

May 2017



Welcome to Geneseo's monthly e-newsletter.

Mayor's Message to the City

As I prepared for the National Day of Prayer on May 4th, I reflected on the past year since hosting my first prayer breakfast just weeks after becoming Mayor. It's amazing how quickly a year can fly by. Overall it has been an amazing year. Nothing could have prepared me for what I would encounter as Mayor. I have gotten to know so many people in the community and can clearly see that we are truly blessed to live in such a wonderful city. We are a community that pulls together to make things happen and get things done. There is a lot of progress going on right now as many of you can attest to by the construction going on all around town. We have new Electric and Public Works buildings, new sidewalks, new water and sewer lines going in and a new well that is being drilled. Just northeast of City Hall we purchased new land in preparation of the future railway. To become more efficient in our electric and water readings we are planning to install new meters throughout the city. You may have noticed over the past year the new LED lights throughout the city which helps us save on energy. Our police officers are better armed now with new equipment and guns at a minimal cost due to a buy-back program. The City Council has also cut out thousands of dollars spent every year in paper packets by switching to electronic tablets for the Council meetings.

With our new Human Resource Generalist, we now have more focus with city wide safety for our employees. He has also been working with our staff at City Hall to ensure better working conditions by creating more ergonomic work centers. We are also focusing on safety in our City Park and are in the process of getting new playground equipment that will be ADA compliant installed this month. We owe many thanks to The Keppy Charitable Foundation, The Geneseo Foundation, Abilities Plus Endowment, the Colo family as well as other private donations which allowed us to purchase additional equipment. Our businesses are booming with several new businesses opening around town as well as new expansions to existing businesses. There is so much to be proud of with the work being done by all our city employees, our businesses and the community coming together to make things happen.

In addition to what the city has been doing, there is also a Collaboration Team that has been working together to make things happen. By coming together, we are now moving forward with a turn lane that will allow Mel Foster to develop the land for 42 potential new homes just north of the High School. This will be an exciting and much needed development for our community as we can see there are already some new homes going up in the new addition off Hanford Street as well as a few around town where old homes have been taken down.

The Collaboration Team has also been working with a marketing firm to come up with a new logo and tagline that will be used by many entities within the city. The big reveal will take place next month at MusicFest. This was only possible with the remarkable input that was collected from the City survey that was sent out earlier this year. This project has opened the eyes of all the leaders in Geneseo to recognize that working together we can build a better Geneseo. It is exciting to be a part of all of this. We are coming together, moving ahead and getting things done. It is great to be part of such a wonderful community!

Kathy Carroll-Duda
Mayor of Geneseo

Prairie View Spring Clean Up Day

Saturday, May 6, 9:00 - 11.30am

Champion Park

Light lunch provided at the end for workers

This past Fall the City was asked by a number of residents to participate more with the maintenance of the communal areas in Prairie View Subdivision. It is our hope that this can become an annual event in which the City, developers Bob and Karen Johnson and residents of the subdivision work together to beautify Prairie View subdivision. Our plan is that there will be clean up and planting in the eye brows , park and communal pathways. We ask you to bring work gloves, rakes, shovels, hand saws or other clean up type supplies that might be needed.



**Please RSVP with the number of people able to attend the clean up as workers to lphtylo@cityofgeneseo.com or (309) 944-6419
Other Questions Can Be Directed to City Hall As Well**

Spring Clean-Up

CITY OF GENESEO, RESIDENTIAL
CUSTOMERS!

Spring Clean Up Days:

May 8-11

Ward 1- Monday

Ward 2- Tuesday

Ward 3- Wednesday

Ward 4- Thursday

For a Ward Map, [click here](#).



Each City Ward will have ONLY ONE DAY FOR PICK UP. Residents must have their items out by 7:00 a.m. on their designated day as listed above. Items must be out by the scheduled time above as the trucks will only pass by each residence once.

Regular scheduled refuse collection will *not* be changed due to Clean-Up Days

To help in this effort, please observe these guidelines:

- All items must be placed at the curb or along the street. Large items such as furniture will be picked up if placed at the curb or along the street. Carpet must be rolled and tied in sections no longer than 6 feet.
- Lumber will be taken but should be no longer than 6 feet. Items such as lumber, eave spouts, bags, etc. **MUST** be separated into individual piles.
- **NO CONCRETE OR BRICKS WILL BE PICKED UP. NO SHINGLES WILL BE PICKED UP.**
- **NO TIRES WILL BE PICKED UP.**
- **NO APPLIANCES WILL BE PICKED UP.**
- **NO TOILETS WILL BE PICKED UP.**
- **NO WATER HEATERS, TELEVISIONS, FAX MACHINES OR COMPUTERS WILL BE PICKED UP.**
- Small items must be containerized. Cardboard boxes should be kept dry prior to pickup.
- Choose containers carefully. All containers will be taken unless marked "SAVE".
- Containers must weigh no more than 50 pounds each.
- Papers must be placed in plastic bags or bundled tightly with strong string or cord. Shredded paper must be bagged.
- Plastic bags must weigh no more than 20 pounds each.

If you should have any questions or concerns, call Geneseo City Hall at 309.944.6419.

Thank you for your attention to the details of Clean-Up Days.

**Thanks to the Keppy Foundation for
the generous gift towards the new
playground equipment!**



Garage Sale Weekends

Citywide garage sales will be on May 19-20, July 14-15, and September 22-23. Please do not staple or nail any signs to the telephone poles. Enjoy your shopping!

ICE
CREAM
SOCIALS

Tuesdays
City Park
June 6-August 15



2017 Sponsors (in chronological order):
 Geneseo Communications | Maple City Band
 Humane Society | Geneseo High School Band
 Isaac Walton League | Maple City Band
 GPAC | Geneseo Middle School Band
 Kiwanis | Maple City Band
 Women's Club & Art League | Maple City German Band
 GITFP | Maple City Band
 Girl Scouts | Geneseo Big Band
 National Night Out
 Quilt Guild & Better Things Ahead | Big River Brass Band
 Rock Solid Youth | First United Methodist Church



Join us!

Thanks to the Geneseo Foundation for the very generous donation towards the new playground at the City Park



Selling your house?

In order to sell your house you are required to apply for a permit and have your property inspected by the Building Inspector. For a permit application, [click here](#). For more information about a Certificate of Occupancy, see below.

§ 151.06 CERTIFICATE OF OCCUPANCY.

(A) No person shall sell, occupy, rent or lease to another for occupancy, any dwelling, dwelling unit, rooming unit, temporary housing or any building or structure used for commercial purposes without having procured from the Code Official/Building Inspector an occupancy permit. Application for the permit shall be in a form as required by the Code Official/Building Inspector. This permit shall not be issued unless the premises have been inspected by the Building Inspector or his or her designee and the application is certified that the premises meet the standards adopted by this city.

(B) Premises presently occupied by owner, being leased or rented shall not require an occupancy permit until a time as there is a change in the present occupant. Landlords of rental property or sellers of residences, as the case may be, shall make application for the permit prior to the occupancy of those structures given above. Once a dwelling, dwelling unit, rooming unit, temporary housing, or any building or structure used for commercial purposes is inspected and an occupancy permit is issued, a re-inspection for new occupancy is not required again for 24 months.

(C) Inspection fees for occupancy permits shall be \$25 except for the inspection preceding the sale of a dwelling unit, which shall be \$50.

Building Permits

For Building Permit applications and fee information, [click here](#). For information about when a permit is required, see below.

§ 151.02 PERMIT REQUIRED; EXCEPTIONS.

(A) No building or structure regulated by the adopted code shall be erected, constructed, enlarged, altered, repaired, moved, improved, removed, converted, or demolished unless a separate permit for each building or structure has first been obtained from the Building Inspector.

(B) A building permit shall not be required for the following work:

(1) One-story detached accessory buildings used as tool and storage sheds, playhouses, and similar uses, provided the projected roof area does not exceed 120 square feet;

(2) Fences not over seven feet high at the highest point including the post;

(3) Oil derricks;

(4) Movable cases, counters, and partitions not over five feet, nine inches high;

(5) Retaining walls which are not over four feet in height, measured from the bottom of the footings to the top of the wall, unless supporting a surcharge or impounding Class I, II, or III-A liquids;

(6) Water tanks supported directly upon grade if the capacity does not exceed 5,000 gallons and the ratio of height to diameter or width does not exceed two to one;

(7) Platforms, walks, and driveways not more than 30 inches above grade and not over any basement or story below;

(8) Painting, papering, and similar finish work;

(9) Temporary motion picture, television, and theater stage sets and scenery;

(10) Window awnings supported by an exterior wall of a family dwelling, private garages, carports, and shed occupancies when projecting not more than 54 inches; and/or

(11) Prefabricated swimming pools accessory to a family dwelling occupancy in which the pool's walls are entirely above the adjacent grade and if the capacity does not exceed 5,000 gallons.

(C) Unless otherwise exempted and applicable, separate plumbing, electrical, street opening, street access, and any other permit required by the city will be required for the above exempted items.

(D) Exemption from the permit requirements of this chapter shall not be deemed to grant authorization for any work to be done in any manner in violation of the provisions of the adopted code or any other ordinances of the city.

(Prior Code, § 4-3-2) (Ord. 1976, passed 9-14-2010) Penalty, see § 151.99

Utility Payment Policies

ACH Program

If you would like to arrange to have your monthly bill withdrawn directly from your bank account, please complete the ACH Application and return it in person to 115 S. Oakwood Avenue. On this program, your bill will be withdrawn from your bank account on the 6th of each month, regardless of your bill due date.

[ACH Authorization Form](#)

Online Bill Pay

If you would like to pay your bill online, please visit www.xpressbillpay.com and create an online account. On Xpress you will have the option to set up recurring automatic payments, make a one time payment, and many other payment options.

Budget Billing

The City offers budget billing for our customers ease in paying their utility bill. Budget billing is not a discount program; it offers no savings or lower rates. The total annual cost for utilities remains the same, but the customers have the convenience of a more predictable bill each month.

Participation in the program is free and offered to all customers who have had service with the City for at least 6 months. Budget Billing is calculated by taking the customer's usage and cost over the previous 12 months, and dividing it by 12. An average monthly cost is then determined by multiplying that amount by a factor that takes into account projected utility prices.

Once enrolled in Budget Billing, your account will be reviewed quarterly. The budget bill may stay the same each time, or may change 4 times a year.

The customer may discontinue Budget Billing at any time by submitting a written notice. Any existing credit will be refunded to the customer's active account immediately and will be due in full with the next bill. The City may terminate Budget Billing should the account become past due and proceed with collection actions.

Check Out the Trails at Prairie Park

As the weather improves and summer draws near, everyone is on the hunt for more outdoor activities. Geneseo Prairie Park (GPP) is located on the northern outskirts of Geneseo across from the Hennepin Canal Parkway Trail. There are ~55 acres of forested and restored prairie land at the park on which ~1 mile of old school doubletrack/singletrack hiking trail exists. It provides an excellent way to get fresh air and be closer to nature! For more information about Geneseo Prairie Park, [click here](#).

Prairie Park Burn Pile

The burn pile will be open for free disposal of leaves, yard waste, and brush on the following Saturdays in 2017 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

5/6, 6/3, 7/1, 8/5, 9/9, 10/7, 10/14, 10/21, 10/28, 11/4, 11/11, 11/18, 12/2

Council Meeting - May 9 at 6 p.m.
COW Meeting - May 23 at 6 p.m.

If you are interested in starting Online Bill Pay for your utility bills, click here
<https://www.xpressbillpay.com/#/>
If you have any questions, comments, or ideas for future newsletters please feel free to contact us by phone (309) 944-6419 or email us at citygeneseo@cityofgeneseo.com.
We look forward to hearing from you!

STAY CONNECTED:

