

City of Geneseo, Henry County, Illinois
City Council
February 9, 2016
6:00 PM

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

The City Council of the City of Geneseo met Tuesday February 9, 2016 at the Council Chambers, 115 South Oakwood Avenue. Mayor Nadine Palmgren called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm. Aldermen Paula Simosky, Kathy Carroll-Duda, Jason Robinson, Martin Rothschild, Roodhouse, Bob Wachtel and Michael Smith answered roll call. Keith Kennett was absent. Others in attendance included, Administrator Kotter, City Accountant Wiesemeyer, Public Works Director VanDeWoestyne, Director of Electrical Operations Opsal, Inspector Mills and IT Director Griswold.

There was a quorum.

City Engineering

Greg Ryckaert reported that the Oakwood and First Sewers best route would be First to the West side of State Street behind the commercial buildings. They would no longer be going along the railroad tracks.

Chamber of Commerce

Director Ludwig invited all to the annual dinner. She discussed Governor Rauner's report on education and what he wants to reform in the school system will include a cradle to career school model. After listening to this she was proud the Geneseo Schools are often a model for this idea. For a complete list of Chamber Events please visit their website at www.geneseo.org.

Recognition of Detective Sean Johnson for 20 years of service and retirement

Mayor Palmgren recognized and thanked Detective Sean Johnson for his 20 years of service and on his retirement.

Mayoral Comments

Mayor Palmgren reported that the City of Geneseo was awarded the Green Award from Radish Magazine and recognized the good job to all involved in the solar project.

Public Comment

None

Consent Agenda

1. Minutes City Council 1/12/16
2. Minutes Committee of the Whole 1/26/16
3. Minutes Special City Council 1/26/16
4. Minutes Special City Council 12/30/15

Motion by Wachtel, second by Roodhouse to approve the consent agenda as presented with the exception of the following 2 corrections:

1. **CC 1/12/16 Consideration of Ordinance O-16-162 "The recent court case involving electrical conduit was ~~lost~~ dismissed by the City due to a Judge deciding that our Ordinance wasn't specific enough in the language as to what is covered under electrical equipment.**
2. **COW 1/26/16 Discussion on designating a limit on cats and dogs in a residential family home "When asked, CSO Mallum reported that there have been no animal complaints ~~in a year from Mrs. Rubitsky.~~" "If you know of an address where an animal resides and you want to check ~~and see if their shots are up to date you can go on the State Website and look the address up~~ you may check with the State Animal Control."**

Voice Vote. 7 Ayes. 0 Nays. 1 Absent.

Motion Carried

Consideration of recommendation from the Plan Commission regarding a Cell Tower Permit at 504 E. Exchange Street and review by Wireless Planning Consultant

Tom Ferry from Buell Consulting reported that the application for a Cell Tower Permit for site 1 was tabled. A second request was made for the recently owned City land on Exchange Street. It was better suited with no property edge visibility, the building will shield the base and it is still within the search ring. Residents that attended the meeting vocalized objections including safety concerns, health concerns, decreased property values and vandalism.

Motion by Wachtel, second by Carroll-Duda to request a review of the second site proposal for a Cell Tower Permit for Buell Consulting, Central States Tower and Verizon Wireless Planning Consultants prior to final Council action.

Voice Vote. 7 Ayes. 0 Nays. 1 Absent.

Motion Carried

Consideration of a recommendation from the Plan Commission for a conditional use permit for a massage therapy

There were 3 members of the Plan Commission present for their meeting and there was a unanimous vote for the recommendation to allow the conditional use permit for 529 N. Chicago Street.

Motion by Rothschild, second by Robinson to approve allowing Debra Vought a conditional use permit to operate a home based business with massage therapy located at 529 N. Chicago Street.

Voice Vote. 7 Ayes. 0 Nays. 1 Absent.

Motion Carried

Consideration of approval of Geneseo Foundation to add two additional sides to the monument in the City Park.

Administrator Kotter reported that the Geneseo School Foundation Monument Expansion would include two full “books” shaped structures on each side of the current monument with a total additional width of 16 feet. This would allow for an additional 176 donor names.

Motion by Smith, second by Carroll-Duda to approve the Geneseo School Foundation request to add two additional sides to the monument in City Park.

Voice Vote. 7 Ayes. 0 Nays. 1 Absent.

Motion Carried

Consideration to recommend that Mayor Palmgren sign a letter supporting the tax exemption along with other municipal leaders.

The IMEA is asking for support from municipal leaders to join in signing a letter asking that municipal bonds continue to have a tax exempt status. If this were to change it would mean more debt for municipalities like Geneseo.

Motion by Carroll-Duda, second by Rothschild for Mayor Palmgren to sign a letter supporting the continuation of the tax exemption for municipal bonds along with other municipal leaders.

Voice Vote. 7 Ayes. 0 Nays. 1 Absent.

Motion Carried

Consideration to recommend that the March 10, 2015 minutes be amended to include a motion that solar project funding includes a \$1 million short term note from the City General fund to the electric utility at a 1.25% interest rate

The Council decided to take the \$1.5 million bank loan and to use City General Fund dollars for the other \$1 million that would be replaced after the grant funds were received in the Fall of 2015. The way the motion is worded sounds like the City took a second short term bank loan. It is requested that the minutes and motion clarify that the short term note or loan was taken out from the City at an interest rate of 1.25%.

Motion by Robinson, second by Simosky to amend the March 10, 2015 minutes to include in the original motion that the solar project funding includes a \$1 million short term note from the City’s General Fund to the electric utility at a 1.25% interest rate to read as follows:

Motion by Kennett, second by Beck to approve O-15-136 An Ordinance authorizing and providing for an installment contract, and the issuance of \$1,000,000 Taxable General Obligation Debt Certificates, Series 2015A, by and for the City of Geneseo, Henry County, Illinois and to include a \$1 million short term note from the City General Fund to the electric utility at a 1.25% interest rate.

Voice Vote. 7 Ayes. 0 Nays. 1 Absent.

Motion Carried.

Consideration to waive the requirement to bid out a purchase over \$20,000 and to replace the 2001 Chevy Tahoe

and to sell or trade in the 2001 Chevy Tahoe with new vehicle funding coming from article 36 funds, alternately seized funds and available funds

Request to seek a replacement of seized 2001 Chevy Tahoe with 106,000 miles which was originally seized under Article 36 State guidelines. Request to waive the bid process for the replacement of the vehicle and also allow for the trade in of the vehicle for purchase of replacement. Funds to pay for the vehicle will come from Article 36 funds, alternately seized funds or available funds.

Motion by Roodhouse, second by Smith to waive the requirement to bid out a purchase over \$20,000 and to possibly replace the Seized 2001 Chevy Tahoe.

Voice Vote. 7 Ayes. 0 Nays. 1 Absent.

Motion Carried

Payment of City and Utility Bills

Motion by Wachtel, second by Smith to approve payment of City and Utility bills as presented.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: 7 Simosky,Roodhouse,Wachtel,Carroll-Duda,Smith,Robinson,Rothschild

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 1 Kennett

Motion Carried

Public Comment

Mr. Benhart raised concerns over utility billing issues and when his billing was on hold due to being a snowbird and what is the follow up when he returns on reestablishing his billing.

Adjournment

Motion by Roodhouse, second by Simosky to adjourn at 7:50pm.

Voice Vote. 7 Ayes. 0 Nays. 1 Absent.

Motion Carried

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Kotter/Loree K Phlypo
City Administrator/City Clerk