

**City of Geneseo, Henry County, Illinois
Committee of the Whole Meeting
February 28, 2017**

The City Council of the City of Geneseo met Tuesday February 28, 2017 at the Council Chambers, 115 South Oakwood Avenue. Mayor Kathy Carroll-Duda called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Alderman Bob Wachtel, James Roodhouse, Paula Simosky, Brenda Johnson, Jason Robinson, Sue Garlick and Kent Anderson answered roll call. Martin Rothschild was absent. Others in attendance included City Administrator Lisa Kotter, City Clerk Loree K Phlypo, City Attorney Margaret Kostopulos, Finance Director Kara Wiesemeyer, Public Works Director Chad VanDeWoestyne and Director of Electrical Operations Lewis Opsal, IT Manager Garrett Griswold, HR Generalist Brandon Maeglin, Inspector Rick Mills, FFA Committee Members Dylan Decker, Taylor Mills, Aaron Zobrist, Kyle Hofer and FFA Advisor Brian Stahl.
A Quorum was present.

Public Comment

None

Presentation – FFA Plot Report

Committee Members Dylan Decker, Taylor Mills, Aaron Zobrist and Kyle Hofer representing the Geneseo FFA reported that they planted Soy Beans this year with a yield of 291.67 bu. They rotate crops between corn and soy beans depending on the soil nutrient needs. Planting was done by Deric Olson and combining transportation, drying and storing was done by Cocquit Farms and Hillsdale Elevator. The Committee asked that the City donate back their half of the income minus expenses. Mayor Carroll-Duda stated that would be considered later in the agenda. \$870.82 is the City's portion of the proceeds. This is up from \$529.32 in 2016, the increase over last year is due to the rows being closer together and higher yield with soy beans.

Mayor Carroll-Duda stated that there would be two additional items added to the Executive Session; 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 and Pursuant to Litigation Matters pursuant to: 5ILCS 120/2(c)(11) Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting.

Discussion on extending Carpentier Mitchell Goddard & Co. LLC contract with the City for auditing services for Fiscal Year 2017.

Currently our contract with the auditors was for 2014 to 2016. With this being Kara's first full audit year we felt that it would be important to keep the auditors at least one more year and then make a decision on whether or not to go out for RFP's. This will give Kara another year with a company that has some history with the City. Jim Taylor agreed to keep the fee the same as it was in the current contract, \$42,000 for the basic audit, \$1,200 for the Annual Financial Report for the State and \$3,000 to \$5,000 per major program for any single audit that may be required for the 2017 Fiscal Year.

Motion by Robinson, second by Simosky to recommend to City Council to enter into an agreement with Carpentier Mitchell Goddard and Co LLC in the amount of \$42,000 for the basic audit, \$1,200 for the Annual Financial Report for the State and \$3,000 to \$5,000 per major program for any single audit that may be required for the 2017 Fiscal Year.

ROLL CALL

Ayes 7 Simosky, Robinson, Garlick, Wachtel, Roodhouse, Anderson, Johnson

Nays 0

Absent 1 Rothschild

Motion Carried

Discussion on renewal of FFA Farmland lease agreement for 2017.

Included in the packet is an aerial view of the field that the FFA farm in case someone doesn't know that it is located behind the Cemetery. The FFA doesn't pay any rent to the City for use of the land and part of the agreement has always been that they come and give a Plot Report to City Council and traditionally they ask for the City's Portion of the Proceeds to be donated back to the FFA. The lease that is currently used is not completely applicable to our situation. The City Attorney, City Administrator and FFA Advisor Brian Stahl will collaborate on a more applicable lease/agreement and will present it to the Council in two weeks at the City Council meeting.

Motion by Wachtel, Second by Roodhouse to recommend to Council to enter into a Land Lease Agreement for 2017-2018 with the Geneseo Chapter of FFA and to refund half of their 2016-2017 land lease payment.

ROLL CALL

Ayes 7 Simosky,Robinson,Garlick,Wachtel,Roodhouse,Anderson,Johnson

Nays 0

Absent 1 Rothschild

Motion Carried

Discussion on Economic Incentives for DeDecker's Plumbing Heating & Cooling.

DeDecker's Plumbing Heating & Cooling recently purchased a small strip mall building on Main Street with the business being located at the West end of the building and the business is owned by Mr. Junior. The economic incentives for a business is 1% sales tax rebate for 2 years on sales within the City of Geneseo, 1% sales tax rebate on construction materials purchased locally for the first 6 months and a 20% rebate for the businesses electric, water and sewer bill. Staff will report back to Council as to whether or not the apartment above the business part of the building is metered separately or together and adjust appropriately since the rebates are strictly for the business portion. The prior ordinance outlining these rebates is number O-15-113.

Motion by Johnson, second by Simosky to recommend to the City Council to offer the following economic development incentives to DeDecker Plumbing and Heating if they are located in the City of Geneseo: 1% sales tax rebate for two years for sales within the City of Geneseo, a 20% rebate for the business' electric, water and sewer bills for two years, a 1% rebate on construction materials used in the business location for remodeling and upgrades that are spent at businesses located in the City of Geneseo for the first six months.

ROLL CALL

Ayes 7 Simosky,Robinson,Garlick,Wachtel,Roodhouse,Anderson,Johnson

Nays 0

Absent 1 Rothschild

Motion Carried

Discussion on recommendation of bids for sidewalk improvements and spot replacement – Bid Opening March 10.

Sidewalk replacement was budgeted for in the 2017 capital budget starting with the Oakwood avenue area. Bid opening for the work will be held on March 10 and Missman will review the bids prior to the March 14 City Council meeting and make a recommendation on the lowest qualified bidder. Next summer the City will evaluate whether it is more cost effective to bring on staff to do the concrete work or hire it out. The City may take a future approach of assessing sections of town and concentrating on each section for replacement and repairs of sidewalk.

Motion by Wachtel, second by Anderson to recommend to the City Council to approve the contract for the 2017 Sidewalk Replacement at the March 14 Council Meeting after bids have been received and a recommendation is made by Missman on the lowest qualified bidder.

ROLL CALL

Ayes 7 Simosky,Robinson,Garlick,Wachtel,Roodhouse,Anderson,Johnson

Nays 0

Absent 1 Rothschild

Motion Carried

Discussion on Recommendation of bids for Well #31 Drilling - Bid Opening March 10.

The City will have a bid opening on March 10th for the Well #31 Drilling. Public Works Director VanDeWoestyne stated that the EPA reported that more well capacity is needed for the City. The first phase will be to drill the Well and \$80,000 has been budgeted for this. Future Phases will include the building construction of the pump house and equipment above ground. Missman will review the bids prior to the February 14th Council meeting and make a recommendation on the lowest qualified bidder.

Motion by Robinson, second by Johnson to recommend to the City Council to approve the contract for the Well Drilling at the March 14 Council meeting after bids have been received and a recommendation is made by Missman on the lowest qualified bidder.

Voice Vote. 7 Ayes. 0 Nays. 1 Absent.

Motion Carried.

Discussion on Telecommuting Policy.

Discussion was held on a Telecommuting Policy for Management Exempt employees. Personal vehicle use while working under Telecommuting must be approved by the Supervisor due to the City having to pay mileage if a personal vehicle is used. A definition of a Management Exempt employee will be added to the Personnel Handbook when it is updated. City Attorney

Kostopulos stated that written documentation of time at home will need to be kept due to the State law to report all hours worked.

No Discussion

Motion by Wachtel, second by Roodhouse to recommend to the City Council to approve the telecommuting policy.

Voice Vote. 7 Ayes. 0 Nays. 1 Absent.

Motion Carried

Discussion on Request to Memorialize People on City Property.

Discussion was held on a request by a family to memorialize someone by making two streets honorary. Currently the City offers ways to memorialize a loved one with tree plantings, benches in the park and bricks in pathways in the park. Council consensus was that it shouldn't be in the right of way and that may be a small garden may be a better idea. The Council consensus was that there wasn't any interest in naming streets as honorary.

No Action

Discussion on O-17-09 An Ordinance Amending Section 52.23 of the City Code of Ordinances Concerning Public Utility Billing.

City Attorney Price recommended changing the penalty amount to 1.5% per month, currently it is 3%.

Motion by Johnson, second by Robinson to recommend to the City Council to adopt O-17-09 An Ordinance Amending Section 52.23 of the City Code of Ordinances Concerning Public Utility Billing which changes the interest and penalty amount per month to 1.5%.

ROLL CALL

Ayes 7 Simosky, Robinson, Garlick, Wachtel, Roodhouse, Anderson, Johnson

Nays 0

Absent 1 Rothschild

Motion Carried

Payment of City and Utility Bills

Additional sheets were handed out. The item labeled "Forfeited Fines" was seized money received and then the person appealed the case and was awarded their money back. The City received a letter from the State and asked for the money to be refunded and in the event it had already been spent they could deduct it from future payments of seized funds. Administrator Kotter stated that the City just cut a check for the full amount that way it is paid and record keeping is clear.

Motion by Wachtel, second by Robinson to approve City and Utility bills as presented.

ROLL CALL

Ayes 7 Roodhouse, Garlick, Robinson, Wachtel, Anderson, Johnson, Simosky

Nays 0

Absent 1 Rothschild

Motion Carried

Public Comment

Kathy Allen thanked the Council for doing City business.

Executive Session - RE: Sale of Property

Motion by Johnson, second by Robinson to go into Executive Session under Pursuant to Property matter pursuant to: 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(6) The setting of a price for sale or lease of property owned by the public body;

RE: Vacation Language

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;

RE: Retirees

Pursuant to Litigation Matters pursuant to: 5ILCS 120/2(c)(11) Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting at 6:40 PM.

ROLL CALL

Ayes 7 Roodhouse, Garlick, Robinson, Wachtel, Anderson, Johnson, Simosky

Nays 0
Absent 1 Rothschild
Motion Carried

Motion by Johnson, second by Wachtel to re-enter the opening meeting at 8:05 PM.
Voice Vote. 7Ayes. 0 Nays. 1 Absent.
Motion Carried

Motion by Wachtel, second by Robinson to adjourn at 8:07 PM.
Voice Vote. 7Ayes. 0 Nays. 1 Absent.
Motion Carried

Respectfully submitted,

Loree K. Phlypo
City Clerk