

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

The City Council of the City of Geneseo met Tuesday March 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, Director Opsal, Interim Director VanDewoestyne, Inspector Mills, HRS Jill Laingen, City Accountant Karen Brandau, the press and various audience members.

A Quorum was present.

FFA Plot Report Presentation

FFA Committee members Eric Johnston, Travis Jodts, Joey O'Leary, Keegan Minnaert and Taylor Mills along with their advisor Brian Stahl presented the plot report for 2014. Skills in the following areas were learned this year included tillage, marketing, machinery, soil nutrients, and soil testing. They also experienced the use of a Drone for surveying the colors of the soil to determine nitrogen application amounts. The expenses for the year were \$1,980.90 and the income was \$5,909.30 leaving a total income of \$3,928.40. The City's portion is \$1,964.20. The committee asked to have the annual lease renewed with the City and asked for the City's portion of proceeds to be refunded to the committee as has been the practice in the past. The money is used for State and national conferences, leadership training and many other activities. The acres that the City normally leases to the FFA is 12.78, but with the Solar Farm coming in the acreage available will drop to 3.5 acres.

Rayanne Burrick from the Geneseo Woman's Club presented the City with a donation of \$800 to install bike racks at the City Park. The Woman's Group has a fund raiser called "Sweets N Treats" this donation is part of the proceeds from that fund raiser. The Mayor and City Council thanked Rayanne and asked her to work with Chad VanDewoestyne to have the bike racks installed.

FFA Lease Renewal

Interim Public Works Director VanDewoestyne reported that the FFA currently leased 12 acres but with the Solar Farm being built the amount of land available will drop to 3.5. The new lease would allow the FFA to lease the 3.5 acres for free and renew automatically without having to return to Council. They would still present a plot report annually, but they wouldn't have to ask for a refund of the City's portion of the proceeds. It was felt that they should still have to come back to ask for the refund and not automatically get to keep it. It was noted that the date of the lease should be from March 1, 2015 to February 28, 2016 and the presentation given annually should include the financial portion.

Motion by Robinson, second by Freeman to move this item to City Council for approval with the amendments and to refund the City's portion of the proceeds in the amount of \$1,980.90.

Voice Vote. 8 Ayes. 0 Nays.

Motion Carried

Presentation by Cathy Foes from the Henry County Tourism Bureau

Geneseo has a lot to offer and need to get that information out to the travelers outside of the 50 mile radius. What is unique and different is what needs to be marketed about Geneseo. Mr. Patel spoke on the hotel industry and how the internet has changed it. The concern needs to be with the next generation and what they are looking for when they travel. Recommendations to increase tourism traffic would be to make the City's web site mobile friendly, consider the use of electronic billboards out by the freeway and create a branding of the City

that is used by the chamber, park district and anyone that is promoting tourism to Geneseo. Cathy requested 50% of the City of Geneseo's hotel tax for the next fiscal year.

No Action

Consideration of Spring Clean-Up

Administrator Kotter reported that the budget line item called Recycling Service contained \$12,000 prior to this fiscal year the City then held an E-Waste day and a Fall Clean-up and the amount spent was \$14,454, leaving a deficit of \$2,454. If a Spring Clean-up is approved the money to cover this could come from the Refuse Fund 25 as well as covering the deficit amount from last year. Republic currently offers residents 1 large item pick up a month in addition to the weekly garbage service a reminder to residents that this is available could be put on the monthly utility bill.

Motion by Beck, second by Kennett to move this item to City Council to approve the spring clean-up.

Voice Vote. 8 Ayes. 0 Nays.

Motion Carried

Motion by Roodhouse, second by Freeman to move to City Council to approve covering the deficit out of the 2014-2015 Recycling Service line item in the amount of \$2,454.00 with funds from Refuse Fund 25.

Consideration of an amendment to Section 6.03 of the Personnel Policy Manual regarding residency requirements. Language to apply to Full-Time and Part-Time City employees.

Staff recommends this addition to the Personnel Policy Manual to include all full-time and part-time employees, but this does not include seasonal and temporary workers. There are 4 part-time telecommunication positions that would fall under this additional requirement.

Motion by Beck, second by Wachtel to move this item to the City Council for approval of including all full-time and part-time employees in the residency requirement.

Voice Vote. 8 Ayes. 0 Nays.

Motion Carried.

Consideration of Agreement with local Soccer Clubs for use of City Facilities

Administrator Kotter and Interim Public Works Director VanDeWoestyne reported that there needed to be a formal agreement with the Geneseo Youth Soccer as well as Geneseo Soccer Club. Geneseo Youth Soccer organization would pay the City for fertilizer and seed used for over-seeding the land used for soccer fields. The two soccer organizations work hand in hand and that is why they need to both be included in this agreement. Attorney Thurman would like to clarify Section 3 and add "3rd party insurance" to Section 8.

Motion by Crow, second by Kennett 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 the purchase of a grooming mower for use in the park and cemetery departments

Interim Public Works Director VanDeWoestyne reported that he would like to bring back to Council quotes to purchase a grooming mower for use in the parks and a used zero turn mower to help mow the North Cemetery. These would be paid for out of the 2014/15 budget and the Perpetual Care fund. Staff reported that the mowing of N. Cemetery, Lodge Park, and Champion Park is not being contracted out this year, it will be done by current staff and it will reduce the City contracted services by \$24,000. The City will employ additional temporary summer employees to mow instead.

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

Voice Vote. 8 Ayes. 0 Nays.

Motion Carried.

Consideration of Mutual Aid Agreement/Understanding between IMUA Member Municipalities

Director Opsal reported that January it was brought to Council to enter into this agreement which allows in the event of a mutual aid situation that the first 16 hours are not chargeable with regards to labor, materials, resources and other expenses in the event of outages.

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

Voice Vote. 8 Ayes. 0 Nays.

Motion Carried.

Payment of City and Utility Bills

Administrator Kotter reported that there is a bill in the amount of \$210.00 to Ancel Glink that we need clarification on. Discussion was held on any past due bills that aren't paid. Kotter reported there is one to Ancel Glink and she spoke to Ancel Glink and although they stated that they would not take legal action against the City for its payment they do expect that it is owed. This item will be put on the City Council agenda for further discussion.

Motion by Beck, second by Snodgrass to approve the bills as presented for payment.

ROLL CALL

Ayes 8 Wachtel, Kennett, Crow, Roodhouse, Robinson, Snodgrass, Beck, Freeman

Nays

Absent

Abstain

Motion Carried

Mayoral Comments

None

Public Comment

None

Motion by Freeman, second by Robinson to enter into Executive session at 7:38pm RE: Public Works management structure and electric support staff; Pursuant to personnel matter pursuant to: 5ILCS 120/2(c)(1) The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity.

Discussion of Water/Sewer IBEW Contract 2015-2018 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 8:11pm.

Voice Vote. 8 Ayes. 0 Nays.

Motion Carried.

Motion by Freeman, second by Roodhouse to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Loree K. Phlypo

City Clerk