

City of Geneseo, Henry County, Illinois
City Council Proceedings
May 11, 2010

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

The City Council of the City of Geneseo met Tuesday, May 11, 2010 at the Council Chambers, 115 South Oakwood Avenue. Mayor Linda Van Der Leest called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Aldermen Ed Deener, Lowell Ewert, Josh Pierce, Arnie Schmid, Curt Spensley, Bob Wachtel and Karen West answered roll call. Also in attendance were City Attorney Virgil Thurman; Chief of Police Tom Piotrowski; Water & Sewer Superintendent Marvin Ong; Public Service Superintendent Klint Rice; Economic Development Director Heather Roberts; citizens, and, the press.

AUDIENCE REQUESTS

Terry Moore communicated his ideas on how he would like to see Geneseo grow in the immediate future.

Alderman West thanked the Fire Department and Police Department for the rescue of Mr. Minnaert earlier in the day.

Kathy Allan stated she was very appreciative to live in Geneseo. While she realizes we have some store fronts to fill, she is very happy to live in Geneseo.

Tom Wurslin questioned why we would be moving towards reading meters every other month when we have just hired a part-time meter reader. Mayor Van Der Leest expressed this could not be discussed at this time due to collective bargaining.

MAYORAL COMMENTS

Mayor Eberhardt echoed Alderman West's comments on the rescue. She thanked the Fire Department and Police Department for their efforts. She communicated how she is appreciative of the city workers' efforts and being active on the Geneseo Fire Protection District. The City is fortunate to work together with these entities and permit the employees leave to assist if necessary. The MAPPING goals are being discussed and the groups are meeting. There remains a strong cooperative on these ideas.

CONSENT AGENDA APPROVED BY OMNIBUS VOTE

Mayor Van Der Leest presented the Consent Agenda with the removal of the last item, approval of allocating funds in the amount of \$14,799.00 for amendment to the Local Agency Agreement for Federal Participation for Stimulus Project. She requested this be discussed under the Public Works Report.

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Motion by Wachtel, second by Spensley to approve a CONSENT AGENDA.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: 8 DEENER, EWERT, KENNETT, PETERSON, SCHMID, SPENSLEY, VAN DER LEEST & WEST

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 0

MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Spensley, second by Kennett to approve the items presented for approval on the Consent Agenda:

1. Appoint a City Treasurer.
2. Approval of Minutes from regular City Council meeting on April 13, 2010.
3. Approval of Minutes from Second Session of the City Council meeting on April 13, 2010.
4. Approval of Minutes from meeting of a quorum on Friday, April 30, 2010.
5. Approval of Deputy Clerk/Billing Clerk job description.
6. Accept bid from Bush Turf, Inc. in the amount of \$48,000 for Country Manor sod for Phases IV and V.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: 8 DEENER, EWERT, KENNETT, PIERCE, SCHMID, SPENSLEY, WACHTEL & WEST

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 0

MOTION CARRIED.

BOARD REPORTS

Administrative Service Board; April 26, 2010

SUBJECT: 457(B) NATIONWIDE PLAN

Chairman Wachtel reported this was given consideration due to the resignation of Savage. Wachtel recommended to appoint Jill Laingen as the plan administrator.

Motion by Wachtel, second by Kennett to approve the appointment of Jill Laingen as the plan administrator for the 457(b) Nationwide Plan.

VOICE VOTE; ALL AYES. MOTION CARRIED.

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Zoning Board of Appeals; April 26 , 2010

The Zoning Board of Appeals was canceled due to lack of agenda items.

Tax Increment Finance and Community Development Board; May 3, 2010

Subject: Ordinance No. 1960

Zoning Ordinance Chapter 9 – Wireless Communications.

Chairman Deener reported changes were necessary to tidy up the ordinance. Thurman has reviewed the ordinance and recommended changes.

Motion by Deener, second by Schmid to approve an Ordinance amending Chapter 9, Wireless Communication Facilities to the City of Geneseo’s Zoning Ordinance.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: 8 DEENER, EWERT, KENNETT, PIERCE, SCHMID, SPENSLEY, WACHTEL & WEST
NAYS: 0
ABSTAIN: 0
ABSENT: 0

MOTION CARRIED

Public Works Board: May 4, 2010

SUBJECT: SEWER RATE INCREASE – FORTY PERCENT

Chairman Deener reported on the figures presented by the previous administration which demonstrated a decline in ability to meet expenses for the Water & Sewer Department. A 47% increase was actually needed to cover such shortfalls. Discussion was conducted on alternative options in raising the sewer rate over a period of time.

Motion by Deener, second by Wachtel to approve a sewer rate increase of forty (40%) percent effective July 1, 2010.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: 4 DEENER, KENNETT, WACHTEL & WEST
NAYS: 4 EWERT, PIERCE, SCHMID & SPENSLEY
ABSTAIN: 0
ABSENT: 0

MAYOR VAN DER LEEST VOTED IN FAVOR TO BREAK THE TIE.

MOTION CARRIED

Mayor stated the City needs to be fiscally responsible for their respective budgets and she will monitor the funds to be certain the city remains fiscally responsible.

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SUBJECT: STATE STREET - FEDERAL HIGHWAY SYSTEM
RESOLUTION NO. 939

State Street runs straight through town and is in need of many repairs. The street needs to be repaired, as well as the water and sewer works beneath the roadway. If we designate as a Federal Highway System there is a potential that STU funding can be obtained for the costs to repair the street. The City can borrow ahead in this account. This designation will run from Route 82 up to where State Street meets Ogden Street.

Motion by Deener, second by Ewert to approve a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Geneseo, Henry County, Illinois authorizing the addition of a portion of State Street to be designated as a Federal Highway System.

VOICE VOTE; ALL AYES. MOTION CARRIED.

SUBJECT: ALLOCATION OF FUNDS FOR STIMULUS PROJECT

Rice briefed the City Council on the funding which was to be allocated for the stimulus project. The stimulus project was approved last fall but was unable to be completed. At the time this was approved, it was believed that there would be additional stimulus monies available to cover most of the overage on the project. Since the project was delayed until spring, the monies have been exhausted over what was allocated for the City of Geneseo (\$197,000). Therefore, the project is going to be have to be altered to meet the budgeted amount of \$197,000 with the City of Geneseo.

PUBLIC SAFETY BOARD: MAY 6, 2010

SUBJECT: ORDINANCE NO. 1970
NUISANCE

Ewert reverted to Chief Piotrowski for explanation. Piotrowski explained this is just to clarify further what nuisances are and requested this be approved to include the option to be included with the no contest fees, stating the first offense is \$50; and second offence being \$100.

Motion by Ewert, second by West to approve an Ordinance amending Section 93.01 of Title IX to Nuisances of General Regulations of Geneseo's City Code as presented and permitting the fines be paid under the no contest fee structure as outlined above.

VOICE VOTE; ALL AYES. MOTION CARRIED.

Electric Utility Board: May 6, 2010

The Electric Board met and have no items for consideration.

BILLS PAID

Motion by Ewert, second by Schmid to approve bills paid for April, 2010.

VOICE VOTE; ALL AYES. MOTION CARRIED.

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OTHER BUSINESS

SUBJECT: CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Rhonda Ludwig was not in attendance but did deliver her report for the Mayor and each of the Aldermen updating them on happenings in the City.

Mayor Van Der Leest recommended moving to the recognition of the FFA members. Aaron Prins was recognized for receipt of the Proficiency Award for Grain Production; Jacob Miller for State Winner of Creed Speaking; and Ethan Swint for Proficiency Award for Agricultural Mechanics. Mayor Van Der Leest also recognized the FFA Advisor Brian Stahl for the outstanding job he does with the students and promoting the Community.

SUBJECT: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Heather Roberts updated the Board on the outcome of MAPPING. She reminded the Council that they are the conduits to help private businesses succeed. Geneseo has a great deal of retail and the recession is slow in recovering. There is minimal growth and credit market is extremely tight placing constraints on moving forward.

SUBJECT: CITY COUNCIL MEETING CHANGE

Mayor Van Der Leest requested input on changing the City Council meeting to a 6:00 start rather than a 7:00 start. Majority consensus was to change the City Council meeting to 6:00 PM. City Clerk Kotecki will post notice and this will be effective for June 8, 2010 meeting.

Alderman Arnie Schmid presented to the Mayor recognition from the Izaak Walton in going green with the wind turbines and LED lighting. Van Der Leest thanked previous Mayor Pat Eberhardt as he was in office and it was his efforts which provided for this award.

SUBJECT: PROCLAMATION: GENESEO INTERNATIONAL THANKSGIVING FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

Motion by Schmid, second by Wachtel to proclaim May 12, 2010 as Geneseo International Thanksgiving Fellowship Day.

VOICE VOTE; ALL AYES. MOTION CARRIED.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Schmid, second by Spensley to enter into Executive Session at 8:15 PM pursuant to: **ILCS 120/2(c)(21)**: Discussion of minutes of meeting lawfully closed under this Act, whether for purposes of approval by the body of the minutes or semi-annual review of the minutes as mandated by Section 2.06 and **5 ILCS 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.

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ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: 8 DEENER, EWERT, KENNETT, PIERCE, SCHMID, SPENSLEY, WACHTEL & WEST

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 0

MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Wachtel, second by Spensley to return to regular session at 9:40 PM.

VOICE VOTE; ALL AYES. MOTION CARRIED.

ACTIONS ARISING OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by West, second by Schmid, to approve releasing the minutes from the November 10, 2009 executive session.

VOICE VOTE; ALL AYES. MOTION CARRIED.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Deener, second by Kennett to adjourn the meeting at 9:41 PM.

VOICE VOTE; ALL AYES. MOTION CARRIED.

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, TRACY KOTECKI, City Clerk of Geneseo, Henry County, Illinois, do hereby certify that the foregoing are the original minutes of the regular May 11, 2010 meeting of the City Council and that said minutes consisting of six pages were approved at the legally convened meeting of the special City Council meeting on May 11, 2010.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto affixed my official signature and the seal of the City this ___ day of June, 2010.

(Seal)

By: _____
TRACY A. KOTECKI