

CITY OF GLEASON
CITY BOARD MINUTES

July 21, 2025

The Board of Mayor and Aldermen of the Town of Gleason met for its regular meeting July 21st at 7:00 PM, prevailing time at Gleason City Hall. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Charles Anderson.

The following were present:

Charles Anderson	Mayor
Mike Bennett	Vice Mayor / Alderman
Mike Stafford	Alderman
Shawn Francisco	Allerman
James Hines	Alderman
Marsha Hatley	City Recorder
Tracy Gaylord	Asst. City Recorder
Jonathan McDowell	Police Officer
Mark Stafford	Fire Chief
Rodney Garner	Public Works Director
Carter Cook	Asst. Public Works Director
Clay Wright	Water / Wastewater Superintendent
Sarah Wright	Wife of Clay Wright
Lowe Finney	City Attorney
Jim Seaton	Codes Enforcement
Domine Spinelli	WCMT
Erica Moore	Director of Weakley County Chamber of Commerce
Shannon Taylor	Press
Benita Evans	Press

1. Prayer – Charles Anderson
2. Pledge of Allegiance – Lowe Finney
3. Reading of the June minutes was waived since each board member is furnished with a copy.
4. Financial Reports were reviewed.
5. Departmental Reports were given by Department Heads.
6. Alderman Shawn Francisco made a motion to approve the minutes, financial reports, and departmental reports. Motion was seconded by Alderman James Hines. Motion carried.
7. Mayor Anderson advised that the Library Summer Reading Program was underway with an average attendance of 15 each day.

OLD BUSINESS

8. The Board heard the 2nd Reading of the Budget Amendments for FY 25. Alderman Michael Stafford made a motion to approve the amendments. The motion was seconded by Alderman Mike Bennett. The motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

9. Mayor Anderson introduced Jim Seaton to the Board and advised that he would be working on a case-by-case basis with enforcing codes such as tall grass, dangerous buildings, and the slum ordinance. He noted that since he started, he has already contacted and had a couple corrections.
10. Mayor Anderson advised that a notice would be prepared for our Facebook and Website warning that codes would be enforced and what residents could expect if violations persist.
11. Alderman James Hines asked if there is an ordinance for throwing grass out into the streets when mowing. He stated that if not one was needed because this is dangerous and looks bad. Grass should be blown back into the yards.
12. Alderman Shawn Francisco asked if Mr. Seaton was liability insured. Mr. Seaton answered no. Mayor Anderson noted that he was considered a 1099 Consultant, not a city employee.
13. Mayor Anderson advised the board that the owner of the old hotel had agreed to deed the property to the city once the lien against the property is lifted. The property is currently uninsured and a dangerous building. He explained that he had learned there would be a state mandated asbestos test but there is 100% reimbursable grant funding available to cover the testing. Once the test determines if asbestos abatement is necessary there are grant funds available to cover the cost of that as well. TDEC advised this when in town looking for old gas stations the city might be in ownership of needing old tanks removed via an environmental grant available for this. Property owners of these old gas stations would have to address. The application deadline for the grant is September 15th.
14. Mayor Anderson advised that City Attorney, Lowe Finney, was the representative of the lien holder against the hotel property. He stated that his long-term goals for the property if and when it is deeded to the city will be (1) remove hotel, (2) build a new City Hall, (3) move Police Department back to old City Hall.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

15. Mayor Anderson announced that June Yard of the Month had been awarded to Richmond and Jan Cozart, July Yard of the Month had been awarded to Jozella Johnson and that he was currently on the lookout for a recipient of Yard of the Month for August.
16. There was some discussion about the upcoming School Fall Ball Season at the Park. Mayor Anderson asked if Public Works could move all the banners to the Softball field during the School Fall Season.
17. Next Board Meeting will be August 18th at 7PM.

Meeting Adjourned: 7:18 PM