

**Glyndon City Council**  
**10/25/2023 – 6:00 P.M.**  
**Regular Council Meeting**  
**Council Chambers**

1. **Call to Order:** Vice-Mayor Justin Schreiber called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
2. **Roll Call:** Council Members Present: Bryant DeVries, Patrick McCoy, Steven Ring; Police Chief Justin Vogel; Public Works Superintendent Travis Braton; City Clerk/Treasurer Wendy Affield.

**As Per Sign in Sheet:** Ralph Mitchell

**Virtual Attendees:** Kevin Peterson, David, Anon and RaeAnn Berg

**Absent:** Mayor Tracy Tollefson

3. **Motion to Approve Consent Agenda** – A motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Steven Ring, seconded by Patrick McCoy. All in favor.  
Motion Carried.

a. **10/11/2023 – Council Meeting Minutes**

b. **Approve Resolution of Payments**

4. **Any Additions to the Agenda** – None.

5. **Motion to Approve the Agenda** – A motion to approve the agenda was made by Steven Ring, seconded by Bryant DeVries. All in favor.  
Motion Carried.

**6. Department Reports – Committee Reports -**

a. **Justin Vogel, Police Chief** – Chief Vogel informed Council October has been a busy month, it is great to be fully staffed and things are going well.

- **Trunk or Treat Party at the Community Center on Halloween – 6 to 8 pm** – Chief Vogel discussed the Halloween Party that will be at the Community Center on Tuesday, October 31<sup>st</sup> with lots of games, prizes, and food sponsored by the Glyndon Lutheran Church, UC Hope, Bayer, and the Glyndon Police Department.

b. **Travis Braton, Public Works/Maintenance** – Braton talked about the plows are ready for when we get snow and the GMC now has the sander installed, we just need to pick up the sand mixture.

c. **Bob Cuchna, Fire Chief** – Not present.

d. **Wendy Affield, City Clerk** – Affield mentioned how exciting it is to have the new equipment installed in Johnson Park and is thinking different parts of the shelter may be painted next year to match the equipment. Affield informed Council we will be interviewing Applicants on November 1<sup>st</sup> for the Administrative Assistant Position. Ring asked if the Maintenance Department has filled their position yet. Braton stated they did an interview earlier today and will be visiting about it at a later time.

- **City Hall will be Closed Friday, November 10<sup>th</sup> for Veteran’s Day; Thursday & Friday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> for Thanksgiving**

**e. Tracy Tollefson, Mayor – Not Present**

**7. Committee Reports** – Vice-Mayor Schreiber reported that Dilworth Representatives have reached out again to Mayor Tollefson and himself to discuss what was talked about a few months ago concerning the possibility of combining the two Police Departments and looking at some different aspects moving forward. Last time it was tabled since they were going through some changes at that time. Dilworth reached out a few weeks ago to see if there was anything more to discuss and if we wanted to move forward with the previous discussion. Schreiber stated they had some conversation, and it was their intention to bring it back to discuss with Council but in the meantime, it showed up in the media which was disappointing because they did not have the chance to visit with Council about it to see if it was even something they wanted to pursue again. Schreiber was looking for some feedback to see what everyone is thinking and is not sure what the timeline would be for this process moving forward. Schreiber asked Chief Vogel to give us some of his thoughts on this subject. Chief Vogel explained at the Dilworth's Council Meeting it was voted upon to put together a search committee for hiring their own Chief of Police, I wish they could have waited a little bit on that, but it was voted upon and as we know you cannot have two Chiefs, it just does not work, you have to have a career leader moving forward. Chief Vogel believes it would take less than a year for a merger and if Dilworth hires a Chief now it is not fair for their new Chief or himself as to who will be running the department if we were to merge. Chief Vogel stated he will not reapply for his job; he has been in Glyndon for four (4) years and feels he has moved the City forward and has twenty (20) years of experience, so he is well qualified to move the merger forward. Chief Vogel feels there are a lot of good advantages for a merge, like we both know there are not a lot of students going to school to be Police Officers so the hiring pool is not there the way it used to be. The smaller towns are unable to offer sign-on bonuses like the bigger cities are so a merger would help with promotions within the department, it gives our officers the opportunity to become an Investigator, School Resource Officer, or a Sergeant. Another benefit would be the budget for both cities as things are getting more expensive. It is Chief Vogel's understanding that Mayor Olson and Council Member Nash wanted to have another meeting with our committee excluding himself, but he is proposing allowing himself and interim Chief Ross to be in attendance and he would like to be given at least twenty (20) minutes to talk, discuss and provide the full details, he does not want any information left out and after that conversation he would like the information to come back to full Council for discussion. He believes if Dilworth still wants to move forward after the meeting with hiring a Chief then it will be time to end the talks. Chief Vogel stated you will not find two people that want the greater good for both Dilworth and Glyndon other than himself and Interim Chief Ross, and the officers from both agencies do not have an issue with this merger. Council Members discussed how they are happy with what we have, how it is stable, and how all the officers do a great job which reflects positive leadership, but they do understand the challenges that are facing our Police Departments. Chief Vogel informed Council that Dilworth has an excellent team of officers that he would be proud to work with. Schreiber will visit with Mayor Tollefson to see when a meeting can be set up with Dilworth.

**8. Old Business/Unfinished Business Update** – Braton updated Council concerning the Charleswood Addition stating the work crew installing the piping should be done next Thursday for the season, but the dirt crew might come back and redo some grating on a few lots. The water line is hooked up, but testing will still need to be done.

**9. New Business** – Nothing at this time.

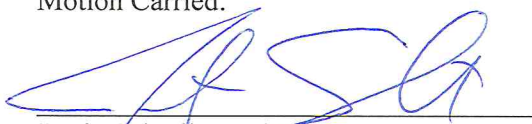
**10. Time to Discuss Additions to the Agenda** – Nothing at this time.

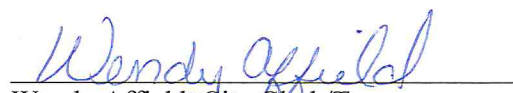
**11. Open Forum – Public Comments/Concerns**

- Ralph Mitchell – Grain Dust – Mr. Mitchell would like to discuss the grain dust issue from the elevator. He feels the red dust is bad for your health and does not know why some days it is worse than others. Chief Vogel mentioned the City has been in contact with Pollution Control several times and we have done the noise complaint testing with their equipment and they have seen photographs of the issues you are talking about and at this point there is no concerns from Pollution Control. DeVries asked Mitchell what his solution would be considering it is an operating elevator and they run their business out of it. DeVries would like to know his solution to this issue that he has. Mitchell discusses how it was rezoned to agriculture, so they do not have to have a building permit, wondering when do you have something in town that is turned into agriculture. DeVries stated the elevator has been there a long time. Mitchell was saying the elevator was closed down years ago because of the grain dust. DeVries asked again what is the solution he is looking for. Mitchell feels it should be sealed up better so stuff does not blow out if not it should be shut down. Mitchell brought up other towns in the area do not have grain dryers in town so why does Glyndon need to. Mitchell visited on other things around town that he has concerns with. Schreiber explained how the City has followed the steps by looking into the concerns of Mr. Mitchell and have visited with the owners of the elevator to see if anything can be done on their part. Changes were made and testing was done with the results being within normal limits from the Pollution Control Agency. Mitchell further mentioned the sound barrier that was put up and is wondering why a fence was not built. Chief Vogel informed Mitchell the trailer was a recommendation from Pollution Control. Mitchell then asked when his sons neighbor would be removing their stuff out of the city alleyway. Schreiber stated the City is still working on the nuisance ordinance. Chief Vogel stated the Council has put a lot of progress into it and are just waiting to set up another committee meeting to finalize a few things before presenting to Council. Mitchell brought up some things that were in the first draft and Affield informed him those things have changed since then. Schreiber mentioned how helpful the feedback has been from the residents. The idea is hopefully by the time the snow melts in the spring and cleanup week is shortly thereafter residents can take advantage of it and get things cleaned up.

**12. Miscellaneous Announcements & Recognitions** – Chief Vogel mentioned that Bell Bank provided a check for the Police Department for one thousand dollars (\$1,000). It was a moving forward gesture from them for an event where Officer Schock assisted an older gentleman that was having vehicle issues. Officer Schock gave this gentleman a courtesy ride to Hawley and one of his family members who works at the Bank requested the pay-it forward to go to our department. The funds will be used for their Shop with a Cop Program in December.

**13. Adjournment** – A motion was made by Patrick McCoy to adjourn at 6:30 p.m., seconded by Bryant DeVries. All in favor.  
Motion Carried.

  
Justin Schreiber, Vice-Mayor

  
Wendy Affield, City Clerk/Treasurer

October 25, 2023, Council Meeting Minutes