

GENEVA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Monday, August 7, 2023

City Hall Council Chambers
109 James St., Geneva, IL 60134

CALL TO ORDER

The August 7, 2023 meeting of the Geneva City Council was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall by Mayor Kevin Burns.

Elected Officials present:

Alders: Anaïs Bowring, Dean Kilburg, Brad Kosirog, Craig Maladra, Richard Marks, Amy Mayer, Martha Paschke, Robert Swanson.

Mayor Kevin Burns, City Clerk Vicki Kellick.

Elected Officials attending by video or teleconference: None.

Elected Officials absent: Mike Bruno, Becky Hruby.

Others Present: City Administrator Stephanie Dawkins, Assistant City Administrator Ben McCready, City Attorney Scott Fintzen, Electric Division Superintendent Aaron Holton, Water Division Superintendent Bob Van Gyseghem, Public Works Director Rich Babica.

Others attending by video or teleconference: None.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The pledge was led by Supt. Van Gyseghem.

PUBLIC HEARINGS, SPECIAL ITEMS AND PRESENTATIONS

None.

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA

None.

OMNIBUS AGENDA

All Items listed with an asterisk () are considered to be routine by the City Council and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion on these items unless a council member so requests in which event the item will be removed from the Omnibus (Consent) Agenda and considered in its normal sequence on the Agenda. All items on the Omnibus Agenda require a simple majority vote unless otherwise indicated.*

*6. APPROVE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MINUTES FROM JULY 17, 2023.

*7. REPORTS

1st Quarter Goals Status Report

May Financial Report

*8. COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Moved by Ald. Swanson, Seconded by Ald. Kosirog.

Roll call:

AYES: 8 (Bowring, Kilburg, Kosirog, Maladra, Marks, Mayer, Paschke, Swanson)

ABSENT: 2 (Bruno, Hruby)

NAYS: 0
MOTION CARRIED

MUNICIPAL BILLS FOR PAYMENT: \$4,537,222.03

Moved by Ald. Bowring, Seconded by Ald. Marks.
Roll call:

AYES: 8 (Bowring, Kilburg, Kosirog, Maladra, Marks, Mayer, Paschke, Swanson)
ABSENT: 2 (Bruno, Hruby)
NAYS: 0
MOTION CARRIED

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE ITEMS OF BUSINESS

a. Consider Ordinance No. 2023-13 Restating Title 9 [Municipal Utilities], Chapter 2 [Municipal Electrical Service], Article B [Service, Rates and Charges], Section 5 [Table of Electric Rates] of the Geneva City Code.
Moved by Ald. Bowring, Seconded by Ald. Marks.

Ald. Swanson commented that the movement from general service to medium general service has an impact on local small businesses and that approximately 10-20 small business customers flip between the two services. He noted that there are significant upcharges above 25 kWh and noted that the Council should be aware of these upcharges which can negatively impact the small businesses in Geneva.

Ald. Kosirog stated that he would be interested in re-evaluating the issue when the new meters are available or cost-effective.
Roll call:

AYES: 8 (Bowring, Kilburg, Kosirog, Maladra, Marks, Mayer, Paschke, Swanson)
ABSENT: 2 (Bruno, Hruby)
NAYS: 0
MOTION CARRIED

OTHER ITEMS AND CORRESPONDENCE

None.

PRESENTATION OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

Consider Ordinance No. 2023-14 Amending Title 4, Chapter 2, Section 4-2-13 (License Fees and Number of Licenses) Adding One Class B-3 Liquor License (Restaurant with Cocktail Bar) for First Watch at 1702 Commons Drive.
Moved by Ald. Mayer, Seconded by Ald. Marks.
Roll call:

AYES: 8 (Bowring, Kilburg, Kosirog, Maladra, Marks, Mayer, Paschke, Swanson)
ABSENT: 2 (Bruno, Hruby)
NAYS: 0
MOTION CARRIED

Consider Resolution No. 2023-78 Authorizing Issuance of a Certificate of Completion for “Traxler Residential Lots”.
Moved by Ald. Mayer, Seconded by Ald. Paschke.

On a question from Ald. Kosirog, Admin. Dawkins noted that only the items listed on the certificate of completion have been completed and that after the year

warranty is up, a certificate of acceptance of all the public improvements will be issued.

Roll call:

AYES: 8 (Bowring, Kilburg, Kosirog, Maladra, Marks, Mayer, Paschke, Swanson)

ABSENT: 2 (Bruno, Hruby)

NAYS: 0

MOTION CARRIED

Consider Resolution No. 2023-79 Rejecting Bids for Water Treatment Plant Cartridge Filter Purchase.

Moved by Ald. Paschke, Seconded by Ald. Bowring.

Roll call:

AYES: 8 (Bowring, Kilburg, Kosirog, Maladra, Marks, Mayer, Paschke, Swanson)

ABSENT: 2 (Bruno, Hruby)

NAYS: 0

MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Burns read the new language contained in the agenda regarding public comment: *When recognized by the Chair, proceed to the podium, state your name for the record, and provide your public comments. Please understand this is your time to be heard and the public body's time to listen. No discussion or debate will follow.*

Resident Jay Rule spoke and stated that during the last City Council meeting he asked that someone meet with him and received no response during the meeting. He asked if the lack of response meant “no”. Mayor Burns stated that he could only recite the wording guiding the public comment processes followed by the Council and that this is the Council’s time to listen to the public. On a further question by Mr. Rule, Mayor Burns stated that the matter is being handled by the City Attorney and Asst. City Administrator.

Mr. Rule stated that he asked Ms. Freeman of Sedgwick to define an “Act of God.” Her response was that it was “anything with no human interaction.” He listed times that he understood human interaction to be involved with the tree. He then noted that a month before the incident, a hail storm went through his neighborhood resulting in 80% of the roofs being replaced. He stated that that was an Act of God and that the residents’ homeowners’ insurance was paying for the repairs, but he did not understand why the City’s insurance was not paying for his repairs. Mr. Rule commented that Ald. Kilburg asked him if he had contacted his insurance carrier. Mr. Rule stated that he had not as the damage to the roof “falls on the City”, and that he has a \$1,000 deductible he does not wish to pay.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, moved by Ald. Kosirog to adjourn the Geneva City Council meeting.

MOTION CARRIED by unanimous voice vote of those present.

The meeting adjourned at 7:24 PM.

Vicki Kellick
Geneva City Clerk