



City Council Meeting – July 7, 2025

Council Questions & Staff Responses

Before each City Council meeting, questions posed by the City Council relating to the agenda for that evening will be posted to the City's website. Below are the responses to this week's questions.

Agenda Item 8. Municipal Bills for Payment

a) Continental Weather Service - \$140.00

DTN, LLC - \$1,428.81

Q: Why are we paying for what appears to be two separate weather forecasting services? (DTN LLC and Continental Weather Service)

A: DTN LLC is a weather service utilized by all departments within the City, although primarily by Public Works during the snow season. This service provides key strategic information for snow control decisions with forecast detailed for the State Street bridge in Geneva. Furthermore, recommendations are provided for when and what type of anti-icing strategy to use. This information is based on IDOT road temperature devices throughout the local area. This information is included with dew point measurements, pavement temperatures, air temperatures and wind chill all impact the decisions we make in dealing with the snow/ice control event. The service provides hourly detailed forecasts specific to the City throughout the year that the general services cannot provide and is accessible via the web when out of the office. In addition, they provide access to a meteorologist 24/7 that staff can ask specific questions for site specific forecast. They also provide seasonal forecasts, and access to webinars that allow for seasonal planning for construction, water consumption and snow/ice control events. Finally, the service also provides historical weather reports that the City has utilized for insurance/litigation defense.

The Continental Service provides a regional forecast that is used to ensure staff and equipment are prepared for snow/ice control events for planning and preparation. The service also provides forecasts as well as experienced conditions in regions outside of the area which allow staff to better judge the appropriate snow/ice control response. Finally, their forecasts also provide weather warnings and watches for severe storms, winds, heat and rain that used to supplement the detailed forecasts provided by DTN.

Agenda Item 10. Presentation of Ordinances and Resolutions

c. Consider Resolution No. 2025-74 Approving Supplemental Agreement No. 25-01 with Stanley Consultants, Inc. for Professional Services for Geneva SE Development Substation and Distribution Feeders Project.

Q: Can you provide more detail about why there was a long planning period for the SEMP Substation Construction?

A: There are several reasons. This Professional Service Agreement (PSA) also included the design and bidding for the distribution circuits within the development, and plans were not

finalized for several years. During that time the design changed several times and more time than anticipated was spent on redesigns of the circuits. The plan for the development are now finalized and the underground distribution circuits construction is now out to bid.

Q: Is there anything that could have been done to help avoid these additional costs?

A: Unlike most other projects the Electric Division has undertaken, the substation construction contractor for SE Development is providing all of the material and labor. On other projects, such as GBP III, the City has procured the needed materials directly from the manufacturer with the substation contractor only provided labor and small parts. Due to this change, the volume of approval back-and-forth between the contractor and the engineer was more than was expected, and this has accounted for a larger amount of the original budget than anticipated. To date, the transformer construction is completed and we are waiting for delivery. The substation construction started on the 23rd of June. The switchgear building is scheduled to start construction and we are awaiting final approval drawings, with a scheduled arrival date of October 30. The substation steel is going through final design approvals and is scheduled to be delivered in September.

g. Consider Resolution No. 2025-77 Authorizing a Professional Services Agreement with JLD Consulting Group, LLC.

Q: Did this item come to the Committee of the Whole previously?

A: No. This is an on-going relationship with agreements previously approved in 2021, 2022, and 2023.

Q: What is the current monthly rate for the agreement?

A: \$5500/month for the term of the agreement. The original agreement in 2021 was for \$6500/month.

Q: What is the City's cost threshold for requiring and item go to bid?

A: Unlike supplies, materials, or other contractual services that require an invitation to bid for amounts greater than the statutory limitation (currently \$25,000); an agreement for professional services, selection is based on demonstrated competence and qualifications for the type of services required at fair and reasonable compensation.

Q: How important is JLD's work for the City of Geneva in securing appropriations for the City from the State of Illinois?

A: As has been discussed previously, JLD has helped the City with securing grant funding for the East State Street Project and helping to facilitate the continued viability of the project. More recently, the approved State budget bill shows the City of Geneva has approximately \$1.8 million aggregate in new and reappropriated line items. This is almost entirely attributed to the assistance of JLD through assisting staff in requesting capital funding from our local legislators and ensuring our requests were received and reviewed (and in some cases funded).