

**The Town of
GLEN ECHO
Chartered 1904**
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**October 9, 2018
Town Council Meeting Minutes**

1. Call to order:

Mayor Polak called the meeting to order at 8:02.

Councilmembers (CM) Nancy Long, Dia Costello, Dan Spealman and Matt Stiglitz were present. Also, present were residents Renny and Edie Springuel, Emily Parsons, Aaron Hirsch, Blair Anderson, Raya Bodnarchuk, Gloria Levin, Martha Shannon and Speke Wilson, Town Attorney Ron Bolt and consultant Jean Sperling.

2. Approval of minutes

The September minutes were approved unanimously after amendments were made.

3. Financial Matters

3.4 and 3.5 redirect funds next month

A motion to accept the auditor's report was approved unanimously.

4. Building and permitting issues

Mr. Bolt reported the county hearing on the variance has been rescheduled to Nov. 7, 2018 at 9:30 am. He also pointed out that work on the house continued after the stop work order was posted. In answer to a question, he said if the town chose to contest, the chances were 50/50 because it is impossible to predict the outcome of litigation. The owner would have to prove there is something unusual in the property to justify a variance.

A number of residents spoke up in opposition to the variance. Blair Anderson questioned whether any inspections were conducted and whether the addition is structurally sound to hold the load.

Mr. Bolt said the town has the ability to discuss any conditions with the applicant prior to the hearing. The town can also set its own setback requirements as a municipality.

Up until this point Mr. Bolt said his expenses have been about \$2,000.

CM Stiglitz made a motion to have counsel seek a continuance to provide the town more time to consider the matter, but if opposing counsel opposes that continuance, then counsel was authorized to oppose the variance. CM Long seconded, the measure approved unanimously. The council scheduled a closed session to discuss the issue on October 16 at 7 pm.

The residents at 20 Wellesley Circle applied for a building permit to rebuild a deck. CM Stiglitz moved to allow issuance of a permit consistent with the existing structure. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Tree Removal Request 7309 University Ave.

Resident Speke Wilson requested permission to remove a maple and a cypress from his property because the roots were threatening the integrity of the foundation. The council made no objection.

6. FY19 Service Contracting Discussion

Three bids have been submitted for leaf collection – Rolling Acres, Hughes, and Mulheron. Mayor Polak said all the bids came in about \$1,800/day. The mayor recommended accepting the bid from Hughes. Council approved to increase leaf collections for 3 to 6 pick-ups.

CM Speelman made a motion to contract with Hughes for leaf removal. CM Stiglitz seconded, approved unanimously.

7. Damage to town property

The post office light repairs are underway and the little library has been repaired.

8. Other Business

Josh Nadas from the National Park Service did not attend the meeting. He emailed his report.

Martha Shannon reported that the archivist has commenced work.

CM Costello reported the town hall rental committee will be ready to make a proposal soon.

Mayor Polak said he has received two bids from code enforcement consultants.

Jean Sperling reported on a group of municipalities that plan to agree on a stance on small cell antennae. The council agreed to lend support to the effort.

CM Stiglitz reported there are new cracks in the town streets. Resident Renny Springuel said he found the contractor last year and that November is the best time to make repairs. Resident Springuel also requested regular updates from Aaron Hirsch on the Vassar property and a road engineer to assess storm drainage there.

CM Stiglitz recognized CM Nancy Long celebrating her 90th birthday.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:30 pm.

Minutes prepared by Julia Wilson

Approved by:

Willem Polak
Mayor, Willem Polak

Nov. 12, 2008
Date