

City of Geneseo, Henry County, Illinois
Committee of the Whole Meeting
February 24, 2015

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

The City Council of the City of Geneseo met Tuesday February 24, 2015 at the Council Chambers, 115 South Oakwood Avenue. Mayor Nadine Palmgren called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Alderman Doug Crow, Keith Kennett, James Roodhouse, Robert Wachtel, Justin Snodgrass, Howard Beck, Carl Freeman and Jason Robinson answered roll call. Others in attendance included City Administrator Lisa Kotter, City Attorney Virgil Thurman, City Clerk Loree K Phlypo, Directors Rice and Opsal, Inspector Mills, HRS Jill Laingen, City Accountant Karen Brandau, the press and various audience members.

A Quorum was present.

Consideration of donation of land from Rob Hutchinson Trustee of the Louise R. Hutchinson Trust to the City of Geneseo for Sports/Recreation use of the lot South of 912 S. State Street

Rob Hutchinson has offered to the City approximately 1.59 acres of land to be used for Sports/Recreation purposes. For years his parents Jim and Louise allowed the property to be used for sports and athletic activities. The property would have to be surveyed and Mr. Hutchinson indicated that the cost of that could possibly be taken care of. On the deed it would be noted that it is called "Hutchinson Field in memory of Jim & Louise Hutchinson."

Motion by Wachtel, second by Kennett to move this item to City Council to approve the acceptance of the donation of land to the City.

Voice Vote. 8 Ayes. 0 Nays.

Motion Carried

Review of Townview Estates property proposals for development

One proposal was submitted from Bob Pettit for the Townview Estates development opportunity. These are the few changes that he proposed;

- 10 lots
- 20 feet dedicated easement with additional 10 feet on each side owned by the lot owner
- 8 foot wide concrete path to Richmond Hill become the option of the City to install at the expense of the City
- Developer not responsible for solving the existing drainage issues

It was reported that on the West side it would cost approximately \$30 to \$40,000 for appropriate plantings to manage water flow and retention area for infiltration. The East side overhead has some electric lines through ComEd that will have to be considered.

Motion by Snodgrass, second by Robinson to move this item to City Council.

Voice Vote. 8 Ayes. 0 Nays.

Motion Carried.

Consideration of exemption from Liquor Ordinance on Sunday morning, August 23 for motorcycle poker run to benefit Gilda's Club

It was requested from Rhoni Perrine that a variance be granted for Leaman's Bar & Grill for August 23, 2015 and allow the hours of operation to be moved to 9 am. This function attracts 600 plus participants each year and raises a large sum of money for the Charity. The variance would be for the one day and only for Leaman's Bar & Grill. There was discussion on blocking off State Street to force traffic away from the Methodist Church and also to have parking in the rear of the bar. Administrator Kotter will speak to the Methodist Church on the

function. If any other liquor establishment would like to request a variance for that day they would have to make a request separately. A concern was voiced over 600 motorcycles passing through residential areas.

Motion by Crow, second by Roodhouse to move this item to the City Council for approval of the variance for Leaman's Bar & Grill only.

Voice Vote. 8 Ayes. 0 Nays.

Motion Carried.

Update and Consideration of Solar Project Construction Bids

JF Edwards made a presentation on the upcoming Geneseo Solar Project. Representatives from JF Edwards included Ross Reiling, President; Rick Moburg, Sr. V.P.; Samir Mehic, V.P. The construction phase is slated to start on April 8th with a final inspection date of August 28, 2015. There will be 8 to 10 workers on the site. Administrator Kotter reported that without this project we will be facing increased energy charges and fees with no options for relief. This project allows the City to decrease its carbon footprint, dependency on fossil fuels and as costs rise keep rates from going up.

Motion by Kennett, second by Robinson to move this item to City Council for approval.

Voice Vote. 8 Ayes. 0 Nays.

Motion Carried.

Consideration to add City Administrator position to O-15-131 for City employee bonding

When this was originally enacted we didn't have an administrator. We recommend adding the position due to the handling of funds and signing checks.

No Discussion

Motion by Wachtel, second by Freeman to move this item to the City Council for approval.

Voice Vote. 8 Ayes. 0 Nays.

Motion Carried.

Proclamation – Junior Achievement Day in the City of Geneseo

Mayor Palmgren recognized Junior Achievement and read the Proclamation. Administrator Kotter will be teaching a third grade class about Junior Achievement.

Consideration of ordinance O-15-133 to amend City Liquor Ordinance to include Class G under the hours, days, and holidays for operation of liquor establishments and to address Class G subparagraph 3 "Gross Sales of Food"

Administrator Kotter reported that when the Class G was added to the City liquor ordinance the hours and days were overlooked. Both applicants that we have indicated that they would not be open as late as a bar. There also was not any way specified for the "Gross Food Sales" reporting; this can be handled through a self-reporting simple one page form that the liquor license holder fills out. There is also a disclaimer that in the event that the City would like to verify any figures it reserves that right to do that.

Motion by Crow, second by Wachtel to move this item to City Council for approval.

Voice Vote. 8 Ayes. 0 Nays.

Motion Carried.

Consideration of process for Council to approve and pay monthly bills

Administrator Kotter suggested that the ordinance regulating the abilities of the Committee of the Whole could include a stipulation that bills can be approved and paid. This would give the Council the ability to approve and pay bills every 2 weeks.

Motion by Wachtel, second by Crow to move this item to the City Council and approve the adoption of ordinance O-15-134.

Voice Vote. 8 Ayes. 0 Nays.

Motion Carried.

Consideration of ordinance O-15-129 An ordinance amending the Geneseo Personnel ordinance addressing healthcare insurance for spouses and dependents of City employees retiring after January 1, 2015. Administrator Kotter asked that staff be given more time to research and review to structure this section of the personnel policy so that it covers all the employees and retirees. This has been pieced together so many times that it needs to be addressed as a whole. If there is not any action taken then we can take the time for reviewing as is needed.

No Action

Consideration to waive the bid process and have Peerless oversee the Cleaning of Well 30

Interim Chad VandeWoestyne reported that Well 30 was constructed in 2005 and cleaned in 2012. Peerless is our Well custodian. Well 30 needs to be cleaned and staff would like to waive the bid process and get a price to bring back to Council.

Motion by Wachtel, second by Freeman to move this item to Council to waive the bid process and bring a price back from Peerless.

Voice Vote. 8 Ayes. 0 Nays.

Motion Carried.

Consideration of amendment to Tobacco Regulation Code to include coverage of Vapor Cigarettes, ordinance O-15-132

Chief Piotrowski reported that we need to address “vapor cigarettes and electronic cigarettes” in our ordinance. Such businesses will need to take out a tobacco license and follow the City code for regulating tobacco products. Administrator Kotter added that she would send a letter out to the vapor shop that recently applied for utilities and let them know about the licensing requirements.

Motion by Roodhouse, second by Freeman to move this item to Council for approval.

Voice Vote. 8 Ayes. 0 Nays.

Motion Carried.

Consideration of squad car purchase with seized funds

Chief Piotrowski reported that he would like the support of the City Council for his purchase of a squad car with seized funds.

No Discussion

Motion by Freeman, second by Beck to move this item to Council for approval.

Voice Vote. 8 Ayes. 0 Nays.

Motion Carried.

Mayoral Comments

Mayor Palmgren recognized the candidates that were in attendance at the meeting Paula Smosky, Martin Rothschild, and Tim Allison.

Public Comments

None

Discussion was held on the Veto Process. City Attorney Thurman and City Administrator Kotter both spoke with Derke Price about the veto process and what takes precedence the City Charter or the State Statute.

Below is the process for a veto:

- Mayor has 3 days to post a veto
- Next regular Council meeting (Committee of the Whole) written reasons for veto
- Next regular City Council meeting vote on over-ride

If there is a difference between the Charter and the Statute, then the Charter prevails and if the Charter doesn't address an item then there is no conflict and the Statute prevails. So in the future if there are any more veto's posted then this is the process that we will follow.

Motion by Snodgrass, second by Beck to enter into Executive session at 7:36pm Pursuant to Collective Negotiating matters pursuant to: 5ILCS 120/2(c)(2) Collective Negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees.

Motion by Beck, second by Freeman to reopen the Committee of the Whole at 8:13pm.

Voice Vote. 8 Ayes. 0 Nays.

Motion Carried.

Motion by Freeman, second by Beck to adjourn the meeting at 8:14 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Loree K. Phlypo

City Clerk