

March 6, 2023

Gladwin, Michigan

The Regular Meeting of the Gladwin City Council was held in person at Gladwin City Hall located at 1000 W. Cedar Ave. in Gladwin Michigan. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Sarah Kile at 5:00 p.m.

Present: Bodnar, Caffrey, Crawford, Darlington, Esiline, Gutierrez, Smith, Winarski

Absent: None

Staff Present: Marietta Andrist, Angela Bigham, Eric Killian, Tom Molski, Karen SeKrenes, Christopher Shannon

Others Present: Mayor Sarah Kile, Chamber Director Carrie Will, County Commissioner Rick Grove, County Commissioner Ron Taylor, Director of Veterans Affairs Ken Roberts, Laurie Howey, Hunter Carrick

Mayor Kile led the Pledge of Allegiance and Council Member Darlington gave the invocation.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Council Member Darlington, supported by Council Member Esiline to approve the regular council meeting minutes held on February 20, 2023, as presented. All Ayes. Motion carried.

Approval of Warrants: Motion by Council Member Crawford, supported by Council Member Gutierrez to approve warrant #23-022 in the amount of three hundred sixteen thousand seven hundred eighty-nine dollars and twenty-five cents (\$316,789.25), payroll ending 02/19/2023 in the amount of twenty-eight thousand nine hundred twenty-eight dollars and seventy-one cents. (\$28,928.71) and warrant number #23-023 in the amount of fifty-one thousand three hundred ninety-six dollars and sixteen cents (\$51,396.16). All ayes. Motion carried.

Hearing of Delegations: County Commissioner Ron Taylor updated the council on broadband for the county. A company, Point Broadband, received the contract through the Federal Government for this area. Point Broadband came and did a presentation to the County Commissioners, and they endorsed the contract. They are applying for an eighteen point seven million dollar (\$18,700,000.00) grant through the State of Michigan to bring broadband to Gladwin County. Stated they will be able to reach ninety-four percent (94%) of people in Gladwin County who currently don't have broadband. Asking for letters of support from local entities.

County Commissioner Rick Grove stated the broadband is a good thing. Also, stated there is a big push in Grout, Gladwin and one other township for solar panels. Currently working through zoning ordinance. Has mixed feelings about it, being a farmer, I would rather see my cattle walking in the fields instead of solar panels. It's not that I am for or against, just don't like seeing the whole countryside littered with them.

Chamber Director Carrie Will reminded everyone of the Legislative Breakfast on Friday, March 10, 2023. Speakers are State Representatives Bill G. Schuette, Roger Hauck and Mike Hoadley. Also stated she surprised Brandon and Becky Hodgins for Pale Blue Restaurant, T.V. 9 & 10 are coming tomorrow morning to do an interview on the restaurant, Becky is going to do one of their cakes and T.V. 9 & 10 is going to do a story on them.

Establish Agenda: Mayor Kile asked if moving the closed session until the end of the agenda was acceptable. Motion by Council Member Darlington, supported by Council Member Winarski to move the closed session to after the Administration Report/Comments. All ayes. Motion carried.

Consent Agenda: Motion by Council Member Gutierrez, supported by Council Member Caffrey to approve the consent agenda as follows:

Communications: Gladwin County District Library Director, John Clexton February 21, 2023, Report Letter from the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development

Meetings Gladwin County Fair Board Meeting Minutes-January 17, 2022
Downtown Development Authority Meeting Minutes-February 8, 2023
Gladwin City Planning Commission Meeting Minutes-February 22, 2023
Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting Minutes-February 23, 2023
Gladwin Rural Urban Fire Protection District Meeting Minutes-March 1, 2023

All ayes. Motion carried.

Public Comment: Resident Laurie Howey voiced concerns of her yard being tore up by a city plow truck. The truck drove pasted the sidewalk and into her yard. She went to the DPW first, they came and looked and stated it was fine. Passed out pictures of her yard and said she drove around town and no one else yard looked the way hers does. Felt this was not okay.

Old Business: None

New Business:

- a. Ken Roberts, Director of Veterans Affairs. Ken Roberts stated, he was not expecting any type of resolution or answers today but had something for the Council to take into consideration and will need the council to make a decision at some point. The City owns and allows the placement of two (2) civil war cannons at the current Veterans Memorial. Currently in the process of a new memorial. It will be moved to the east side of the county building. Asking for the Council to decide on one of three (3) things. The first would be to allow the Veterans Affairs to continue to use the cannons and place them where we see fit on the new memorial when completed. Second, donate the cannons to the memorial. Or third, Take possession of them and place back with the City. Discussion took place. The consensus was to place it on the next Committee of the Whole agenda for further review.
- b. Approval-Ferguson Invoices (2)-Meters. City Administrator Christopher Shannon asked the Council if they knew how many meters and active account the City had. The answer was twelve hundred and three (1203). Stated DPW Supervisor Tom Molski is here to answer any question you may have. Tom Molski gave a brief update on why the city had obtained forty-eight meters and how many are going to need replaced. Discussion took place. Motion by Council Member Smith, supported by Council Member Crawford to approve the two (2) invoices from Ferguson for payment. All ayes. Motion carried.

Mayor Comments: Mayor Sarah Kile stated the sign look beautiful. After being out of town for a week, it was nice to see. Gave congratulations to the 12U hockey team on becoming State Champs and to the girls bowling team for their achievement. Thanked the DPW for their work in removing the snow in town.

Council Member Comments: Council Member Smith commented on the snowing plowing. Stated he lived on a cul-de-sac and the snow must be pushed passed the sidewalk. There is nowhere else for it to go. Suggested if there is serious damage, offer restoration in the spring.

Council Member Darlington congratulated the 12U hockey team, stated they did an awesome job. Also stated the Planning Commission worked through the Dollar General Market site plan. A few members of the public were present, addressed all concerns. The Commission moved plans forward. They met all the setbacks and things are good and accurate.

Council Member Gutierrez congratulated all the teams. Bowling, hockey, and basketball are all doing good.

Council Member Winarski stated the city will reach out to Bob Frei to get information on the cannons.

Council Member Bodnar reminded everyone of the clean-up at the cemetery starts on April 1st. Wanted everyone to know, if there is something a person wants to keep on a cemetery plot, they need to have anything people would like kept by the first of April. This will allow the DPW to clean the cemetery. Not supposed to place anything on there from April 1st through the middle of May. Council Member Esiline congratulated all the teams.

Resident Hunter Carrick entered the meeting late and missed public comment. He was given the opportunity to speak. He voiced concerns on his taxes increasing. Stated he has lived in other parts of Michigan and has not had this high of taxes.

Administration Reports/ Comments: City Administrator Christopher Shannon stated, he was asked on the banners and when they would be taken down. Was held up by the weather, as soon as the weather permits, they will come down. Tom Molski interjected, the DPW was working on taking them today. Should all be down by tomorrow. City Administrator Christopher Shannon continued, stated the electronic sign is up, has a lot more features. Thanked the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) for the help with the cost. The Housing Commission approached the City and would like the City to consider helping with putting in a parking lot at the corner of Antler St and Silverleaf St. Council Member Winarski gave more information and stated the Housing Commission has a fleet of cars for the Counseling on the Aging (CoA). The thought was to partner with the City to install and use. The CoA could have parking in one row and the rest would be available for city parking. Council Member Smith mention the traffic study information and the concerns of people not wanting to walk. City Administrator Christopher Shannon spoke on the recent snow removal and stated the DPW crew worked into the wee hours of the morning. Also stated the Road Commission has received complaints from MDOT on snow being placed onto their road from the city when removing snow from the sidewalks. A meeting to discuss this is in the works. City Administrator Christopher Shannon requested the return of the Personnel Committee to look at compensation to retain talent. The Committee of the Whole is too cumbersome, this is only a suggestion. Add to the next agenda under Old Business.

Motion by Council Member Crawford, supported by Council Member Caffrey to take a five (5) minute recess.

CLOSED SESSION-Attorney Client Privileged Information. Motion by Council Member Darlington, supported by Council Member Caffrey to go into closed session for the purpose of Attorney Client Privileged Information.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Bodnar, Caffrey, Crawford, Darlington, Esiline, Gutierrez, Smith, Winarski
Nays: None
Absent: None
Abstain: None

Entered in to closed session at 5:51p.m.

IN CLOSED SESSION

Motion by Council Member Caffrey, supported by Council Member Esiline to end the closed session and return to the regular council meeting at 6:15p.m.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Bodnar, Caffrey, Crawford, Darlington, Esiline, Gutierrez, Smith, Winarski
Nays: None
Absent: None
Abstain: None

Returned to regular session at 6:15p.m.

IN REGULAR SESSION

Motion by Council Member Crawford, supported by Council Member Smith to adjourn. All ayes.
Motion carried. Meeting ended at 6:15p.m.

Mayor Sarah Kile

Marietta Andrist, Clerk

