

MEETING OF THE TOWN BOARD
TOWN OF GLENVILLE
SEPTEMBER 2, 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 and Michael R. Godlewski Councilwoman Gina M. Wierzbowski

Absent: None

Also present were Courtney Heinel, Legal Counsel; Vicki Hillis, Director of Human Services; Melissa Cherubino, Director of Community Development

Town Council Reports:

Councilman Godlewski – “Resolution add on #3 was going to be part of my remarks under town council reports. I will state preliminarily that I am happy to see that we are addressing this issue and I will speak a little more about it when we come around to the resolution.

I want to comment on something I saw in our community recently that I thought was outstanding. I was checking out in Market 32 and observed a gentleman wearing an army cap clearly a veteran. A you man bagging groceries made it a point to go and acknowledge the veteran and thanked him for his service. It was just a great simple moment. The veteran actually thanked the young man for working at the grocery store during these times.”

Councilwoman Wierzbowski – “I want to offer a public congratulations to Jim Jones of Scotia Fire Department and also the East Glenville Volunteer Fire Department. He was the recipient of the Schenectady County Fire Officer of the Year Award. I’ve known Jim for a number of years, both in his role as a firefighter with Scotia and with East Glenville.”

Councilman Aragosa – “Schenectady Foundation along with the Scotia Masonic Lodge, the Village of Scotia and the Regional Food Pantry are planning a drive thru food pantry on September 22nd. Get in line early, the last one we had at the Crosstown Plaza ran out of food in forty-five (45) minutes.

Reminder that the deadline for the census is coming up rapidly, which is September 30th. The Town of Glenville at this point is about 75% complete. Go to www.my2020census.gov it takes less than 5 seconds to complete.

On Saturday I attended the Elks Club Golf Tournament. Happy to see our former colleague John Pytlovany there. It was a nice event.

I heard this week of the closing of the boat house over on Aqueduct Road.”

Proclamations were presented to Sheryl Lauria for her volunteerism in the community from Senator Tedisco, Assemblywoman Walsh and Supervisor Koetzle.

No one wished to exercise the Privilege of the Floor.

Supervisor Koetzle moved ahead with the agenda.

Supervisor Koetzle – “Item No. 7 is a public hearing to hear all persons interested in the proposed local law to amend Article I, Section 242-14, “Re-subdivision” of the Code of the Town of Glenville.

Melissa Cherubino – “What we were trying to do, some come in and they want to do a lot line adjustment and it may actually implicate something that doesn’t match our code. So rather than just letting people do that outside the Town Hall in attorney’s office we wanted to have some sort of internal review to make sure that it doesn’t create any kind of problems in terms of lot size requirements or sizing or if there is any kind of water bodies on it and that kind of stuff. So, it is really just creating a sketch plan or approval process internally in the planning office and we are coordinating it with the assessor. We brought it to the Code Committee and then to you.”

Supervisor Koetzle opened the public hearing at 7:20 PM.

No one wished to speak; Supervisor Koetzle closed the public hearing at 7:21 PM.

Supervisor Koetzle – “Item No. 8 is a public hearing to hear all persons interested in the proposed local law to amend Article I, Sections 232-1, Sections 232-1 – 7, “Garbage and Refuse” of the Code of the Town of Glenville”

Melissa Cherubino – “The Garbage and Refuse changes have to do with shortening the time frame when the building department sends out a violation notice to someone and when we can either issue an order to go ahead and clean it up. It was five (5) days, it’s now three (3) days. Also, that process of having Department of Public Works (DPW) authorizing doing some sort of clean up. We didn’t have that actually listed in the code.”

Supervisor Koetzle opened the public at 7:23 PM

Susan Booth-Binczik, 391 Green Corners Rd – “First I’d like to express appreciation for the fact that the proposed code changes were posted on the Town’s website.

With respect to the proposed changes to the Garbage and Refuse law I see a problem that concerns me. It appears that the proposed changes will have the effect of prohibiting composting. I don’t know if that was part of the intent, I certainly hope not. I hope the Board will reconsider the planned vote tonight and reword the law so that it doesn’t end up with, I don’t know how many hundreds of Glenville residents effectively being made into criminals. The definition of garbage in the Code includes anything that is capable of decay, that means any plant or animal material. The proposed change to Section 232-4c prohibits garbage for being stored on private property except in an enclosed building or a solid container. That means no compost piles. If this law is passed making any town resident with a compost pile subject to fines and jail time. I think you are going to have a lot of upset people. So, for the benefit of the residents who may be attending this meeting or subsequently reviewing the recording I request that somebody there explain your thought process on this issue and that the Board reconsider adopting these changes as written.”

No one else wished to speak; Supervisor Koetzle closed the public hearing at 7:25 PM

Courtney Heinel, Legal Counsel – “The intent of the proposed changes to Garbage and Refuse code revisions are in no way meant to prohibit town residents from composting. The intent here is to address issues of properties that might be overrun with bulky couches or other items of garbage or garbage bags that are on their property and enabling the Town to provide a notice of violation with a shorter time frame for clean up and if that time frame isn’t met to enable the Town to, through certain procedures, go in and do the clean up of that property themselves and then recoup the cost of doing so. There was never any intent to prohibit composting with these changes.”

Melissa Cherubino – “I think some of the confusion is because within our minds we are thinking of it as the property maintenance code and of course that is very similar in how it is written and it does not apply to composting.”

Courtney Heinel – “We didn’t change the definition of garbage, that was a

definition that has always been there.”

Councilman Martin – “I would further add as evidence to that in the time that I have been here, I have never heard of violations being sought for composting. So, in practice and in administration that is not the case. I think the law is operating properly and the one change being made here was to the time frame and not to definitions and that should be pointed out. This is a long-standing definition and properly applied. I don’t see by virtue of the record that there is any cause for concern here.”

Discussion...

Councilwoman Wierzbowski – “I would like to point out that the length of this list is greatly shortened from years past. I think it is a testament to the decision to go to the automatic water meter reading system that we installed a couple of years ago. I would like to thank all of the people who went along with that. This is a testament to the efficiency that was going to happen and the fact that there is approximately eleven (11) properties as opposed to the pages and pages that we used to have and this is something to note.”

Councilman Godlewski – “Is it possible to explain the two (2) largest changes, one for \$55,000 and one for \$25,000?”

Supervisor Koetzle – “Both of those were manual commercial reads that were incorrect. We had to go back and rebill those because they were still on the manual read and through this COVID situation there was some difficulty getting to some of the meters and there were some incorrect readings that had to be adjusted. The 127 Maple Avenue is all the same thing, new owners and the previous owner was billed prior to the mailing so we had to fix it. The Petralia’s had a meter swap, the old meter was an incorrect reading.”

RESOLUTION NO. 158-2020

Moved by: Councilwoman Wierzbowski
Seconded by: Councilman Martin

WHEREAS, the Water User Fee Roll of the Town of Glenville, Water District #11 was approved for collection as of June 1, 2020, in the amount of \$1,469,764.57; and

WHEREAS, since June 1, 2020, due to reporting and clerical errors, adjustments are required to correct the accepted warrant;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the billing for the following customer accounts be adjusted:

#	ACCOUNT NUMBER	OWNER	ADJUSTMENT
1	22-0122103102-000	127 Maple Ave LLC	(\$130.00)
2	22-0122103402-000	127 Maple Ave LLC	(\$130.00)
3	22-0122103403-000	127 Maple Ave LLC	(\$130.00)
4	23-0123103000-001	Petralia, Joseph & Julie	(\$5,350.00)
5	35-0135100136-001	Welles, Kenneth B	\$93.42
6	46-0146103400-001	Martin, Frank P Jr	(\$140.77)
7	47-0447103200-001	YMCA of the Capital District	(\$25,850.00)
8	47-0447103420-001	Himmelwright, Richard	(\$9,380.75)
9	47-0447105400-001	Schultz, Raymond J	(\$55,121.36)
10	50-0150100206-001	Keating, Lisa	\$56.35
11	50-0150300729-001	Chlopecki, Brian	(\$282.00)
	ALL ADJUSTMENTS	TOTALS	(\$96,365.11)

BE IT STILL FURTHER RESOLVED that the corrected warrant for Water District #11 is \$1,373,399.46.

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

Supervisor Koetzle
Noes: None
Absent: None
Abstentions: None

Motion Carried

RESOLUTION NO. 159-2020

Moved by: Councilman Martin
Seconded by: Councilwoman Wierzbowski

WHEREAS, the Town of Glenville is proposing a Local Law (a copy of which is attached) that amends Article I, “Resubdivision,” section 242-14 for the Code of the Town of Glenville; and

WHEREAS, the intent of this section is to communicate to property owners the requirements for garbage removal and storage in the Town of Glenville; and

WHEREAS, the Glenville Town Board has determined that this code amendment constitutes a “Type II Action” in accordance with 6 NYCRR Part 617.4(b)(2) of the State Environmental Quality Review Act in that it involves a clarification of an existing section of the zoning code; and

WHEREAS, New York State Town Law and the Code of the Town of Glenville, require that the Town Board hold a public hearing before a code amendment or a local law may be adopted; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Glenville held a public hearing with respect to the zoning code amendment and adoption of said Local Law on Wednesday, September 2, 2020 at 7:00 PM, at which time and place were heard all persons interested in the amendment of Article I, “Garbage and Refuse,” section 232-1 through 7 for the Code of the Town of Glenville,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Glenville hereby establish a local law to amend the Code of the Town of Glenville, Local Law No. 14 of 2020 amending Article I, “Resubdivision,” section 242-14 of the Code of the Town of Glenville be and hereby is adopted; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Local Law #14 of 2020 shall take effect twenty (20) days after filing with the Secretary of State of the State of New York.

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

Motion Carried

Discussion...

Councilwoman Wierzbowski – “The properties that this section targets in general are properties that have a history of issues and violations and by the time we get to the point where the Town is going to actually go in and spend time, money and effort cleaning up a property that has the type of violations that requires the Town to clean it up it has been a while. The neighbors are usually pretty vocal about it. It’s vacant properties, it’s properties that have had fires, that have not been repaired or

secured in any way. They expose a health threat to the homes around it. We were already doing this. This is something that we enacted years ago to address quality of life issues for the residents. Sometimes the owners of these properties are unable to be found.”

RESOLUTION NO. 160-2020

Moved by: Councilman Martin

Seconded by: Councilwoman Wierzbowski

WHEREAS, the Town of Glenville is proposing a Local Law (a copy of which is attached) that amends Article I, “Garbage and Refuse,” sections 232-1 through 7 for the Code of the Town of Glenville; and

WHEREAS, the intent of this section is to communicate to property owners the requirements for garbage removal and storage in the Town of Glenville; and

WHEREAS, the Glenville Town Board has determined that this code amendment constitutes a “Type II Action” in accordance with 6 NYCRR Part 617.4(b)(2) of the State Environmental Quality Review Act in that it involves a clarification of an existing section of the zoning code; and

WHEREAS, New York State Town Law and the Code of the Town of Glenville, require that the Town Board hold a public hearing before a code amendment or a local law may be adopted; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Glenville held a public hearing with respect to the zoning code amendment and adoption of said Local Law on Wednesday, September 2, 2020 at 7:00 PM, at which time and place were heard all persons interested in the amendment of Article I, “Garbage and Refuse,” section 232-1 through 7 for the Code of the Town of Glenville,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Glenville hereby does hereby establish a local law to amend the Code of the Town of Glenville, Local Law No. 15 of 2020 amending Article I, “Garbage and Refuse,” section 232-1 through 7 of the Code of the Town of Glenville be and hereby is adopted; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Local Law #15 of 2020 shall take effect twenty (20) days after filing with the Secretary of State of the State of New York.

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

Noes: None

Absents: None

Abstentions: None

Motion Carried

Discussion...

Councilman Aragosa – “There was a comment made at this meeting about the COVID pandemic being over. I really feel that it is important that we consider those types of comments before make them. This event is maybe in a pause or it has slowed down but it is not over. So public officials need to think about that before we say something.”

Councilman Martin – “I was the one that made that comment. The definition in the CDC is a definition. It wasn’t from the standpoint of being irresponsible

from the standpoint of trying to be positive and note the improvements that have been made by everybody being so diligent and so responsible. There is hope for a brighter time coming out of this and all of the hard work has not been continuing for not but it is starting to show some real benefits. That was the spirit in which the comment was offered.”

RESOLUTION NO. 161-2020

Moved by: Councilman Godlewski

Seconded by: Councilman Aragosa

BE IT RESOLVED, that the minutes of the Regular Town Board Meeting held on August 19, 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

Supervisor's Comments

Supervisor Koetzle shared the following information:

We did get our second quarter Metroplex Sales Tax check which actually covers March, April and May. That was down 12% from last year. It is not as bad as we expected or we were fearful of that's good. March was fairly solid before the collapse of April and May. We expect our next quarterly check for June, July and August to be down about 15% based on these trends. We can only hope that we get some kind of rebound in the fourth quarter. We are still projecting now for budgeting purposes about \$150,000 shortfall in this revenue line. I have sent our District 3 legislatures and the County Manager a letter inviting them to come and speak to the Board at our work session in September. I have not heard back. I did get an email from one of the legislatures today that they are still negotiating and they really don't have any information but as I tried to explain we really need to know where we are with this revenue line as we try to put together a budget for 2021.

Our cable franchise revenue for the first half of 2020 was \$179,000 and that is down from \$189,000 same time last year. The cable franchise fee is going to continue to drop because people are continuing to cut the cord. That revenue line is not going to be where it was in the past.

We are waiting for the release of next years retirement rates from the state Comptroller's Office. They typically get it to us in August. Here is another huge piece of the budget that we don't have and understanding of right now. Our retirement bill for 2020 included significant increases for both police officers and the non-police employees at two (2) different rates but both were raised last year. Employee retirement is one of our largest expenses. It's over one million dollars a year to the Town.

Our new on-line payment for water bills proved to be very popular and effective. We had 535 people pay on line. It helped us keep people out of Town Hall which is good with COVID. It resulted in a reduction in unpaid water bills even during this financially difficult time.

The 2021 Budget Forums will be held on Wednesday, September 16th here at 18 Glenridge Road as part of the Town Board Meeting and Tuesday, September 22nd will be held at the Senior Center, Worden Road at 7:00 PM both nights. It will also be on the webinar.

We are just about sold out of tickets for movie night. We had a great

response from our residents. We are all sold out. First National Bank stepped up and they sponsored \$600. Storied Coffee is now involved and they are going to be there. It is just a great story of businesses coming together supporting other businesses. They need it and we need to do everything we can to help them. I want to thank everyone that supported this. What a great success this was!

We are having a little operational issue with courts and our front office. Since courts have opened people are coming in and they are congregating right here in the lobby as they always do. They are not social distancing; some don't have masks on and some of them are coming into our area. I believe it is becoming unsafe for our staff and our residents. We want to try to figure out a way of accommodating everything in this building. We are kicking around ideas and one of the ideas is we may consider closing Town Hall on court nights at 4:00 PM, moving our hours from 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM to 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM because they congregate starting at 4:00 PM in the front hallway. We thought of closing the doors to the front offices at 4:00 PM and letting the residents use our new window but they are still being exposed to people not practicing social distancing or having a police office in the hallway at 4:00 PM which will cost more in overtime. As we get into fall and winter it is going to be more difficult to have people outside in the rain and snow. No decision has been made yet but we are looking at all of the different options.”

RESOLUTION NO. 162-2020

Moved by: Councilwoman Wierzbowski

Seconded by: Councilman Martin

WHEREAS, a written petition has been presented to and filed with the Town Clerk of the Town of Glenville requesting an extension to Water District No. 11 of the Town of Glenville be established to include real property described by section, block and lot number in the petition and consisting of one parcel located at 53 Swaggertown Road identified on the Schenectady County Real Property Tax Service Agency Map as SBL 30.9-2-15 in the Town of Glenville; and

WHEREAS, a map, plan and report were previously filed in the office of the Town Clerk of the Town of Glenville with respect to the Extension to Water District No. 11 down Swaggertown Road having previously been filed in conjunction with the Baptist Health campus project which anticipated connections such as the one now proposed,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Glenville hereby adopts the following order:

ORDER

1. A petition to add an Extension to Water District No. 11 from a lateral to the curb box in Swaggertown Road has been filed with the Town Clerk on or about July 15, 2020.
2. The real property to be included in the extension is described by section, block and lot number as identified on the Schenectady County Real Property Tax Service Agency Tax Map as: 30.9-2-15.
3. The improvements proposed are the installation of a lateral connection to the curb box for one individual service connection at 53 Swaggertown Road.
4. The amount proposed to be expended for the extension is to be borne entirely by the property owner/developer.
5. No portion of the cost this extension will be attributable to Water District No. 11.
6. The estimated annual cost to the typical property is:
 - a. District debt: \$29.21
 - b. Operations & Maintenance: \$74.31
7. The prior map, plan and report describing the extension of Water District No. 11 down Swaggertown Road is on file in the Town Clerk's Office and may be inspected by members of the public.

8. The proposed financing method to be employed in the construction of this connection in this Water district extension is private financing by the developer.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Glenville will hold a public hearing on the petition to establish this extension to Water District No. 11 on September 16, 2020 at 7:00 PM or as soon thereafter as the matter can be reached, at the Glenville Municipal Center at 18 Glenridge Road, Glenville, New York to hear all persons interested in the establishment of this extension to the water district; and:

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this order certified by the Town Clerk shall be published at least once in the official newspaper of the Town and that said publication be not less than ten nor more than twenty days before the September 16, 2020 public hearing date.

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

Motion Carried

RESOLUTION NO. 163-2020

Moved by: Councilwoman Wierzbowski
Seconded by: Councilman Martin

WHEREAS, a written petition has been presented to and filed with the Town Clerk of the Town of Glenville requesting an extension to Sewer District No. 9 of the Town of Glenville be established to include real property described by section, block and lot number in the petition and consisting of one parcel located at 53 Swaggertown Road in the Town of Glenville; and

WHEREAS, a map, plan and report were previously filed in the office of the Town Clerk of the Town of Glenville with respect to the Extension to Sewer District No. 9 down Swaggertown Road which anticipated lateral connections such as the one now proposed; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Glenville hereby adopts the following order:

ORDER

6. A petition to add an Extension to Sewer District No. 9 from an existing Force Main in Swaggertown Road has been filed with the Town Clerk on or about July 15, 2020.
7. The real property to be included in the extension is described by section, block and lot number as identified on the Schenectady County Real Property Tax Service Agency Tax Map as: 30.9-2-15.
8. The improvements proposed are the installation of a ground pump and lateral connection to the force main for one individual service connection at 53 Swaggertown Road.
9. The amount proposed to be expended for the extension is to be borne entirely by the property owner/developer.
10. No portion of the cost this extension will be attributable to Sewer District No. 9.
11. The estimated annual cost to the typical property is:
 - a. District debt service: \$52.62
 - b. Operation & Maintenance: \$211.62
12. The prior map, plan and report describing the extension of Sewer District No. 9

down Swaggertown Road is on file in the Town Clerk's Office and may be inspected by members of the public.

13. The proposed financing method to be employed in the construction of this connection in this sewer district extension is private financing by the developer.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Glenville will hold a public hearing on the petition to establish this extension to Sewer District No. 9 on September 16, 2020 at 7:00 PM or as soon thereafter as the matter can be reached, at the Glenville Municipal Center at 18 Glenridge Road, Glenville, New York to hear all persons interested in the establishment of this extension to the sewer district; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this order certified by the Town Clerk shall be published at least once in the official newspaper of the Town and that said publication be not less than ten nor more than twenty days before the September 16, 2020 public hearing date.

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

Motion Carried

Discussion...

Councilwoman Wierzbowski – Read the entire resolution “I have known many of the departments officers for most of my adult life. Seeing that cartoon in the paper made me SICK TO MY STOMACH! The vast majority of law enforcement that I have had the honor of working with in my over twenty (20) years of public service myself, are here to help us, protect us and defend us and whether it's an opinion or not it was in exceedingly poor taste! I can't imagine how any police officer who woke up that morning and looked at their paper and saw that cartoon must have felt in their heart. I heard a song on the way to this meeting by an artist named Thomas Rhett, and the one refrain said, “in a world full of hate be a light, if you do someone wrong make it right”. With this resolution, which I support, I'm calling on the Gazette to make it right! This was wrong, this went too far and crossed the line.”

Councilman Martin – “I just want to reiterate and I agree 110%. This is just an awful, awful thing to publish and it is deeply, deeply offensive. The nature by which it was done and this broad-brush image that it paints is just awful and offensive. I have been making at the past several meetings supporting and making sure I mention the fine service of our police men and women and our department. I will continue to do so. I agree with Councilwoman Wierzbowski, they deserve an apology from the newspaper formerly to that department and many across the region. This is completely inaccurate, completely unconstructive to a very important issue and does the exact opposite towards any healing, unity or solutions to where there are problems. This is just irresponsible, offensive and I join with the expectation of an apology to the men and women of this department.”

Councilman Aragosa – “Councilman Godlewski and myself talked about this ourselves and we are glad there is a motion in front of us that we can support in a bi-partisan sort of way to let the people at the Gazette know they have done an aggregates wrong to policemen of all departments. It was a bad thought out poorly thing for them to do.”

Councilman Godlewski – “I thank Jim and Gina for putting this resolution forward. As a society we are going distant in a completely polarizing manner and it is important that these things are talked about. A couple meetings back I expressed my support for different things that are happening in society and I voiced an opinion about

a resident in my neighborhood having a sign indicating black lives matter among a number of other things and I would proudly display a sign like that on my front lawn. I think we are looking at these issues with a broad-brush. One can say black lives matter and one can equally say I proudly support law enforcement in my town and in this country. For me I try and think about this in more of a personal way. I try to go beyond Mike, the lawyer for DSS, Mike the town councilman for Glenville and think about member of law enforcement that I know. These are friends, these are neighbors. I remember Mike who is a police officer locally being my fifth grade classmate at Pinewood Elementary, I remember Matt who is a detective locally being one of our catchers on the baseball team, I remember Billy who is a detective locally played basketball with him growing up, another Mike who is an officer locally who I play baseball with. My daughter's first birthday is coming up and we are having a party for her, having limited guests because of what is going on, two of the attendees are state troopers. We all have rights but with rights come responsibilities and there is freedom of the press in this country and that goes to the highest court but with rights comes responsibilities and the media should be focusing on ways they can bring people together and not divide us and this political cartoon furthers a narrative that will divide us and force people into corners when we really should be focusing on talking about these issues and figuring these issues out."

Supervisor Koetzle – "A lot has been said by our board members. I will say that this is something that I spent a lot of time on today with the Chief, Gina and Jim. I have been on two phone calls with the Gazette, one with the publisher and one with the editor. We had very good dialogue, I would say a positive dialogue and a dialogue that I think needs to happen outside of just two people on a phone call, it needs to happen in the community. I am not going to rehash what was expressed already because you all already talked about the support for our police officers. I want to say that when I saw that cartoon I was shocked; I was shocked to the core that something like that we put into a newspaper in this community. It was a broad-brush, it was a stereo type that only worked to inflame hatred between people, it was unfair, it was not true, it perpetuated hate. I put the same question to both the publisher and the editor, here is the test, if it was any other way, if it wasn't law enforcement and it was anything else that you did something like that to would that fly? Why is it only okay when it is law enforcement? It was hateful, it was wrong, it demeaned people, men and women who are putting their lives at risk for doing a job. They didn't ask for this but they are out there protecting this community. It was particularly personal to me because I work with these men and women every day. I tried to explain to both the editor and the publisher this is just nameless, faceless people these are people in our community. Eighteen out of our twenty-four officers live in this community. I see it in their eyes, I know what they are going through and the Chief and I have had a lot of conversations about that. I know that we are better than that cartoon, I know that that did not depict the people of Glenville. Whatever is going on anywhere else in the world, I am telling you that did not depict the men and women of the Glenville Police Department! I feel adamant and strongly that this resolution needed to be put forward, we were counseled by a variety of people just to have some comments on it but I thought it needed the full weight of this Board behind it and people in this community understand that we are supporting our staff members here. These are employees of the Town and they are well trained and well lead men and women who are doing a good job for us every single day and I am proud to be a part of the sponsors of this resolution."

RESOLUTION NO. 164-2020

A Resolution Expressing Support and Appreciation for the Men and Women Who Serve in the Glenville Police Department

Moved by: Councilwoman Wierzbowski

Seconded by: Councilman Martin

WHEREAS, on August 31st *The Daily Gazette* published a cartoon in the opinion section of the paper that unjustly characterized law enforcement in a disturbing and

detrimental way; and

WHEREAS, we, the members of the Glenville Town Board, find that depiction to be inaccurate, demeaning, hateful and contrary to the behavior and character to the men and women of the Glenville Police Department who serve their community; and

WHEREAS, we, the members of the Glenville Town Board, further believe that this cartoon – although opinion – to be done in poor taste and find its purpose to incite anger in the community and further perpetuate negative feelings toward the men and women who serve in law enforcement; and

WHEREAS, we further find that the men and women of the Glenville Police Department wear their uniforms with honor, dedication, and integrity as they protect and defend this community and the people of Glenville; and

WHEREAS, we hereby attest that the department is led by Chief Steve Janik, a leader who has been recognized for his professionalism, service and dedication to the department, the community and the profession; and

WHEREAS, Chief Janik, working in partnership with this Town Board, has ensured that the members of the department are properly trained and evaluated to ensure that they are able to serve and protect this community with compassion, decency and professionalism,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Glenville hereby affirms and publicly acknowledges our support for men and women of the Glenville Police Department; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we call to expand the Federal hate crimes law to protect police; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we call on *The Daily Gazette* to issue an apology and clarification of its view of the law enforcement community and further acknowledge the good work of the vast majority of officers who dedicate their lives to serving and protecting the people of this town, county, state and nation.

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

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstention: None

Motion Carried

New Business

Councilman Godlewski – “I understand that the Ethics Board met recently and that you attended the meeting. I was wondering if you could just update the Board as to what was discussed at the meeting and when the next meeting will be?”

Councilwoman Wierzbowski – “School will be starting over the next few weeks and call on every one for some grace and patients. Wishing all the student’s good luck and hope they have a good year.”

Councilman Martin – “My wife is a school teacher. They are the most essential of the essential workers in my opinion. I just ask all of the people across the community to get behind your teachers and pull for them a little bit. It is going to be an especially difficult time. They are going to be on the front line in a lot of ways through this. This particular year try and support you teachers and just try and have some thoughts for what they have to face each and every day. Especially in this current year.”

Supervisor Koetzle – “The Ethics Committee did meet today virtually. Councilman Martin was part of that meeting because he is the primary sponsor and Courtney was there as well. We did put forward the...I thought it was important that the Ethics Committee take a look at this and provide input on it and give us some of their thoughts. We provided the model legislation. Courtney went through it with the committee. There were a lot of questions, a lot of discussion and we asked them to take...I don’t have the dates in front of me exactly..

Courtney Heinel – “We asked for comments by Friday and we scheduled our next meeting for next Wednesday at 1:00 PM.”

Supervisor Koetzle – “So that would put us in line for calling for a public hearing on September 16th for October 7th and then action could take place as early as October 7th. They are looking at it and providing input.”

Councilman Martin – “I just want to thank Courtney; you did an exceedingly good job explaining the law. You certainly have done your homework in preparing these revisions and it was a very informative session and I was especially pleased by the dedication of those people on the call. They were very engaged and certainly taking this very seriously. They had some good probing questions. It is going to be a better process as a result of that.”

Councilman Godlewski – “I think that is great. What I would ask is I would certainly be interested in being a part of that meeting next Wednesday.”

Supervisor Koetzle – “We do have to be careful of the Open Meetings Law. We can’t have the majority of the Board on that call. In the Code there is an employee/elective official who sits on the committee. I am appointed to that and then the sponsor is on that.”

Councilman Godlewski – “It is not an open meeting, the Ethics Board?”

Supervisor Koetzle – “Well I don’t believe and we will have to talk about that, if the majority of the Town Board meets I don’t know what implication that is. You have a majority of policy makers meeting. Let’s discuss that off line and then what ever we can do to accommodate we will do that.”

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 8:00 PM.

ATTEST:

Linda C. Neals
Town Clerk