
December 2, 2024**

The Glen Elder City Council met in regular session on Monday night at 7:00 p.m., December 2, 2024, 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: Garrett Matthews, Attorney Scott Wright, Devon Housh, and Jerri Senger.

Minutes & Claims

The minutes of the November 4, 2024, meeting were reviewed. Landen made a motion to approve the minutes. Lori seconded the motion and the vote carried with five ayes.

The claims on hand for the month of November amounted to \$45,461.77, plus the outstanding Sunflower Electric Power, Rolling Hills Electric, WorldPay, Beloit Call, Cawker Leger, and Downs News bills were reviewed. Lindsey made a motion to approve the claims. Angie seconded the motion and the vote carried with five ayes.

K-9 Dog Training

Mitchell County Sheriff's Deputy and K-9 handler, Garrett Matthews asked the council's permission to use the fire station as a training site for his dog. The council approved the request and asked Garrett to coordinate with Fire Chief Garry Clark for the use of the building.

Code Enforcement

Attorney Scott Wright reported the letter to the owner of 208 N. Vine was returned to him undelivered/wrong address. He stated the owner of 200 N. Vine contacted him and is working through title and attorney issues. The owner told Scott the property will be sold and the house will be torn down as soon as the title issues are cleared up. The council allowed her until the next meeting to get the issues settled and the property cleaned up. Scott will contact her. He has not heard from or received the letter back from the owner of 404 & 412 E. Allen. The property owner at 325 N. Hobart has hired a contractor and demolition of the two structures will begin in two weeks.

The clerk informed the council the letter to James Deverman about the trailer parked on East Kansas Street, was returned unclaimed. Devon visited with James and the trailer was moved. The clerk mentioned calling to have two trailers moved off of Vallette Street.

The council reviewed the Code Enforcement job description. Documentation is the key for the new Code Officer. The council wants documentation of all contact with residents given to the council and attorney. They decided a maximum of three verbal warnings will be given to any one resident on a violation. No decisions were made at this time, to fill the position.

Utility Rates

Landen made a motion to approve Ordinance #762 amending the electrical rates charged by the city. Lindsey seconded the motion and the vote carried with five ayes. Landen made a motion to approve Ordinance #763 amending the water rates charged by the city. Kevin seconded the motion and the vote carried with five ayes. Landen made a motion to approve Ordinance #764 amending the sewer service rates. Lori seconded the motion and the vote carried with five ayes. These new rates will become effective with the January 19th, 2025 bills.

Dream Big 2.0 Grant

The mayor would like to set up the Dream Big 2.0 public strategic planning meeting in March or April. There was a brief discussion on possible grant project ideas.

Marketing Opportunity for Mitchell County

The clerk mentioned the \$1,000. donation voted on last month was not needed for the Mitchell County commercial.

Kansas Highway 24 Magazine

The clerk showed the council the example of the small ad sent in for the new Kansas Highway 24 Magazine.

Cyber Insurance

The council discussed the Cyber Liability Insurance Program endorsed by the League of Kansas Municipalities. The council asked the clerk to visit with Mahin Insurance about the coverage they offer.

Building Permit

Kevin made a motion to approve building permit #24-21 for a new RV park at 100 N. Vine Street for Seth Krueger, pending payment of the application fee. Lindsey seconded the motion and the vote carried with five ayes.

Executive Session

At 7:37 pm Landen made a motion to go into executive session for 10 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel; with the mayor, council members, Devon, and the attorney present. Lori seconded the motion and the vote carried with five ayes.

At 7:47 pm the mayor extended the executive session for 10 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel; with herself, the council, Jerri, and the attorney present.

At 7:59 pm the mayor extended the executive session for 10 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel; with herself, the council and attorney present.

At 8:10 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 wages as of January 1, 2025, as follows: the full-time employees and the office assistant a 4% wage increase per hour. The Treasurer's salary to \$170.00 per month, the mayor to \$75.00 per meeting and council members to \$60.00 per meeting. Lori seconded the motion and the vote carried with five ayes.

Landen made a motion to increase the 2025 fire department wages, as follows: Increase the chief to \$150.00 per year, Assistant Chief to \$125.00 per year, Secretary to \$125.00 per year, pay all firemen \$25.00 per run and \$25.00 per meeting. Angie seconded the motion and the vote carried with four ayes, Lindsay abstained.

The council will wait until May to discuss seasonal and pool wages.

Employee Report

Devon mentioned the power outage went well.

Devon said the city's oldest water well went down. He contacted Downey Drilling and they will come replace the pump and pipe for \$8,925.00. Devon reported the water levels in the wells are consistent.

Devon informed the council Neptune can now read electric meters. He asked for permission to purchase new radio-read meters. The council would like the city to submit a Section 40101(d) grant application to pay for the new electric meters he requested. The grant application deadline is January 9, 2025.

Clerk's Report

The council reviewed the November utility connect report.

The council informed the clerk they do not like paying for software the city is not using. The clerk mentioned the issues with the software are not fixed yet and that is why the switch has not been made. She commented on several cities that are on the new software and they have problems, daily. The clerk was instructed to get in touch with cities that are successfully using the gWorks Cloud software.

Council Report

Angie asked the clerk to remove the previous Code Officer's name from the website. The council commented on how nice the Christmas Lighting was this year.

With no other business, Landen made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Lindsey seconded the motion and with five council members voting aye, the meeting was adjourned at 8:39 p.m.

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

Jerri Senger
City Clerk