

MINUTES
City of Geneva
Council Meeting
September 22, 2008
7:30 p.m.

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

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

Motion by Ebersole, seconded by Beckwith to accept the minutes of the September 8th, 2008 Council Meeting.
Roll call, 7 yeas.

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

Department Presentation – Fire – Chief Starkey

- There have been 413 fire calls so far this year. In 2007 there were 401, in 2006 there were 454, and in 2003 there were 407 total fire calls for the year. Chief Starkey stated that the Fire Department continues to give as much service as possible to the citizens.
- The Fire Department has been able to handle small calls that they use to tone out on due to increased staffing levels, but additional staffing is still needed for the Fire Department.
- The Fire Department is in the process of testing every piece of fire hose which is done annually.
- The new Austin Rd. overpass was used by the Fire Department for emergency response. Chief Starkey stated that the overpass is a great benefit for the community.
- Chief Starkey explained that Captain John McCroden died in 1995 in the line of duty. The Fire Department started a golf outing in John's memory in 1996 to raise funds to build a training center along with donations received. Chief Starkey gave a slide show presentation of the structure construction of the Training Center located on Austin Rd. north of the recycling center. Chief Starkey stated that this has been a group effort and he hopes to burn their first fire in the Training Center by the end of the year.

Rodger Fuller stated that this project is very impressive and he is pleased to see the Fire Department moving forward with the Training Center. Mr. Fuller stated that he would like to have Council there when the Center is complete and they are ready to burn the first fire.

Chief Starkey added that NAD would like to use the stairwells for training and the Police Department will use the Center for tactics.

Crystal Latimer asked if any outside groups have show interest in the Training Center.

Chief Starkey replied that several Fire Departments, the Ashtabula County Joint Vocational School, and other educational facilities have expressed interest in using the Training Center.

Citizens – None

Items for Consideration of Council

Ordinance 2973 was read, second reading. (AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 268 SHADE TREE COMMISSION).

Resolution 3076 was read, first reading. (A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE OHIO PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION STATE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT AND / OR LOCAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AND TO EXECUTE CONTRACTS AS REQUIRED, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY). Motion by Beckwith, seconded by Cordova to declare Resolution 3076 an emergency measure. Roll call, 7 yeas. Motion by Ebersole, seconded by Buskirk that the rule of law requiring certain Resolutions be read at three separate meetings be waived and suspended and Resolution 3076 be placed on the final roll for passage. Roll call, 7 yeas. Roll call on passage, 7 yeas. Resolution 3076 duly passed.

Resolution 3077 was read, first reading. (A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO SIGN A LAND PURCHASE AGREEMENT FOR 51 E. MAIN STREET AND 53 E. MAIN STREET, GENEVA, OHIO, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY).

Motion by Cordova, seconded by Latimer to declare Resolution 3077 an emergency measure. Roll call, 7 yeas. Motion by Beckwith, seconded by Ebersole that the rule of law requiring certain Resolutions be read at three separate meetings be waived and suspended and Resolution 3077 be placed on the final roll for passage. Roll call, 7 yeas. Roll call on passage, 7 yeas. Resolution 3077 duly passed.

City Manager's Report – Jim Pearson

- Street Superintendent Tim Bittner is very pleased with the sidewalk and apron work that is being done by Phil Miller Construction Company.
- Bentley Construction should be done with the sanitary work on the westerly portion of N. Nearing by Wednesday. When that is complete they will move to the easterly portion to start the water line and road reconstruction.
- Chief Dudik and Chief Starkey are working hard to prepare for the annual Grape Jamboree to be held this weekend. Chief Starkey has prepared an emergency plan which is very helpful to all involved.

Crystal Latimer asked if all the funds were used for the sidewalk replacement program.

Jim Pearson explained that Juanita Stuetzer and her staff have done an exceptional job preparing a data base which shows how the sidewalks are rated and which sections of town they are in. Mr. Pearson stated that the funds are used within a few days.

Crystal Latimer asked if it was possible to make an exception.

Jim Pearson replied that it is late in the season to reappropriate funds.

Bruce Beckwith asked if the City heard back from the Health Department for additional sidewalk funding.

Jim Pearson replied that the City has not heard from the Health Department.

Unfinished Business – None

New Business – None

Payment of Bills – No questions

Committee Reports

Bill Buskirk stated that a Utilities Committee Meeting was held prior to tonight's Council Meeting. It was brought to his attention that Ohio American has filed for a 13% to 14% increase on bulk water. This will have an impact of \$35,000.00 a year on the budget. Updates were given on the Automatic Meter Reading System and NPDES Permit. Gary Hydinger will be bringing revised legislation to Council for their approval to avoid having a permitting system and annual fee.

Phil Cordova noticed that there was a payment of almost \$18,000.00 made to URS and asked what the status was on the Comprehensive Plan.

Jim Pearson explained that a Public Hearing will be held Thursday at 6:00 p.m. for the draft of the Comprehensive Plan. Once that is done it will be brought to the Planning Commission and then presented to Council.

Bruce Beckwith asked if the 534 study was also moving forward.

Jim Pearson replied that ODOT gave an update three weeks ago. Because this is a state grant, ODOT will select the consultant that will do the study and take the City's concerns into consideration. The consultant selection should be made by the end of the year. This will be a 2009 project.

Citizens – None

Greg Strnisa – 50 South Broadway, Geneva – Greg Strnisa stated that there were two vehicles taking three parking spots outside tonight making it difficult for him to park. Mr. Strnisa asked that the Street Department repaint parking lines so that they are more visible.

Council meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Recorded by: Laurie Donatone
Clerk of Council

President of Council

Clerk of Council