

GENEVA CITY COUNCIL
WORK SESSION &
REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 4, 2024

MINUTES

WORKSESSION
4:30 P.M.

The Geneva City Council met in work session on March 4, 2024, at 4:30 p.m. in the Council room at City Hall. Members present were Mayor David Hayes and Council Members Freddy McCoy, Kim Gillespie, Mike Fountain, and Daniel L. Coleman. Council Member Ryan Tidwell was absent. Also present were City Clerk/Treasurer Lisa Johnson, City Attorney Jeff Gray.

Scott Farmer, Director of Southeast Alabama Planning and Development Commission, was present and presented a redistricting plan for the City.

Work session adjourned and regular session began at 6:00 p.m.

REGULAR SESSION
6:00 P.M.

Members present were Mayor David Hayes and Council Members Freddy McCoy, Kim Gillespie, Mike Fountain, and Daniel L. Coleman. Council Member Ryan Tidwell was absent. Also present were City Clerk/Treasurer Lisa Johnson, City Attorney Jeff Gray and various department heads and employees.

Mayor Hayes called the meeting to order.

City Attorney Lee gave the invocation and Mayor Hayes led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council Member Coleman moved to dispense with the reading and approve the minutes of February 20, 2024, as presented. Council Member Fountain seconded the motion which was approved by a four (4) to zero (0) vote with Mayor Hayes and Council Members Lee and Bixby abstaining.

Council hear a request from Chelsie Smith for the Geneva graduating class of 2005 to use Robert Fowler Park for a dance for homecoming activities.

Council Member Bixby moved to authorize use of Robert Fowler Park by the Class of 2005, pending meeting insurance requirements. Council Member Fountain seconded the motion which was approved by a six (6) to zero (0) vote with Mayor Hayes abstaining.

Council Member Lee moved to appoint Council Member Gillespie to be the City's Contact Person for Mainstreet and authorize her to execute a Memorandum of Agreement for being a

Network Community. Council Member Bixby seconded the motion which was approved by a six (6) to zero (0) vote with Mayor Hayes abstaining.

Council Member Gillespie moved to authorize Council Member Lee as the City's voting delegate for the City at the 2024 Alabama League of Municipalities Convention. Council Member Bixby seconded the motion which was approved by a six (6) to zero (0) vote with Mayor Hayes abstaining.

City Attorney Gray presented and reviewed a floodplain ordinance for the City of Geneva.

Council Member Lee introduced the following ordinance:

ORDINANCE 03-2024-02

FLOODPLAIN DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE

It was moved by Council Member Lee that all rules and regulations which, unless suspended, would prevent the immediate consideration and adoption of said ordinance, be suspended, and that unanimous consent to the immediate consideration of said ordinance be given. The motion was seconded by Council Member Fountain. Mayor Hayes called for the vote, the roll was called with the following results:

Ayes:	Nays: None	Absent:	Abstentions: None
Mayor Hayes Council Member Lee Council Member McCoy Council Member Gillespie Council Member Bixby Council Member Fountain Council Member Coleman		Council Member Tidwell	

The Mayor declared the motion carried.

After said ordinance had been discussed and considered in full by the Council, it was moved by Council Member Lee that Ordinance Number 02-2024-02 be now placed upon its final passage and adopted. The motion was seconded by Council Member Fountain. The question being put as to the adoption of said motion and the final passage and adoption of said ordinance, with the following results:

Ayes:	Nays: None	Absent:	Abstentions: None
Mayor Hayes Council Member Lee Council Member McCoy Council Member Gillespie Council Member Bixby Council Member Fountain Council Member Coleman		Council Member Tidwell	

The Mayor declared the motion carried and the ordinance passed and adopted as introduced and read.

Council Member Bixby moved to amend the agenda to add item E. Redistricting. Council Member Gillespie seconded the motion which was approved by a six (6) to zero (0) vote with Mayor Hayes abstaining.

Council Member Bixby moved to select the redistricting alternate plan prepared by Scott Farmer with the Southeast Alabama Regional Planning and Development Commission as the proposed plan for the City of Geneva and to hold a public hearing on the matter on April 1, 2024. Council Member Gillespie seconded the motion which was approved by a six (6) to zero (0) vote with Mayor Hayes abstaining.

Mayor Hayes reported on the following:

1. Splash pad project
2. City park project
3. City Hall project
4. Industry sites
5. Economic Development meeting
6. Housing needs
7. Transports from the hospital
8. Ft. Novosel meeting

Council Member Gillespie asked if stops signs and street marking at the signs be replaced at intersections near the high school and middle school.

Council Member Bixby reported it was dim and hard to see the stop sign on Live Oak street and asked the Street Superintendent to look at the issue.

Council Member Lee requested the Street Superintendent look at the ditch issue at the west end of E Mulkey Ave. He reported the speed bumps on Mulkey need to be replaced. He stated he has concerns about City Court and asked Code Enforcement Officer Owens about the disposition of a case involving a nuisance complaint in Herring Subdivision. Council Member Lee stated he would like to go into executive session at the end of the meeting on a issue that could reflect on good name and character.

Council Member Fountain reported on a nuisance complaint and someone living in a camper trailer in his district.

Clerk Johnson reported all items have been upload to the online auction.

City Attorney Gray reported on court and trials.

Police Chief Mock gave an activity report for the month of February. He stated he feels the smoking and tent ordinances need revisions and stated he would work with the City Attorney on the matter. Chief Mock requested permission to subscribe to a records search program called

TLO to assist with investigations for the department at a cost of \$170.00 per month. Council Member Gillespie moved to authorize the subscription. Council Member Fountain seconded the motion which was approved by a six (6) to zero (0) vote with Mayor Hayes abstaining.

A community alert system was discussed.

Rescue Director Dorminey reported on February Billings and that the second trial crew had started.

Recreation Director Adams reported on Allstar Tournaments for participants and a travel ball tournament held in Geneva. He reported on moving into the new office and shredding old documents.

Street and Sanitation Superintendent Brewer reported on the cost to replace missing street lamp post and to upgrade the globes on posts. He informed Council that the hay contractor has volunteered to take down all the remaining trees at no cost at the airport. Chief Mock stated he doesn't want all the trees removed due to the firing range. Superintendent Brewer asked to be allowed to change his department to a four (4) day ten (10) hour work week Monday through Thursday. The issue was scheduled for the March 11th work session.

Mayor Hayes opened the public participation portion of the agenda.

Chamber President Carl Corey gave a report on Chamber functions.

Attorney Gray stated an executive session as requested by Council Member Lee was in order as discussion met the criteria of good name and character. He stated there would be no announcement after executive session which was estimated to be 20 minutes.

Council Member Lee moved to go into executive session. The motion was seconded by Council Member Fountain. Mayor Hayes called for a roll call vote with the following results:

Ayes: Council Members Lee, McCoy, Gillespie, Bixby, Fountain, Coleman.

Nays: None

The Mayor declared the motion passed and executive session approved. Executive session began at 7:20 p.m. with the Mayor, all Council Members, City Clerk and City Attorney in attendance.

Council Member Bixby moved to adjourn executive session. The motion was seconded by Council Member Fountain and was unanimously approved. Executive session adjourned at 7:45 p.m. There was no announcement following executive session.

Council Member Gillespie moved to adjourn regular session. The motion was seconded by Council Member Coleman and was unanimously approved. Council adjourned at 7:46 p.m.