

**City of Geneseo, Henry County, Illinois**  
**Committee of the Whole Meeting**  
**April 24, 2018**

Mayor Kathy Carroll-Duda swore in Alderman Sean Johnson.

The City Council of the City of Geneseo met Tuesday, April 24, 2018 at the Council Chambers, 115 South Oakwood Avenue. Mayor Kathy Carroll-Duda called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm. Alderman Paula Simosky, Martin Rothschild, Sean Johnson, Jason Robinson, Craig Arnold and Bob Wachtel answered roll call. Brett Barnhart and James Roodhouse were absent. Others in attendance included City Administrator Lisa Kotter, City Attorney Margaret Kostopulous, City Clerk Loree K Phlypo, HR Brandon Maeglin, Public Works Director Chad VanDeWoestyne, Lewis Opsal, Inspector Rick Mills and Interim Chief Steve Whittington.

A Quorum was present.

**Public Comment**

Bill Preston of 414 N. State Street Geneseo, IL communicated that Alderman Wachtel printed a letter asking residents to vote for him at the City level and the County Board level, it was printed on green paper and bore the City Letterhead, 200 copies were mailed out. He stated that he has filed a complaint with the State Election Board.

**Mayor swore in Sergeant Ben Sleaford and Officer Kelly Sullivan  
Alderman Johnson presented Mike Chavez with his Detective Badge.**

**Waste Water Treatment Plant Project – Donahue Presentation**

Terry Boyer from Donahue reviewed the Needs Assessment that was performed May of 2017. Public Works Director VanDeWoestyne communicated that the City received an EPA Compliance letter that mandated that we disinfect our outfalls, so UV Disinfection equipment has to be installed on a strict timeline. The Waste Water Treatment Plant hasn't had any major improvements since 1984 and the proposed work is a good step in the right direction for fixing the system. The Aldermen who haven't toured the WWTP are encouraged to do so 2 at a time only to get the total picture of the operation and repairs proposed. The Chief WW Operator is retiring at the end of the year and the plan is to have someone in place that can work with him the last 3 months. The sludge land application truck is on its last leg, staff feels that the dewatering system will be a better choice over a new truck or contracting the disposal out. The Dewatering System creates small cakes that can be thrown in a dumpster.

**No Action Taken**

**Discussion of the Police Chief interview process**

The Chief candidates will have a 10-page written assignment to complete and at that time the Chiefs Association Search Committee will conduct interview assessments with the last interview on May 29. The City Council will then hold a Reception on Wednesday, June 6 in the evening and then interviews on Thursday morning, they will also be interviewed by staff department heads. Backgrounds will be conducted by an independent company recommended by the Chief's Association. We hope to have a candidate selected and be able to offer the position on July 1.

**No Action Taken**

**Discussion on Resolution R-18-12 A Resolution Setting Net Metering Annual Fee.**

The Ordinance was updated at the last meeting. This will establish the rate through Resolution. One correction to the rate is to remove the word "cents".

**Motion by Rothschild, second by Arnold to recommend to the City Council to adopt Resolution R-18-12 A Resolution Establishing the fee for Net Metering in the Electric Department with noted correction.**

**ROLL CALL**

**Ayes 6 Rothschild, Robinson, Johnson, Arnold, Simosky, Wachtel**

**Nays 0**

**Absent 2 Roodhouse, Barnhart**

**Motion Carried**

**Discussion on New Elected Officials Workshop**

This is held to allow the whole group to get together and learn about Open Meetings Act and protocol with regards to the staff. We can make this the last agenda item on the next meeting in either 2 or 4 weeks.

**No Action**

**Discussion on smoking in the City Parks**

There have been residents come forward and complain about the smoking at the park mainly around the playground equipment. The City Attorney communicated that we can regulate this activity. An Ordinance could be put in place to regulate it around the playground equipment. Alderman Johnson communicated that if such Ordinance is put in place make sure you have a mechanism to enforce it. It would have to be decided whether it included all parks and if all forms of tobacco use would be included. Signage would have to be put up with possible online public survey for public input. Further discussion in a month.

**No Action**

**Discussion of Fiscal Year 2019 Budget**

Administrator Kotter communicated that they are starting the negotiations with 4 union contracts so there are no set wages with only a 3% increase across that board in the preliminary numbers. Our broker has told us that there will be a 15% increase on health insurance renewal in October 2018. This is just a brief overview and is presented as a balanced budget. This will be presented again and voted on at the June City Council meeting.

**No Action**

**Payment of City and Utility Bills**

Additional Bills handed out.

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

**ROLL CALL**

**Ayes 6 Arnold,Rothschild,Robinson,Wachtel,Johnson,Simosky**

**Nays 0**

**Absent 2 Barnhart,Roodhouse**

**Motion Carried**

**Public Comment**

Kathy Allen stated that she hates to flush money down the toilet but the Donahue Presentation gave good information on the needs of the WWTP.

**Motion by Wachtel second by Robinson to adjourn at 8:40 PM.**

**Voice Vote. 6 Ayes. 0 Nays. 2 Absent.**

**Motion Carried**

Respectfully submitted,

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Loree K. Phlypo  
City Clerk