

City of Geneva Council Work Session – June 22, 2009

Rodger Fuller called the work session to order at 7:17 p.m.

Council members present were Beckwith, Cordova, Ebersole, Fuller, Latimer, and Piotrowski. Buskirk absent.

Bruce Beckwith asked if the 30” pipe that was partially installed last year for storm water utility was being extended.

Jim Pearson explained that project was one of the OPWC choices. The engineers estimate to complete that project was \$391,000.00, and after further review, it was decided that this project was too big to apply for this year.

Mr. Beckwith affirmed that there are problems in each corner of the City and until adequate funding is found, the problems will continue.

Mr. Pearson agreed and added that heavy rains over the weekend magnified the storm water issues.

Mr. Pearson recommended that the Utility Committee begin to look at this in detail.

Rodger Fuller stated that he will talk with Bill Buskirk to suggest scheduling a Utility Committee Meeting.

Work session adjourned at 7:21 p.m.

Recorded by: Laurie Donatone
Clerk of Council

City of Geneva
Council Meeting
June 22, 2009
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 Latimer, seconded by Piotrowski to accept the minutes of the June 8th, 2009 Council Meeting. Roll call, 6 yeas, 1 abstain - Cordova.

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

Department Presentation – Finance – Juanita Stuetzer

2009 Overview:

- The 2009 Audit and GAAP Financial Reports should be complete this week.
- 75% of the records retention is complete.
- The Street Lighting Assessment Project started in June and will be complete by the second Monday of September when the assessment detail is sent to the County Auditor's Office.
- The tax budget requirement was waived by the County Budget Commission which is permitted by the Ohio Revised Code. This will be a time savings for the Finance Department. A resolution will be passed in September to levy the real estate taxes.

Looking Ahead:

- A lot of time will be spent tracking the construction projects that have been generated by grants: Downtown Revitalization Grant, several OPWC Grants, South Eagle Paving CDBG Grant, three Stimulus Grants, and Brownfield Assessment Grant. These grant dollars total over two million dollars.
- The 2010 Budget will begin in August and be complete in December.

Rodger Fuller thanked Juanita Stuetzer for her presentation and the good job she does as Finance Director for the City of Geneva.

Citizens

The State of the Hospital Address – Robert David, President of UH Geneva & Conneaut Medical Centers, and Richard Trice, Senior Director of Operations Geneva Medical Center.

Rick Trice – Facility update:

- Four years ago a MRI mobile truck was coming to the hospital one and a half days a week. A business plan was made and radiology services expanded to a six day MRI service located in the MRI Suite at UH Geneva Medical Centers' new building. Over 200 MRI scans are done per month.
- A board certified cardiologist is on staff five days a week and UH has integrated the Harrington-McLaughlin Heart & Vascular Institute which provides excellent service to the community including echocardiography, nuclear medicine and stress testing.
- The new medical office building began with discussions in the City Council room and led to a search for land and final decision to have it built on the UH campus. The building has 100% occupancy on the first floor with the Geneva Clinic, a woman's center with digital mammography and lab services. On the second floor there are specialty physicians and a time share which is filling up quickly.
- A cafeteria renovation is beginning to redesign the flow.
- The operating room and core laboratory will also be upgraded.

Robert David – Specialty Physicians

- Dr. Arpan Desai – Pain Management Specialist
- Vascular Surgeon from UH in Cleveland

- Both a female and male OBGYN
- Dr. Kevin Banks - Urology Services
- Dr. Tim Moore – Spine Surgeon

Rick Trice – Quality Scores

- For the 2nd quarter straight, UH Geneva Medical Center received 100% quality measures that are reported federally each month and recorded on the federal website. Mr. Trice affirmed that Geneva is ranked with the very best. There are 23 quality measures that may go up to 32 next year.

Robert David – Engaged Employees

- Geneva uses the Gow Company for employee engagement. Last year employee engagement was 4.17 out of 5 which puts Geneva at the 75th percentile nationwide.
- The Quarter Century Club is for those who have attained 25 years of service – Mr. David was happy to say that employees in that club from Conneaut and Geneva filled a bus for a wonderful ceremony at Executive Caterers at Landerhaven.

Rick Trice – Customer Service

- In the third and fourth quarters of last year, 8 out of 10 patients would definitely recommend UH Geneva Medical Center to their neighbors, friends, and families. Mr. Trice stated that they try to talk with the patients and their families to make sure their stay is complete with clinical expertise, quality, and a caring family community approach. Mr. Trice mentioned Charlie Castle who did just that years ago for the hospital and affirmed that they want to get back to that in Geneva.

Robert David thanked City Council and the community of Geneva for being so supportive. UH Geneva Medical Center has excellent quality marks, patient satisfaction, and employee engagement. In addition, they are doing well financially.

Bill Buskirk complimented Mr. David and Mr. Trice for the amount of investment they have put into the community. Mr. Buskirk mentioned the emergency room and how nice it is to have a private room which helps ease a traumatic situation.

Rodger Fuller stated that his personal experience has been fantastic and he is very proud to say we have UH Geneva Medical Center in our community.

Phil Cordova added that he grew up around the hospital and thought that the care he felt personally was due to his father Dr. Angelo Cordova, but realized that the caring level at UH Geneva Medical Center has never changed and it is something you don't always feel at hospitals.

Crystal Latimer thanked Mr. David and Mr. Trice for their presentation.

Senior Busing – Denny Brown, Site Manager and Ray Gruber, Board President

Denny Brown stated that the City of Geneva is a positive and progressive community and great place to live. Mr. Brown expressed the need to address the trials and tribulations of seniors and those who are responsible for them.

Ray Gruber listed the board members of the Geneva Area Senior Corporation who represent seniors within the Geneva area school district: Richard Dana, Barb Taft, Bob Cunningham, Fran Cervis, Rodger Fuller, Janey Spade, Elaine Lister and Ray Gruber. Mr. Gruber explained that the board achieved 501(c)3 status in 2004 making them an official corporation which enables them to receive grant money. The Senior Center has grown over the years and expanded to a satellite office offering a wide range of activities. Approximately 200 individuals attended Senior Appreciation Day which offered awards, recognition, entertainment and a free meal. The Senior Center has three employees: Denny Brown, Site Manager – Beth Carney, Program Manager – and Joanne Mullen, Assistant Program Manager.

Ray Gruber stated that the last bit of freedom taken from a senior is the privilege to drive and the Senior Center would like to provide that transportation. Funding was received from the senior levy allowing them to purchase a 2002 bus seating 12 individuals. The bus currently has 156,000 miles.

Denny Brown explained that the senior levy provides a vast range of support for seniors. Most seniors are not aware that there is funding for transportation, wellness and care that enables them to stay in their homes. The Ashtabula County Transportation System (ACTS) provides transportation throughout the County, but with such demand, short delivery service is really not available within the community. Transportation for doctor appointments, local shopping, visiting a friend, etc. which will allow for seniors to live a happy, wholesome, and fulfilled life. Mr. Brown explained that in addition to the purchase of the bus, the senior levy will give them up to \$1,000.00 for initial cleaning and maintenance. Four senior employees will be paid by a federal program to drive the bus.

Mr. Brown asked Council if they would consider donating \$5,000.00 for operations along with in-kind service such as oil & tire checks to help the seniors in the community.

Ray Gruber added that the bus is handicap accessible and at some point they would like to expand the busing to cover the entire school district.

Bill Buskirk asked what the hours of operation will be.

Denny Brown replied that they would like to have the bus available from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Mr. Brown added that having the option to ride a bus will make a major positive impact on seniors.

Phil Cordova asked if this project will become self sufficient at some point or will it need subsidized annually.

Denny Brown explained that the County applied for three buses that were funded at 100% by Federal Government Grants and conversations are being held with the County for additional funding through the senior levy. Mr. Brown affirmed that Council and City Administration has had an excellent working relationship with the seniors and been very generous, allowing them to use the Community Center building for the Senior Center. Ray Gruber added that the Geneva Area Senior Corporation is continuing to look for additional grant funding that may be available, but they need help initially.

Kim Ebersole agreed that losing the ability to drive can be devastating for seniors and stated that having busing available to them would give them freedom, making them happier and giving them more to look forward to.

Phil Cordova asked Jim Pearson if he sees any issues with in-kind contributions and non city owned vehicles being worked on at the Street Department.

Jim Pearson replied that he could not see any issues at this point. Mr. Pearson suggested, if Council so desires, that fuel could be offered for senior busing that is purchased through a joint venture with the school. Fuel use can be monitored easily and reported back to Council. Routine oil changes at the Street Department would not burden the City excessively.

Rodger Fuller thanked Denny Brown and Ray Gruber for their presentation and stated that Council will discuss this matter and get an answer to them as soon as possible.

Items for Consideration of Council

Ordinance 2996 was read, second reading. (AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING CHAPTER 1282 CHILD DAY-CARE HOMES INTO THE GENEVA CODIFIED ORDINANCES).

Resolution 3098 was read, second reading. (A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE INCLUSION OF ASHTABULA COUNTY, OHIO IN THE PROPOSED HIGH-SPEED RAIL ROUTES THROUGH THE GREAT LAKES REGION).

Resolution 3104 was read, first reading. (A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE A CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT WITH THE OHIO PATROLMAN'S BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION OF SERGEANTS, PATROLMEN, AND DISPATCHERS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY).

Motion by Ebersole, seconded by Cordova to declare Resolution 3104 an emergency measure.

Roll call, 7 yeas. Motion by Piotrowski, seconded by Latimer that the rule of law requiring certain Resolutions be read at three separate meetings be waived and suspended and Resolution 3104 be placed on the final roll for passage. Roll call, 7 yeas. Roll call on passage, 6 yeas, 1 nay - Beckwith. Resolution 3104 duly passed.

Resolution 3105 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 Latimer, seconded by Ebersole to declare Resolution 3105 an emergency measure.

Roll call, 7 yeas. Motion by Beckwith, seconded by Cordova that the rule of law requiring certain Resolutions be read at three separate meetings be waived and suspended and Resolution 3105 be placed on the final roll for passage. Roll call, 7 yeas. Roll call on passage, 7 yeas. Resolution 3105 duly passed.

City Manager's Report – Jim Pearson

- The first building came down on East Main Street without incident and the second will come down tomorrow. This will change the whole landscape.
- The Durapatch has been used on the municipal building parking lot with a roller to seal cracks and will continue to be used throughout the City to extend the life of those lots.
- Through the Workforce Investment Act, seven Youth Opportunity Workers started with the City today. They will be paid by the County and work 30 hours a week for 8 weeks. Four are assigned to the Street Department, one to the Custodial staff, and two to Administration to help with records. Mr. Pearson hopes this will be a positive experience giving them extra training and an opportunity to get a job.

Unfinished Business

Phil Cordova asked if there has been discussion regarding interest in Geneva Elementary.

Jim Pearson replied that an update was given to the school board today. A consultant is meeting with City Administration next Monday to formulate what that area might look like. This development is moving ahead slowly and cautiously.

New Business - None

Payment of Bills – No questions

Committee Reports - None

Citizens

Lowell Beaudoin – 160 Raymond Dr., Geneva – Lowell Beaudoin stated that three red foxes were seen in his back yard two weeks ago. Two coyotes were also seen last week between his yard and the back of the library. Mr. Beaudoin asked if there have been any other reports within the City limits and if these animals can be shot by the police.

Chief Dudik replied that there have not been other reports.

Jim Pearson asked Chief Dudik to contact the Game Warden to see what can be done and report back to Mr. Beaudoin.

Council meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

Recorded by: Laurie Donatone
Clerk of Council

President of Council

Clerk of Council