

MINUTES
City of Geneva
Council Meeting
February 13, 2017
6:02 p.m.

Tim Miller opened the Council Meeting at 6:02 p.m.

Roll Call – Tim Miller, Susan Hagan, David W. Per Due, William Buskirk, Philip Cordova, and Wm. Lucas McDaniel.

Absent: Mario Butera

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was said and prayer was offered by Bishop D.J. Lettau – Community Baptist Church.

Motion was made by David W. Per Due to approve the Minutes of the January 23, 2017 Council Meeting, seconded by Philip Cordova. Roll call, 6 yeas. Motion duly passed.

Department Presentation – Route 534 CIC – Susan Hagan Presenting.

Larry Puraty, the Chairman was unable to attend.

The Route 534 Community Improvement Corp. (CIC) is comprised of the different municipalities and townships along Route 534; the City of Geneva, Geneva-on-the-Lake, Harpersfield, Geneva Township and the Joint Economic Development Districts (JEDDs). The CIC is a non-profit.

The Route 534 CIC is working on the multi-purpose bike path that is connecting the river to the lake. Through grant money, a lot of discussion and community involvement the CIC is moving forward on this project. This is just one of the projects being worked on.

The Route 534 CIC is still a relatively new organization which meets once a month. The board is working on a new website which should be up soon.

The CIC just brought in a new organization, Connect 534.

Most of the Route 534 CIC's focus is on the trail development.

Citizens –

Mr. Miller read a proclamation for Gina Monahan.

Council and Mr. Starkey thanked Ms. Monahan for all of her volunteer work. The murals, the grape vines on the Ohio Wine Producers are appreciated. Mr. Starkey complimented Ms. Monahan on the work she did on the Wheels of Progress. Ms. Hagan thanked Ms. Monahan on her contribution to the arts. Mr. Cordova stated that there were a lot of compliments on the snowmen that were on the stage at Winterfest and around town.

David Lettau
903 W. Main Street, Geneva, Ohio

Mr. Lettau thanked Council for having the sidewalks plowed this year. People did not have to walk in the street when there was heavy snow. It has been a great improvement over last year.

Mr. Miller stated that early in the season the City struggled with how close to the pavement the blade on the machine needed to be set. The guys did a great job figuring that out. A route has been set up. Mr. Starkey stated that the City received compliments at the CIC meeting from Rich Phinney on the sidewalk snowplowing for his business. Mr. Starkey thanked Council for a push to start doing the sidewalk plowing again. It has been a very good thing for the community.

Ms. Hagan stated that there has been a lot going on in the news. “Regardless of what side of the aisle we are, we are Americans first.” Ms. Hagan further stated that she loves the idea that the Constitution provides three different checks and balances. Whether you agree with the immigration or not, we have to start paying attention to what our leaders are doing in making sure that we maintain our democracy. Ms. Hagan stated that her heart is broken for some people who for wanting of a better way of life came to the United States. Ms. Hagan stated that all of us are immigrants. Ms. Hagan’s grandparents came from Italy and Ireland. It is important to maintain an understanding that the President has checks and balances with the Congress and with our judicial branch.

Mr. Per Due stated that he is proud of our President and the steps that he has taken. We are a country with rules of laws. You have to abide by those laws. There is a right way to get here and a wrong way to get here.

Items for Consideration of Council –

Ordinance No. 3206. An Ordinance to Amend the 2017 Budget through Appropriations and Fund Transfers, Attached Hereto and Marked Exhibit “A”, and declaring an emergency.

This is the re-appropriation of items approved in 2016 that will be paid in 2017.

Mr. Miller explained to the students in attendance the rule of three readings, thirty day rule and emergency clause.

Motion by David W. Per Due to pass Ordinance No. 3206, seconded by Wm. Lucas McDaniel to declare Ordinance No. 3206 an emergency measure. Roll call, 6 yeas. Motion by Philip Cordova, seconded by Susan Hagan that the rule of law requiring certain Ordinances be read at three separate meetings be waived and suspended and Ordinance No. 3206 be placed on the final roll for passage. Roll call, 6 yeas. Roll call on passage, 6 yeas. Ordinance No. 3206 duly passed.

Resolution No. 3373. A Resolution Authorizing Consent for the City of Geneva to Participate in the Ohio Department of Transportation Bridge Inspection Program, Authorizing the City Manager to enter into Contracts with the Director of Transportation and, declaring an emergency.

The City previously paid for bridge inspections. The State now does the bridge inspections for free. The resolution needs to be renewed every three years. The data can be used for grant applications. This is a three year contract. The State inspects the bridges each year.

Mr. Buskirk requested that Council receive a copy of the report when it is received.

The City has addressed five or six of the worst bridges. Kiwanis Park Bridge was the first. There is a grading scale. The Liberty Street Bridge now has the rebar starting to show. It may be rated differently this time.

Motion by Wm. Lucas McDaniel to pass Resolution 3373, seconded by Philip Cordova to declare Resolution 3373 an emergency measure. Roll call, 6 yeas. Motion by David W. Per Due, seconded by Philip Cordova that the rule of law requiring certain Resolutions be read at three separate meetings be waived and suspended and Resolution No. 3373 be placed on the final roll for passage. Roll call, 6 yeas. Roll call on passage, 6 yeas. Resolution No. 3373 duly passed.

City Manager Report –

Mr. Starkey thanked all the groups that helped to make the Winterfest a success including the GBA, CIC, Chamber and numerous other groups and volunteers. There were a lot of compliments this year. There were a lot of activities this year at the Community Center and the Recreation Center including a craft fair at the Recreation Center. The Chili Cook-off had sixteen participants this year.

The bids are in for the 534 sewer project. Mr. Hyding and Mr. Starkey will be working on how the budget will look for these projects. If the City is going to commit to this project, in order to salvage the \$50,000 grant and the \$100,000 zero interest loan, the City needs to commit by the end of March. Mr. Hyding and Mr. Starkey will meet and discuss the options and will then make a recommendation to Council. The low bid was approved by CT Consultants as a qualifying bid. Mr. Starkey stated that the legislation will likely come before Council for the two readings in March with the legislation needing to be passed by emergency at the last meeting in March.

The contract with Saybrook Soil and Compost is up. The schedule will be adjusted; the price will remain the same. If there is no objection, the city will put this on the agenda. Mr. Miller explained that when the Recycling Center closed the residents did not have any place to take their brush and leaves. The City contracted with Saybrook Soil and Compost for the residents to drop off brush and leaves. Saybrook Soil and Compost will provide usage numbers. Saybrook Soil is surprised at how much this service is used. The contract is for \$2,000.

The CHIP oversight has been done for many years by CT Consultants. Mr. Starkey has been in discussions with Conneaut and the County. The City of Conneaut has decided to partner with the County. Mr. Starkey has spoken with Phyllis and CT in general. The City needs to commit to the County otherwise the City will lose \$150,000 in potential funding as well as points for partnering. Mr. Starkey has spoken with Janice Switzer at the County and they are willing to include Geneva in the partnership. CT has been an awesome partner. CT has had discussions on changing their role on how they do the CHIP Program. The timing seems to work for everyone. CT has extended their help and assistance in anything the City needs.

The Chamber's spring dinner is Monday, March 20, 2017. Council members interested in attending should let Mr. Starkey know at the next meeting.

Another potential sink hole is brewing on West Main in the 300 address area. The City has added some material. The site is not near a sewer lateral. The City is monitoring it. The City will begin working on the Small Cities Grant to continue efforts to address issues on West Main. Council approved moving forward with the engineering of the West Main project. The City will continue pursuing funding for this project.

Mr. Starkey has been in discussions with someone regarding Kiosk Signage throughout the City. The City would be able to have information such as weather, way finding, maps, etc... Mr. Starkey would like to add this topic to the Service Committee meeting. If there interest, we can schedule the representative to come up and talk.

The City was approved to move forward with the full application for the project on Cedar Street. The grant would cover the full payment of the pavement of Cedar Street.

This year the City expanded the sidewalk snow plowing to Sherman Street. The City will re-evaluate. It appears that the City may be able to expand it a little bit more as we become more efficient.

Mr. Per Due commended Mr. Starkey for getting gravel out to the sidewalk area on Blaine Street. Mr. Starkey stated that the homeowner is on board with getting the concrete in. Superintendent Bittner took a look at the situation and felt that some gravel was needed.

The MOU draft for demolition of housing is still reflecting the City of Conneaut. Mr. Starkey will get that corrected.

Mr. Buskirk stated that the City will miss having CT administer the CHIP. Phyllis Dunlap administered the program in house for the City and then continued with Chris DeLuca when she went to CT. They have done a great job for the City for a number of years; millions of dollars in grants has been invested for the City in housing improvements; exceeding four million dollars, including rehabilitation of rentals, emergency repairs, first time purchasing and owner rehab. These programs can have complicated processes. The City has always had a clean bill of health on the audits. Mr. Buskirk thanked Ms. Dunlap and asked that she pass appreciation along to Chris DeLuca. The City appreciates all the work that has been put in over the years. Ms. Dunlap stated that they have enjoyed doing it. Mr. Miller seconded Mr. Buskirk's comments.

Unfinished Business – None.

New Business –

Re-appointments recommended by the Soccer Board. The board members serve for two years.

Mr. Per Due stated that all volunteers working with children should have BCI background checks. Members of the Soccer Advisory Board are vetted by Ohio Youth Soccer Association

North (OYSAN). The background checks are including in the vetting by OYSAN. By fall background checks will be incorporated into basketball.

Wm. Lucas McDaniel made a motion to re-appoint Todd Venis to the Soccer Advisory Board. Philip Cordova seconded the motion. Roll on passage, 5 yeas. 1 abstention. Motion duly passed.

Susan Hagan made a motion to re-appoint Chris Dewey to the Soccer Advisory Board. Wm. Luca McDaniel seconded the motion. Roll on passage, 5 yeas. 1 abstention. Motion duly passed.

Wm. Lucas McDaniel made a motion to re-appoint Brent Carrick to the Soccer Advisory Board. Susan Hagan seconded the motion. Roll on passage, 5 yeas. 1 abstention. Motion duly passed.

Payment of Bills –

The \$1,940.00 for vehicle maintenance was for NAPA for oil, wiper blades, etc..

Committee Reports –

Mr. Cordova stated that the Finance Committee meeting is being scheduled in light of Traci Welch's Department Presentation last meeting. The City knows what is on the horizon with the City's capital needs. The committee will discuss how the City addresses those needs moving forward.

Mr. Buskirk asked that Mr. Starkey contact Mr. Butera and ask if the TV Access Channel could be added to the Service Committee meeting. Mr. Starkey will follow up. Mr. Per Due stated that the TV Access Channel would benefit the shut-ins. Mr. Miller stated that when the City previously looked into the TV access channel, it was expensive and the requirement for hours of content was an issue but it is worth a second look.

Citizens –

Mr. David Lettau
903 W. Main Street, Geneva, Ohio

For the past three to four months a group has been looking at the possibility of doing a feasibility study done for an adult men's homeless shelter in Ashtabula County. This is a need in the cities but especially in the rural areas. They are looking at several buildings in Ashtabula City. The bus transit system is in Ashtabula City. They have had their first meeting and are looking at forming a board and establishing a 501(c)3. The proposed name of the group is Our Fathers Arm (Ashtabula Rescue Mission).

Currently there are only a few agencies that are set up for this need. Samaritan House can house 7 adult men and 7 adult women. The others are women and children shelters.

It will be faith based. The organization is looking at staying away from grants from the government to avoid having conditions imposed on the facility.

The closest facility is in Painesville.

Chief Arkenburg stated that the fire service lost someone yesterday. Chief Arkenburg's friend was going to a convention on Sunday afternoon but was killed by a distracted driver. Chief Arkenburg stressed the dangers of distracted driving.

David W. Per Due made a motion to adjourn.

Council meeting adjourned at 6:33 p.m.

Recorded by: Phyllis Dunlap
Clerk of Council

President of Council

Clerk of Council