



GLADSTONE CITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING

City Hall Chambers – 1100 Delta Avenue
October 13, 2025
6:00 PM

MINUTES

Mayor Thompson called the meeting to order; Commissioner O'Driscoll gave the Invocations followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Clerk Berry called the roll:

PRESENT

Mayor Joe Thompson

Commissioner Judy Akkala

Mayor Pro-Tem Brad Mantela

Commissioner Robert Pontius

Commissioner Steve O'Driscoll

No public comment.

Motion made by Commissioner Akkala, Seconded by Commissioner Pontius to approve the consent agenda as presented.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Motion made by Commissioner Akkala, Seconded by Commissioner O'Driscoll to approve the Accessibility Policy for Assessment Audit Compliance as presented.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Motion made by Mayor Thompson, Seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Mantela to approve the Personal Property Canvass & Roll Maintenance Policy as presented.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Motion made by Mayor Pro-Tem Mantela, Seconded by Commissioner Akkala to reappoint Mr. Rudolph Kaminen to the Gladstone Housing Commission with a term expiration of October 1, 2030.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Motion made by Commissioner O'Driscoll, Seconded by Mayor Thompson to set a work session for Monday, October 27, 2025 at 5:00 PM City Hall Commission Chambers for the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Audit Presentation.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

City Manager Eric Buckman commented on the following:

- Attended the monthly Delta County Economic Development Alliance meeting
- Michael O'Connor's small claims suit against the City regarding Public Act 33 was dismissed by Judge Steve Parks as this suit does not fall within the jurisdiction of small claims and the suit was requesting an opinion - KIM GET WORDING FROM DISMISSAL FORM
- Met with Soo Line Train Club regarding future maintenance and their status of "Authority".
- Tammy Marier from MERS was here last week and gave a presentation on the retirement products that the City has and to meet individual with employees on their retirement questions. Public Safety Director is the last employee on Defined Benefit Retirement, everyone else is on Defined Contribution.
- Met with Treasurer Vicki Schroeder and Electric Superintendent James Olson regarding Electric Department Inventory will be fixed.
- Director of Parks & Recreation Wendy Taavola and I met with Engineer and DNR regarding the harbor improvement projects looking like next spring. We also attended the annual Chamber of Commerce dinner to accept the Mighty Oak Award for the City of Gladstone. This award recognizes a member with deep roots, strength and lasting impact in the community.
- Hired a new volunteer firewoman - Bobbie Farley
- Encourage all to attend the upcoming Audit presentation meeting on Monday, October 27th at 5:00 PM and to bring your questions.
- Hired a new water operator Ken Flagstadt who will start at the end of the month.

Community Development Director Patricia West presented the City of Gladstone Social Media Engagement Report (07/01/2024-06/30/2025). The report is included in the City Commission packet for 10-13-2025 on the city website.

Motion made by Commissioner O'Driscoll, Seconded by Commissioner Pontius to enter closed session at the request of the City Assessor at 6:34 PM for the City Assessor, Janice Frizzell annual performance evaluation.

Commissioner O'Driscoll

Commissioner Akkala

Commissioner Mantela

Commissioner Pontius

Mayor Thompson

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Mayor Thompson called the meeting back into open session at 7:19 PM with no action taken in closed session.

Motion by Commissioner Mantela; seconded by Commissioner O'Driscoll to table the Assessor annual evaluation to October 27, 2025 regular meeting to obtain a legal review of proposed contract changes.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

There being no further business before the City Commission Mayor Thompson adjourned the meeting at 6:20 PM.

Mayor Joe Thompson

Clerk Kimberly Berry