

Glendale 2nd District Report

December 1st, 2009



The 2010 City Budget is finalized and I think the City Staff deserves a great deal of thanks. There are also many other issues concerning the City and its residents that I will try to explain in this issue of my report. I have heard from many of you and would encourage you to continue to contact me regarding your concerns so that I am addressing each and every issue that you would like to see addressed.

I want you to know that many of your concerns are also my concerns and I will always try to rectify all of your issues in a manner that you would like to see them rectified. I look forward to seeing you at the Common Council meetings.

Glendale City Budget 2010

The 2010 Glendale City Budget is complete and I thought it would be appropriate to include some numbers for residents and taxpayers to see in order to understand how it will affect the household bottom line.

The total increase in City property taxes will increase 2 cents per \$1000. That is a .3% increase and I thought this was a very low increase considering some of the financial obligations facing the City during this budgetary period. This is also the lowest increase in City property taxes since 1985.

This budget was a product of a lot of hard work and many tough choices made by the City Administrator and all Department heads. My hats off to all City Staff for doing everything that they could to do more with less and still provide the top level of service that Glendale provides to its citizens.

I think it is also important to note some of the other items that affect the overall tax rate that are not controlled by the City:

MMSD levy = 1 cent per \$1000 or 1%

Milw.County = 16 cents per \$1000 or 3.6%

Nicolet H.S. = 9 cents per \$1000 or 2.1%

Glendale/River Hills School District = -11 cents per \$1000 or -1.8%

MATC = 6 cents per \$1000 or 2.9%

Total Net Tax Rate for Glendale is 1%

As a side note, Maple Dale/Indian Hills School District residents will see 88 cents per \$1000 or 14.1% increase due to a school referendum passed in that District.

All in all, Glendale as a whole did an excellent job limiting increases on taxpayers during these tough economic times.

North Sunny Point Lane Property

As many of you may or may not know, the City of Glendale held a public meeting on November 23rd regarding the City's application for a Community Development Block Grant to acquire potentially available properties along North Sunny Point Lane.

I must first say that I am happy at the turnout, response and comments made by many of the residents who live along Sunny Point Lane. I fully understand the

Glendale 2nd District Report

December 1st, 2009

concerns of residents who live along Sunny Point Lane. Please understand however, this is a completely voluntary measure and there is no way that the City will allow this program to be anything but voluntary.

The application for the Community Development Block Grant is in response to the City's requirement to continually make a "Good Faith" effort to minimize annual re-occurring flood damages in floodway areas under the Federal/State Floodplain Management Program.

I must emphasize that this program is completely voluntary and residents who live along Sunny Point Lane should view this as nothing more than that. The City of Glendale and I am committed to this point.

Under this program, if approved, residents who live along Sunny Point Lane will be allowed to voluntarily sell their property to the city at an appraised value as if the property were not located in the floodway. These will be independent appraisals at City expense. Relocation assistance will also be provided to residents who voluntarily sell their property, at City expense.

The City will not be able to use this property for anything but recreational use.

I want to be clear; I am completely opposed to agencies and Bureaucrats within the government that creates "Rules" that affect property owners. For this reason, I am opposed to ANY action that is not voluntary. I made this point at our meeting and I am making this promise to you.

However, to be compliant with FEMA and DNR Flood Insurance/Floodplain Management, the City must make a Good Faith Effort and this was a program that we thought could be a win-win for those who want to voluntarily opt-in.

I completely understand your concerns and would encourage you to contact me anytime to discuss this issue further. I also have a property on the floodplain and I certainly would not want anything but a voluntary program for myself and any other property owner in the City of Glendale.

Green Tree Road Litigation

Many of you know from some of my previous reports that River Hills has been contemplating the closure of Green Tree Road in River Hills. Green Tree Road is vital to the efficient and effective response from the North Shore Fire Department and other emergency services to the rest of the North Shore Communities. The road is also an important busing route for Nicolet High School as well as being an important route for residents coming and going to the Glendale Market. The City of Glendale has worked very hard to resolve this issue with River Hills, while maintaining that we are absolutely opposed to a partial or complete closure.

As a result of River Hills decision to move forward with a partial closure plan on Green Tree Road, without regard to the objections of the Nicolet School District or the City of Glendale, the Nicolet School Board voted to join the City of Glendale in litigation with River Hills regarding the closure of Green Tree Road. A request for an injunction to stop River Hills from closing the road has been filed by the City of Glendale and the Nicolet School Board.

Milwaukee River Parkway Project

Last month I mentioned this project because many of you have had concerns about the condition of the road along

Glendale 2nd District Report

December 1st, 2009

Milwaukee River Parkway. As you know, Milwaukee River Parkway is a Milwaukee County road and therefore Glendale must work with the County to proceed with any resurfacing project. The City of Glendale has been concerned about the deterioration of the road, storm water drainage issues along the road and the public safety concerns for students and parents along the Parkway.

The County has put this item in the 2010 Capital Budget and this project was not vetoed by County Executive Scott Walker. Glendale has also put this project in its 2010 Capital Improvement Budget. The primary reason for installing this item in the Capital budget is the resurfacing of the Parkway from Silver Spring to Bender.

Many of you have also indicated your concerns surrounding this project, in particular, the installation of a sidewalk on the East side of the Parkway. I intend to have a neighborhood informational meeting in early spring to discuss the project and answer any and all questions. At that time, many of the details of this project will be known and I will be in a better position to clearly answer your questions. I understand many of your concerns, as you have made them very clear. I will make sure that any questions you have regarding this project are answered. I will make sure to keep you updated on this project.

I am sorry I do not have more details regarding this project, but the City and the County must discuss the plan and there is no date set for this project yet.

Please continue to contact me with your concerns regarding this project as it will help me to address any key concerns during the planning phase.

City Snow Removal Procedures

As the snow season fast approaches, it is important to keep in mind that normally the city does not plow streets unless the total accumulation is more than 3". Anything less is covered by salting operations. Major thoroughfares have 1st priority, residential streets are plowed after major streets are completed.

Also note that the City does not plow or maintain County or State highways including:

1. Green Bay Ave. north of Good Hope
2. Good Hope Road from Port Washington Road west to the city limits
3. West Mill Road
4. Milwaukee River Parkway
5. Port Washington Road from West Daphne north to the city limits

Glendale City Newsletter

The winter 2009-2010 City of Glendale Newsletter is now available at City Hall and online at www.glendale-wi.org. Please let me know if you would like me to deliver a hard copy of the newsletter to your residence. I would be more than happy to drop a copy off at your request.

One Final Item

I have decided to run for 2nd District Alderperson in the spring of 2010. I hope that those of you who have contacted me have seen that I understand that I work for you and your concerns become my concerns on the Common Council. I do not

Glendale 2nd District Report

December 1st, 2009

take this position lightly and will continue to work for you and your concerns for as long as you will allow me to. I try to keep everyone as informed as possible on all City business and I hope that I have your confidence moving forward.

I will be circulating nomination papers on the 1st of December and if you would like to sign my papers, please contact me and I will of course start with those who contact me. No matter what happens though, it is certainly a pleasure to work for all of you. Thank you very much for this opportunity.

Calendar of events for November

- Planning Commission Meeting
Cancelled for December
- Common Council meeting Monday
December 14th 7:00pm
- 2nd Common Council Meeting
cancelled for December

I urge all of you to try and attend Common Council Meetings throughout the month.

Please encourage others to join my email list or visit the Glendale website to read this report.

Please visit often: www.glendale-wi.org

Sincerely,

Brian Rice
Glendale Alderperson 2nd District
Phone: 414-403-1279

E-mail: brice0829@sbcglobal.net or
brice0829@hotmail.com

