

GENEVA CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
JULY 18, 2022
6:00 P.M.

MINUTES

The Geneva City Council met in regular session on July 18, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. in the Council room at City Hall. Members present were Mayor David Hayes and Council Members Rufus Lee, Freddy McCoy, Kim Gillespie, Ryan Tidwell, Rich Bixby, Mike Fountain and Daniel L. Coleman. None were 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.

Council Member Tidwell gave the invocation and Mayor Hayes led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council Member Gillespie moved to dispense with the reading and approve the minutes of July 5, 2022. The motion was seconded by Council Member Lee and was approved by a seven (7) to zero (0) vote with Mayor Hayes abstaining.

Police Chief Pepper Mock announced the promotion of Corporal Jacob Godwin to Sergeant and Officer Brandon Rodgers to Corporal. He presented badges and certificates to each.

Mayor Hayes presented a request from Poly Inc., the engineering firm for the soccer project, to increase their fees by \$16,500.00 due to additional cost to the company due to the delay in the project. Council Member Lee moved to approve the additional fees. The motion was seconded by Council Member Bixby and was approved by a seven (7) to zero (0) vote with Mayor Hayes abstaining.

Mayor Hayes presented a cost estimate for a modular bathroom/concession stand for the soccer complex in the amount of \$162,000.00. He informed Council city crews could construct a facility for \$90,000.00 or less. Council Member Tidwell moved to authorize the Mayor to use city crews to construct the building. The motion was seconded by Council Member Gillespie and was approved by a seven (7) to zero (0) vote with Mayor Hayes abstaining.

A groundbreaking ceremony for the new soccer complex was set for Wednesday, July 20th.

City Clerk Johnson presented a request from the heirs of Mr. Buck Williams, to hold an estate sale of Mr. Williams' plane and other property from his hangar at the airport. Council Member Gillespie moved to authorize the sale provided the family reimburses the salary of a city employee to be onsite and purchases an event insurance policy listing the City as an additional

insured. The motion was seconded by Council Member Lee and was approved by a seven (7) to zero (0) vote with Mayor Hayes abstaining.

Council Member Bixby moved to authorize a contract with Donofro Inc. for architectural services relating to the new City Hall. The motion was seconded by Council Member Tidwell and was approved by a seven (7) to zero (0) vote with Mayor Hayes abstaining.

Council Member Tidwell moved to approve the use of Robert Fowler Park by the River Junction Cruisers to hold a car show on September 17, 2022. The motion was seconded by Council Member Gillespie and was approved by a seven (7) to zero (0) vote with Mayor Hayes abstaining.

Mayor Hayes reported on the following:

1. Change of Command Ceremony at Ft. Rucker and other events
2. Geneva's 9-11 Ceremony
3. Progress of the current audit
4. State paving project and the bids for the City's paving project
5. Upcoming Planning Commission agenda

City Attorney Gray reported on the progress of the purchase of the property on S. Commerce Street past the old trestle, Municipal Court and training for the magistrate.

Senior Citizens Director Robbie Owens reported on issues with the air conditioning in the department's vans. Council Member Gillespie moved to adopt a resolution authorizing application for a Transportation Grant for a new van for the center and committing the City's match. The motion was seconded by Council Member Coleman and was approved by a seven (7) to zero (0) vote with Mayor Hayes abstaining.

Director Owens also requested Council keep the food situation in mind.

Fire Chief Latimer reported on issues with getting enough natural gas to the new generator to power it. He also reported his number of volunteers is low.

Police Chief Mock reported on the sale of old guns. He also reported the Jr. Police Academy will start next week and Captain McDuffie gave a report of activities.

Librarian Wynn reported on problems with homeless individuals sleeping on library property and squirrels in the walls of the building.

Recreation Director Stough reported on All-Star tournaments and a collision with a deer on the maintenance truck.

Code Enforcement Owens reported on vacant garbage accounts and cans.

Street and Sanitation Superintendent Brewer reported on equipment repairs. He informed Council many residents do not have their house numbers displayed and it causes issues with

locating call in complaints and delivering garbage cans. He asked that Council look into requiring the posting of house numbers.

Council Member Tidwell asked if a letter could be drafted by the City outlining the plan for providing senior meals and the cost. He stated an official letter would help when soliciting for donations.

City Attorney Gray informed Council he needs to consult with them regarding an issue relating to potential litigation. He stated the information presented would be client-attorney privileged and would qualify under the open meetings act for executive session.

Council Member Bixby moved to go into executive session for the purpose of discussing litigation. The motion was seconded by Council Member Tidwell. Mayor Hayes called for the vote to go into executive session. The vote was as follows:

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

Mayor Hayes declared the vote to go into executive session carried unanimously. Executive session began at 7:28 p.m. All Council Members, City Attorney Gray, City Clerk Johnson and Code Enforcement Owens remained in attendance for executive session.

Council Member Tidwell moved to adjourn executive session. The motion was seconded by Council Member Bixby and was unanimously approved.

Council Member Tidwell moved to proceed with the abatement of the dangerous structures located at 108 and 112 E Hart Avenue. 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 adjourn. The motion was seconded by Council Member Fountain and was unanimously approved. Council adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

Mayor

City Clerk