

MINUTES
City of Geneva
February 23, 2015

7:05 p.m.

Tim Miller opened the Council Meeting at 7:05 p.m.

Roll Call – Tim Miller, Howard Anderson, Susan Hagan, Mike Shupska, William Buskirk, and David W. Per Due

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was said and prayer was offered by Rev. Harry Pishcura – New Life Assembly of God.

Motion was made by Howard Anderson to approve the minutes of the February 9, 2015 Council Meeting, seconded by David W. Per Due. Roll call, 6 yeas. Motion passed.

Motion was made by Susan Hagan to approve the minutes of the February 19, 2015 Special Council Meeting, seconded by Howard Anderson. Roll call, 6 yeas. Motion passed.

Department Presentation – Police Department – Chief Dudik, Presenting.

The Department has an Intern, Brittany Graham. Ms. Graham is doing 240 hours towards her degree is Public Safety. The Police Department has utilized her in police patrol, dispatch, fire and EMS. Ms. Graham is a resident of Geneva Township and went to school in Geneva.

The City's jail was built in 1987. Parts are no longer available for items that break in the jail. The Department recently spent \$1,700 to rebuild a shower unit.

The Department recently put 75% of the department through training in Euclid. The required continuing training hours were in the areas of domestic violence, mentally ill and civil liability. This is a requirement by the State. The State mandates what areas the police department must train in each year.

The Department is working with a part-time candidate currently in the psychological process, waiting for results. If successful in the psychological process, the candidate will move on to the polygraph phase before coming in for final interviews.

There is a site visit scheduled this week with a representative of ID Networks to look at our computers. Lauren Gardner is currently reviewing the purchase agreement for ID Networks.

One of the City's officers is out on FMLA. His newborn is currently not doing very well. The Department is also experiencing quite a bit of sick time.

Chief Dudik and Captain Wiley are looking at what is needed for the new police cars and is working with Jenny regarding possible leases. Chief Dudik is recommending the Police Interceptor SUVs. The majority of police cars now are SUV vehicles. The Police Department is looking at 4 to 5 cars. The cars will need all new equipment. The City could potentially re-use the light bars. The cages, the console's, all of the items inside will need to be replaced. The radios and radar could be reused. The big questions is using the street department or to go off site. The Police Department has had good results with the Street Department but the manpower to do it is a problem. It took 6 months to get one car previously. However, the cost savings are there. This will be a State contract bid.

Ms. Hagan would like to RSVP to the Knights of Columbus invitation.

Chief Dudik stated that the Fire Department will not have their representative there. The police officer that is to be honored is the police officer that is currently on FMLA and may not be able to attend.

Chief Dudik asked that all council persons interested in attending should send him an e-mail indicating how many would be in attendance.

Citizens – None.

Items for Consideration of Council –

Ordinance No. 3163. An Ordinance Authorizing the Execution and Delivery of Guidelines for a Jobs Creation Tax Credit Program. Second Reading.

City Manager's Report -

Superintendent Gary Hyding's crew has been dealing with ice at the Wastewater Plant making sure that things keep running. They have been doing a lot of work out in this brutal cold.

Superintendent Bittner has an update on the search for salt. It appears the City will be able to obtain salt without an issue. Mr. Bittner is working on at what point to decide how much we may or may not need.

Myke Anderson is working on a Sherwin Williams grant that would be no cost to the City. The grant would secure paint for the playground.

Phyllis Dunlap, Tammy Shuttleworth and Doug Starkey will meet with Acting City Manager John Williams of Conneaut to start discussing the CHIP. It is to the City's advantage to partner. This meeting will begin the process.

Unfinished Business –

Mr. Per Due stated that that is a street light out on Centennial and Route 20 on the north side in front of Paul's Hair Station. Mr. Bittner will check on that. Mr. Bittner asked if there was an orange or blue ribbon tied around the pole. The ribbon indicates that it has been called in. Mr. Per Due did not recall seeing a ribbon. Mr. Bittner will check on it.

New Business –

Council will announce the candidate for the open council seat. Council would like to thank all that applied. Mr. Miller stated that all were good candidates. Mr. Miller would encourage each of the candidates, if they have not already done so, to file the petitions with the Board of Elections to be on the ballot for November.

Mr. Anderson nominated Philip Cordova for the open council seat. Susan Hagan seconded the nomination of Philip Cordova. Roll call. 6 yeas. Motion passed.

Prior to the next council meeting, Council will swear in Mr. Cordova.

Mr. Per Due stated that about sixteen percent (16%) of the City is Hispanic and he would encourage Mr. Nunez to show an interest in running. It is important to represent all the citizens of the community.

Mike Shupska made a motion to appoint Acting City Manager Douglas Starkey to the Boards of JEDD I, JEDD II, and JEDD III. David W. Per Due seconded the motion. Roll call. 6 yeas. Motion passed.

David W. Per Due made a motion to appoint Acting City Manager Douglas G. Starkey as the alternate to the Route 534 CIC Board. Mike Shupska seconded the motion. Roll call. 6 yeas. Motion passed.

Mike Shupska made a motion to appoint Susan Hagan, Shelly Huff, and Phyllis Dunlap as City Representatives on the Community Improvement Corporation of Geneva. Howard Anderson seconded the motion. Roll call. 6 yeas. Motion passed.

Council has no objection to the Liquor License Permit Transfer from Robert E. Oakman dba Kixx Lounge to Kixx LLC, dba Kixx Lounge.

Payment of Bills – None.

Committee Reports –

Mr. Bittner and Mr. Anderson will be attending the North Coast Urban Forestry Conference on March 6th at Lakeland Community College. This has always proven to be a good conference.

Mr. Buskirk stated that one of the more traumatic events at the cemetery is when one of the large older trees comes down. Mr. Buskirk asked it would be possible for someone from the cemetery to attend? The State Arborist has been a great asset to the City regarding older trees. Mr. Bittner will coordinate something between the State Arborist and the Cemetery. When a large tree comes down insurance will cover some of the damage but not all of it.

The Architectural Review Board met this evening to approve signage for a new beauty salon. The salon will open next to Domino's Pizza. They will be opening this Thursday.

Citizens –

Renee Nash
501 S. Ridge East, Geneva, Ohio

Ms. Nash asked how many candidates are left for the City Manager position. Council was down to six. Council has eliminated two. Douglas Starkey is acting. Ms. Nash stated that this means the City is down to three. The paper indicates qualified. Ms. Nash asked what the qualifications are; what qualifies a person to be city manager?

Mr. Miller stated that whenever you engage in a process of trying to hire whether it be for a department or for the city manager, resumes are evaluated, interviews with all of the candidates are conducted.

Ms. Nash stated that Council picked someone from Brookpark who calls on the day of the meeting and tells Council he is not going to take the job. Ms. Nash asked why Council did not know that.

Mr. Miller was in conversations with Mr. Elliott. A recommendation would not have been made had Mr. Miller had any indication that Mr. Elliott would not take the job. Once Mr. Elliott informed Council of his decision, Council had to make a decision on how they would move forward with the process. Unfortunately Ms. Brown had tendered her resignation.

Ms. Nash stated that Jennifer Brown resigned from the Assistant City Manager position. Ms. Nash asked if Ms. Brown was still in the running for the City Manger position.

Mr. Miller stated Ms. Brown was not still in the running for the City Manager position.

Ms. Nash stated that Ms. Brown had been with the City eleven (11) years and if that is not qualified, what does council consider qualified.

Mr. Miller stated that when Council has negotiations in executive session, those negotiations are private and council does not need to disclose that information.

Ms. Nash commented that more information should be public.

Tom Brown
740 South Eagle Street, Geneva, Ohio

Mr. Brown would like to thank Council for its consideration and appointment of Mr. Cordova to join council. Mr. Brown is familiar with his prior service. Mr. Brown stated Council made a good choice.

Ms. Hannah stated that she agreed.

Mr. Per Due stated that Ms. Nash should know that Council cannot say what is said in executive session. There are some reasons that cannot be said.

Mr. Per Due stated that he did not believe any of the six members would make an appointment of someone that is not qualified. A majority of members of Council felt that Mr. Elliott was the best qualified. Council has no way of knowing or controlling if someone decides to not take the job just prior to the Council meeting.

Mr. Per Due stated that Jennifer Brown was a very good employee of the City of Geneva.

Council members stated that they spoke to Jennifer Brown privately and thanked her.

Ms. Nash stated that what is best for Geneva is appoint someone from Geneva or has been in Geneva.

Council meeting adjourned at 7:29 p.m.

Recorded by: Phyllis Dunlap
Clerk of Council

President of Council

Clerk of Council