

September 5, 2023

**Glen Elder City Council Minutes  
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The Glen Elder City Council met in regular session on Tuesday night at 7:00 p.m., September 5, 2023, at City Hall with Mayor Sheila Paxson presiding and council members: Dan Winkel, Landen Cleveland, Ryan Duskie, and Angie Behymer present. Also in attendance: Emily Benedick, Kevin Noller, Richard Ryan, Kaetlin Hyman, Devon Housh, and Jerri Senger.

**Minutes & Claims**

The minutes of the August 7, 2023, meeting were reviewed. Ryan made a motion to approve the minutes. Angie seconded the motion and the vote carried with three ayes.

The claims on hand for the month of August amounted to \$131,537.59, plus the outstanding Sunflower Electric Power, WAPA Electric, Rolling Hills Electric, and WorldPay bills were reviewed. Landen made a motion to approve the claims. Ryan seconded the motion and the vote carried with three ayes.

**2024 Revenue Neutral Rate & Budget Hearings**

With a quorum present, Mayor Sheila Paxson opened the Revenue Neutral Rate (RNR) Hearing. There was no public comment on the city exceeding the RNR. Angie made a motion to approve Resolution #23-4 – allowing the city to levy a property tax rate exceeding the Revenue Neutral Rate. Landen seconded the motion.

Dan Winkel arrived to the meeting and took his seat.

The clerk recorded the roll call vote, it passed with four ayes to approve Resolution #23-4. The mayor signed the roll call vote sheet and the resolution. The RNR hearing was officially closed.

Sheila opened the public hearing on the 2024 budget. There was no public comment on the budget. Ryan made a motion to approve the 2024 budget as written. Angie seconded the motion and the vote carried with four ayes. The mayor and council members signed the official copies of the 2024 budget. The public hearing on the budget was officially closed.

**First Impressions Program**

Emily Benedick, along with Jan Steen, K-State Extension (via zoom), informed the council the City of Grainfield, Kansas would like Glen Elder to participate in the “First Impressions” program with them. Both communities are of similar size and makeup. Several communities around the state have participated in this program and found it to be very beneficial. The “First Impressions” program is a free program where a group of residents from Glen Elder visit Grainfield and take notes on their “first impressions”. Then a group from Grainfield would do the same in Glen Elder. Neither community is made aware of the visit so they are viewed as they would be any other day of the week. Grainfield is in Gove County and would be a little bit of a drive for each of the volunteers to make the visits. Volunteers are needed to make the visit and fill out the reports. Volunteers are trained, but not reimbursed for expenses incurred during the visits, and will give a community presentation on their findings.

The council liked the idea of participating in the program. Emily will send out the application, which requires the mayor’s signature. So far, the city has three volunteers but needs two or three more volunteers.

### **Lead & Copper**

Devon reported they are half-way done with the lead and copper household survey inventory. The state has set the deadline of October 2024 for reporting the inventory of lead and copper in the city. Devon said we have 22 to 24 known lead goosenecks in the water main running under Main Street from the blending building up to the water tower. He said all other waterlines in town are PVC. Devon informed the council the city did not get the Kansas Public Water Supply Loan funding that Stuart Porter, Schwab-Eaton, applied for to complete replacing the cast iron main and lead joints. He said they are still waiting to hear back on the Small Town Water and Sewer Infrastructure Assistance Grant Program application.

### **Park Benches**

Devon mentioned Lori & Wayne Augustine want to put two benches in the city park, in memory of their grandson Brandon. A “buddy bench” will be placed in the playground area, and a regular sized bench will be placed under one of the shelters near the playground area.

### **Building Permits**

Landen made a motion to approve building permits: #23-18 – to move in a 10x12 utility shed for Michael Stonecypher at 101 N. Eberle St., and #23-19 – to relocate a garage for Jim Slate to 204 N. Center. Dan seconded the motion and the vote carried with four ayes.

### **Employee Report**

Devon informed the council the breaker at the sub-station is antique and oversized. Load testing needs to be done at the sub-station to find out the correct size of breaker needed. He said it has been six years since it has cycled properly. He hopes to have firm figures at the next meeting for replacing the breaker, but he estimates it will cost around \$15,000.00 to \$20,000.00.

Devon said purchasing a stationary on-demand generator for the booster station will cost around \$17,500.00. A mobile generator on a trailer will cost around \$39,500.00. Purchasing a new 3-phase generator is on the Capital Improvement Priority List. The council asked how often a generator would be used. No decision was made, tabled for now.

Devon mentioned there is a hole in the street in front of the old school building, due to the business’s forklifts turning and tearing up the street. He said the spot needs to have concrete put in it. The business will pay for the concrete.

### **Clerk’s Report**

The clerk informed the council she will be using a couple vacation days this month and Linda will be covering the office from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm on those days.

With no other business, Ryan made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dan seconded the motion and with four council members voting aye, the meeting was adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

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

Jerri Senger  
City Clerk