

MEETING OF THE TOWN BOARD
TOWN OF GLENVILLE
MAY 6, 2020
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, James M. Martin, Michael Aragosa, Michael R. Godlewski and Councilwoman Gina M. Wierzbowski

Absent: None

Also present were Earl T. Redding, Attorney for the Town; Jason Cuthbert, Comptroller

Town Council Reports:

Councilman Godlewski – “Just a reminder that there is a burn ban in effect through May 16th. I had some people reach out with that as an issue. If you notice people burning you can contact your local fire department as a means of addressing or kindly remind your neighbor that there is a burn ban at this time. Just a reminder to be mindful of your neighbors. Try not to drain your pool into your neighbor’s backyard and try not to do other things that might trigger other concern.

Happy Mother’s Day to all. I would like to acknowledge the nice article that was in the Gazette about one of our fellow board members, Councilwoman Wierzbowski. It was a really well written article. Knowing Gina for three years and counting, you get a sense of her passion for being a first responder so I was happy to see that recognized.”

Councilwoman Wierzbowski – “It was an honor to be included among the many people who are doing so many things for our community.

The EMS car, is still in operation. They are responding between 6:00 AM to 6:00 PM all over the town. It is achieving its goal in trying to minimize the number of persons who might be exposed to a COVID patient.

I had the honor of the 200th delivery for the Senior Assistance Program that we have. My daughter and I delivered the 200th set of groceries to one of our residents. I would like to extend a very heartfelt thankyou to all of the volunteers and to Vicki Hillis. When I come in to deliver the groceries Vicki is literally running around trying to coordinate to load the car. She has been wonderful and the seniors have been depending on her and she has been managing it beautifully. To all of the residents who are shopping, to all the residents who are helping out with donations. Thank you to the Boy’s Club who delivered masks to the residents when we were giving groceries to the individuals this week we told them we have cloth masks for them and they were over joyed.

Also, Jumping Jacks is opened. A little different than usual but they are opened.”

Councilman Martin – “The Small Business Emergency Loan Fund, the applications continue to come in. Over \$140,000 of the \$150,000 that was funded is loaned out and approved. I think there is a remaining application that just came that should take up all of the ...

Supervisor Koetzle – “There is an update on that.”

Councilman Martin – “I want to extend a thank you to the LDC Board Members. They have been meeting (video conferencing) to get these reviews done. It is very gratifying to see that money out and into the community conserving jobs and helping

our businesses.

We had a conference call last night, for the Codes Update Committee, very dedicated group. Jim Pangburn, Melissa was on and Mike Burns as well as myself. We continue to keep our codes up to date. We will be looking at our sign regulations next to make sure they are up to date.”

Councilman Aragosa – “The census is still going on. Please go to 2020census.gov and fill out your form. I have been involved everyday in the Coalition Partnership, the Boys Club and the County and just a host of other good organizations. They are trying to give food out to residents of our town and all residents of the County. So far over 230 stops have been made in the Town of Glenville. I would like to point out that the people that are doing this are mostly volunteers. The past two weeks we have had a lot of help from the National Guard.

Pedrick’s is opened, they have curbside pickup and they also allow you to come in to purchase items. I would ask everybody to remember please respect business owner’s rules when you go. The same thing for Jumping Jacks. In order for them to be open right now they have to have a set of rules that are different then we are used to but it is the only way they can do business right now.

Thank you Gina for all you do as a first responder!”

Supervisor Koetzle recognized Michelle Osterlitz, County Legislature and thanked her for attending the meeting.

Supervisor Koetzle – “Thank you for being here. We are looking forward to working with you. I know we all have challenges on the County, Town and Village levels. I am looking forward to working together on those issues with you.”

Privilege of the Floor

No one wished to exercise the privilege of the floor.

Commissioner of Public Works, Tom Coppola presented his annual MS4 Report to the Board.

Supervisor’s Comments

Supervisor Koetzle shared the following information:

Melissa and I hosted a small business round table. We had quite a few of our small business residents attend. The jest of it was to talk to our small businesses about ideas they had that we could implement for when we are back to a more normal or a reopening of some sort of these businesses. They were very appreciative of what we had done so far. They really like to Passport Program. We are seeing a lot of people utilizing them. They also liked the 1820 Special Week we had and asked if we could run another one so we are putting one together. We are trying to do more for some of the other industries in Town. A wellness week where we could utilize some outdoor space. We had yoga in the park last year so something like that. We are putting together a plan. Councilman Martin is going to be meeting with the SBED shortly which is the Small Business Economic Development Committee and maybe get more ideas out of that. We are looking to do everything we can to help support those small businesses when they come back, ready to open.

The LDC has loaned more money then what they were originally going to loan. They went to \$176,000 already on more than eight loans. Two more have come in and they are going to meet and see if they can try and meet those needs as well. Most have come from Scotia, so the money is being spread around and folks seem to be very happy the way that program is working.

Tom and I met the contractor out at the Yates Mansion regarding the

window project which is going to start up soon and the demolition of the back end of the west wing.

I also want to thank Tom and his crew in the highway department that planted 200 trees for our 200th Anniversary. We were going to do a great Love Your Parks Day this last Saturday and plant these 200 trees for our 200th Anniversary and we all kind of jumped in and got these trees planted across the town. I delivered trees to the residents that had purchased a tree. We have small one-foot Douglas firs for sale, we are going to package them with a 2020 t-shirt, a 2020 water bottle and a 2020 town coin with a little Douglas fir. If you are interested call or email me and let me know.

The History Committee is still meeting. We are still planning the July events. We are close to making a decision on the July Gala. We did secure a major \$5,000 title sponsor; we have secured a number of honorary guest committee members. We are trying to make a determination that if July would be safe to do this or not. We are very close because we are right on the cusp of having to make a lot of commitments to a lot of different folks if we are going to do this or not going to do this.

We did open Town Hall today. We did it in a limited manner. It was a very thoughtful approach, I believe. After Tom and his folks getting the glass up, Rob did a great job installing the new service window we have in the lobby and the window is going in by the end of the week. We had a good experience today. We had six (6) residents come in today for service. All were respectful of the rules and all had masks on and all of them very happy that we were opened for service. Please check our website for departments and their days and times that they are open. www.townofglenville.org We are at a 50% reduction in staff which we will be changing that as we continue our slow roll into a full at some point.

I want to give you a grant update. Melissa and I have been working very hard with DASNY, that is the Dormitory Authority where the money is coming, one and a half million dollars for our potential redevelopment project here at town hall. The good news is it's in its final stage at the state. We believe that is a very good sign. Doesn't mean we are over that finish line yet but it means we are very, very close. Whatever changes that may be coming in the future we may have got ahead of that curve. We are checking on some of our other grants that do not come from DASNY. The Greenway Grant we are ready to put in for reimbursement for that shortly and then the Safeway to Schools Grant we are working with that as well on making sure that money is there. That's an important grant that helps us put sidewalks around the school in all three districts. I don't know if the schools can help us match or not so that may change the project a little bit. We may have to scale it back a little bit.

The Federal Parks Grant is administered through the County is on track. We talked to Cathy Gatta about that one and we have a project ready to go in Indian Meadows and the grants don't cover the entire project but it covers a good portion of it and so that money is still available.

I just want to give a quick budget update. I don't know if any of you saw Councilman Martin provided us some information as well. I got some information through the Association of Towns. Yesterday, the Governor, through the department of budget announced that he is looking to cut 8.2 billion dollars in local aid. That includes all localities, school districts, villages, towns, cities. That 8.2 billion dollars if he cuts that and he cuts that in a way that is fair and across the board meaning schools are included and equally cut and Medicaid aid is cut equally then we would see a reduction of 20% of our AIM money. Some of you may recall the AIM money is a direct aid from the State to the Town. We get \$176,000 a year. So, a 20% reduction in AIM would mean a \$35,000 hit to our operating budget. If he does not apply that 8.2 billion universally or equally among the schools and municipalities and Medicaid for example Medicaid does not take a cut we could see as much as a 50% reduction in our AIM which would mean an \$88,000 hit to our town operating budget for 2020. If he also makes a cut to the paving program, CHIPS, our extreme weather, our pave NY, all the money we use to pave the streets of our town, if he does that, we would see a \$60,000 reduction in our paving program. We get \$300,000 a year from the State and the 50% reduction a \$50,000 hit, that would

significantly impact our ability to continue our paving program as we have done for many years.

These are things we are watching very closely. We're ready to adjust, the comptroller and I are talking about this a lot. We are getting a lot of updates from the Association of Towns on this. We are at work trying to make sure that our state and federal folks understand the needs here at the town level. We have a resolution that I am bringing forward tonight that calls on our federal representatives to make sure that our funding comes directly to the towns and not to the state. We want to make sure that the federal government, if they are going to help the communities that they do it in a way that is direct aid to the localities. We will not know the direct impact or the final decision the Governor will make until mid-May, he is going to make an announcement in mid-May on this. Once he through the Department of Budget, makes a determination on the cuts then the legislature has ten (10) days to pass a counter proposal and hopefully try and protect our AIM and our CHIPS money. So, that is where we are with potential cuts from the State and the latest grant updates."

Supervisor Koetzle moved ahead with the agenda.

RESOLUTION NO. 105-2020

Moved by: Councilwoman Wierzbowski

Seconded by: Councilman Martin

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of Public Works advises that the Town requires the purchase of six fire hydrants, including some for stock; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Town of Glenville Procurement Policy, the Commissioner of Public Works developed a specification sheet and obtained quotes from three vendors for the desired hydrants; and

WHEREAS, Ferguson Waterworks, 612 Pierce Road, Clifton Park, New York 12065 provided the lowest quote at a cost of \$2,336.33 per hydrant;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Glenville hereby authorizes payment of \$14,017.98 to Ferguson Waterworks for the purchase of six fire hydrants with the expense charged to Water District #11 as included in the 2020 adopted budget.

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

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstentions: None

Motion Carried

RESOLUTION NO. 106-2020

Moved by: Councilwoman Wierzbowski

Seconded by: Councilman Martin

WHEREAS, the Town of Glenville is currently engaged in a project to interconnect clearwells at the Town of Glenville Water Treatment Plant to provide added redundancy and water security for all customers of Glenville Water District #11; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of Public Works advises that the Town would realize cost savings by purchasing equipment such as elbows, fittings, gaskets, and related equipment required by the construction firm contracted to do the project; and

WHEREAS, the estimated cost of the required equipment necessitated

the solicitation of three vendors per the Town of Glenville Procurement Policy; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of Public Works developed the necessary specifications and obtained quotes from three vendors for the required equipment; and

WHEREAS, Ferguson Waterworks, 612 Pierce Road, Clifton Park, New York 12065 provided the lowest quote at a cost of \$7,528.87;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Glenville hereby authorizes payment of \$7,528.87 to Ferguson Waterworks for the purchase of elbows, fittings, gaskets, and related equipment required for the clearwell interconnection project at the Town of Glenville Water Treatment Plant with the expense charged to capital account HH-020-8320-2000.

Ayes: Councilmen Martin, Aragosa, Godlewski, Councilwoman Wierzbowski and Supervisor Koetzle
Noes: None
Absent: None
Abstentions: None

Motion Carried

RESOLUTION NO. 107-2020

Moved by: Councilman Martin
Seconded by: Councilwoman Wierzbowski

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of Public Works advises that the Town of Glenville sanitary sewer pump station located on Freemans Bridge Road requires repair and upgrade to the emergency generator system; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Town of Glenville Procurement Policy, the Commissioner of Public Works developed a specification sheet and solicited quotes from three vendors for the desired equipment and installation of said equipment; and

WHEREAS, Clune Electric, 30 Prospect Street, Ballston Spa, New York 12020 provided the lowest quote at a cost of \$16,100;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Glenville hereby authorizes to contract with Clune Electric to furnish and install a new 400 amp manual transfer switch and exterior mounted connection box at the Freemans Bridge Road sanitary sewer pump station at a cost not to exceed \$16,100 with the expense charged to Sewer District #9 as included in the 2020 adopted budget.

Ayes: Councilmen Martin, Aragosa, Godlewski, Councilwoman Wierzbowski and Supervisor Koetzle
Noes: None
Absent: None
Abstentions: None

Motion Carried

RESOLUTION NO. 108-2020

Moved by: Councilman Martin
Seconded by: Councilwoman Wierzbowski

WHEREAS, on or about March 23, 2020, the Town of Glenville issued a notice to bidders seeking sealed bids and proposals for the furnishing of materials in connection with the Town of Glenville Maalwyck Park Improvement Project Phase 2; and

WHEREAS, the Phase 2 Project work would generally consist of the installation of primary electric service to a new pavilion area; with provisions for the future lighting of athletic fields and parking lot; installation of sanitary service from NYS Rte. 5 to the pavilion area; installation of water service from NYS Rte. 5 to the pavilion area; and construction of a 40’ by 76’ park pavilion with restrooms, concession and meeting space; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Glenville received two sealed bids listed below at the public bid opening on April 7, 2020; and

| | |
|---------------------------------|----------------|
| MR2 Construction Services, Inc. | \$1,014,000.00 |
| AM2 Construction Services, Inc. | \$948,000.00 |

WHEREAS, the two bids were substantially in excess of the proposed \$680,000.00 budget submitted by the Town’s hired engineer MH Professional Engineering, PLLC; and

WHEREAS, as the bids received were over budget, they should be rejected and any deposits returned to the bidders; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Glenville reserves the right to reject any and all bids that are not in the best interest of the Town; and

WHEREAS, because of the large cost difference between the Project budgets and the bids received, Town of Glenville staff believe the best direction for the Project is to revise the design and specifications of the Project and then to re-bid the Project based on the redesign; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Glenville staff believe that rejecting all bids, revising the design and specifications and then re-bidding the Project would bring the best pricing for the Project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Glenville hereby rejects all bids for the Town of Glenville Maalwyck Park Improvement Project Phase 2 and directs the Town of Glenville staff to effectuate the revisions of the Project’s design and specifications and to then re-bid the Project.

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

Motion Carried

RESOLUTION NO. 109-2020

Moved by: Councilman Godlewski
Seconded by: Councilman Aragosa

BE IT RESOLVED, that the minutes of the Regular Town Board Meeting held on April 15, 2020 are hereby approved and accepted as entered.

Ayes: Councilmen Martin, Aragosa, Godlewski, Councilwoman Wierzbowski and Supervisor Koetzle
Noes: None
Absent: None
Abstentions: None

Motion Carried

Discussion...

Councilwoman Wierzbowski – “I am glad we are doing this resolution. More local governments, towns, villages, you and I would say county governments are some of the leanest by virtue of the way we provide services to our residents. We have the most direct contact with our residents. When as evidence by Mr. Coppola’s MS4 report we are also having unfunded mandates from levels of government that are higher than us. With everything else that is going on in this crisis that we are facing local governments are going to be hit in some of the hardest ways because we don’t have a lot of wiggle room with the services that we provide. I would call on all of our towns, villages and the county to hopefully pass a resolution such as this and hopefully our representatives in the congress will take note and advocate for us.”

Councilman Aragosa – “This is a very good resolution. The idea that this pandemic only affected local governments over 500,000 people is ridiculous. This pandemic has affected every citizen of every town in this state, particularly and probably every state in the country. It is more important for our representatives who are listening to us talking about this resolution, it’s not about the State of New York, it’s not about the County of Schenectady it’s about the residents of each and every town, village and city and that is why this so important. There is no better way to get the money out to everybody than to fund the programs and the projects that we have ready to go.”

Supervisor Koetzle – “I agree and I just want to add on to that because very often the federal government gives money to localities through the state. So, think about it like it goes to the grandparent to the parent before it can get to the kids. Unfortunately, we live in a state that the parent likes to take the money and keep it. That is what happens in NYS very often. So, when the Governor has a 14.5 billion deficit now any money coming to the State of New York any money is going to stay on the State of New York level. The municipalities very often, historically, do not get the aid that is meant to go to local governments when it comes from the state. The important component to this resolution is it goes directly to the municipality bypassing the state.”

Councilman Martin – “Or yet even if it does go to the state there is a bureaucracy there that soaks it up in the administration of those funds. For us to have the maximum benefit and I mean us the residents it’s best administered by the local government. That is where it will be spent most efficiently and that is where it will have the closest contact, greatest impact for the resident. We are being affected by decisions that we had no say in. This 14 billion deficit, nobody in this room, nobody in this town had any say in it and we shouldn’t have to pay the price for it.”

RESOLUTION NO. 110-2020

Moved by: Councilwoman Wierzbowski

Seconded by: Councilman Aragosa

WHEREAS, the federal government recently enacted the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act to address the economic fallout from the coronavirus pandemic in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Section 601 of the CARES Act (P.L. 116-136) provides \$150 billion in direct aid specifically for COVID-19 related expenses to states, tribal governments, territories and local governments over the population of 500,000 people; and

WHEREAS, less than one-half of 1 percent of municipalities in the entire United States meet this population threshold and are thus ineligible to receive direct funding from the federal government; and

WHEREAS, of the seven (7) eligible localities within New York State, the Town of Glenville, New York is not eligible for direct federal funding under the CARES Act; and

WHEREAS, those municipalities falling below the population threshold would need to go through their states for funding; and

WHEREAS, New York State was facing an extreme shortfall even before the impact of COVID-19 and the 2021 “Enacted Budget Financial Plan” says the governor might slash aid to localities — including school districts, colleges, transportation systems and health care — by \$8.2 billion as soon as mid-May.

WHEREAS, towns provide essential services to town residents, including, but not limited to, ambulance, police and fire protection services, building and code enforcement, and highway maintenance, and have continued to do so throughout the ongoing health crisis; and

WHEREAS, the coronavirus pandemic has created significant financial stress for local governments in New York as an estimated \$2 billion in sales tax revenue has been lost, as well as other sources of revenue such as permit fees, justice court fines, and mortgage recording tax; and

WHEREAS, In the absence of unrestricted fiscal support of at least \$500 billion from the federal government, states will have to confront the prospect of significant reductions to critically important services all across this country or shifting the cost onto real property taxpayers, many of whom are experiencing their own financial stress, hampering public health and the economic recovery,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Glenville hereby calls upon United States Congressional Representative Paul Tonko, Senator Charles Schumer, and Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, to support federal funding related to the coronavirus pandemic that is directly delivered to all municipalities, regardless of population size.

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

Motion Carried

New Business

Councilwoman Wierzbowski – “Happy Mother’s Day”

Councilman Martin – “If you listen to the Governor every day you will not hear mention of this deficit. Go to the NYS Division of Funding website and find the link there and find more detail about the cost of what is being done at the state level. You are not hearing about it during the daily briefings.”

Councilman Aragosa – “Happy Mother’s Day”

Supervisor Koetzle – “There is a rumor out there both externally and internally and I just want to make a public declaration. There is a lot of talk about municipalities laying off employees. We see the City of Schenectady is looking at 30 police officers and some number of firefighters. I’m hearing if from other localities. Association of Towns have put out a guidance on it. Schenectady County Civil Service put out a guidance because so many municipalities are asking about how to do this. There has been a lot of chatter. We are going through difficult times. You have heard tonight some of the operational hits we are going to take. But I want our residents to know and I

wat our employees to know that there has not been one word of conversation of layoffs, cutbacks, furloughs or anything else in the Town of Glenville. Obviously it is a Town Board decision, I think they are in agreement with what I am saying and if they are not they can chime in. I want people to have confidence that their jobs are safe at this particular juncture from what we know, all the information we have, what we can surmise is going to happen in the future. The Town of Glenville is an extremely lean town. We have talked about this repeatedly when you compare us to any other town and I'm not going to use names but there is another town that is not even our size that has 125 employees. They have 23,000 residents. We have 30,000 residents and 88 employees. That is a large discrepancy. We are a lean, we have no way of cutting staff, no reason to cut staff. I just wanted to that because I know some of our employees are nervous about that. If any of the Board members want to say something different or think I am out of line then please speak up. We are going to do everything we can to get through this. The town is in good fiscal shape, we are going to weather it, we are going to look at some of our capital projects. We are going to make sure everybody is taken care of here in the town including our employees."

Councilman Martin – "I want to echo that and I thank all of our employees for the work that they do especially in this difficult time. It is not easy for anybody. There has been no contemplation on this board members part of any kind of cut backs, furloughs or layoffs. I also want to emphasis this is why we budget the way we have in the last ten years and you have a fund balance now that can weather this storm. This is the results and the benefits of a solid budgetary practices. This is why you maintain fund balance you develop capital reserves to have that rainy-day fund because this is a rainy day. That is why we are in this solid position where other municipalities are not."

Councilman Godlewski – "I would echo everyone's sentiments. I think it's very appropriate . I would commend you on your statements. I'm sure the employees will greatly appreciate that and I agree we will weather this storm; we will get through it and we will find a way to maintain our workforce."

Supervisor Koetzle – "Happy Mother's Day to all of the ladies on our staff and all the residents."

Supervisor Koetzle asked for a motion to adjourn; Moved by Councilman Martin, Seconded by Councilwoman Wierzbowski, everyone being in favor the meeting was adjourned at 8:05 PM.

ATTEST:

Linda C. Neals
Town Clerk