

**City of Geneseo, Henry County, Illinois
Committee of the Whole
October 11, 2011**

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

The Committee of the Whole of the City of Geneseo met Tuesday, October 11, 2011 at the Council Chambers, 115 South Oakwood Avenue. Mayor Linda Van Der Leest called the meeting to order at 6:52PM. Aldermen Bob Wachtel, Lowell Ewert, Jeanne Hartsock, Keith Kennett, Howard Beck, Derek Betcher, Doug Crow and Justin Snodgrass answered roll call. Also in attendance were City Attorney Virgil Thurman, Deputy City Clerk Jill Laingen, City Administrator Jim Hughes and the press. Superintendents Opsal, Rice, Chief Piotrowski and Building Inspector Rick Mills were present. Various Audience members.

GENERAL MUNICIPALITY

Agenda Item 1

Sale of Real Estate

Discussion held on the sale of Roos Hill property where the Humane Society is currently located. The Humane Society needs to submit in writing their intentions with regards to the property. The City needs to look at a possible long term land lease if a sale does not take place. This item was tabled and will be brought to the City Council Meeting December 13th, 2011.

Motion by Crow with a second by Ewert.

Voice Vote, All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Agenda Item 2

Retain Bond Advisor

Mayor Van Der Leest and Administrator Hughes led the discussion, a representative from Spear Financial spoke to the Mayor and Administrator Hughes at the IML meeting in Chicago. The Cities current Bond Advisor has moved out of state and it was felt that we need an advisor that is local to advise on the Cities bond activity. This particular company only advises and does not have the ability to sell your bonds. The advisor would take care of our SCC Filings and the fee would be no more than \$750 annually. The motion was made to direct the City Attorney to Draft a Resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Spear Financial Inc.

Motion by Betcher with a second by Kennett

Voice Vote, All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Agenda Item 3

Review Liquor License Ordinance

Mayor led the discussion on the importance of clarifying the language of the current Liquor License Ordinance to ensure that the City is Following State Laws that Govern liquor licensing. A motion was made to form a committee including Alderman Beck, Chief Piotrowski, Administrator Hughes and City Attorney Thurman to review and ensure that the Liquor License meets the needs of the current business community.

Motion by Hartsock with a second by Betcher.

Voice Vote, All Ayes. Motion Carried.

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Agenda Item 4

Expansion of Historic Preservation District

Alderman Keith Kennett presented the Committee of the Whole with a copy of the Historic Preservation District Map; he would like to have Council consider extending the boundaries. Alderman Hartsock questioned whether or not once the boundaries were extended was there a chance of changing the signage for a particular business or if they could opt out of being a part of the Historical District expansion. A motion to recommend this to the Plan Commission and to publish in the paper was agreed upon.

Motion by Kennett, second by Beck

Voice Vote, Motion Carried

SUPERINTENDENT REPORTS

Public Works

Allied Waste Recycling Program

Superintendent Rice opened the discussion with the Allied Waste Recycling program. Nicole Schuler Municipal Manager from Allied Waste was on hand to outline the program. The current contract can be extended for 7 more years with the current rate extending through 2012. Superintendent Rice stated that the City would have to assume the billing for the trash/recycling service to the residents. The pickup of recycling totes would be twice a month. Motion to move forward to drafting a contract with Allied Waste for 7 years to include the recycling program as well as regular trash pickup.

Motion by Wachtel with a second by Betcher.

Voice Vote, All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Geneseo Facebook Swap

Superintendent Rice suggested that we make this an organized event. Rice will get more information together and bring back in November. Motion that Superintendent Rice obtain more information and bring it back to the next Committee of the Whole.

Motion by Beck with a second by Betcher

Voice Vote, All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Water/Sewer

Purchase of Chlorinator

Superintendent Ong requested that we purchase a new Chlorinator for the Water Department. Parts are no longer available for the existing equipment. Smith Ecological Systems has been the servicing company and would like to remain with them. The cost would be \$77,495 for the new equipment. Motion to take to City Council to allow the purchase of the Chlorinator.

Motion by Crow with a second by Wachtel.

Voice Vote, All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Electric

Digital Sign

Alderman Kennett led the discussion for the updating of the entrance sign out on South

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Oakwood. This would be a digital sign through Mer Company Inc. and the cost would be \$12,981.25 plus tax. Projected spot to locate the digital sign is on South Oakwood. The current wooden sign that is near this space is in need of repair and we can share the posts. The Chamber will be responsible for programming and monitoring. Motion to move forward to purchase a Daktronics Galaxy 3500 3'10" x 9'11" Digital Message Center from Mer Company Inc. for the price of \$12,981.25 and additional costs for repair of existing sign.

Motion by Kennett with a second by Wachtel.

Voice Vote, All Ayes. Motion Carried

Public Safety

Narrowband Radios

Chief Piotrowski and Superintendent Opsal are working together since both departments utilize this service. This is an effort to upgrade the radio system. Electric dept is currently in the process to comply with Narrowband requirements which are due 2013. This would eliminate the need for a truck mounted base to operate the electric department's radios. Motion to allow the Chief to go out and obtain quotes and bring to Council in November for Broadband and Repeaters that are needed across the City and in all departments.

Motion by Ewert with a second by Hartsock.

Voice Vote, All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Train Whistle

Chief Piotrowski stated that there is a reason for the train whistle and bells at crossings. If the city chooses to band the whistle it will cost between \$300,000 to \$500,000 per crossing to adapt the crossings to a no train whistle area and the City would have to assume the liability for all accidents that occurred between the hours that the trains are not allowed to blow their whistles.

Motion to make no change to towns current safety to railway crossings.

Motion by Betcher with a second by Beck.

Voice Vote, All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Federal Drug Task Force Monies

Chief Piotrowski led the discussion, the City will received \$44,000 which was 2% of the drug money for allowing useage of facilities to other law enforcement agencies. There is strict auditing and regulations on use of the money, such as purchasing other drug enforcement equipment and drug dog expenses. Interest earned on the money has to be used for law enforcement expenses only. Motion to allow the Chief to execute the proper use of Federal Seizure Funds according to the necessary Guidelines.

Motion by Ewert with a second by Kennett.

Voice Vote, All Ayes. Motion Carried.

VEBA Resolution

Chief led discussion on Voluntary Employee Benefit Account. This is for employees that are hired after a certain date that won't have health care through the City when they retire. This was agreed to in contract negotiations. There is an \$850 set up fee that the City would pay. Motion to direct City Attorney to finalize draft resolution authorizing the creation of a new VEBA account.

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Motion by Beck with a second by Crow.
Voice Vote, All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Web Page Proposal

Administrator Hughes led the discussion on contracting a webpage Proposal, to expand the Cities website and to make it interactive. Kim Gehling of Websites to Impress, LLC. was interviewed. This upgrade would allow for more forms to be available to the public on the website. The cost for the new web page would be \$2,500, this cost would be divided over all City departments. Motion to authorize the Mayor and City Administrator to enter into an agreement with Websites to Impress, LLC, to redesign the City's web page at a cost not to exceed \$2,500.

Motion by Wachtel with a second by Kennett.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: 8 Wachtel,Ewert,Hartsock,Kennett,Beck,Betcher,Crow,Snodgrass
NAYS: 0
ABSTAIN: 0
ABSENT: 0

Motion Carried

The Mayor addressed the photos in the meeting packet that showed the video inspection of the Sewer lines and the effects of people planting items in the City Easements. The sewer department then has to contend with all the roots that grow into the sewer lines.

ADJOURNMENT BACK TO CITY COUNCIL MEETING AT 8:48PM.

MOTION BY WACHTEL WITH A SECOND BY BECK.

By: _____
LINDA VAN DER LEEST
MAYOR FOR THE CITY OF GENESEO

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STATE OF ILLINOIS)
COUNTY OF HENRY) SS
CITY OF GENESEO)

I, Loree Phlypo, City Clerk of Geneseo, Henry County, Illinois, do hereby certify that the foregoing are the original minutes of the Committee of the Whole on October 11th, 2011 of the City Council and that said minutes consisting of four page were approved at the legally convened City Council Meeting of the City of Geneseo on November 8th, 2011.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto affixed my official signature and the seal of the City this ___ day of November, 2011.

(Seal)

By: _____