

MINUTES
City of Geneva
Council Meeting
February 25, 2008
7:36 p.m.

Roll Call – Beckwith, Buskirk, Ebersole, Fuller, Latimer and Piotrowski.
Cordova absent.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was said and prayer was offered by Laurie Donatone.

Motion by Beckwith, seconded by Ebersole to accept the minutes of the February 11th, 2008 Council Meeting.
Roll call, 5 yeas, 1 abstain - Latimer.

Citizens – Citizens were present along with a representative from the Star Beacon and Gazette.

Department Presentation – Street – Tim Bittner

- 825 tons of road salt has been used so far in the 2007 – 2008 winter season.
- The money spent on trailer generators has proven to be a very good investment. Mr. Bittner commended the Police and Fire Departments for hooking the generators up during last weeks power outage.
- The 2007 Sidewalk Program went very well and will be continued in 2008.
- The roads that have been chip and sealed have held up well. This cut back on the use of cold patch and manpower, saving a lot of money and time.
- The Street Department is working on the last Police car which should be ready for the road soon.

Rodger Fuller asked Mr. Bittner if the Street Department plans to use beet juice with road salt.

Tim Bittner replied that they are researching to find out how feasible it would be for the City. Mr. Bittner stated that he spoke with people who have used beet juice and are very happy with it. The beet juice actually makes the salt adhere to the road which stays longer and reduces repeated application.

Mr. Fuller thanked Tim Bittner and stated that he is doing a fine job.

Citizens

John Smyke – 7865 Auburn Rd., Concord – John Smyke is associated with the Normandy Development Company - Normandy Mobile Home Park in Geneva. Mr. Smyke expressed concern regarding modified sewer tap-in fees to a fixed rate of \$3,000.00. Mr. Smyke explained that the park is for seniors 55 years and older. Three quarters of the park are single residents. The park has been paying less of a fee based on water usage. Mr. Smyke showed a printout of water reads form the park which showed an average of 269 gallons of water usage per month. John Smyke stated that raising the tap-ins would be a hardship for the seniors living in Normandy and asked if Council would consider exempting mobile homes from this increase.

Bill Buskirk asked what the average cost is for a mobile home in Normandy Park.

John Smyke replied that the average used mobile home is \$20,000.00, a new mobile home is \$80,000.00.

Bill Buskirk explained that this is only the first reading for Ordinance 2961 and Council will take Mr. Smyke's request into consideration.

Items for Consideration of Council

Ordinance 2959 was read, first reading. (AN ORDINANCE TO CREATE FUND “215 – POLICE TRAINING FUND”, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY). Motion by Ebersole, seconded by Beckwith to declare Ordinance 2959 an emergency measure. Roll call, 6 yeas. Motion by Ebersole, seconded by Buskirk that the rule of law requiring certain Ordinances be read at three separate meetings be waived and suspended and Ordinance 2959 be placed on the final roll for passage. Roll call, 6 yeas. Roll call on passage, 6 yeas. Ordinance 2959 duly passed.

Ordinance 2960 was read, first reading. (AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE 2008 BUDGET THROUGH APPROPRIATIONS AND FUND AND INTERFUND TRANSFERS, ATTACHED HERETO AND

MARKED EXHIBIT “A”, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY). Motion by Beckwith, seconded by Latimer to declare Ordinance 2960 an emergency measure. Roll call, 6 yeas. Motion by Piotrowski, seconded by Beckwith that the rule of law requiring certain Ordinances be read at three separate meetings be waived and suspended and Ordinance 2960 be placed on the final roll for passage. Roll call, 6 yeas. Roll call on passage, 6 yeas. Ordinance 2960 duly passed.

Ordinance 2961 was read, first reading. (AN ORDINANCE MODIFYING SELECTED SUBSECTIONS OF CHAPTER 1042 SEWERS).

Resolution 3055 was read, first reading. (A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE CONTINUATION AND STRENGTHENING OF TRADITIONAL MEDICARE).

Bruce Beckwith explained that he is very involved in the need of this program to continue as it was designed and to carry forth as a program for all Americans.

Kim Ebersole added that seniors are affected daily by being switched over to a different plan of Medicare with little or no notice.

City Manager’s Report – Jim Pearson

- Mr. Pearson stated that citizens have expressed concern regarding tree removal along their tree lawns. Mr. Pearson explained that a State Forester comes in to review the City and marks trees to be taken down due to damage or disease. Mr. Pearson feels Council should consider reinstating a Shade Tree Commission which has been dormant for many years and discuss funding for tree replacement at the Capital Budget Meeting.
Crystal Latimer stated that she would like to sit on that Commission.
Mr. Pearson asked Crystal Latimer to contact him regarding names of those interested in being involved.
- The Public Utility Commission has requested to use the City Council Chambers March 12th, 2008 at 6:30 p.m. to hold a public hearing regarding the CEI rate increase.
- For the third time in less than three years, Ohio American is going to the Public Utility Commission for a rate increase. Since May of 2005, bulk water rates have increased 24% and they are going after another 12.58%. If this increase is awarded, it will be a 36% increase in water since May of 2005. Mr. Pearson asked Council if they would like to write a strong letter to the Public Utility Commission with copies going to all state representatives.
Council agreed to prepare that letter.
- Mr. Pearson, Jennifer Brown, and Janice Switzer from the County are starting to discuss the 2009 CDBG Project and the potential of the Neighborhood Revitalization Grant. Information will be ready for the March 14th Capital Budget Meeting.
- All Steering Committee Members are in place to proceed with a kick off meeting for the Comprehensive Plan.

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

None

Payment of Bills

No questions

Committee Reports

None

Citizens

None

Council meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Recorded by: Laurie Donatone
Clerk of Council

President of Council

Clerk of Council