

GENEVA CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
JULY 20, 2026
6:00 P.M.
MINUTES

The Geneva City Council met in regular session on July 20, 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 Mixon moved to approve the minutes of July 6, 2026. The motion was seconded by Council Member Lee and was approved by a six (6) to zero (0) vote with Mayor Hayes and Council Member Dodson abstaining.

Senior Citizens Director Robbie Owens and numerous seniors were in attendance to recognize and thank Mayor Hayes and Ray Wuest for their donations towards the purchase of a new state of the art Bingo machine.

Ms. Jennifer Mixon appeared before Council and stated that her neighbor's dog injured her dog through a fence dividing their properties. Ms. Mixon inquired about what could be done in this situation.

Ms. Michelle Harding appeared before Council to inquire about the rezoning of Choctaw Street. Mayor Hayes stated rezoning starts with the Planning Commission and a meeting will be scheduled to hear the request.

Ms. Sara DeRouen appeared before Council seeking approval to hold a 5K Run Event sponsored by Wiregrass Hospital. Council Member Bixby moved to authorize the event. The motion was seconded by Council Member Dodson and was approved by a seven (7) to zero vote with Mayor Hayes abstaining.

Council Member Tinsley moved to authorize a retail restaurant liquor license for Crazy Elks, LLC, Trade Name: Somewhere Else stating her reasons why the request should be approved. The motion was seconded by Council Member Bixby. The motion carried by a four (4) to three (3) vote with Council Members Tinsley, Bixby, Dodson and Stough voting in favor and Council Members Lee, Mixon and Baine voting against the motion. Mayor Hayes abstained from the vote. Council Members Lee, Dodson and Baine each explained their reasons for how they voted.

Council Member Bixby moved to consider an off premise only beer and wine license for Rec Investments, LLC, Trade Name: Roberts. The motion was seconded by Council Member Lee and was approved by a seven (7) to zero vote with Mayor Hayes abstaining.

Council Member Dodson moved to authorize the Mayor to execute a Worker's Comp Participation Agreement. 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:

- Meeting with airport FBO
- Kitchen for the airport
- Sewer problem at airport
- Resignation of the Code Enforcement Employee
- Conversations with officials in Montgomery regarding available funding
- Water department funding needs
- New retail businesses looking to open in Geneva
- Contractor wanting to build a housing development just outside of Geneva
- Issues with Park Avenue
- Seniors have a new Bingo machine

City Attorney Gray reported on court.

Council Member Stough inquired about the disposal of the America250Al flags stating he has been approached by a couple of citizens who would like to have one. He asked if there were any other funding opportunities available for another round of paving.

Council Member Dodson explained that his absence at last meeting was due to the death of a family member. He expressed appreciation for work in his district by the street department. Council Member Dodson asked for autism signs on W. Robin Avenue and W. Palm Street. He stated that he is thankful for the Dollar General store opening in his district but, he is receiving complaints about individuals cutting through other people's property to access the store and asked if there was anything that could be done to help the situation.

Council Member Mixon stated that a turn lane was needed for the Dollar General location discussed by Council Member Dodson.

Council Member Lee presented Certificates of Appreciation to Mayor Hayes, Police Chief Mock and Fire Chief Latimer for their participation in the Will Jenkin's Summer Youth Program. He gave a report on the summer program.

Council Member Lee asked the City Attorney to check into the status of the demolition on E. Promenade Avenue.

Council Member Dodson reminded everyone about the planned community outreach events being held at the Junction on August 1st.

Street and Sanitation Superintendent Brewer inquired about the status of the speed bump project.

Water Manager Austin reported on an issue with traffic driving and parking on property owned by the water department off Magnolia Avenue where a lift station is located.

Insurance for the repairs to the rescue building was discussed.

Recreation Director Howell reported on recreation programs. He stated he has found someone to fill the Recreation Specialist I position but feels the salary for the position should be \$18.50 per hour due to the amount of experience the person has. Council Member Stough moved to amend the manning document to move the starting salary for the position to \$18.50. The motion was seconded by Council Member Tinsley. Council Member Lee asked the City Clerk/Treasurer if the funds would have to be found for the budget and she stated yes. Council voted six (6) to zero (0) on approval of the motion with Mayor Hayes and Council Member Lee abstaining.

Police Chief Mock reported on personnel and a recent shooting incident in town.

Mayor Hayes called for public participation.

Ms. Gayle Courtney expressed appreciation to the police department for their quick response to the shooting as it occurred near her residence. She expressed concerns regarding the incident and location.

Ms. Willie Pearl Nelson Loman spoke regarding her property on Campbell Avenue.

Mr. Danny Coleman reported an issue with a manhole on Madison Street.

Council Member Bixby moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Council Member Tinsley and was unanimously approved. Council adjourned at 7:30 p.m.