

City of Geneseo, Henry County, Illinois
City Council
March 12, 2019
6:00 P.M.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

The City Council of the City of Geneseo met in a City Council meeting on Tuesday March 12, 2019 at the Council Chambers, 115 South Oakwood Avenue. Mayor Kathy Carroll-Duda called the meeting to order at 6:02pm. Aldermen Brett Barnhart, Bob Wachtel, Sean Johnson, Martin Rothschild, Craig Arnold, Jason Robinson and Paula Simosky were present. James Roodhouse was absent. Others in attendance included, Administrator Lisa Kotter, City Clerk Loree K. Phlypo, City Attorney Derke Price, Director of Public Works Chad VanDeWoestyne, Director of Electrical Operations Lewis Opsal, Chief Casey Disterhoft, Inspector Rick Mills, Finance Director Jamie Matthews, IT Garrett Griswold and HR Brandon Maeglin.

There was a quorum.

Chamber of Commerce Report

Executive Director Jim Kelly reported membership renewals are coming in at a steady pace and they have gained 5 new members. The annual dinner was a huge success with good attendance. Events currently in the works include Spring Open House, Music Festival, Trains, Planes and Automobiles and the Christmas Walk. April 11th Geneseo Chamber of Commerce will be featured on Channel 4 Living Local. For a complete list of Chamber events please visit: www.geneseo.org.

City Engineering Report

Greg Ryckaert reported that the Chicago Street Lift Station is officially on line. They still have to abandon the old lift. The City is reviewing the Geotech report on the tennis courts and the only thing that was out was some of the light poles are not plumb.

Public Comment

Nadine Palmgren asked to have the Utility Billing Policy that is on the Consent Agenda taken off for further discussion on the Commercial deposit part of the policy.

Consent Agenda:

- a. City Council Minutes 02/120/2019
 - b. Committee of the Whole Minutes 02/26/2019
 - c. Ordinance O-19-02 An Ordinance Approving a Zoning Map.
 - d. Consideration of utility billing policy manual changes to include the time of the day that reconnects will occur, the number of days after a due date that a **shut** off notice is mailed, the number of months one can have to make long term repayment arraignments and a monthly discount for customers that receive an e-bill instead of a paper bill in the amount of \$1.
 - e. Consideration to appoint IMEG to the position of City Engineer.
- City Clerk Phlypo read the consent agenda. Mayor Carroll-Duda asked if there were any items to be removed, Alderman Barnhart asked that item d be removed for further discussion. Administrator Kotter added that there were some sections changed on the minutes and that those changes were sent to Council.

Motion by Barnhart, second by Arnold to use the Omnibus Method and accept the Consent Agenda items A through E and removing D.

AYES: 7 Rothschild,Johnson,Robinson,Barnhart,Wachtel,Simosky,Arnold
NAYS: 0
ABSTAIN: 0
ABSENT: 1 Roodhouse
Motion Carried

Motion by Wachtel, second by Arnold to approve the Consent Agenda as accepted.

AYES: 7 Rothschild,Johnson,Robinson,Barnhart,Wachtel,Simosky,Arnold
NAYS: 0
ABSTAIN: 0
ABSENT: 1 Roodhouse
Motion Carried

James Roodhouse joined the meeting at 6:18 PM.

Unfinished Business

Item D from the Consent Agenda, Consideration of utility billing policy manual changes to include the time of the day that reconnects will occur, the number of days after a due date that a shut off notice is mailed, the number of months one can have to make long term repayment arrangements and a monthly discount for customers that receive an e-bill instead of a paper bill in the amount of \$1.

City Administrator Kotter addressed the concerns from Public Comment. The Commercial deposit policy was put in place many years ago by the Council at the time and is not a part of the current policy requested changes. The deposits are structured to cover all commercial properties fairly, we do have commercial customers who are delinquent and late payers, so we have to have a policy that covers all and protects everyone. Administrator Kotter suggested that the time allotment for residential properties with landlords be increased to 60 days without a tenant before the landlord has to pay the deposit. Director of Electrical Operations Opsal was asked what does Mid-American do with delinquencies, he reported that all other customers pay for delinquent accounts. Finance Director Matthews reported no concerns expressed by utility staff. City Attorney Price reported that deposits for all keep costs down. He reported that a deposit is a policy choice and it can be re-discussed at the next Committee of the Whole if Council chooses to put it on the agenda.

Motion by Johnson, second by Arnold to approve changes to the utility billing policy manual to the time of day that disconnects will occur, the number of days after a due date that a shut off notice is mailed, the amount of months one can have to make long term repayment arrangements, a monthly discount for customers that receive an e-bill instead of a paper bill in the amount of \$1, other miscellaneous changes presented and in sections 5 and 10 granting the landlord 60 days until a deposit is required.

AYES: 8 Roodhouse,Rothschild,Johnson,Robinson,Barnhart,Wachtel,Simosky,Arnold
NAYS: 0
ABSTAIN: 0
ABSENT: 0

Motion Carried

Consideration to approve additional allocation in the amount of \$10,221.46 from the B Account Drug Fund for the remaining equipment needed for Squad #23 that was purchased in Fiscal Year 2018 and 2019.

Administrator Kotter reported that this was discussed at the Committee of the Whole.

No Discussion.

Motion by Arnold, second by Robinson to allocate an additional \$10,221.46 from the B Account Drug Funds for the remaining equipment needed for Squad #23 that was purchased in Fiscal Year 2018.

AYES: 8 Rothschild,Johnson,Robinson,Barnhart,Wachtel,Roodhouse,Simosky,Arnold
NAYS: 0
ABSTAIN: 0
ABSENT: 0

Motion Carried

Consideration of the hiring of Hitchcock Design Group in the amount of \$85,000 and these funds will be part of the OSLAD Grant Funding and City Match.

Administrator Kotter reported that if we are going to proceed with the Richmond Hill Park Project, we have to commit to the design group. Discussion was held on upgrading of the restrooms at the park and what the Elected Officials should tell their constituents when they ask about the project. Additional project grant funding is being sought and there is an Ad-Hoc committee in place to discuss the project and incorporating work on the restrooms into the plan.

Motion by Wachtel second by Rothschild to approve the hiring of Hitchcock Design Group in the amount of \$85,000 and these funds will be part of the OSLAD Grant funding and City match and authorizing the Mayor to sign any paperwork that is received on the grant.

AYES: 6 Rothschild,Robinson,Barnhart,Wachtel,Roodhouse,Simosky
NAYS: 2 Johnson,Arnold
ABSTAIN: 0
ABSENT: 0

Motion Carried

Consideration to keep public restrooms and approve an agreement with Tom Mays for cross-easement of water and sewer and air-conditioning units and ladders.

Administrator Kotter reported that she negotiated this agreement with a verbal approval with Tom Mays.

Motion by Barnhart, second by Wachtel to approve the cross-easement agreement between the City and Tom Mays for the property at 101 South State Street and the adjacent downtown public bathrooms.

AYES: 8 Rothschild,Johnson,Robinson,Barnhart,Wachtel,Roodhouse,Simosky,Arnold
NAYS: 0
ABSTAIN: 0
ABSENT: 0

Motion Carried

Consideration to approve policy changes for the residency requirement for employees from 15-20 miles for all FOP Union Members, all Non-Union employees and IBEW Members that are classified as Utility Billing Assistant or Utility Billing Administrator.

Council discussed this item at the last meeting and approved a change to 20 miles for the Police Department.

Motion by Barnhart, second by Arnold to approve a new personnel policy regarding employee residency requirements and union Memorandums of Understanding that approves a change from 15 to 20 miles for employee residency for the following groups of employees: FOP Union Members, Non-Union Employees and IBEW Utility Billing Administrator and Utility Billing Assistants.

AYES: 7 Rothschild,Johnson,Robinson,Barnhart,Roodhouse,Simosky,Arnold
NAYS: 0
ABSTAIN: 0
ABSENT: 1 Wachtel

Motion Carried

Appointment of FOP Grievance Committee

Administrator Kotter reported that there is a need for a Grievance Committee, which consists of 3 members. The recommendation is to appoint Rothschild, Matthews and Barnhart to the committee. The committee is scheduled to meet tomorrow morning.

Motion by Arnold, second by Johnson to appoint Rothschild, Matthews and Barnhart to the FOP Grievance Committee.

AYES: 8 Rothschild,Johnson,Robinson,Barnhart,Wachtel,Roodhouse,Simosky,Arnold
NAYS: 0
ABSTAIN: 0
ABSENT: 0

Motion Carried

Payment of City and Utility Bills

Additional bills were handed out.

Motion by Rothschild, second by Johnson to approve the bills as presented.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: 8 Roodhouse,Arnold,Robinson,Johnson,Rothschild,Wachtel,Barnhart,Simosky
NAYS: 0
ABSTAIN: 0
ABSENT: 0

Motion Carried

Public Comment

Adam Kane, Owner of Yard Logic, requested that the City push the snow at the corner of intersections farther because the way they are currently plowed makes it difficult to remove the snow off the sidewalks of his customers properties. He also requested that the burn pile either be open more days or longer hours for his summer yard care business. Public Works Director VanDeWoestyne reported that his snow removal team has to work on plowing at the corners better, it is a challenge.

Motion to enter into executive session under the Statutes below at 7:40 PM

Executive Session

RE: Review of Executive Session Minutes

RE: Purchase of Property

RE: Performance Evaluation

Pursuant to: 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21): Discussion of minutes of meeting lawfully closed under this Act, whether for purposes of approval by the body of the minutes or semi-annual review of the minutes as mandated by Section 2.06 and 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1)

Pursuant to the purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body: 5ILCS 120/2 (c)(5) The purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body, including meetings held for the purpose of discussing whether a particular parcel should be acquired.

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.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: 8 Roodhouse,Arnold,Robinson,Johnson,Rothschild,Wachtel,Barnhart,Simosky
NAYS: 0
ABSTAIN: 0
ABSENT: 0

Motion Carried

City Clerk Phlypo and City Administrator left the meeting at 7:53 PM.

Motion by Arnold, second by Johnson to enter back into open session at 9:03 PM.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: 8 Roodhouse,Arnold,Robinson,Johnson,Rothschild,Wachtel,Barnhart,Simosky
NAYS: 0
ABSTAIN: 0
ABSENT: 0

Motion Carried.

Adjournment

Motion by Rothschild, second by Johnson to adjourn the meeting at 9:07 PM.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: 8 Roodhouse,Arnold,Robinson,Johnson,Rothschild,Wachtel,Barnhart,Simosky
NAYS: 0
ABSTAIN: 0
ABSENT: 0

Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Loree K Phlypo
City Clerk