

GENEVA CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 15, 2025
6:00 P.M.

MINUTES

The Geneva City Council met in regular session on December 15, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. in the City Council room at City Hall. Members present were Mayor Hayes and Council Members Rufus Lee, Zack Dodson, Junior Mixon, Ronnie Baine, Sarah Tinsley and Scott Stough. Council Member Rich Bixby was absent. Also present were City Clerk Lisa Johnson, City Attorney Jeff Gray and various department heads and employees.

Mayor Hayes called the meeting to order.

Council Member Dodson gave the invocation and Mayor Hayes led the pledge of allegiance.

Council Member Lee moved to dispense with the reading and approve minutes of December 1, 2025, as presented. The motion was seconded by Council Member Dodson and was approved by a six (6) to zero (0) vote with Mayor Hayes abstaining.

Mr. Tim Bedsole appeared before Council to advise them of an upcoming census of homeless people for Geneva County. He explained the process and answered questions.

Council Member Tinsley moved to consider an alcohol license for the off-premise sale of beer and wine for Tulsi Management LLC. The motion was seconded by Council Member Lee and was approved by a six (6) to zero (0) vote with Mayor Hayes abstaining.

City Attorney Gray advised Council there is a fiber cable company seeking the right to use city right-of-way to run lines for service. He informed Council he spoke with a company that specializes in writing and negotiating franchise agreements and has done so for the City in the past. Attorney Gray explained the cost would be approximately \$3,500.00 with \$2,000.00 being transferable to the company requesting the agreement and \$1,500.00 due by the City.

Council Member Mixon moved to authorize the City Attorney move forward with drafting a franchise agreement. The motion was seconded by Council Member Lee and was approved by a six (6) to zero (0) vote with Mayor Hayes abstaining.

Council member Lee moved to authorize the Mayor to negotiate and enter into an agreement with the property owners to purchase 183 acres of land for which a portion will be utilized for industrial development or industrial park. The motion was seconded by Council Member Dodson and was approved by a six (6) to zero (0) vote with Mayor Hayes abstaining.

Council Members received financial reports for the month of October 2025.

Mayor Hayes reported on the following:

- Christmas Parade, decorating of town and park – thanked volunteers
- Congratulated Recreation Director Jay Howell for being named a super citizen by students at James A. Mulkey Elementary School
- Street resurfacing project
- Issues with the road grader causing some complaints on road conditions
- Business wanting to locate a hangar at the airport
- Issue with delinquent business license through the year and stricter enforcement going forward
- Christmas Open House

Mayor Hayes explained the plans for the park did not include concrete pads and walk for the two new sun shades being installed. He stated the cost would be \$11,049.00. Council Member Stough moved to authorize the expense. The motion was seconded by Council Member Lee and was approved by a six (6) to zero (0) vote with Mayor Hayes abstaining.

Mayor Hayes stated the mulch around the new playground failed in comparison to the surface on the miracle playground. He recommended looking at the same surface and stated he would have pricing later in the week.

Mayor Hayes explained the landscaping plans for the new park did not include enough sod and included more trees than needed. Council Member Lee moved to authorize the Mayor to change the scope of the landscaping and negotiate pricing. The motion was seconded by Council Member Lee and was approved by a six (6) to zero (0) vote with Mayor Hayes abstaining.

City Attorney Gray reported on court.

Council Member Stough thanked the water department for getting holes filled in his district. He stated he was in favor of seeing a better surface for the playground than mulch.

Council Member Tinsley stated she appreciates everyone's hard work through the year. She stated employees definitely make the difference and they have been very quick to assist with her requests. She inquired about fencing for the park.

Council Member Baine stated he is looking forward to working with everyone next year and appreciated all the work being done. He wished everyone safe travels during the holidays.

City Council Member Mixon wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Council Member Dodson stated he appreciates all the hard work through the year and he is looking forward to working with everyone to keep Geneva prospering next year. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Council Member Lee wished everyone a Merry Christmas and thanked new Council Members for working for the good of the City as a whole. He requested the Street Superintendent to check pot holes on Campbell Avenue.

Council Member Lee stated he would like to address an issue that caused some concern on social media. He stated that recently he parked in a purple heart parking space at a store. He stated his intent was not meant to be disrespectful or offend. He said that he was a disable veteran and was having a very difficult day with his health and at the time did not think about the spot being only for purple heart recipients and not just disabled veterans. He apologized for any offense to anyone.

Police Chief Mock reported on recruitment for open positions.

Fire Chief Latimer reported on compliance on annual equipment testing.

Mayor Hayes called for public participation.

Mr. Danny Coleman was present and informed everyone the Lion's Club will be assisting with the Senior Citizens Christmas party and invited everyone to attend.

Ms. Tewanna Marks informed Council she will be bringing the route for the Martin Luther King Holiday Parade for consideration and next meeting the a proclamation for the Black History Month celebration at the following meeting.

There being no further business, Council Member Tinsley moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Council Member Dodson and was unanimously approved.