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**MINUTES OF THE
GLENDON BOROUGH COUNCIL
GLENDON BOROUGH HALL**

February 8, 2024

Presiding: Donna Breidinger – Council President

Present: Thomas Elliott – Solicitor
Michael Veres - Council Vice-President
Amy Weisenberger-Caswell – Councilperson
Donald Young – Councilperson
Kathryn Harstine - Councilperson
Beth Young – Secretary/Treasurer/Tax Collector

Not Present: Melody McAllister – Mayor
James McAllister-Zoning Officer

Visitors: Kevin Benton, Kathy Knibbs, Amy Veres, William Skrobot, Natasha Grotenhuis, David Blankenship, James Stevely

26 The regular meeting of the Glendon Borough Council was held on February 8, 2024 at
27 Glendon Borough Hall. President Donna Breidinger called the meeting to order at 7:00
28 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance and roll call.
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31 **Public Participation-**

32 Kevin Benton, borough snow plow driver, asked if he could be paid twice a month, rather
33 than the current monthly pay schedule. Treasurer B. Young stated that checks could be cut
34 twice a month, not every two weeks as the two checks need to be paid within the same
35 month. After much discussion, Council talked about adding a third meeting to the month
36 to approve employee paychecks. Councilperson A. Weisenberger-Caswell made a motion
37 to add adding a third meeting to the month to the agenda. Councilperson K. Harstine
38 seconded and the motion was unanimously approved. Councilperson K. Harstine made a
39 motion to add an additional meeting on the fourth Thursday of each month. Vice-President
40 M. Veres seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.
41

42 Natasha Grotenhuis asked if the third meeting of the month is just to approve paychecks or
43 if it would be open to the public. President D. Breidinger stated that it will be, primarily,
44 to approve payroll but if something comes up that needs to be discussed, it can be added to
45 the agenda and that it would be a public meeting.
46

6 **Public Participation (con't)-**

7 Ms. Grotenhuis also voiced concern about 158 Main St. having a lot of garbage on their
8 property. President D. Breidinger stated that they will look at it.
9

10 Vice-President M. Veres stated that 3 High St. has a lot of garbage in their backyard. He
11 offered to talk to them and see if they need help.
12

13 Discussion was had regarding calling the Department of Aging for a welfare check on the
14 owners of both properties.
15

16 **Minutes-**

17 Councilperson D. Young made a motion to approve the minutes for January 8, 2024, as
18 presented. Councilperson K. Harstine seconded and the motion was unanimously
19 approved.
20

21 **Treasurer's Report-**

22 **Bills to be paid:**

23 Councilperson K. Harstine made a motion to pay all bills from the General Fund, Sewer
24 Fund and Liquid Fuels. Councilperson A Weisenberger-Caswell seconded and the motion
25 was approved. Councilperson D. Young abstained.
26

27 **Sewer Bills:**

28 Treasurer B. Young stated that two houses were posted for water shut-off and both paid in
29 full.
30

31 **Tax Collector's Report-**

32 Councilperson K. Harstine made a motion to accept the Tax Collector's Report, subject to
33 audit. Councilperson A Weisenberger-Caswell seconded and the motion was unanimously
34 approved.
35

36 **Overdue Garbage Bills:**

37 Council reviewed the garbage payment plan. One resident is on the plan and is paid up to
38 date.
39

40 **Mayor's Report-**

41 Reporting on behalf of Mayor M. McAllister, Councilperson A. Weisenberger-Caswell
42 stated that there has been no payment arrangement made by Diane Silviotti regarding the
43 bills from Keycodes. Solicitor Elliott stated that would be discussed later in the meeting.
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6 **Mayor's Report (con't)-**

7 Mayor M. McAllister had been in touch with Mr. Weiss regarding the old Glendon Hotel
8 property and the bridge coming down. She was concerned that the County has two projects
9 going on at the same time. Councilperson D. Young stated that the old Glendon Bridge is
10 slated to be taken down in three years, not one. Solicitor Elliott suggested calling the
11 County to advise that they need to talk to each other regarding multiple projects. Council
12 discussed the bridge demolition and how it was suggested that the crane to disassemble the
13 bridge would be placed on Main St., which would result in the street being closed and
14 traffic being detoured for approximately four months. Solicitor Elliott asked if the County
15 asked for permission to block Main St. for an extended period of time. Councilperson D.
16 Young stated that they had not and when he had a preliminary meeting with PennDOT and
17 the borough engineer, it was suggested that if the borough has an issue with the plan, to
18 start sending letters to all involved now and not wait until the project starts. He further
19 stated that the project does not just involve the bridge and that the infrastructure attached
20 to it is also a concern. President D. Breidinger stated that she will call Ben Whitmer, T&M
21 engineer. Solicitor Elliott suggested telling the County that they do not have permission to
22 use Main St. and to let their solicitor address the Borough's objection. Councilperson D.
23 Young stated that he learned that anything that goes over Norfolk Southern's railroad needs
24 to be approved by them and according to the record, the bridge was abandoned in 1950 so
25 Norfolk Southern does not acknowledge that the bridge exists.
26

27 **Zoning-**

28 No report
29

30 **Engineer Report-**

31 No report
32

33 **Committee Reports-**

34 **Signs-** Councilperson A. Weisenberger-Caswell stated that "road work ahead" signs are
35 needed. President D. Breidinger stated that the stand for the sign is very expensive. Vice-
36 President M. Veres said he knows someone and can get prices for the stands and signs.
37 President D. Breidinger asked to table the topic until the next meeting.
38

39 **Roads-** Councilperson A. Weisenberger-Caswell stated that there are a few small potholes
40 on Main St. and Front St. She is going to check all roads in the upcoming week to see what
41 needs to be filled in the spring. She stated that some may need to be filled with cold patch
42 in the meantime.
43

44 **Sewer-** Vice-President M. Veres stated that he met with the technician who was repairing
45 the generator. The technician recommended that the generator be power washed and
46 cleaned. The tires on the trailer may be dry rotted and need to be replaced. Councilperson
47 D. Young stated that with the limited manpower the borough has had, there was never
48

5 **Committee Reports (con't)-**

6 **Sewer (con't)-** enough time to pull it out and clean it. Vice-President M. Veres stated that
7 he will bring the generator to Borough Hall and power wash it when the weather gets
8 warmer. He also stated that he drove around to the other pump stations and found the gate
9 was broken at the pump station on Main St.
10

11 **President's Report-**

12 Councilperson K. Harstine made a motion to add consideration of an employment
13 application to the agenda. Councilperson A. Weisenberger-Caswell seconded and the
14 motion was unanimously approved. David Blankenship submitted an application for snow
15 plow driver. Vice-President M. Veres spoke with him, President D. Breidinger conducted
16 a phone interview with him and current plow driver, Kevin Benton, knows Mr.
17 Blankenship, personally. President D. Breidinger stated that his resume is impressive and
18 he would be an asset to the borough.
19

20 Solicitor Elliott noted that the president's report is ordinarily just a report and not
21 necessarily a part of the meeting where action is being taken.
22

23 Vice-President M. Veres asked about having two drivers in a truck. Councilperson D.
24 Young said that the borough has never had two drivers in a truck, except for training. Vice-
25 President M. Veres said he feels it is a safety matter. President D. Breidinger said that she
26 will talk to Mayor M. McAllister regarding having one or two drivers in the truck.
27

28 Councilperson A. Weisenberger-Caswell made a motion to hire David Blankenship as a
29 snow plow driver. Vice-President M. Veres seconded and the motion was unanimously
30 approved.
31

32 President D. Breidinger stated that a rental was needed at the cost of \$900.00 per week
33 while the backhoe was out of service. She stated that Charles Hartman recharged the
34 batteries and took the starter out. James Stevely sent the starter out to be rebuilt at the cost
35 of \$267.00. Councilperson D. Young asked if the rebuilt starter came with a warranty. Mr.
36 Stevely said that he did not know if there was a warranty but he will ask. President D.
37 Breidinger said that the fuel tank for the backhoe is being sent out to be relined due to
38 significant rust inside the tank. She received an estimate of \$200.00 to have that work done.
39 Mr. Stevely stated that the tank will be descaled and then sealed inside. Treasurer B. Young
40 questioned the work being done on the backhoe without council's approval. President D.
41 Breidinger stated that Mayor M. McAllister gave her the approval to have all the work
42 done. Solicitor Elliott stated that the mayor may approve work to be done in an emergency
43 but that all expenditures need to come back to council for their approval. He recommended
44 that although council may not vote through email or text, decisions such as this should be
45 relayed to all of council to keep everyone in the loop as decisions are being made.
46 Councilperson D. Young asked about renting the backhoe from a vendor with whom the
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5 **President's Report (con't)-**

6 borough has no relationship. He stated that AMK Construction provided a price for an
7 equivalent sized machine. President D. Breidinger stated that Mayor M. McAllister wanted
8 someone less expensive to handle the backhoe repairs. Mr. Stevely was recommended and
9 is less expensive than Mr. Hartman. Mr. Stevely stated that the cost to rent his Kubota is
10 \$915.00. The starter repair is \$265.00 plus \$300.00 for labor, totaling \$565.00. Solicitor
11 Elliott again stated that any action should be taken under either new business or old
12 business. President D. Breidinger stated that this can be moved to new business for a vote.
13 She further stated that Mr. Stevely recommends that both vehicles should be power washed
14 after the season and he is willing to do so. Councilperson D. Young stated that the borough
15 has a power washer and it should be done by the borough employees as it would be cheaper
16 to have them do it. President D. Breidinger also stated that Mr. Stevely recommended that
17 the backhoe should have a full tank of diesel to avoid condensation in the tank that has led
18 to the rust issue.

19
20 President D. Breidinger also stated that Mr. Stevely is interested in being the backup snow
21 plow driver to the borough drivers. Councilperson D. Young asked if he meant back up to
22 Chrin or, in place of Chrin. President D. Breidinger stated he would be in place of Chrin.
23 Councilperson D. Young asked Mr. Stevely if he had submitted rates yet. He said he had
24 not and needed to check with his insurance company regarding coverage for snow plowing.
25 President D. Breidinger stated that Mr. Stevely has previously plowed for the City of
26 Easton.
27

28 **Old Business-**

29 **Hilton St. West-** Solicitor Elliott stated that he has prepared the deed for Chrin to sign.
30

31 **299 Main St.-** Solicitor Elliott stated that it is a criminal matter, not civil and is complicated
32 with regard to service. He needs to speak with Judge Corpora to figure out how it can be
33 served. Councilperson D. Young stated that Russell Russo is back in Bethlehem Township.
34

35 **525 Berger Rd.-** Solicitor Elliott stated that he has been looking into whether or not the
36 borough may charge property maintenance code inspection and enforcement costs back to
37 Ms. Silviotti. The Keycodes inspector, Suzanne Borzak, has stated that it may, and
38 Solicitor Elliott has requested that she provide him with the code sections that support her
39 interpretations. He said that she sent him two pages of the property maintenance code that
40 she thought applied but she sent a copy of the 2018 code, not 2021. He stated that he needs
41 to advise her that if she is going to apply the code, she needs to use the one that is currently
42 in effect. He determined that the code official can authorize emergency work to be done
43 to keep the property as safe as possible until more permanent arrangements can be made
44 but the code does not say anything about being reimbursed for the cost of inspections or
45 routine work. Councilperson D. Young asked about the fact that Ms. Silviotti is not
46 compliant with the conditions that were set when her house was no longer condemned.
47 Solicitor Elliott asked Treasurer B. Young to forward the bills from Keycodes to him for
48

5 **Old Business (con't)**

6 **525 Berger Rd. (con't):**

7 review. He further stated that he has never seen any of the notices of violations from
8 Keycodes or notices of court appearances or the result of those court proceedings. He said
9 that he is not required to have that information but it would be useful. President D.
10 Breidinger asked if there are other inspection agencies that may be used. Councilperson
11 D. Young said that there are fewer than there used to be because most have been bought
12 up by engineering companies. President D. Breidinger said that she will call Keycodes and
13 question their enforcement activity and getting detailed reports from them.
14 .

15 **New Business-**

16 Vice-President M. Veres made a motion to add the invoices for James Stevely to the
17 agenda. Councilperson A. Weisenberger-Caswell seconded and the motion was
18 unanimously approved.
19

20 Councilperson K. Harstine made a motion to approve paying Mr. Stevely \$915.00 for the
21 Kubota rental. Vice-President M. Veres seconded and the motion was unanimously
22 approved.
23

24 Councilperson A. Weisenberger-Caswell made a motion to approve paying Mr. Stevely
25 \$265.00 for the starter repair, plus \$300.00 labor, totaling \$565.00. Councilperson K.
26 Harstine seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.
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28 Mr. Stevely estimated that the repairs to the fuel tank would cost approximately \$200.00
29 for the tank, \$750.00 for labor, plus the cost of diesel fuel. Councilperson K. Harstine made
30 a motion to authorize paying Mr. Stevely up to \$1,150.00 to repair the backhoe fuel tank
31 and the cost of diesel fuel. Vice-President M. Veres seconded and the motion was
32 unanimously approved.
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34 **Announcements/Correspondence**

35 Williams Township Fire Department covers Glendon Borough and if anyone is interested
36 in volunteering, please contact Williams Township at 610-258-6788.
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39 Councilperson A. Weisenberger-Caswell made a motion to adjourn. Councilperson D.
40 Young seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.
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42 The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 p.m.
43

44 Respectfully submitted,
45

46
47 Beth Young
48 Secretary