

City of Geneseo, Henry County, Illinois
Committee of the Whole Meeting
April 26, 2016

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

The City Council of the City of Geneseo met Tuesday April 26, 2016 at the Council Chambers, 115 South Oakwood Avenue. Mayor Kathy Carroll-Duda called the meeting to order at 6:04 pm. Alderman Bob Wachtel, Jason Robinson, Martin Rothschild, Brenda Johnson, Sue Garlick and Kent Anderson answered roll call. Paula Simosky and James Roodhouse were absent. Others in attendance included City Administrator Lisa Kotter, City Attorney Dan Alcorn, City Clerk Loree K. Phlypo, Chief Piotrowski, Director's VanDeWoestyne and Opsal, Inspector Mills, IT Manager Garrett Griswold, HR Manager Lacey Billiet the press and various audience members.

A Quorum was present.

Recognition of Outgoing Elected Officials

Mayor Carroll-Duda recognized outgoing elected officials Nadine Palmgren and Michael Smith. Michael Smith was present and received a plaque for his service. Nadine Palmgren was recognized for the time she invested during her term as Mayor and that she did because she cared about the community, she was not in attendance. Keith Kennett will be recognized at the May 10, 2016 meeting.

Proclamation

Mayor Carroll-Duda read the proclamation proclaiming the week of May 1 – May 7, 2016 as Municipal Clerk's Week and thanked the City Clerk Loree Phlypo for her service.

Public Comment

None

Discussion on Ordinance change for Liquor License Class F Special Event and Class H Special Use Fees and License Number Limitations as a whole, per business per year and application timeframe

Administrator Kotter led the discussion by outlining the current ordinance:

- a. Current fee is \$200 per event for either F or H
- b. Current amount allowed is 2 on any given calendar day and individually no more than 3 a year
- c. Current application timeframe is 45 days in advance of event

The consensus was that we should follow the State on fees, this would align us with the State and in the event the State fees go up we would not have to keep coming back and changing the ordinance. It was discussed that we change our application timeframe to 21 days that is enough time to process the application. It was recommended that we either increase the number of events that can take place or remove the number limiting them. Mayor Carroll-Duda was concerned that she didn't want it to become that the same business is having an event every month. Alderman Rothschild stated that he didn't feel that would be a problem that the Mayor would be discretionary when applications come in for approval. He felt that less oversight would encourage businesses to hold events and promote the City. Police protection is paid for by the event holder and the Administrator received letters from the Chamber and Geneseo Brewing Company requesting that the fees be reduced so that it is more economically feasible for events to be held. The City Attorney will be directed to bring an ordinance forward reflecting the discussed changes.

Motion by Rothschild, second by Anderson to recommend to City Council to amend the Liquor License Ordinance and Fee Resolution to change the Class F and H fees to be the same as the State Special Event and Special Use Fees and to amend the limitation on the number of Class F and H licenses to two events on any calendar day with no limit to the actual number of licenses each day and to limit the number of Class F and H licenses any business or organization can get to unlimited and change the number of days that a Class F or H license application must be submitted prior to an event to 21 days.

Voice Vote. 6 Ayes. 0 Nays. 2 Absent.

Motion Carried

Presentation of the American Discovery Trail Information

Joe Taylor from the Quad City Convention & Visitors Bureau presented the Council with a map and written information on the trail and what the goals are of the QC Convention & Visitors Bureau. They are working to promote the region and ADT. The trail runs from Delaware to California and includes the Hennepin Canal. They are working to get it included in the National Trail System by building awareness of the trail and increasing the use. Right now the trail is a mixture of surfaces and some of the trail is along highways. The goal is to get the trail separated from the highway areas and better surfaced. Visit the following website for more information, discoverytrail.org.

Discussion on Ordinance change for Solicitor permit adding a section on Food Trucks and Ice Cream Trucks

Discussion was held on adding a section to the Solicitor's ordinance to cover Food Vendor Trucks and Ice Cream Trucks. There was a recent inquiry by a person with a Food Vendor Truck and all we have to follow is the standard Solicitor Ordinance which would discourage such business from setting up in Geneseo due to the daily cost. It was recognized that regulation is needed to make sure that all Health Department permits are current and obtained. This could create healthy competition for food places already here, however discussion was also held on how Geneseo would make sure that the sales tax that is collected from the sales within Geneseo returns to Geneseo. Alderman Johnson presented some material from Longmont Colorado on their regulations over Mobile Food Vending and felt that a yearly application fee, limiting the location to which they can park and proof of filing of taxes from food sold in Geneseo would not be unreasonable requests. Administrator Kotter suggested a 2 week trial license that they could then see if they want to be here longer and if they are a part of an event taking place they wouldn't need a license. She also stated that we currently have a truck that was asked to be here by a business but they are also selling to the Public, so we will need to direct staff to temporarily not enforce the ordinance until we get this sorted out and we will need to do some research on some other areas that have Food Vendor Trucks and bring this back to another Committee of the Whole so that wording can be discussed.

Motion by Johnson, second by Robinson to direct staff to use a moratorium on mobile food vendors and review in a month.

Voice Vote. 6 Ayes. 0 Nays. 2 Absent.

Motion Carried

Discussion of fireworks shoot location

Discussion was held on the current location that the annual fireworks display is shot from. A meeting was held with the firework company that puts on our show to discuss how we can make our show better. The location that we shoot our fireworks off from is too far from the audience and therefore requires 12" shells. Last year we had about 30 to 40 shells that didn't go off so we have credit for those this year. We can get 5 to 6 5" shells compared to 1 12" shell in cost. Administrator Kotter felt that there is a lot of Richmond Hill Park that is not utilized during this event and feels that we can make it more of an event with music and some food vendors. Last year the City asked for donations as cars entered the park and felt that it was a positive response overall. There is a spot at Richmond Hill Park that the company is comfortable with and in the next couple weeks could come out and do a demo shoot, we would then place a person at a place in the community where most people gather to watch and see how well they can be seen. Fundraising letters are going out in the next week and Hanford Insurance our biggest donor is in favor of a change in location for the shoot to make it a better show and larger event. This will be a change for residents so City Council support is imperative. Consensus was to proceed with the mini shoot at the proposed new location in Richmond Hill Park.

No Action

2016-2017 Budget Discussions

Director of Electrical Operations Opsal reviewed the preliminary numbers for his department's revenues and expenditures. Expenditures included all payroll expenses, Capital improvements, fuel, equipment, uniforms, and LED street lighting just to name a few. Revenue sources include residential services, commercial services materials sold and City services just to name a few.

Alderman Garlick left the meeting at 7:18 PM and returned at 7:20 PM.

Chief Piotrowski reviewed the preliminary numbers for the Public Safety Department including revenues and expenditures. Some of his revenue sources included Police Protection Property Tax, Emergency services property tax, Tourism, Crossing guard and School Liaison reimbursement and sale of surplus property just to name a few. Expenditures included personnel and all costs associated with employees, equipment, animal control, training, and uniforms just to name a few.

Administrator Kotter stated that in 2 weeks the General Fund and Water/Sewer would present their preliminary numbers.

Payment of City and Utility Bills

Administrator Kotter stated that there were 2 additions to the bills.

No Discussion

Motion by Wachtel, second by Robinson to approve City and Utility bills in the amount of \$260,930.03.

ROLL CALL

Ayes 6 Wachtel,Rothschild,Robinson,Anderson,Johnson,Garlick

Nays

Absent 2 Simosky,Roodhouse

Motion Carried

Public Comment

Ann Hutchinson asked Director Opsal where the 3 pieces of property are located that are going to be sold from the Electric Department. He stated the pole lot at the Water Department, 144 N. Stewart Street and the Green Garage.

Motion by Wachtel, second by Rothschild to adjourn the meeting at 7:59 pm.

Voice Vote. 6Ayes. 0 Nays. 2 Absent.

Respectfully submitted,

Loree K. Phlypo
City Clerk