

February 10, 2025, 7:00 P.M.

Denny Richardson, Council President, opened the monthly Town Council meeting. Denny led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. An attendance sheet was made available for non-officers and citizens present. Present besides Denny were Jo Temple, Council Vice-President; David Miller, Council Member; Mary Richardson, Clerk-Treasurer; Paul Sembach, Utilities Supervisor-Operator; Brayton Buckley, Code Enforcement Officer; and Geoffrey Wesling, Town Attorney. Chris Reynolds, Marshal. Was absent.

A motion was made by David Miller and seconded by Jo Temple to approve the January 13, 2025 council meeting minutes. Approval was unanimous.

A motion was made by David Miller and seconded by Jo Temple to approve the Allowance of Payroll Accounts Payable Voucher and the Register of Accounts Payable Vouchers. Approval was unanimous.

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| General Fund | \$3,327.57 | Sewage Utility Operating Fund | \$3,646.92 |
| Motor Vehicle Highway Fund | 912.73 | Payroll Fund | \$4,705.23 |
| Park Fund | 719.64 | | |
| Water Utility Operating Fund | 6,843.58 | Total | \$20,355.67 |

Randy Rykman requested how a Conservation Office could have a program at the Community Center covering hunting. Jo Temple provided the contact and cost information.

Unfinished Business

Thomas Barclay, Commonwealth Engineers, along with Denny and Mary discussed the meeting on January 24, 2025 regarding the water utility improvement project. The meeting was in Connersville with the presentation by Thomas Barclay, Commonwealth Engineers, Inc. The project has been redesigned with an approximate \$10 million dollar cost. The State Revolving Loan Funds (SRF) and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Rural Development have committed \$6 to \$10 million for the project. They need local partners.

Mary stated the Dale Strong, Fayette County Commissioner, was addressing the County Council regarding helping with the water utility project to bring Connersville water to Glenwood.

Thomas informed the Council that State Revolving Loan funds are temporarily frozen. USDA-Rural Development is requesting a new income survey. Commonwealth will lobby for using the current income survey.

Mary provided the Council with the revenue and expense comparison from 2020 to 2024. Mary will prepare more information and a draft rate ordinance draft for the March meeting. A public hearing is anticipated for the April meeting.

Paul discussed the need to alternate between the two wells and that well #2 can be switched at any time. However, both wells have elevated levels of disinfection by-products. The Council discussed the issue with Paul and Les Day. A plan was discussed and it was agreed that Paul and Les would work on fixing the issue. A motion was made by Jo Temple and seconded by Denny Richardson to accept Bastin Logan's \$2400 quote for a valve addition. Approval was unanimous. Flushing will be done more often.

Mary stated she has not yet drafted a revised animal ordinance or a new noise ordinance. David said he talked to the Rushville Animal Shelter. They will come to Glenwood but the dogs need to be held as they will not chase them. The Shelter has traps for dogs and cats that they will provide.

Mary provided information regarding other towns water leak processes. She did not get much response. Two towns stated they do not adjust for water leaks but will adjust the sewer if the water does not go through the sewer system. Two towns said they do the same as Glenwood and adjust for water leaks once per year if the water does not go through the sewer system.

One town stated that Baker Tilly told them that they were too small to provide water leak insurance. One town said they provide insurance through Servline, which covers the water charge and the cost of repairs. Mary stated that an additional field to the utility billing system will cost \$1080. Mary agreed to provide the Council with a three-year recap of water losses from leaks and obtain confirmation that the system addition is a one-time cost.

The Council discussed repairing the soffit on the Community Center. Jack Rummel will follow up with St. John's Exteriors to have it repaired. '

Mary reported that she contacted the American Legal Publishing Consultant. He is sending here the list of ordinances that \$1495 fee. We then have 30 other code pages of unique local material. He thinks that will be plenty for these ordinances. Mary was not aware of the \$350 annual hosting fee. This fee is reasonable for a hosting service. There will be a link from the Town's website or people can go to American Legal and search for Glenwood's ordinance. Mary stated the contract requires 50% of the project cost. Mary requested approval to pay that prior to a meeting to move the process along.

A motion was made by Jo Temple and seconded by Denny Richardson to approve the American Legal Publishing annual hosting of \$350 and to approve the payment prior to a council meeting for 50% of the project cost. Approval was unanimous.

New Business

Mary provided the Council with an update of the Rush County Foundation's approval for the Lilly Gift VIII Rural Revitalization Grant. The grant covers park improvements, broadband service, and blighted properties.

Glenwood has been awarded \$240,00 for the playground improvement. The Foundation, Rush County, and Glenwood leaders will work on this project. The estimated completion is by fourth quarter 2026.

The Rush County Commissioners added funding to the Lilly grant to provide broadband throughout the county. There will be \$322,000 spent to bring broadband to Glenwood. The estimated completion is by the second quarter of 2026.

The Lilly grant will allow for the purchase, demolish, and build of 30 new single-family homes on previously blighted properties. There are more than 40 on the list so there will be an elimination process. This project is starting soon. Glenwood has two properties on the list. Mary requested the Council to assess if the one property recently purchased on contract should be removed from the list. Once removed, we probably will not be able to add it again.

Mary asked if the Council would want to start some changes to get ready for the livestreaming effective at the July meeting. Mary asked if the Council is planning to have the meeting portion closed to public interruption. If so, it would be better to put the public comments and questions at the end of the meeting. That way, people can still ask questions or make comments about the actions during the meeting or bring up something new. The Council agreed with the agenda format change.

Mary stated that Denny had one quote for equipment for the livestreaming. She has an email from a firm that can help select equipment, get the YouTube channel ready, provide instructions, and even help write the minutes. There are other companies. Mary suggested if the Council plans on getting quotes, it may be good to start contacting various companies.

The Council considered the equipment and supply needs for the Town Marshal and Reserve Officer. Mary had provided financial information. Brayton and Mary provided grant information. Mary said she had contact information for the Criminal Justice Institute.

The Council discussed how the firearms would be registered. There was discussion of the possibility of providing a stipend to the Marshal and Reserve Officer for the weapon purchase.

Reports

Mary reported that she attended the Eastern Indiana Regional Planning Commission (EIRPC) January 23 meeting in Rushville. Clara Judd was introduced as the new Executive Director. Clara provided information on rural ag strategies and Indiana Bond Bank.

Mary stated that the ordinance revision committee met prior to the Rush Co Area Plan Commission (APC). The solar section of the zoning ordinance will be reviewed by the Board in March with public hearing in April. The committee is now working on the ordinance as it relates to blighted property. The Board reviewed a proposal from HWC to unify the entire zoning ordinance. The cost will be covered by the Lilly Gift VIII Grant.

Mary provided the Council with information regarding the proposed Senate Bill 1 to restructure the property taxes. She showed an estimate that would reduce Glenwood's portion of property taxes by \$10,300 in 2026, \$14,200 in 2027, and \$18,800 in 2028. It will be important to follow up with legislators. Mary will provide a list to the Council for their follow up. One town responded that she talked to her Senator. He feels that the bill will pass out of committee and then go to the floor where he feels there will be opposition. Mary will keep the Council updated.

Mary reported that the Town's phone/fax/internet bill has gone from \$157 in Oct to \$171 in Nov to \$191 in Jan.

Mary requested permission to write off two outstanding water checks: \$13.99 dated April 11, 2022 and \$2.22 dated July 2, 2022. A motion was made by David Miller and seconded by Jo Temple to approve the write off water checks totaling \$16.21. Approval was unanimous.

Paul Sembach provided his written and oral report. Paul stated he need more IDEM training hours. A motion was made by David Miller and seconded by Denny Richardson to approve Paul attending the Alliance of Rural Water Spring Conference at French Lick. Approval was unanimous.

Other Business

A motion was made by David Miller and seconded by Jo Temple to adjourn the meeting. Approval was unanimous.

Mary M. Richardson, Clerk-Treasurer