

MEETING OF THE TOWN BOARD
TOWN OF GLENVILLE
MARCH 6, 2019
AT THE GLENVILLE MUNICIPAL CENTER
18 GLENRIDGE ROAD, GLENVILLE, NEW YORK

Supervisor Koetzle called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM;

Supervisor Koetzle asked the Town Clerk, Linda C. Neals, to call the roll.

Present: Supervisor Christopher A. Koetzle, Councilmen John C. Pytlovany, Michael Aragosa, Michael R. Godlewski and Councilwoman Gina M. Wierzbowski

Absent: None

Also present were Michael Cuevas, Attorney for the Town; Jason Cuthbert, Comptroller and Vicki Hillis, Director of Human Services

Town Council Reports:

Councilman Godlewski – “Just a reminder that tomorrow is the Scotia Relief fundraiser at Wolf Hollow Brewery. I believe it is 5:30 to 7:30. I believe it is for a great cause. Scotia Relief helps when needed in the community. Last night the Zoning Revision Committee met and the Supervisor attended that meeting as well. We continue to prod along reviewing the zoning codes and last night we spoke a little bit about considerations to revising the current ground mounted solar exclusion in the West Glenville zoning district, overall residential. It’s a process but we are considering it and we are looking at potentially allowing ground mounted solar in rural residential in that zoning district with certain restrictions.

The Schenectady County Public Library system has a program “One County, One Book” that is currently on going. They have a number of different activities to do in association with the book. This is the book “Between the World and Me”. I’ve started it, I’m about one quarter of the way through, and it’s pretty good. If you want to check out some of the activities or the book discussions that they are talking about you can go on face book friends of Schenectady County Library.”

Councilwoman Wierzbowski – “Last Thursday I attended the Glenville Town Chiefs Association meeting. It was the Annual Meet and Great with all of the officers of each department. It was very well attended and it was really great to see some younger faces that are set to come up through the officer ranks. It was nice to be able to welcome them all. Beukendaal Fire Department took delivery of a new rescue truck that responds to their EMS calls a couple of months ago.”

Councilman Aragosa – “I talked to the highway superintendent, Tom Coppola today who does have some concerns with cars being parked on the road during plowing events. It is becoming an issue and he just wants to get it in the record that there should be no cars on those roads. The other thing we talked about is there is a job posted for a maintenance helper in the water department.

Last night I attended a meeting at the Schenectady Library, downtown. The meeting was on Community Choice Aggregation. It was a very well attended meeting. It’s an interesting program and it’s something we should look into. Hopefully at our next work session I can spend some time talking to the rest of you about what I learned at that meeting.”

Supervisor Koetzle – “What is it?”

Councilman Aragosa – “Community Choice Aggregation is an opportunity for communities to pool together as one to buy energy. Not just for the municipalities but for the residents in that community.”

Supervisor Koetzle – “But isn’t that what we are doing with our program with the County, that’s community solar.”

Councilman Aragosa – “That’s community solar. This is an opportunity for residents and municipalities to actually purchase...you know on your National Grid bill you have the supply side and the...well that would give you the opportunity with this group to purchase in large group quantities to help with the cost.”

Supervisor Koetzle – “We will have to talk about it because that is what our solar program is. Even residents have the opportunity to buy community energy from what is produced. Right now Clifton Park has that. They send me mailers all of the time asking me to join in and I won’t because we are going to have our own someday. We can talk about how that interacts.”

No one exercised the privilege of the floor.

Supervisor Comments:

I had an opportunity to meet with the developer of the Dutch Meadows Project. Apparently here was some changes as to how the stranded wetlands are dealt with from the Obama era. Apparently the Obama administration changed the guidelines on that. There was a stay in a South Carolina court but we don’t know much more about it other than that stay has been lifted so those regulations are now in effect and apparently it is impacting this project because there are a lot of wetlands on the property. They are going to re-look at it to see if they can make it work under the new regulations but it’s not going to be probably the same size or scope. If the commercial component leaves that opens up the question if this is a worthwhile project or not. I guess I would say at this particular juncture it’s up for review and they will come back to us with a project that makes sense under these new regulations.

I had an opportunity to meet with the Scotia-Glenville School and Metroplex and moving forward with the sidewalk that will link the high school and middle school through the Business and Technology Parks so that is going to happen. We have agreed on fencing to keep the students inside the fence and not on the road. Part of what we are going to try to do is reach out to the Glen Esk project and see if they would continue the sidewalk through the high school and out to the road to their project and that would link that whole campus together. We are making very good progress with that and it’s been a good partnership between the town, the school district and Metroplex. Kudos to Metroplex for filing and securing the ownership of that strip that was never the towns.

I also had the opportunity to meet with Vicki and the folks from Fifty FC regarding Maalwyck Park. Trying to get an agreement/arrangement that makes sense for everybody. Since they have merged and brought the Burnt Hills program into the Scotia-Glenville Program. I think it was a productive meeting. I think from that we will have a better, it seems like we are getting a better understanding of how to work together in that park.

Also Vicki and I had an opportunity to meet with the Park Planning Commission on the Maalwyck project and made very good progress there. I think there is a big wish list coming out of the Park Planning Commission on the Maalwyck project. The pavilion has turned into a castle. I keep saying up to \$560,000 you can’t have full hydration stations, irrigation systems, hydrants everywhere. There is stuff we are going to have to scale down. They had some good comments and some good ideas.

I met with the Small Business Economic Development Committee they are moving forward with “Let’s Talk Business” which is April 18th. This year we are going to focus on innovation in Glenville and its Glenville’s 21st century economy and we are going to focus on some of the new stuff happening in Glenville. It’s going to be at Clink, which is kind of really neat, it’s in the Business and Technology Park. It’s a recycling center here in Glenville. It will be an interesting industrial feel.

I met with folks from the Hudson Valley Community College regarding an

internship for the Yates Mansion research. As you know we have been working on that and the more we uncover the more questions arise and so we are going to actually have dedicated interns to research and transcribing which is equally as important, transcribing deeds and wills and all the legal documents from the 1800's. We are hoping to get a couple of good students in on that.

The Hudson Champlain Line, we have talked about this before. This is the power line that will go from Montreal to Brooklyn and it will be coming through our town, the transmission line which is buried. We are talking community impacts and at some point we might have to have a resolution to support that for the state. It went quite for about six months in almost a year and now I guess they are continuing it so we will be talking about that in the next month or two.

I had an opportunity to attend the Glendael DARE Graduation. I just want to thank Officer Dunbar, Chief Janik and of course all of you for supporting that program. The kids love it and it's just a great program.

I also had a chance to meet with Scotia Mayor Gifford. We had a wide range of topics to discuss and of course Fire District No. 4 came up. There's no real progress on that. Still have a couple different views on that and I'm not sure we agree on base numbers yet at this juncture but we continue to talk about it. We had a variety of other things we talked about, sharing and some other opportunities and how the town can help the village in some situations, so it's very positive.

The bulk pickup program is happening next month. It's a little bit different this year and we ask residents to bear with us and cooperate with us. Each year we do this program and it takes a while to get through the entire town and we get a lot of complaints about how the town looks very bad in three weeks. So this year we are going to break the town up into three (3) zones. We are going to designate a week for pick up in each particular zone. April 28th will be Zone 1, that's the east side of Rte. 50 and these people can put it out for that week. People may not, they may be subject to our Town Code being sighted for dumping, dump prior to when they are allowed to dump. May 5th will be Zone 2, west side of Rte. 50 to Sacandaga and then May 12th will be Zone 3 which is the western part of the town which is all in West Glenville. This map is on line, we were going to mail it but the cost was prohibitive so we are going to try to get the word out as much as possible. This flyer is on our website www.townofglenville.org and I want to thank Tammy for putting all of this together for us. This flyer explains everything. For this program to really work we need to focus on making sure we are working in the zones that we are supposed to be in. There is also an Acceptable and Non-Acceptable list on the website. We are just asking for everyone to pass the work as much as they can.

A couple quick finance notes. We are now completing five (5) months of our mortgage tax year, revenues, right now we are about \$203,000 which is actually 14% lower than it was the same period last year. The housing market has seemed to tighten a little bit. We are holding our own as far as value, the sales price is actually up. The average price for a home in the Town of Glenville is \$250,000 but the sales and mortgages have dropped. So as a result of the sales and mortgages dropping revenue has obviously dropped. If this continues for the rest of the mortgage year which ends on September 30th, we will probably see, if this trend continues, this is a projection, see \$100,000 drop in that revenue line. Reason 1001 why using fund balance is not a good idea during the budget process because this is yet another example of where we are going to have to pick it up out of the fund balance, if the trend holds.

We also received our fourth quarter sales tax check for 2018 and the results were disappointing there as well. For the year our total sales tax revenue grew by only \$3,500. Metroplex portion of our sales tax revenue is supposed to be the growth portion because the county doesn't share theirs. It grew at a municipal rate of .16%. Perhaps most troubling our sales tax revenue for the last three quarters of 2018 were actually lower than the prior year. So this doesn't reverse itself we are going to have a short fall there potentially as well and that is reason 1002 why we shouldn't be raiding the fund balance during the budget process.

There is some positive news on revenue, 2019 franchise fee is coming stronger than expected with our total revenues at about \$375,000. This marks the third straight year of growth in the franchise fee line after following five years of flat fees. That means Spectrum came in and probably raised everyone's rate.

The most notable expense to call everyone's attention to is probably the expectation of retirements this year. We are looking at the retirement of potentially nine (9) of our senior employees which are not all budgeted. Combined these employees have over 266 years of service with the town can you imagine that. Five of these staff have already filed their retirement paperwork while another four (4) have approached the subject with us. If all nine (9) retire this year we will be facing a \$350,000 payout in sick time to these employees. That's reason 1003 not to use fund balance because that will take a hit as well. Nine (9) were not budgeted, we didn't see that coming.

Lastly with seven (7) months 2019 tax cap year finished next year's tax cap is projected to be no more than 2% which would equate to about \$185,000 in new spending. However the tax cap growth has dropped each month since July and so if this continues we will likely see a tax cap for 2020 below 2% so less than \$185,000. That is a concern with all of the stuff we are facing with the budget going into next year.

Councilman Godlewski – "With respect to your talks with the Mayor I was wondering if at any point the bridge was discussed?"

Supervisor Koetzle – "Yes. He is very positive about the bridge. Just to frame this for everybody. For years Rotary has wanted to have a "Welcome to Glenville" screening and a "Welcome to Scotia" screening, on the bridge by Frank's Body Works on Rte. 50. They will be moving forward on that.

Discussion...

Supervisor Koetzle – "We do this every year as a new term begins for an elected official. So this is for Justice McPhail with her term beginning on January 1, 2019 and ends December 31, 2022."

RESOLUTION NO. 69-2019

Moved by: Councilwoman Wierzbowski

Seconded by: Councilman Pytlovany

WHEREAS, the State of New York requires each municipality to establish a standard work day for the purposes of reporting time worked for the members of the New York State and Local Retirement System; and

WHEREAS, State Law requires that the standard work day for elected and appointed officials be fixed at not less than six (6) hours per day; and

WHEREAS, the Office of the New York State Comptroller has updated its requirements for reporting standard work days of elected and appointed officials to the New York State and Local Retirement System;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Glenville Town Board, through the attached form RS 2417-A Standard Work Day and Reporting Resolution provided by the Office of the New York State Comptroller, hereby establishes the standard work days for the elected officials identified therein.

Ayes: Councilmen Pytlovany, Aragosa, Godlewski, Councilwoman Wierzbowski and Supervisor Koetzle

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstentions: None

Motion Carried

RESOLUTION NO. 70-2019

Moved by: Councilwoman Wierzbowski
Seconded by: Councilman Pytlovany

WHEREAS, the New York State Department of Transportation proposes the construction, reconstruction, or improvement of Pavement Corrective Maintenance in the Town of Glenville located in Schenectady County, PIN 1810.39, and

WHEREAS, the State will include as part of the construction, reconstruction, or improvement of the above mentioned project the adjustment to water valves, pursuant to Article II, Section 10, Subdivision 24, of the NY State Highway Law, as shown on the contract plans relating to the project and meeting the requirements of the owner, and

WHEREAS, the service life of the relocated and or replaced utilities has not been extended, and

WHEREAS, the State will provide for the reconstruction of the above-mentioned work, as shown on the contract plans relating to the above-mentioned project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Town of Glenville approves of the adjustment to their water valves and the above-mentioned work performed on the project and shown on the contract plans relating to the project and that the Town of Glenville will maintain or cause to be maintained the adjusted facilities performed as above stated and as shown on the contract plans.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that **Christopher A. Koetzle, Town Supervisor** has the authority to sign, with the concurrence of the Town Board, any and all documentation that may become necessary as a result of this project as it relates to the Town of Glenville, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the Town Clerk of the Town of Glenville is hereby directed to transmit five (5) certified copies of the foregoing resolution to the New York State Department of Transportation.

Ayes: Councilmen Pytlovany, Aragosa, Godlewski, Councilwoman Wierzbowski and Supervisor Koetzle
Noes: None
Absent: None
Abstention: None

Motion Carried

Discussion...

Supervisor Koetzle – “Just a reminder that there is a state grant for \$125,000 to be applied to this project.”

Councilman Godlewski – “Have all of the easements been resolved at this point?”

Supervisor Koetzle – “Yes, last year everybody was paid for their easements and we have no holdouts.”

RESOLUTION NO. 71-2019

Moved by: Councilwoman Wierzbowski
Seconded by: Councilman Pytlovany

WHEREAS, the Town of Glenville is in the process of completing a Town Center improvement and beautification plan in conjunction with the State of New York, the Metroplex Development Authority and private contributors including the installation of sidewalks and other elements along NYS Route 914V (Glenridge Road Sidewalk Phase II); and

WHEREAS, at the request of town residents, the Town has investigated the feasibility of extending a recreational path/sidewalk along the southerly boundary of Glenridge Road from the point where the Town Center sidewalk project currently terminates about 2700 feet west; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board previously authorized the Town Designated Engineer, MJ Engineering and Land Surveying, P.C. to undertake the planning, surveying, design and engineering of the recreational path/sidewalk project; and

WHEREAS, MJ Engineering and Land Surveying, P.C. has completed a full Glenridge Road Sidewalk Phase II Plan Set which fully describes the proposed recreational path/sidewalk and in a form approved by the NYS Department of Transportation; and

WHEREAS, NYS Highway Law provides that the Town Board may, by resolution, direct the Town Highway Superintendent to construct a sidewalk along a described portion of a state highway subject to consent of the Commissioner of the NYS Department of Transportation; and

WHEREAS, the construction of the sidewalk proposed herein would be a town charge and paid in the same manner as other town charges;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Glenville hereby authorizes the Town Supervisor of the Town of Glenville to request bids for the construction of the sidewalk (Glenridge Road Phase II) referred to herein in accordance with the plans prepared by MJ Engineering and Land Surveying and the Town Clerk is hereby directed to publish notices for same in the official newspaper in accordance with municipal bidding regulations to expedite the completion of this project.

Ayes: Councilmen Pytlovany, Aragosa, Godlewski, Councilwoman Wierzbowski and Supervisor Koetzle
Noes: None
Absent: None
Abstention: None

Motion Carried

Discussion...

Attorney Cuevas – “The agreement is for a five (5) year term so it gives the town and the bargaining unit some measure of stability so we can concentrate on other things then negotiations over the next few years. Wage adjustments are part of this agreement, the first four (4) years they got a 2% wage increase and the fifth year is a 2.25% increase. Part of those increases are offset for new employees by the establishment of two (2) new steps in each title. So currently CSEA has three (3) steps so they will now have five (5) steps and the first of each two (2) will be as people move through from step three (3) to step four (4) they will come up 2% and step four (4) to step five (5) they will go up 2%. There are some adjustments to the longevity schedule and some increases for employees meeting the longevity milestones which are set five (5) years apart so now that we have a new step system with five (5) steps the longevity payment for new employees will not occur until the sixth (6) year rather than the fifth (5) year as it does for existing employees. So that again is a little bit of an offset on the cost. We’ve redefined which part time employees receive benefits moving that from fifteen (15) hours as a minimum to seventeen and one-half (17½) hours so that we are really talking about half-time or better where you are eligible for benefits and those benefits are now

proportionate to the number of hours that you have work. In the past it was a fixed amount regardless of how much part time work you did. We are adjusting health insurance premium contributions. Those employees who are currently at 5% will step 1% a year during the life of this agreement so at the end of this agreement it will be 10%. Those employees that are at 10% will also increase 1% per year, at the end they will be at 15%. We have contributions now provided for dental and vision coverage. For employees who had no contribution they will step in at 5% and next year 10%, 15% and finally 20%. To give the town a little more certainty as to future liabilities we are limiting the maximum amount of the comp time that can be accumulated so that we have a forced payout towards the end of each year so that we don't have huge amounts of comp time."

Councilwoman Wierzbowski – "I would just like to thank the town's leadership team and CSEA bargaining unit members for their willingness to negotiate. I always say if somebody is happy in the negotiations then somebody probably didn't get a good deal. It's a negotiation, it is a give and take. I don't think we got everything we wanted, I don't think they got everything they wanted but it is good that we were able to come to an agreement within only a few months past the end of their prior term. Thank you to everybody that worked on that and I am happy that this has gone forward."

Supervisor Koetzle – "We have something that we haven't had in a while which is all three unions with long term contracts for a while. I would like to congratulate everyone for working on that, Mike, Jason and also PBA, CSEA and CSEA Highway."

Attorney Cuevas – "Part of each of those negotiations resolving any outstanding issues that we had that were pending grievances or improper practice charges so when we cleaned up the contracts we cleaned up all of our labor relation issues. Right now there is labor peace in the Town of Glenville, so now we just have to maintain that through regular labor management meetings."

RESOLUTION NO. 72-2019

Moved by: Councilwoman Wierzbowski
Seconded by: Councilman Pytlovany

WHEREAS, the Town of Glenville and the Civil Service Employees Association, Inc., Local 1000, AFSCME, AFL-CIO, Glenville Town Hall Unit, Schenectady County Local 886 (CSEA) are parties to a collective bargaining agreement for a term which expired December 31, 2018; and

WHEREAS, the Town and the CSEA have been negotiating the terms of a successor agreement for the past several months; and

WHEREAS, the Town's negotiating team and the CSEA negotiating team have come to agreement as to the terms and conditions of employment for a successor agreement for a term commencing January 1, 2019 and ending December 31, 2023, a copy of the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) outlining the terms of the parties' agreement is attached to this resolution; and

WHEREAS, the members of the CSEA have met and have voted to ratify the proposed MOA; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Glenville desires to come to an agreement which protects the fiscal stability of the Town while providing wage adjustments to CSEA employees that are fair and reasonable under the circumstances;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Glenville hereby approves the attached memorandum of agreement with the CSEA that would establish the terms and conditions of employment for CSEA Town Hall Unit members for the period of January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2023 and authorizes the Supervisor to enter into a successor collective bargaining agreement based upon such MOA.

Ayes: Councilmen Pytlovany, Aragosa, Godlewski, Councilwoman Wierzbowski and Supervisor Koetzle
Noes: None
Absent: None
Abstention: None

Motion Carried

New Business

Councilman Aragosa – “Just a reminder that on March 22nd and 23rd the Scotia-Glenville Drama will be putting on the musical Mama Mia.”

Supervisor Koetzle – “I forgot to mention and it came up with the talk of the pathway. I think I mentioned to you before that DOT has it on their schedule to resurface Freemans Bridge Road. Kevin and I took that opportunity to go down to DOT in Albany and pitch to them to make sure they connect a pedestrian trail over the bridge so that they would connect Schenectady side and they would bring it down Freemans and connect into our current pathway along the river. Apparently they went back to the CDTC got funding for that. I asked for them to add lighting on the bridge, I don’t think that is going to get done but I am still going to fight for it because I think if you have a pedestrian path you should have lighting. But what that does now is makes our path all the more relevant. So the Mayor and I talked about that and the Mayor is opened to an inter-municipal agreement, since they have a small portion of it. His idea was that they would use Scotia manpower and equipment, a paver, and we would use Glenville equipment and manpower for the drainage because there are drainage problems down there. We would work together and do this together as two communities. I suggested we invite the County in on that but I think maybe next week at the work session we could talk about what that might mean as far as cost. It seems like another good opportunity to work together. It seems like now it’s coming together a little bit. If the County can help perhaps that is something that can get done.”

Supervisor Koetzle asked for a motion to adjourn; motion to adjourn; Moved by Councilman Pytlovany, Seconded by Councilman Godlewski, everyone being in favor the meeting was adjourned at 7:41 PM.

ATTEST:

Linda C. Neals
Town Clerk