

City of Geneseo, Henry County, Illinois
Committee of the Whole Meeting
May 26, 2015

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

The City Council of the City of Geneseo met Tuesday May 26, 2015 at the Council Chambers, 115 South Oakwood Avenue. Mayor Nadine Palmgren called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Alderman Paula Simosky, Keith Kennett, Robert Wachtel, Justin Snodgrass, Martin Rothschild, Kathy Carroll-Duda, James Roodhouse and Jason Robinson answered roll call. Others in attendance included City Administrator Lisa Kotter, City Attorney Virgil Thurman, City Clerk Loree K Phlypo, Director Opsal, Director VanDeWoestyne, Inspector Mills, HRS Jill Laingen, the press and various audience members.

A Quorum was present.

Public Comment

Rhoni Perrine from the Chamber thanked the City for looking at and considering assuming the payment responsibility of the contract between BMI and ASCAP for licensing of the music played downtown and at City events.

Consideration of a request for a variance for window obstructions and grease container in the City right-of-way by Barney's Bar & Grill

Discussion was held on granting a variance to Barney's while they are under construction. The variance process was approved as part of ordinance O-15-139 section 110.41 of the liquor license ordinance. Their grease container currently sets in the City right-of-way and is not attractive and Barney's would like to leave it there and construct a fence around it. A representative from Barney's stated that they currently have the container emptied every 3 months and she wasn't sure if they could downsize to a smaller container and have it emptied more often, she has a meeting set up with the company Dar Pro that handles their container. The enclosure that they would like to construct would be solid and probably wooden.

Motion by Wachtel, second by Rothschild to move this item to the June 9th City Council meeting to grant a 3 month variance for Window Obstructions from section 110.41 for Barney's Korner Bar and Grill and to grant permission for Barney's Korner Bar and Grill to keep their grease container and fence in the ROW on Orange Street.

Voice Vote. 8Ayes. 0 Nays.

Motion Carried.

Consideration of Ordinance O-15-144 Permitting Poultry within the City limits

In May of 2014 an initial discussion was held on allowing poultry within the City limits. Resident Kristin Mortenson submitted signatures to the City of residents in favor of allowing poultry within the City limits. Reasons for wanting poultry is for educational opportunities for their children and having the fresh eggs for their family. Administrator Kotter recommended using a permit process for better monitoring and to help maintain compliance. Also a Public Hearing was recommended to get input from the citizens and to educate the public on maintaining poultry.

Motion by Roodhouse, second by Carroll-Duda to direct staff to advertise a public hearing on June 25th Committee of the Whole regarding an ordinance that would permit hens in the City limits.

Voice Vote. 8 Ayes. 0 Nays.

Motion Carried.

Consideration of RFP's for City Attorney and City Engineer

Discussion was held on going out for RFP's for City Attorney and City Engineer. Current City Attorney has 34 years of experience and City Engineer Greg Ryckaert doesn't currently work under a contract. The RFP's would be direct mailing to municipal attorney's and engineers. Mail out the RFP's after City Council June 9th and interviews will be scheduled July 8 to the 10 and 1 to 2 candidates will be brought to City Council. Suggested Attorney and Engineer RFP Committees will include four Council members on each and the Mayor and Administrator on each. Management staff included on the committees include Piotrowski and Phlypo on the Attorney committee and VanDeWoestyne and Opsal on the Engineering committee.

Motion by Kennett, second by Robinson to recommend to Council 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 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.

Voice Vote. 8 Ayes. 0 Nays.

Motion Carried.

Consideration of Ordinance O-15-145 An Ordinance amending Title IX Chapter 93 weeds

Discussion was held on clarifying the wording in Title IX Chapter 93 Weeds because the notice processing wording is difficult to understand. It is assumed that when you mail an item that the person is going to receive it. The proposed options to process a notice will be door hangar with a numbering system and information on a tear off bottom, regular mail notice, a digital picture of the door hangar on the door, and change the limit from 7 days to 72 hours for compliance. It was discussed to change the length of grass allowed from 6 inches to 8 inches.

Motion by Roodhouse, second by Rothschild to recommend to Council 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.

Voiced Vote. 8 Ayes. 0 Nays.

Motion Carried

Consideration of Funding for right to play music – Hotel Motel Tax

The City entered into a contract with BMI/ASCAP for the right to play music downtown and at City events. Originally the agreement was entered into with the Chamber paying the fee, but with the City trying to help promote the Chamber in any way that they can we are asking that the City pay for the agreement with BMI ASCAP. The yearly fee is \$335.00. This fee could come out of the Hotel Motel Tax fund.

Motion by Wachtel, second by Kennett to recommend to Council to approve the funding from the Hotel Motel Tax fund to pay for the yearly fee to BMI ASCAP for the rights to play music downtown and at City events.

Voice Vote. 8 Ayes. 0 Nays.

Motion Carried

Consideration of summer road projects

Discussion was held on the milling of summer road projects, the bid opening was held on May 1 with McCarthy Improvement Co. submitting low bid of \$47,385.90. The City uses Henry County Highway Department to overlay streets. The North Bridge on S. State Street is in need of repair the water is washing out the material from underneath the pavement of the approaches, the City staff would like to work with Curnyn Construction to complete the work on the bridge. City Engineer Greg Ryckaert added that the under bridge erosion will require bank stabilization on the creek banks eventually. The guardrails are sinking as well as the approach pavements.

Motion by Wachtel, second by Robinson 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 street, and City Staff and Curnyn Construction for \$60,000.00 for replacement of the approaches and installation of steel sheet piling for S. State Street Bridge.

Voice Vote. 8 Ayes. 0 Nays.

Alderman Roodhouse left the meeting at 6:47 pm.

Payment of City and Utility Bills

Alderman Carroll-Duda asked for clarification on a couple bills on the list.

Motion by Carroll-Duda, second by Wachtel to approve the bills as presented for payment.

ROLL CALL

Ayes 7 Wachtel, Kennett, Simosky, Robinson, Snodgrass, Rothschild, Carroll-Duda

Nays

Absent 1 Roodhouse

Abstain

Motion Carried

Mayoral Comments

Mayor Palmgren thanked the Veterans for their service.

Public Comment

None

Executive Session

Motion by Snodgrass, second by Wachtel to enter into executive session at 7:05 pm Pursuant to 5ILCS 120/2(c)(2) 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.

ROLL CALL

Ayes 7 Wachtel, Kennett, Simosky, Robinson, Snodgrass, Rothschild, Carroll-Duda

Nays

Absent 1 Roodhouse

Abstain

Motion Carried

Alderman Roodhouse returned to meeting in progress at 7:09 pm.

Motion by Snodgrass, second by Roodhouse to return to open meeting at 8:34 pm.

Voice Vote. 87Ayes. 0 Nays.

Motion Carried

Motion by Robinson, second by Roodhouse to adjourn the meeting at 8:34 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Loree K. Phlypo
City Clerk