

City of Geneseo, Henry County, Illinois
City Council
June 9, 2015
6:00 PM

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

The City Council of the City of Geneseo met Tuesday June 9, 2015 at the Council Chambers, 115 South Oakwood Avenue. Mayor Nadine Palmgren called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Alderman James Roodhouse, Paula Simosky, Jason Robinson, Keith Kennett, Kathy Carroll-Duda, Justin Snodgrass, Martin Rothschild and Bob Wachtel answered roll call. Others in attendance included, Administrator Kotter, City Attorney Thurman, City Clerk Phlypo, Public Works Director Chad VanDeWoestyne, Director of Electrical Operations Lewis Opsal and HRS Jill Laingen.

There was a quorum.

Chamber of Commerce Report

No Report

City Engineer Report

Greg Ryckaert reported that he is working on various projects with Public Works Director VanDeWoestyne.

Mayoral Comments

Mayor Palmgren asked that everyone that can attend are welcome to the Geneseo Evangelical Free Church's outdoor service on June 14th at 10:30 am followed by a lunch.

Consideration of the Consent Agenda:

- a. City Council Minutes 5/12/15
- b. Committee of the Whole Minutes 5/26/15
- c. Special City Council Minutes 5/26/15

Motion by Kennett, second by Robinson to approve the minutes as presented.

Voice Vote. 8 Ayes. 0 Nays.

Motion Carried.

Public Comment

Mrs. Parker inquired about the lights being left on at night on the trees down the boulevard to make the City more inviting. Director Opsal stated that it is hard on the little Christmas lights when you leave them on for an extended period of time and that the City could look into some other type of lighting. Mayor Palmgren recognized the Boy Scouts in attendance, they are earning their Communication Merit Badge.

Consideration of a new Business Revolving Loan and Economic Development Incentive request

Administrator Kotter reported that Amy DeFauw applied for a revolving loan from the City in the amount of \$11,000.00 to open up a Retail Store offering Home Décor and Women's Clothing. The revolving loan committee met and recommend to the Council to approve the loan of \$11,000.00 at 4% interest for 7 years with a personal guarantee and a UCC filing as collateral. The City also will provide two economic development incentives to include; a 20% rebate for the first two years for the electric, water and sewer bill and a rebate of 1% of the sales tax generated during the first two years the business is in operation. Amy Defauw reported that her target opening date is September.

Motion by Roodhouse, second by Wachtel to approve a City of Geneseo Revolving Loan for Katsch, a retail boutique owned by Amy DeFauw, in the amount of \$11,000.00 at an interest rate of 4% for 7 years with a personal guarantee and a UCC filing as collateral. The City will also provide two economic development incentives: a 20% rebate for the first two years for the electric, water and sewer bill and a rebate of 1% of the sales tax generated during the first two years the business is in operation.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: 8 Simosky,Wachtel,Robinson,Roodhouse,Kennett,Snodgrass,Carroll-Duda,Rothschild
NAYS: 0
ABSTAIN: 0
ABSENT: 0

Motion Carried

Consideration of Approval for a request for a 3 month Variance for Window Obstructions from Section 110.41 for Barney's Korner Bar & Grill and to grant permission to keep their grease container and fence in the Right of Way on Orange Street

Administrator Kotter reported that there is a change in the request, Dan Barnes reported that they will be placing the grease container in the basement so that there will not be a need for the container to be in the ROW. The request that the Council will be considering has to do with the 3 month variance for window obstructions.

Motion by Rothschild, second by Carroll-Duda to grant a 3 month variance for Window Obstructions Ordinance 110.41 for Barney's Korner Bar & Grill.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: 8 Simosky,Wachtel,Robinson,Roodhouse,Kennett,Snodgrass,Carroll-Duda,Rothschild
NAYS: 0
ABSTAIN: 0
ABSENT: 0

Motion Carried

Consideration of presented sign structure to be built within the Highway Corridor Overlay District at 105 S. Chicago Street

Administrator Kotter reported that the Plan Commission reviewed this request at the June 1 meeting and had a unanimous vote for the recommendation to allow the construction of the new sign structure. The Plan Commission is recommending the sign structure within the normal setbacks and the Zoning reviewed the location and allowed a variance at 3 feet off the property line.

Motion by Robinson, second by Wachtel to allow the presented sign structure to be built within the Highway Corridor Overlay District at 105 S. Chicago Street.

Voice Vote. 8 Ayes. 0 Nays.

Motion Carried

Consideration of Approval of O-15-147 An Ordinance Amending the Geneseo Zoning Ordinances to Define and Regulate Home Occupations in Residential Districts

Administrator Kotter reported that the City needed an ordinance that it could enforce, the current ordinance would require every home occupation to hold a Public Hearing and apply for a Conditional Use Permit from the Plan Commission and Council. The amended ordinance would allow home businesses that do not impact their neighborhood to operate without a Public Hearing or a Conditional Use Permit. This amendment spells out the parameters to operate a home based business and what would cause a business to need a Conditional Use Permit. The Plan Commission held a Public Hearing and no one appeared to speak, they are recommending adoption of this ordinance.

Motion by Wachtel, second by Simosky to approve O-15-147 An Ordinance Amending the Geneseo Zoning Ordinances to Define and Regulate Home Occupations in Residential Districts.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: 7 Simosky,Wachtel,Robinson,Roodhouse,Kennett,Snodgrass,Carroll-Duda,Rothschild
NAYS: 0
ABSTAIN: 0
ABSENT: 0

Motion Carried

Consideration of Approval to allow the Staff to begin the process of accepting RFP'S for City Attorney and City Engineer and to create two sub-committees. The Committee for the Attorney will be comprised of Palmgren, Kotter, Piotrowski, Phlypo, Robinson, Carroll-Duda, Kennett and Rothschild. Committee for the City Engineering will be comprised of Palmgren, Kotter, Opsal, VanDeWoestyne, Wachtel, Simosky, Snodgrass and Roodhouse.

Administrator Kotter reported that this item cover had an update adding the language that the current City Attorney and Engineer would continue in their respective positions until either a new person is appointed or they are reappointed to a new term due to the fact that Virgil's contract expires the end of June. She recommended that if approved she would send out RFP's to all local attorney's including Virgil and then also a direct mailing in early July.

Motion by Carroll-Duda, second by Rothschild to approve to begin the process of accepting RFP's for City Attorney and City Engineer and to appoint two sub-committees as follows: Committee for the Attorney Palmgren, Kotter, Piotrowski, Phlypo, Robinson, Carroll-Duda, Kennett, and Rothschild. The Committee for the Engineer

will be Palmgren, Kotter, Opsal, VanDeWoestyne, Wachtel, Simosky, Snodgrass, and Roodhouse. This motion also confirms that Attorney Thurman and Engineer Ryckaert will continue in their respective positions until a new person is appointed or they are reappointed to a new term.

Voice Vote. 8 Ayes. 0 Nays.

Motion Carried

Consideration to approve O-15-145 changing Chapter 93.16 Grass Height Restriction and 93.17 Notice to Property Owners, the requirements for a property owner that has not kept grass and weeds in compliance with City Ordinances.

Administrator Kotter reported that the language in this ordinance needed to be changed to allow the City to properly notify residents of the City's intent through a door hangar and regular mail and to reduce the timeframe to 3 days after the door hangar is hung. This request also includes changing the height limitations to eight inches from six inches. This would not cover overgrown bushes in the ROW and unkempt trees, those issues at this time would be directed to CSO Mallum. In the future this could be an ordinance considered to require bushes and trees to be trimmed in the ROW.

Motion by Wachtel, second by Roodhouse to adopt Ordinance O-15-145 changing Chapter 93.17 the requirements for a property owner that has not kept grass and weeds in compliance with City ordinances and changing the height limitation to eight inches from six inches

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: 8 Simosky, Wachtel, Robinson, Roodhouse, Kennett, Snodgrass, Carroll-Duda, Rothschild

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 0

Motion Carried

Consideration to approve the funding from the Hotel Motel Tax Fund to pay for the yearly fee to BMI and ASCAP for the tights to play music downtown and at City events.

Administrator Kotter reported that the City is the applicant for the two organizations that allow the City to play music. The Chamber has paid the fee in the past, since these licenses benefit more than just the Chamber members it is a recommendation that the City pay for the two licenses. The ASCAP license is \$335.00 and BMI is \$330.00. The music system downtown is currently undergoing some improvements so that music can be played more often downtown.

Motion by Robinson, second by Carroll-Duda to authorize the use of Hotel Motel Taxes for the license fees for ASCAP and BMI.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: 8 Simosky, Wachtel, Robinson, Roodhouse, Kennett, Snodgrass, Carroll-Duda, Rothschild

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 0

Motion Carried

Payment of City and Utility Bills

No Discussion

Motion by Wachtel, second by Carroll-Duda to approve payment of City and Utility bills.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: 7 Simosky, Wachtel, Robinson, Roodhouse, Kennett, Snodgrass, Carroll-Duda

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 1 Rothschild

Motion Carried

Consideration to approve McCarthy Improvement CO. for the price of \$47,385.90 for various street millings, Henry County Highway Department for the price of \$164,403.75 for blacktop and overlay of various streets, Curnyn Construction for \$16,900.00 and an additional \$33,000.00 for City material purchases for the approaches and installation of steel sheet piling for S. State Street bridge with funds to come from Fund 60 2015-2016 Capital Projects.

Administrator Kotter reported that the only question she received on this project was the difference between the first stated amounts for materials was at \$29,000 and the information in the packet states \$33,000, since the price of the materials could vary the City would pay actual costs and not any more.

Motion by Carroll-Duda, second by Wachtel to approve McCarthy Improvements Co. for the price of \$47,385.90 for various street millings, Henry County Highway Department for the price of \$164,403.75 for blacktop and overlay of various street, Curnyn Construction for \$16,900.00 and an additional \$33,000.00 for City Material Purchases for approached and installation of steel sheet piling for S. State Street bridge with funds to come from Fund 60 2015-2016 Capital Projects.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: 8 Simosky,Wachtel,Robinson,Roodhouse,Kennett,Snodgrass,Carroll-Duda,Rothschild
NAYS: 0
ABSTAIN: 0
ABSENT: 0

Motion Carried

Consideration of O-15-146 An Ordinance Adopting Prevailing Wage Rates to be Paid to Laborers, Mechanics and other Workers Performing Construction of Public Works in the City of Geneseo, Henry County, Illinois.

Administrator Kotter reported that this is a state requirement to pay prevailing wage. An ordinance is passed yearly adopting the Prevailing Wage rates.

Motion by Simosky, second by Snodgrass to adopt ordinance O-15-146 An Ordinance Adopting Prevailing Wage Rates to be Paid to Laborers, Mechanics and other Workers Performing Construction of Public Works in the City of Geneseo, Henry County, Illinois.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: 8 Simosky,Wachtel,Robinson,Roodhouse,Kennett,Snodgrass,Carroll-Duda,Rothschild
NAYS: 0
ABSTAIN: 0
ABSENT: 0

Motion Carried

Consideration to approve proposed 2015-2016 Budget for the City of Geneseo, ordinance O-15-148 An Ordinance Adopting the Budget for all Corporate Purposes of the City of Geneseo, Illinois, in lieu of the Appropriation Ordinance for the fiscal year commencing on the first day of July, 2015 and ending on the thirtieth day of June, 2016.

Administrator Kotter reported that the budget process was started in February and the Public Hearing was held in May and with the State Funding not being decided yet estimated increases were built in. A contingency fund was created with \$121,261.00 in it which will help to absorb whatever loss the City may have to take due to cuts by the State Government. Once the cuts are made then we can deal with specifics that address the amount that may be higher or lower than what has been allocated. This Budget includes all wages for both IBEW and the FOP if approved and all non-represented employees will receive a 3% COLA increase. This is a balanced budget and also addresses being fiscally responsible with the taxpayer's money. Money has been set aside to cover some building maintenance to City Hall which is 9 years old, some doors that aren't shutting properly, the garage floor of the PD needs a sealant coat on it and the dispatch room due to high traffic is in need of new flooring. There are funds set to cover two city pickups and there is an e-waste that will be provided by Farmers National Bank at the Joe-Carroll facility that will be open to residents.

Motion by Kennett, second by Simosky to adopt Ordinance O-15-148 An Ordinance Adopting the Budget for All Corporate Purposes of the City of Geneseo, Illinois in Lieu of the Appropriation Ordinance for the Fiscal Year Commencing on the First Day of July, 2015 and ending on the thirtieth day of June, 2016.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: 8 Simosky,Wachtel,Robinson,Roodhouse,Kennett,Snodgrass,Carroll-Duda,Rothschild
NAYS: 0
ABSTAIN: 0
ABSENT: 0

Motion Carried

Consideration of payment of City and Utility bills

No discussion

Motion by Robinson, second by Wachtel to approve the payment of the bills as presented.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: 8 Simosky,Wachtel,Robinson,Roodhouse,Kennett,Snodgrass,Carroll-Duda,Rothschild
NAYS: 0
ABSTAIN: 0
ABSENT: 0

Motion Carried

Public Comment

Resident Kathy Allen thanked the Council and City employees for an excellent meeting.

Executive Session

Motion by Rothschild, second by Carroll-Duda to enter into Executive Session at 6:50 pm under the following statutes:

Pursuant to Collective Negotiating matters pursuant to: 5ILCS 120/2(c)(2) Collective Negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees.

Pursuant to personnel matter pursuant to: 5ILCS 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.

Motion by Wachtel, second by Roodhouse to return to open meeting at 7:23pm.

Voice Vote. 8 Ayes. 0 Nays.

Motion Carried.

Actions after Executive Session

Consideration of FOP Contract for July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2018.

Motion by Rothschild, second by Carroll-Duda to Ratify the FOP Contract for July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2018.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: 8 Simosky,Wachtel,Robinson,Roodhouse,Kennett,Snodgrass,Carroll-Duda,Rothschild
NAYS: 0
ABSTAIN: 0
ABSENT: 0

Motion Carried

Adjournment

Motion by Robinson, second by Roodhouse to adjourn at 7:24pm.

Voice Vote. 8 Ayes. 0 Nays.

Respectfully submitted,

Loree K Phlypo
City Clerk