

GENEVA CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 4, 2023
6:00 P.M.

MINUTES

The Geneva City Council met in regular session on December 4, 2023, 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. Council Member Fountain arrived to the meeting at 6:05 p.m. 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 Lee gave the invocation and Mayor Hayes led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council Member Coleman moved to approve the minutes of November 20, 2023. Council Member Lee seconded the motion which was approved by a three (3) to zero (0) vote with Mayor Hayes and Council Members Gillespie, Tidwell and Bixby abstaining. (Council Member Fountain was not present).

Mr. James Sullivant was present and had asked to be placed on the agenda to speak on Homegrown terrorist and hate crimes. Mr. Sullivant opened his statement by apologizing to Council Member Lee. He then preceded to claim that former City officials from over seven years ago had assaulted him. It was explained to Mr. Sullivant that the Council is not the appropriate route to resolve his issue. Council Member Fountain arrived to the meeting during discussion.

Mr. James Carpenter appeared before Council and informed them he has purchased the property on Live Oak Street that was set for abatement at a previous Council meeting. He requested that Council allow him time to clean up, renovate the property and get it up to code.

Council Member Lee moved to grant Mr. Carpenter time to abate the nuisance. The motion was seconded by Council Member Tidwell and was approved by a seven (7) to zero (0) vote with Mayor Hayes abstaining.

City Attorney Gray presented and read an ordinance authorizing the sale of property in the old industrial park.

Council Member Tidwell moved to authorize the sale in the amount of \$97,000.00. 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 Coleman introduced the following ordinance:

ORDINANCE NO. 12-2023-14

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF GENEVA, ALABAMA, AUTHORIZING THE
SALE OR EXCHANGE OF REAL PROPERTY**

It was moved by Council Member Coleman 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 Tidwell. Mayor Hayes called for the vote, the roll was called with the following results:

Ayes: Nays: None Absent: None Abstentions: None

Mayor Hayes
Council Member Lee
Council Member McCoy
Council Member Gillespie
Council Member Tidwell
Council Member Bixby
Council Member Fountain
Council Member Coleman

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 Coleman that Ordinance Number 12-2023-14 be now placed upon its final passage and adopted. The motion was seconded by Council Member Gillespie. 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: None Abstentions: None

Mayor Hayes
Council Member Lee
Council Member McCoy
Council Member Gillespie
Council Member Tidwell
Council Member Bixby
Council Member Fountain
Council Member Coleman

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

Council Member Tidwell moved to approve incentive pay based off of the longevity schedule adopted in 2022. The motion was seconded by Council Member Lee and was approved by a seven (7) to zero (0) vote with Mayor Hayes abstaining.

Mayor Hayes informed Council he has received a quote to light the oak tree using a timer at night from Alabama Power at a cost of \$69.00 per month. Council Member Bixby moved to approve the expense. The motion was seconded by Council Member Fountain and was approved by a seven (7) to zero (0) vote with Mayor Hayes abstaining.

Council Member Lee moved to authorize bids for the purchase of two cardiac monitors. 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 Lee moved to amend the agenda to add an ordinance regulating speed on Griffin Avenue and Hendrix Avenue. The motion was seconded by Council Member Bixby and was approved by a seven (7) to zero (0) vote with Mayor Hayes abstaining.

City Attorney Gray presented and read an ordinance regulating speeding on Griffin Avenue and Hendrix Avenue.

Council Member McCoy introduced the following ordinance:

ORDINANCE 12-2023-15

AN ORDINANCE TO ADJUST SPEED LIMITS AND TO POST SPEED LIMIT SIGNS

It was moved by Council Member McCoy 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 Coleman. Mayor Hayes called for the vote, the roll was called with the following results:

Ayes: Nays: None Absent: None Abstentions: None

Mayor Hayes
Council Member Lee
Council Member McCoy
Council Member Gillespie
Council Member Tidwell
Council Member Bixby
Council Member Fountain
Council Member Coleman

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 McCoy that Ordinance Number 12-2023-15 be now placed upon its final passage and adopted. The motion was seconded by Council Member Tidwell. 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: None Abstentions: None

Mayor Hayes
Council Member Lee
Council Member McCoy
Council Member Gillespie

Council Member Tidwell
Council Member Bixby
Council Member Fountain
Council Member Coleman

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

Mayor Hayes reported on the following:

1. Decorating for Christmas
2. Postponing the parade due to weather
3. City Hall project
4. Airport

Council Member Fountain inquired about the splash pad project, issue with purchasing property for the airport, sign for the airport and status of the burnt house on Campbell. Mayor Hayes gave an update on each question.

Council Member Bixby addressed item A on the agenda dealing with issues on Lakewood Loop where an individual is building a barricade on right-of-way.

Council Member Tidwell discussed an issue with a broken waterline in the Glendale Subdivision area.

Council Member Bixby reported Spectrum had finished running lines up Highway 85.

Council Member Lee expressed appreciation for the City putting up a sign for SEACAP and asked the Building Inspector about the status of the street light for Promenade Avenue.

Council Member Lee inquired about the nuisance property on Ward Street.

Council Member Gillespie inquired about a long stretch of trees being cut on Franklin Avenue. She asked that JP Jones and Franklin Avenue be graded as soon as possible. Council Member Gillespie reported she has been asked to get a Planning Commission meeting set to discuss rezoning property for apartments.

Council Member Coleman reported on the Senior Citizen Thanksgiving lunch and upcoming Christmas lunch. He requested the Santa Lane signs be put up. He also reported on Christmas lunch for the seniors. He asked about putting up the Santa Lane sign and reported on the upcoming Farm City Banquet.

Police Captain McDuffie gave a report on activity for November. He stated officers will make more walkthroughs due to the holiday season. He also stated once the speed limit signs are installed they will move the flashing speed sign to the area to help notify people of the change.

Rescue Director Dorminey reported on changes that have resulted in reduced overtime.

Council Member Bixby moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Council Member Tidwell.

Chamber President Carl Corey reported on Chamber and DAV functions and upcoming events.

Council adjourned at 7:48 p.m.