

GENEVA CITY COUNCIL
FEBRUARY 2, 2026
REGULAR MEETING
6:00 P.M.

MINUTES

The Geneva City Council met in regular session on February 2, 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 Lee gave the invocation and Mayor Hayes led the pledge of allegiance.

Council Member Lee moved to dispense with the reading and approve minutes of January 20, 2026, as presented. The motion was seconded by Council Member Tinsley. The motion was approved by a six (6) to zero (0) vote with Mayor Hayes and Council Member Bixby abstaining.

Mayor Hayes signed a proclamation proclaiming February 2026 as Career and Technical Education Month in the City of Geneva.

Mayor Hayes signed a proclamation proclaiming February 2026 as Black History Commemoration Month in the City of Geneva.

Council heard a request from representatives of Rodeo Geneva, LLC, for issuance of an alcohol license which was applied for through the City Clerk. Council Member Bixby moved to consider issuance of the license. The motion was seconded by Council Member Dodson and was approved by a seven (7) to zero (0) vote with Mayor Hayes abstaining.

Bids for the demolition of blighted properties under a CDBG were received as follows:

#	Demolition Address	Lewis, Inc.	Shiver & Sons LLC
1.	309 West Campbell Avenue	7,950.00	9,700.00
2.	211 North Pleasant Street	4,750.00	4,700.00
3.	204 East Hart Avenue	2,940.00	2,600.00
4.	105 North Johnson Street	9,350.00	12,700.00
	TOTAL BASE BID:	<u>\$ 24,990.00</u>	<u>\$ 29,700.00</u>

Council Member Lee moved to award the bid to the low bidder Lewis Inc. The motion was seconded by Council Member Stough and was approved by a six (6) to zero (0) vote with Mayor Hayes and Council Member Tinsley abstaining.

Mr. Terry Metze, Jr., Chief Executive Officer, of Alabama Fiber Network was present to explain his company's request for a franchise and answer questions for Council.

Council Member Bixby moved to adopt the following ordinance which was introduced and considered at the previous meeting:

ORDINANCE NUMBER 01-2026-01

AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH REQUIREMENTS FOR THE USE OF PUBLIC AND PRIVATE UTILITIES WITHIN THE RIGHTS-OF-WAY

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

Council Member Bixby moved to adopt the following ordinance which was introduced and considered at the previous meeting:

ORDINANCE NO. 01-2026-02

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING A NON-EXCLUSIVE FRANCHISE TO FIBER UTILITY NETWORK INC. D/B/A ALABAMA FIBER NETWORK, ITS SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS ("FRANCHISEE") FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSTRUCTING AND MAINTAINING A FIBER-OPTIC INFRASTRUCTURE NETWORK WITHIN THE PUBLIC RIGHTS-OF-WAY WITHIN THE CITY OF GENEVA, ALABAMA

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

City Attorney Gray presented and reviewed the following ordinance for first reading and consideration:

ORDINANCE NO.02-2026-03

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE MUNICIPAL CODE TO INCLUDE LICENSING APPROVAL FOR CONSUMABLE HEMP PRODUCTS

Council Member Dodson moved to approve the December 2025 budget reports as presented. 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 reported on the following:

- Recent tornado and damage
- Prospective airport tenant
- Final walkthrough on park project

City Attorney Gray reported on court. He also reported the moratorium on the tiny houses would expire in July. He stated he would like to finalize the rules and procedures on the matter before it expires and asked Council to review the issue and recommended a work session on the matter before July.

All Council Members complimented the response to the recent tornado, how things were handled and expressed appreciation to all involved.

Council Member Stough reported on the proposed opening date of a new restaurant in town. He commented on the new coffee shop that has opened and an existing restaurant extending the type of food being offered.

Council Member Baine offered tarps to individuals in need from storm damage.

Council Member Lee thanked the Mayor for his leadership and spoke to Geneva moving forward because of his leadership.

Recreation Director Creamer gave an activity report for the month of January.

Police Chief Mock reported on response to the tornado, gave an activity report for the month of January and reported on new hires for the department.

Fire Chief Latimer reported on being on standby for the tornado.

Water and Sewer Manager Austin reported on a water leak on Griffin Street resulting in having to cut the new paving. She also reported on a sewer problem on Wilson Street.

Building Inspector Wuest reported on progress of the new Dollar General.

Street and Sanitation Superintendent Brewer reported on trees that need to be cut on right-of-way on Academy Street, Purvis Avenue, and Glendale Street at a total cost of \$4,300.00. Council Member Dodson moved to approve the removal of the trees. The motion was seconded by Council Member Baine and was approved by a seven (7) to zero (0) vote with Mayor Hayes abstaining

Council Member Dodson excused himself at 7:51 p.m.

Mayor Hayes called for public participation.

Mrs. Angie Braswell, Chamber President, reported on the reorganization of the Chamber of Commerce, invited the City and public to the next meeting and reported on upcoming functions.

Ms. Tewanna Marks invited Council to the upcoming Geneva County Black History Program.

Council Member Lee moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Council Member Stough and was unanimously approved. Council adjourned at 7:55 p.m.