Glen Elder City Council Minutes March 4, 2024

The Glen Elder City Council met in regular session on Monday night at 7:00 p.m., March 4, 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: David Dohe, Garry Clark, Trevor Elkins, Devon Housh, and Jerri Senger.

Minutes & Claims

The minutes of the February 5, 2024, meeting were reviewed. Landen made a motion to approve the minutes. Angie seconded the motion and the vote carried with five ayes.

The claims on hand for the month of February amounted to \$56,628.19, plus the outstanding Sunflower Electric Power, Rolling Hills Electric, and WorldPay bills were reviewed. Landen made a motion to approve the claims. Lindsey seconded the motion and the vote carried with five ayes.

NIMS Training

David Dohe, Mitchell County Emergency Manager, informed the council about the importance of taking the National Incident Management System (NIMS) training and certification. He said during a disaster it is important to have certified individuals to help. He mentioned all the Beloit city employees, as well as all firemen, EMS, and law enforcement officers in the county have this certification. David suggested the council members take the training.

EMC Insurance

Trevor Elkins went through the city's EMC Insurance policy with the council. The policy renews April 1, 2024 and the premium due that date is \$33,264.00.

First Impressions Program & Mural Program

Angie Behymer gave the council a list of possible dates for the Glen Elder First Impressions and Mural public presentations. The council selected Monday, April 1st at 6:00 p.m. to be held at the Library Community Room. The clerk was asked to advertise the public meeting and confirm the location. The regular city council meeting will be held at City Hall at 7:00 p.m. following the public meeting.

Utility Rates

The Clerk reported contacting Kansas Rural Water Association, they are conducting a water and sewer rate study for Glen Elder. The clerk also contacted Kansas Municipal Energy Agency and they are working on an electrical rate study for the city. She reported the gentlemen doing the studies have several cities ahead of Glen Elder, but hope to have their results by April or May.

Water Conservation Plan

Devon said he is waiting for the gentleman from KRWA to come out and assist with updating Glen Elder's Water Conservation Plan.

Building Permits

Kevin said permits #2 and #4 looked fine. There was a brief discussion on application #24-3, the council felt no permit was needed as it was repairing an existing structure. Kevin made a motion to approve building permits: #24-2 – a 12' x 32' Sturdi-Bilt shed for Harry Harrison at 309 E. Allen, and #24-4 – a 30' x 40' shed/garage for Scott Remus at 212 S. Vallette. Lindsey seconded the motion. The vote carried with five ayes.

KMEA Board of Directors

Devon's KMEA Board of Director #2 position is due to expire in April. Landen made a motion to renew Devon's director position. Kevin seconded the motion and the vote carried with five ayes.

Employee Report

Devon asked if he could start advertising for summer help. He would like a couple summer maintenance employees. The council approved advertising for summer help.

There was a brief discussion on getting a surveillance camera in the office. The council decided against it.

Devon reported the Wilson Neff sign has been updated with a new LED display. The council asked to put community events only on the LED display, no business advertisements.

Devon reported they are almost done collecting the lead and copper surveys from all properties in town.

Devon mentioned the old 8' x 10' booster station building is cleaned out. He asked the council what they wanted done with the building. Making it a possible tornado shelter, was discussed. Devon will do some checking into that idea.

Devon reported their welder quit. He said a new one will cost around \$4,000.00, and he has the money in his equipment reserve fund. The council approved the purchase of a new welder.

Devon said the curb on East Kansas Street is starting to get in really bad shape. The council asked him to get some figures for the next council meeting.

Clerk's Report

The clerk informed the council of only one utility RV connect in February.

The clerk mentioned the idea of switching from utility billing cards to regular 8 ½" x 11" billing sheets. She said the billing cards get damaged during delivery with the postal machines, so most of the bills must go into envelopes. She added, the postal service no longer allows the in-town bills to stay in-town. Everything must go through Wichita. The clerk presented the council with cost information on billing sheets and the currently used billing cards. The custom billing card envelopes are expensive, but the perforated billing sheets cost more than the billing cards. The council is fine with using a new sheet billing, but don't feel it necessary to get perforated sheets. The clerk expects to transition to billing sheets in June.

Council Report

Kevin Noller asked about the city getting its own Facebook page. After a brief discussion, it was the consensus of the council to keep utilizing the Glen Elder Community Club's Facebook page for city announcements.

Kevin said the bridge on the east edge of town looks nice with the trees cut back.

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 8:25 p.m.

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

Jerri Senger, City Clerk