

March 6, 2023

A work session was held from 6:00 to 6:55 pm. Council members in attendance were Sheila Paxson, Lori Augustine, Dan Winkel, Landen Cleveland, and Angie Behymer. Also present, City Attorney Scott Wright, City Clerk Jerri Senger and Maintenance Superintendent Devon Housh.

Glen Elder City Council Minutes March 6, 2023

The Glen Elder City Council met in regular session on Monday night at 7:00 p.m., March 6, 2023, at City Hall with Mayor Sheila Paxson presiding and council members: Lori Augustine, Dan Winkel, Landen Cleveland, Barry McPeak, and Angie Behymer present. Also in attendance: Scott Smith, Annette Ybarra, Mike Poell, Kevin Noller, Attorney Scott Wright, Devon Housh, and Jerri Senger.

Minutes & Claims

The minutes of the February 6, 2023, meeting were reviewed. Angie made the motion to approve the minutes, Lori seconded the motion and the vote carried with four ayes, Barry abstained.

The claims on hand for the month of February amounted to \$58,744.46, plus the outstanding Sunflower Electric Power, Rolling Hills Electric, and WorldPay bills were reviewed. Landen made a motion to approve the claims. Dan seconded the motion and the vote carried with five ayes.

Water Rate Ordinance

Attorney Scott Wright informed the council the only change made to the water rate ordinance, since the last meeting, was changing “minimum charge” to “monthly minimum customer charge”. He and the League found nothing wrong with the way the ordinance is written. It was noted - when the landlord has the water on to the RV park, a water monthly minimum customer charge will be applied to every RV hookup with active electric service. Landen made a motion to approve Ordinance #747 amending water utility rates. Barry seconded the motion and the vote carried with five ayes.

Poell & Ybarra

Councilman Dan Winkel said Mike Poell and Annette Ybarra had some concerns. Mr. Poell expressed his concerns about the utility rates he is charged at his RV park.

Utility Connect Ordinance

The council discussed the city crew being called out on holidays and weekends to connect utilities. The council asked to have an amendment drafted to the connect ordinance for an additional fee of \$60.00 to be charged for weekend and holiday connections after 3:00 pm on Fridays. The amendment will be on the April meeting agenda.

Glen Elder Mural

The council reviewed the mural sketch ideas from Greg Holdren for the Cunningham building on the dam. The council decided on the Waconda Water Jug as the one they want. It was the consensus of everyone present, that a large mural downtown similar to the one in Cawker City and the one going up in Hunter, is what everyone wants for next Glen Elder mural.

Darel Stuart's Requests

The council reviewed the email sent by Darel Stuart requesting a waiver for both a septic system and propane system at 501 W. Main. It was mentioned city records show Vine Street is 40 feet wide and Main Street is wider from Vine to High Streets. The council felt it best for Mr. Stuart to get his property surveyed, especially since he is questioning property lines. The council decided not to allow Mr. Stuart to put in a septic system on his property, but is willing to allow him to use propane.

Resolution #10-3

The council asked to have Resolution #10-3 updated and presented at the April meeting. The new fees to be put in the resolution are \$50.00 per piece of city equipment and \$40 per hour per city employee for work done within the city for customers.

Ordinance #655 will remain as written.

Personnel Manual

The council asked the clerk to make the changes discussed in the work session to the personnel manual, for review and approval at the April meeting.

Use of comp time can begin immediately by employees, if they wish.

Employee Health Insurance

The clerk stated, Glen Elder was evaluated by BCBS for entrance into KMIT's group health insurance plan. Due to exceeding their pool risk average by 60% the request was denied. As stated last month the current BCBS grandfathered health insurance premium increased 30% for 2023. The clerk informed the council the BlueCare Platinum SG 500/25 plan with BCBS will save the city \$1,739.13 per month and is very similar to the grandfathered plan. Landen made a motion to stay with the BCBS grandfathered health insurance plan. Lori seconded the motion and the vote carried with five ayes.

EMC Insurance

The council reviewed the letter from Linton Insurance Agency, stating the city's EMC insurance policy will be increasing \$4,076.00 this year, making the annual premium \$33,889.00. Landen made a motion to accept the EMC Insurance policy at the current deductible rate of \$1,000.00. Dan seconded the motion and the vote carried with five ayes. The clerk was asked to get the new premium amounts with higher deductibles for the April meeting.

Pool Rates

The council felt it best to leave the swimming pool rates the same as last summer. The pool will be open 1-7 pm seven days a week, this summer. Pool Manager Hyman has the pre-season guard meeting set for April 2nd.

Building Permits

Landen made a motion to approve building permits: #23-3 – erect a grain bin building for Lucas Wiseman at 400 N. Nash, #23-4 – a new concrete slab for Don's Guide Service at 309 N. Hobart, #23-5 – a house addition for Don's Guide Service at 308 N. Hobart. Barry seconded the motion and the vote carried with five ayes.

Employee Report

Devon informed the council his bid quote last month only included the labor. Ron Eberle did lower his bid to \$34.00 per running foot, making the bid total \$32,640.00. Devon said the

concrete for the project will cost \$11,500.00. All four sides of curb and guttering will be replaced around the square.

Devon said he will order the sand for the street sealing project. The sand will cost \$17,812.50 delivered. The total street project will cost \$85,062.50.

Clerk's Report

The city was awarded the Solomon Valley Community Foundation Grant for \$6,000.00 to replace the south fence at the Pioneer Cemetery. The council was happy by this news and gave the okay to order the new fence from Lake Construction.

The clerk informed the council Greg German has added "Places to Stay" and "RV Parks" under the "Businesses and Lodging" tab on the www.glenelder.com website. He has also added location pins for each address on the new lists.

The clerk mentioned the auditors will be here Thursday. The council felt it best for the clerk to do the budget again this year.

Council Report

At 8:25 pm Barry made a motion to go into executive session for 5 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel, with the mayor, council, attorney and Devon Housh present. Angie 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.

Angie made a motion to increase Joe Wildfong's wages one dollar, to \$18.50 per hour, as of March 1st. Barry seconded the motion and the vote carried with five ayes.

Barry mentioned the cemetery road looks excellent; the city crew has done a good job on that road.

With no other business, Barry made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Lori seconded the motion and with five council members voting aye, the meeting was adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

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

Jerri Senger
City Clerk