

MINUTES
City of Geneva
Council Meeting
June 9, 2014
7:00 p.m.

Jeff Piotrowski opened the Council Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

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

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

Motion was made by Howard Anderson to approve the minutes of the May 12, 2014 Council Meeting, seconded by Tim Miller. Roll call, 7 years.

Department Presentation – None.

Citizens –

Bill Douglas
6785 Lake Road West
Geneva, Ohio 44041

Mr. Douglas apologized for not being able to attend the previous council meeting and give the Planning Commission Presentation as he was delayed at the airport.

Harry Pischura
199 Vine Street
Geneva, Ohio 44041

The light at Route 20 and Lockwood needs to be regulated better. The light turns red when there is no-one there.

Mr. Bittner stated that the crosswalk is a countdown system. Mr. Bittner will look into it.

Mr. Bittner stated that the Centennial light is designed to move traffic. Although it appears that cars are not getting through there is no traffic back-up. If the second car in line is not on the first car's bumper, the light will change.

Willard Raymond
5549 Roxbury Road
Harpersfield Township

Weeds are growing up in front of the doctor's office on Route 20. Suggestion was made to have a Beautification Committee to help keep the City beautiful.

The Downtown Business Owners and the CIC have completed beautification projects in the City.

Mr. Raymond is concerned with the Commercial District. The doctor's office, old bank building on Route 20, the weeds are high around the sign and in other places in the business district.

Mr. Buskirk stated this could be discussed in a Service Committee Meeting.

Items for Consideration of Council –

Ordinance No. 3138 – First Reading. An Ordinance to Approve the Editing and Inclusion of Certain Ordinances as Parts of the Various Component Codes of the Codified Ordinances; to Provide for the Adoption of New Matter in the Updated and Revised Codified Ordinances; to Provide for the Publication of Such New Matter; to Repeal Ordinances and Resolutions in Conflict Therewith; and to declaring an emergency.

This Ordinance was tabled.

Ordinance No. 3139. An Ordinance Providing for Approval of the Harpersfield Township – City of Geneva Joint Economic Development District III Contract. First Reading.

Resolution No. 3283. A Resolution Supporting the Adoption of a Community Health Improvement Plan for Ashtabula County for 2014 through 2018.

Roll call on passage. Roll call, 7 yeas. Resolution No. 3283 duly passed.

Assistant City Manager's Report –

Mr. Jennifer Brown stated that houses that had been on the demolition list have now been taken down. The Land Bank is looking into additional funding for demolition. The demolitions to date have been Voluntary Demolitions signed off by the bank or the owner. The property at 156 Grant was a property tax foreclosure; forfeiture sale, no bid, one owner. The Land Bank does not take possession of the property.

An update on grant applications in progress:

OPWC Infrastructure Grant for the North Ave. Bridge.

CDBG Street Improvement - \$95,000 – Public Hearing is tomorrow.

Fire Department – FEMA Equipment Grant of \$232,456

Brownfield Consortium has been formed to address abandoned gas stations – 1 million dollar grant.

Rick Selip
801 North Nearing Circle
Geneva, Ohio 44041

Mr. Selip thanked the City for partnering with the Township to apply for those grants.

Unfinished Business - None.

New Business -

Discussion was had regarding high grass. If the grass is nine inches or higher the City sends out a violation letter. The owner is given seven days to correct the issue. If the owner does not respond within the time frame, the property goes on the mow list. The City is currently mowing a lot of properties, many of which are abandoned. It is a challenge. The banks put a real estate sign in the front yard and try to get the real estate company to mow it. The City notifies the owner once and not again.

Committee Reports

The Finance Committee met on May 19th. The net income tax has increased. The City received estate taxes from 2012, a refund from the public defender's office and a refund from the Bureau of Worker's Compensation. This gives the City some breathing room to fund some unfunded items. The City is looking to fund the Chip Seal Fog which will extend the life of the City's streets and to replace the retired employee in the Street Department. Council wishes to be conservative and will meet again at the end of August, beginning of September. If it is in the budget, the Committee will make a recommendation asking for an appropriation to come to Council.

Citizens – None.

Motion was made by David Per Due at 7:25 p.m. to go into Executive Session to discuss pending court action. The motion was seconded by Tim Miller. 7 yeas. Motion passed.

Motion was made by David Per Due to reconvene at 8:12 p.m. Howard Anderson seconded. yeas. Motion passed.

Council meeting adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

Recorded by: Phyllis Dunlap
Clerk of Council

President of Council

Clerk of Council