

GENEVA CITY COUNCIL
MARCH 16, 2026
REGULAR MEETING
6:00 P.M.

MINUTES

The Geneva City Council met in regular session on March 16, 2026, 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, Rich Bixby, Sarah Tinsley, and Scott Stough. None were 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 March 2, 2026, as presented. The motion was seconded by Council Member Bixby and was approved by seven (7) to zero (0) vote with Mayor Hayes abstaining.

Council Member Dodson moved to amend the minutes of February 17, 2026, to record the second and vote on a motion that was made to adopt a CDBG resolution. The motion was seconded by Council Member Tinsley and was approved by seven (7) to zero (0) vote with Mayor Hayes abstaining.

Mr. Ivan Perez appeared before Council to report on a recent festival he held at the Junction and to request permission for his business to rent the Junction to hold a second free festival in October. Council Member Dodson moved to authorize rental of the park. The motion was seconded by Council Member Bixby and was approved by a seven (7) to zero (0) vote with Mayor Hayes abstaining.

Council heard a request from Chamber President Angie Braswell to use the Junction for a community wide Easter egg hunt. Council Member Dodson moved to authorize use of the park. The motion was seconded by Council Member Mixon and was approved by a seven (7) to zero (0) vote with Mayor Hayes abstaining

Council Member Lee moved to appoint Richard Sanders to the Geneva Water Works and Sewer Board. The motion was seconded by Council Member Bixby and was approved by a seven (7) to zero (0) vote with Mayor Hayes abstaining

Council Member Lee moved to adopt a resolution ratifying the City's current millage rate of 12 mills. The motion was seconded by Council Member Tinsley and was approved by a seven (7) to zero (0) vote with Mayor Hayes abstaining.

City Clerk Johnson discussed Alabama Semiquincentennial Community Grants from America250AL. She asked Council if they would like to develop a program in celebration of the 250th anniversary and apply for funding. Council Member Dodson moved to authorize the City Clerk to apply for the grant and to hold a workshop to discuss potential programs. The motion was seconded by Council Member Tinsley and was approved by a seven (7) to zero (0) vote with Mayor Hayes abstaining. A work session was scheduled for March 31st at 4:00 p.m.

Council Member Lee moved to authorize Mayor Hayes as the City's voting delegate at the annual League of Municipalities meeting. The motion was seconded by Council Member Bixby and was approved by a seven (7) to zero (0) vote with Mayor Hayes abstaining.

Council Member Bixby moved to adopt a resolution declaring old surplus property no longer needed for public use and authorize the sale through online auction with GovDeals. The motion was seconded by Council Member Stough and was approved by a seven (7) to zero (0) vote with Mayor Hayes abstaining.

Mayor Hayes reported he has obtained two quotes for the fence for the new park in the amounts of \$28,232.00 and \$36,700.00. Council Member Stough moved to authorize the project based on the low quote. The motion was seconded by Council Member Dodson and was approved by a seven (7) to zero (0) vote with Mayor Hayes abstaining.

Mayor Hayes reported on the following:

- A quad A meeting he will be attending in Nashville
- Park close out
- Recent small storm with high winds
- Tree clearing at the airport

City Clerk Johnson reported she has received confirmation that the City's ARPA Grant has been reviewed and closed by Treasury. She asked Council to review a proposed notice regarding the E911 addressing ordinance. Clerk Johnson also informed Council of an unwritten policy on use of the Junction regarding no insurance requirements for private events where individuals rent facilities. She stated that sometimes these private events become more public but with no charge. Examples include "street preachers", artist playing music, and school/alumni events. She asked Council to consider if this is still a policy they agree with and if not to look at a more formal policy in the future.

City Attorney Gray reported on court.

Council Member Lee inquired about a recent dog attack in town. Police Chief Mock gave a brief report and stated the incident was still under investigation and therefore he could not release much information at this time.

Council Member Tinsley requested Council review the penalties in the dog ordinance. It was agreed to discuss the issue at the upcoming work session.

Council Member Stough said he was in prayer for Sheila Pate. He asked that soap be added to the dispensers at the David B. Hayes City Park and reported on the upcoming opening of the Smash Mouth restaurant.

Building Inspector Wuest reported the wiring project at the Junction is complete.

Recreation Director Howell reported on AllStars for the Basketball program, registration for baseball/softball/t-ball, repairs at the park, opening of the splash pad, soccer league that uses the field and conduct of players, coaches and spectators.

Police Chief Mock reported he still has three open positions. He reported on a recent auction of abandoned vehicles.

Mayor Hayes called for public participation.

Mr. Danny Coleman presented a check for a bench at David B. Hayes City Park.

Ms. Tommie Burks spoke on issues with dogs on Mulkey Avenue and the Head Start area.

Mrs. Faye Owen asked questions about the dog ordinance and spoke on issues with dogs.

Ms. Tewanna Marks spoke on issues with dogs.

Attorney Gray gave an overview of the dog ordinance and different scenarios of what could occur for ordinance offenses. Council Members encouraged pet owners to be responsible and for all dog issues to be reported to the police department.

Mr. Marvin Salter asked for an update on going to an elected school board.

Council Member Bixby moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Council Member Stough and was unanimously approved. Council adjourned at 7:15 p.m.