

## **Glenwood City Council Property Tax Public Hearing Meeting Minutes**

Glenwood City Council met for a meeting on Tuesday, April 8th, 2025 at 6:00pm in Council Chambers. Mayor Angela Winqvist called the meeting to order with the following Council Members present: Natalie McEwen, Donnie Kates & Mike Lines, Christina Duran and Laurie Smithers (arrived at 6:01pm). City employees present: Mitch Kolf, Dannielle Arnold, and Chief Gray. Guests Joe Foreman.

Public Hearing-Regarding the Proposed Property Tax Levy For Fiscal Year 2026. Call to Order of Public Hearing at 6:00pm. Recognition of Publication: Notice of Public Hearing published on March 26th, 2025, in The Opinion-Tribune. City Clerk Report of any Written Statements or Objections Filed at City Hall.-None were filed. Mayor Chair Call for Objections, Statements, and/or Exhibits for council consideration. There were no objections, Statements, and/or Exhibits for Council Consideration. Adjournment of Public Hearing was at 6:01pm

## **Glenwood City Council Minutes**

Glenwood City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, April 8th, 2025 at 7:00pm in Council Chambers. Mayor Winqvist called the meeting to order and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. The following Council Members were present: Christina Duran, Mike Lines, Natalie McEwen, Laurie Smithers, and Donnie Kates. City employees present: Captain Worcester, Chief Gray, Mitch Kolf, Dannielle Arnold, Tara Painter & Mike Collins. Guests: Joe Foreman, Gitzy Loder, Jake Zimmerer, Barbara Taenzler, Carol Gutchewsky, Les Valentine, Barbara Reif, Rachel Ring, Jeremy Waymire, Dawn Storm, Diann Hammell, Carol Dean, John Titsworth, Shirley Titsworth, Margo Young, Diane Vontersch, Debbie Black, Valerie Garner, Valerie Jordan, Richard Blowers, Angelia Prindle and others.

**Visitors Time to Address the Council-** Richard Blowers- "Someone complained about the signs in his yard and the city ordinance is unconstitutional and needs to be removed." "I'm not taking my signs down."

Barbara Reif- "Something I didn't say 2 weeks ago. There is an important and realistic way to have more funds in the budget and that is to add more taxpayers which increases the tax base. When our realtors introduce potential home buyers to the existing and newly built properties in the Glenwood community they can highlight many advantages for living in Glenwood. Advantages that also draw commercial and retail business I think like, excellent K-12 schools, a strong community support for athletics and the arts, a newer sports facility, public pool, an active Y, medical offices, 2 pharmacies, a new full services super-market, bluffs hills, public recreation areas and summer concerts at our beautiful amphitheater. But the crown jewel here is the library. We have a beautiful library and you have heard many times it is what it is. People realize it's open 5.5 days a week. Times when people are off work and children are out of school there is a library to go to. You have heard from many community members, from library staff to our local newspaper why it's so much more than just a building full of shelving full of books, I don't have to repeat all that. But it is vital to our community and our future prosperity I believe. Don't be short sighted here. Please keep it fully functioning, with a full staff and regular hours."

Dawn Storm- "I am a life long resident of Glenwood and a book worm and introvert. The library is just my thing. I kind of grew up there as a kid. Thank God it was there for me as my mom was a welfare mother and we got by. I learned how to read on Cat in the Hat and Dr. Seuss, Laura Ingles Wilder, Little House on the Prairie and Nancy Drew. It was an outlet and gave me somewhere to go in the summer when my mom was working. During my middle age I grew away from the library as I had to go to Nursing school so I had to go to medical libraries. Now that I am retired and back here, it's like my social life and extra printer because I can't afford to buy a printer. I only use one about 10 times a year. I can go to the library and use their computer when mine is on the fritz. I use the large print books as my eyes are going out. I can get a lot of books that I couldn't afford because of the inner library loan. There is a History Book Club which is like my continuing education. Right now we are reading about the Oregon Trail and what it was like back in the depression days. Monthly, there is a library night at Parea, Memory Mate for Seniors, and all kinds of kids clubs, cooking, book clubs. It keeps me involved in social activities. I think that even if you think you and your family don't need the services at the library, sooner or later you just may find out they have a lot to offer and a great public library."

Carol Gutchewsky- "I live here in Glenwood and we have lived here for about 30 years, I am here like the others in support of the library. I understand that part of your job is to figure out how to make the budget work. How to squeeze every little thing out of the budget that you can and I appreciate it and know that it is hard. The first lady that spoke talked about not being short sighted, and I think when you consider squeezing the library making it as tiny of a budget item as you can, that's a really short sighted thing. The library is for everybody. The people here for our children and a lot of the people that use the library are our children. The community needs to support the resources the kids need. Another thing I would like you to think about is where else could you find the money. If somebody said the library is completely off the table as a budget item what would you do? You would figure it out. I am challenging you to that thought exercise. There is a need for libraries to grow, and be creative and to change over time. I don't want to assume that you just think it is a pile of books to be dusted occasionally. I think in order for it to do that it needs to be fully staffed and not just on a maintenance diet. Please support the library and figure out something else to cut because the library is very important to us and a vital part of the community."

Debbie Black- "My husband and I have lived here for about 33 years. When you look at the library I think it's kind of an essential part of the community. Our children went to the library when they were younger, did the summer programs and now our grandchildren are going to the library and summer programs carry them through from the end of May to when school starts in August. However things can get worked out financially it would be nice to be able to keep that part of the library. The kids don't really have a lot of things to do in Glenwood and many things have been taken away from them. Every Wednesday they open up and allow kids to come in from the schools, give them a snack and drink, and then they are able to sit at the library. Now typically my grandchildren are there so

typically as an adult I'm kind of there watching the other kids but the supervision from the library has been wonderful. It is an essential part of the community."

John Titsworth- "Wife and I moved here in 97 with the railroad and want to voice our support for the library. We like it. We're senior citizens so we read a lot, have gone to a few of their book club things and see all kinds of kids in there. We enjoy the library, use the printers once in a while, use the computers and just want to voice our support."

Angela Prindle- "I was born and raised here, LOVED the library as a kid. I love the bike rack and riding my bike there from all over the town. My 16 year old loved it too, all through her younger years. She is older now and attends Shenandoah online. They meet at the library once a month and all the kids that go to Shenandoah now go to the library to meet with their teacher. They get to have their own sense of community with the online kids. The little ones love going to the library. I really wish you would ask the kids because they are the ones that love it. I don't have a printer and never needed it but now that I am a girl scout leader I am there all the time printing. Fully staffed is so important. I just love them because there are some unruly kids. It's a good safe place for our kids." Duran asked the child what she loved about the Library and the child responded she loved the toys there.

Carol Dean- The library is also good for community growth which is what we all are here about. We live in a wonderful small town close to a city so it's hard for our merchants. One of the questions that new people coming in ask is do we have a library? Do we have a good library? They want to know about our education, recreation. We know those are good. Our library is up to all of us to support. And it definitely is part of the stability of a community and it certainly helps us in our growth during hard times and good times. We're lucky to have the library that we have. I would like to see it continue in all of its good form.

Les Valentine- "My wife and I have been in Glenwood for around 30 years and I have a background in academic libraries. I also taught history for over a dozen years or so. When I am thinking about the child and the kids they talk about they had to start somewhere. Many of them undoubtedly started like this young girl in a library, so that prepares them for higher education that is so important to them in their future. I certainly understand and so wish we all should understand the importance of the library, their exposure to it and all the things it offers."

Public Hearing-Regarding Sharp Street Project. Call to Order of Public Hearing at 7:18pm. Recognition of Publication: Notice of Public Hearing published on March 26th, 2025, in The Opinion-Tribune. City Clerk Report of any Written Statements or Objections Filed at City Hall.-None were filed. Mayor Chair Call for Objections, Statements, and/or Exhibits for council consideration. There were no objections, Statements, and/or Exhibits for Council Consideration. Adjournment of Public Hearing was at 7:18pm

Bid Opening for Sharp Street Project with the following bids submitted: Armodus, LLC \$153,433.50, Bluffs Paving & Utility Company, INC. \$134,889.71, DPS, LLC \$133,328.40, Lakeview Construction \$130,902.00, Metro Concrete Replacement LLC \$135,735.00 Tab Construction \$204,283.25 Ten Point Construction \$159,126.35, & Precision Concrete Services \$183,303.00

Motion McEwen/2nd Smithers to Approve Special Events Application for City to City Bike Ride and waive \$25 application fee.; Roll Call: Ayes-5 Nays-0 Motion Carried. The event will be held April 27th starting @ 8am with a free will donation pancake feed to benefit the Fire Department. The event is open to the general public.

Motion Smithers/2nd Duran for Glenwood Betterment Committee to plant flowers in the planters to be placed around the square by public works.; Roll Call: Ayes 5- Nays-0 Motion Carried

Motion Kates/2nd Smithers to Approve Resolution 3706 Season Scheduling - Beer and Wine Exemption; Roll Call: Ayes 5- Nays-0 Motion Carried

Committee Reports- Parks & Recreation- User agreements were discussed. The committee still needed the coed softball agreement to review. Council will review all agreements at the next meeting. 4/29/2025

Motion Smithers/2nd Lines to Approve Lakeview Construction the Award of Bid for Sharp Street Project in the amount of \$130,902.00 pending confirmation of Iowa license.; Roll Call: Ayes 5- Nays-0 Motion Carried

### **Departmental Reports**

Painter-Library- Questioned when printers will be picked up, they are taking up space. The board meeting scheduled for 5/7/25 is being moved to 4/30/2025. It was asked if a part time person could be obtained by cutting cleaning services and this budget actually cuts our cleaning services already. It is additional time the library would have to be closed for cleaning. It was asked if sharing services with Council Bluffs and we have the Lions Club and already have a large selection of large print books so sharing services isn't really an option.

Collins- Cemetery- Part time staff will be back around the 15th of this month. Mike reports the stump grinder is working great.

Captain Worcester-Police Department- Reports 149 calls for service since the last council meeting and 6 arrests.

Fire Department-Chief Gray-Motion Kates/2nd Lines to approve putting an ad out for the sale of old Ambulance Medic 3.; Roll Call: Ayes-5 Nays-0 Motion Carried

51 Calls for service since the last council meeting. Glenwood is 49 out of 649 in the state with an end of year run. The new Ambulance is expected May 19th, 2025. Chief Gray will be taking a tour of the ambulance before receiving it in Osage Missouri. Code Enforcement has letters out to 1 property with unsafe conditions and Dollar General parking lot. Chief Gray has not received the report from Tucker for 102 S. Walnut st.

Kolf-City Administrator- Presented a proposed property tax FY 26, March Financials, and gave an update on the Bridge/Trails. Mayor Winkvist and City Administrator Kolf met with the school Superintendent. The schools insurance company noticed cracking and loose nuts and bolts on the bridge. HGM engineering inspected it and stated no concerns. The nuts and bolts were put on there like that according to bridge specifications and cracking was due to the 1st winter, and purely aesthetic. School administration is going back to see what is required vs what is suggested. Trail Grant Rescope Project was discussed, and the superintendent is presenting it to the school board to consider easement agreements with the city.

Motion Lines/2nd Kates to Approve Resolution 3708 Resolution for Designation of Pre-Authorized Payables and Claims; Roll Call: Ayes-5 Nays-0 Motion Carried

Motion McEwen/2nd Smithers to Approve 3707 to set April 29th, 2025 at 7pm for Public Hearing on Proposed Budget for FY 2026; Roll Call: Ayes-5 Nays-0 Motion Carried.

Arbor Day 2025 Proclamation was signed by Mayor Winkvist

Motion Kates/2nd Duran to Approve a Letter of support for the Trees forever Community Program; Roll Call: Ayes-5 Nays-0 Motion Carried.

Motion Smithers/2nd Lines to Approve the Following Pass Through CDBG Funds GAX 57 Arbor Hills 19-DRH-018 in the amount of \$15,165.71 for SWIPCO invoice 1453-13, GAX 58 Arbor Hills 19-DRH-018 in the amount of \$141,494.61 with SWIPCO invoices 1456-14 in the amount of \$12,890.86 and Invoice 1453-15 in the amount of \$18,262.05; Roll Call: Ayes-5 Nays-0 Motion Carried.

Motion McEwen/2nd Kates to Approve Pay Application 1 to Cornerstone Construction in the amount of \$134,666.44; Roll Call: Ayes-5 Nays-0 Motion Carried.

Motion Smithers/2nd Lines to Consider Convening into Closed Session to Discuss Strategy to Upcoming Collective Bargaining Negotiations as Authorized by Section 20.17 (3) Code of Iowa and Exempt from Chapter 21 Requirements at 8:07 pm; Roll Call: Ayes-5 Nays-0 Motion Carried.

Motion Kates/2nd Lines to Adjourn closed session and return to regular meeting at 9:07pm; Roll Call: Ayes-5 Nays-0 Motion Carried.


Motion McEwen/2nd Kates to Approve Resolution 3705 Setting a Time and Place for A Public Hearing for the Purpose of Considering Budget Amendment 3; Roll Call: Ayes-4 Nays-0 Motion Carried

No action was taken from the closed session.

**Mayors Report-** Has a weekly meeting with Kolf she will be attending.

Motion Smithers/2nd McEwen to Adjourn at 9:12pm. .

Attest:

  
Dannielle Arnold, City Clerk

  
Angela Winkvist, Mayor

