

**City of Geneseo, Henry County, Illinois
Committee of the Whole Meeting
October 24, 2017**

The City Council of the City of Geneseo met Tuesday, October 24, 2017 at the Council Chambers, 115 South Oakwood Avenue. Mayor Kathy Carroll-Duda called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm. Alderman Paula Simosky, Kent Anderson, Martin Rothschild, James Roodhouse, Brenda Johnson, Jason Robinson and Bob Wachtel answered roll call. Sue Garlick was absent. Others in attendance included City Administrator Lisa Kotter, City Attorney Derke Price, City Clerk Loree K Phlypo, Public Works Director Chad VanDeWoestyne, IT Manager Garrett Griswold, Director of Electrical Operations Lewis Opsal, Inspector Rick Mills and Bob Johnson.
A Quorum was present.

Public Comment

None

Discussion of Henry County Humane Society Geneseo – Request for departure extension to February 1, 2018 through Resolution R-17-15.

A deadline was set for the Humane Society to depart the use of the City Dog Pound Building of December 1, 2017, otherwise rent would start at \$500 a month. The City received a letter from the Humane Society requesting an extension to February 1, 2018. Bob Johnson is the acting General Contractor for the project and has said that the cats are already being moved over and the dog kennels have been ordered and once they are installed the dogs will be moved over. They would like to move the outside kennels in the spring due to the weather, Chief Piotrowski has agreed with this.

Motion by Johnson, second by Rothschild to recommend to the City Council to adopt Resolution R-17-15 that sets a new date of February 1, 2018 departure date at the City's Dog Pound for the Henry County Humane Society.

ROLL CALL

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

Nays 0

Absent 1 Garlick

Motion Carried

Discussion on Ordinance allowing private wells in the City limits.

Discussion was held on allowing private wells within the City limits, Mike Bellovics is no longer interested in extending City water to his condominium development project due to cost. The current ordinance prohibits private wells within the City limits. City Attorney Price suggested that the ordinance be changed to reflect that in the event the water main is more than 500 feet away from the impacted property then a well can be installed and if within 500 feet then the property has to hook up to City water.

Motion by Rothschild, second by Roodhouse to recommend to the City Council an Ordinance that would allow the installation of private wells as long as a water main is more than 500 feet away from the impacted property and to direct the City Attorney to prepare this ordinance for consideration at the November 14, 2017 Council meeting.

ROLL CALL

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

Nays 0

Absent 1 Garlick

Motion Carried

Discussion of City Street name change request from E. 1600 to Sugar Maple Drive.

The City received a letter from Mike Bellovics requesting a name change from E. 1600 to Sugar Maple Drive, he feels that this will help to connect his condominium project to his golf course. This would only apply to the road adjacent to his property after that it would remain E. 1600. Bob Johnson was in attendance and not in favor of the change, he lives opposite the Bellovics property, no other residents in the area voiced any opinion.

No Recommendation, No Action.

Chief Piotrowski joined the meeting at 7:17PM.

Alderman Roodhouse left the meeting at 7:20PM.

Discussion on Utility Billing and Collection Procedures

Discussion was held on the current system for late and non-payment for utility bills for customers who have an ongoing issue with paying their bill. Incorporation of organizations that help with utility bills and how we get notification that they will help

and correlate that with the timing of our policies. Budget Billing parameters were reviewed as to how they have been administered in the past and how to administer them going forward to reduce abuse of the system and follow the policies and procedures that are in place. The communication process will be reviewed for improvement and an increase in customer responsibility for personal bill payment communication will be expected. There are currently two billing cycles, the goal is to get to one cycle once all the electronic read meters are installed next spring. City Attorney Price will bring recommended ordinance to City Council.

No Action

Wachtel left the meeting at 7:32PM.

Wachtel returned to the meeting at 7:36PM.

Discussion of ordinance for Enterprise Zone application submittal

In 2014 and 2016 the City applied for the Enterprise Zone and in 2016 6 were awarded and Geneseo was number 8. A resubmittal deadline has been established and it is December 31, 2017. This is Countywide and there are 8 communities involved. A discussion was held on how a community can increase its points on various sections such as poverty level and unemployment rate. Staff is working on the vacant properties list.

Motion by Wachtel, second by Robinson to recommend to the City Council approval of the ordinance required to resubmit the application for the Henry County Enterprise Zone with the City of Kewanee, Illinois, the City of Galva, Illinois, the City of Geneseo, Illinois, the Village of Atkinson, Illinois, the Village of Annawan, Illinois, the Village of Cambridge, Illinois, the Village of Orion, Illinois, the Village of Woodhull, Illinois, and Henry County, Illinois.

ROLL CALL

Ayes 6 Rothschild,Robinson,Wachtel,Johnson,Anderson,Simosky

Nays 0

Absent 2 Garlick,Roodhouse

Motion Carried

Discussion on Encroachment in ROW City Code Section 92.21.

Various pictures of violations were shown in a Power Point. There was a citizen complaint. Currently the ordinance allows the home owner on non-curb and gutter streets to control the parking out in front of their property, but it is still a violation to put any barriers in the right of way which the City controls by ordinance. Home owners must remove any items that are in the right of way but they can say who can park in front of their property and who can't.

No Action

Discussion on Azavar contract – Search for additional revenues

This organization helps Communities claim unrealized revenues. They will compare a list from the city of customers to customer lists at Mediacom and Nicor. This will show if the City is receiving all the revenue that it should be. It will be a 3-year agreement they keep 40% and we get 60% of what is found. Princeton and Cambridge have already approved it and Kewanee and Dixon are considering it. This could also work into retroactive possibility for funds. There is no cost to the City even if they don't find anything.

Motion by Wachtel, second by Rothschild to recommend to the City Council approval of a three-year contract with Azavar Government Solutions to assist the City in revenue recovery.

ROLL CALL

Ayes 6 Rothschild,Robinson,Wachtel,Johnson,Anderson,Simosky

Nays 0

Absent 2 Garlick,Roodhouse

Motion Carried

Discussion of Resolution R-17-14 Resolution in Support of Illinois Bicentennial Celebrations

This is to support the Bicentennial of the State of Illinois. Deadline for submission of resolution is the end of November.

ROLL CALL

Ayes 5 Rothschild,Wachtel,Johnson,Anderson,Simosky

Nays 0

Absent 2 Garlick,Roodhouse

Abstain 1 Robinson

Motion Carried

Discussion on the Alleyway between State Street to Aldrich, North of Wells

There is an unimproved alley that residents are asking what the City is going to do with it. There is a phone easement in the alley. The staff feels that the City should find out the cost of surveying it for each property owner and then set up a meeting

with adjacent property owners to find out who would be interested in the property at the cost of the surveying. Consensus of the Council was to get a price from Missman and meet with the property owners.

No Action

Payment of City and Utility Bills

Additional Bills handed out.

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

ROLL CALL

Ayes 6 Rothschild,Robinson,Wachtel,Johnson,Anderson,Simosky

Nays 0

Absent 2 Garlick,Roodhouse

Motion Carried

Public Comment

None

Motion by Wachtel, Robinson to adjourn at 8:33 PM.

Voice Vote. 7 Ayes. 0 Nays. 2 Absent.

Motion Carried

Respectfully submitted,

Loree K. Phlypo
City Clerk