

City of Geneva Council Work Session – June 14, 2010

Bill Buskirk called the work session to order at 6:48 p.m.

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

Bill Buskirk asked Council if they reviewed the Job Creation Tax Credit information provided to them and if they would like to see any amendments made. A final draft is being prepared.

Jim Pearson added that they would like to have the final draft for legislation at the next Council Meeting. There is some sense of urgency from HDT Global who would like to move through the process.

Tim Miller asked what the thought process was on the payroll projections.

Mr. Pearson explained that if the employer has not met 25% or more of their payroll and employment projection, than they will not receive the grant for that year. If the employer is close and working toward their projected goal, than a percentage of the grant will be awarded.

Bruce Beckwith stated that he was happy to see the Corporate Tax Revenue Refund spelled out along with the inclusion of the two year term.

Jim Pearson acknowledged that this contract does give an “out” having a review period after two years.

Bruce Beckwith stated that there was a lot of discussion on “jobs or payroll” and he noticed they went back to and. Mr. Beckwith asked if there is any flexibility on that.

Mr. Pearson replied it was his recollection that because it said or you could have three jobs with x number of dollars for payroll and be eligible. They wanted to go for the larger number of jobs. Bill Buskirk agreed with Mr. Beckwith and asked that more flexibility be included in the contract changing and to and/or.

Mr. Beckwith added that they want to encourage jobs but the payroll is what is taxed.

Jeff Piotrowski stated that the CIC had a meeting today to discuss the following issues:

- Council approved a playground project to be located at the Romeo property a couple of years ago. This project is still hanging and the CIC has been the fiscal agent for it. They are looking for direction from Council and would like to know their intent.

Mr. Buskirk affirmed that Council will look into this.

- The CIC is a non-profit organization and is always looking at ways to raise funds. One idea was to add a voluntary contribution of \$1.00 a month on the water bill. CIC would like Council to look into the legalities of this possibility.
- The Wine & Culinary Institute Feasibility Study and Business Plan are near completion. Mr. Piotrowski stated that this is an exciting project that could put the City of Geneva on the map. The CIC will have a presentation prepared for Council in mid July.

Work Session adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

Recorded by: Laurie Donatone
Clerk of Council

MINUTES
City of Geneva
Council Meeting
June 14, 2010
7:00 p.m.

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

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was said and prayer was offered by Reverend Jonathan Schroeder of St. John's Lutheran Church.

Motion by Fuller, seconded by Beckwith to accept the minutes of the May 24th, 2010 Council Meeting. Roll call, 6 years.

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

Bill Buskirk presented Band Director Marion Carroll with a proclamation declaring Wednesday, June 16th, 2010 Geneva High School Band Day for their high level of excellence and example of leadership and dedication within the community.

Department Presentation – City Awards 2009

- Fireman of the Year – Lt. Tom Clay – presented by Chief Starkey.

Bill Buskirk presented Tammy Shuttleworth with a proclamation declaring Tuesday, June 15th, 2010 Tammy Shuttleworth Day recognizing her dedication and valued service to the City of Geneva and its residents.

- City Wide Employee of the Year – Tammy Shuttleworth – presented by Bill Buskirk and Jim Pearson. A tree will be planted in Ms. Shuttleworth's name.
- Full Time Police Officer of the Year – Officer Roger Wilt – presented by Chief Dudik
- Full Time Dispatcher of the Year – Ann Juodenas-Smith – unable to attend.
- Part Time Employee of the Year – Laurie Donatone – presented by Chief Dudik.

Bill Buskirk presented Joseph Mayernick with a proclamation declaring Monday, June 14th, 2010 Joseph W. Mayernick Day for his dedication to the City of Geneva and Ashtabula County by providing an example of leadership and commitment recognizing the importance of workforce, education and community.

Mr. Buskirk stated that Joe Mayernick has done a tremendous amount for the Geneva area which is very much appreciated. Mr. Buskirk added that Geneva will miss Mr. Mayernick and wished him much success in the future.

Mr. Mayernick stated that Geneva is a wonderful community and it has been a pleasure to work with the Administration and City Council.

Mr. Pearson stated that Joe Mayernick has demonstrated a great deal of leadership throughout the County to create and grow the economy and he should be commended for that. Mr. Pearson congratulated Mr. Mayernick and presented him with a brick that read Growth Partnership, Joseph Mayernick, 1990 – 2010 which will be installed downtown Geneva.

Citizens –

Mario Tagle – 154 Burrows Street, Geneva – stated that he was attending tonight's Council meeting to see how things are run in the City.

Items for Consideration of Council

Resolution 3134 was read, first reading. (A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FOR THE COPS HIRING GRANT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY).

Chief Dudik explained that the Federal Government has opened up \$285,000,000.00 to continue hiring. There are approximately 6,000 applicants and the Federal Government will try to fund 500. Chief Dudik is asking for one full time Officer which will be funded for three years. The Geneva Police Department's obligation is twelve months after the three years. The application deadline is Wednesday, June 16th.

Motion by Piotrowski, seconded by Beckwith to declare Resolution 3134 an emergency measure. Roll call, 6 yeas. Motion by Beckwith, seconded by Fuller that the rule of law requiring certain Resolutions be read at three separate meetings be waived and suspended and Resolution 3134 be placed on the final roll for passage. Roll call, 6 yeas. Roll call on passage, 6 yeas. Resolution 3134 duly passed.

Resolution 3135 was read, first reading. (A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE BID OF SCHWARTZ CONSTRUCTION FOR WEST LIBERTY STREET COVERED BRIDGE ABUTMENTS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY).

Jim Pearson explained that this is for the concrete structure that the new covered bridge will sit on top of. Bids came in substantially lower than the Engineers estimate. If Council awards this bid, a pre-construction meeting will be scheduled and the road will be closed most of July and August.

Bill Buskirk asked if the road will be opened prior to the Grape Jamboree.

Jim Pearson replied that would be an aggressive schedule and the target is set for the Covered Bridge Festival.

Motion by Beckwith, seconded by Miller to declare Resolution 3135 an emergency measure. Roll call, 6 yeas. Motion by Fuller, seconded by Piotrowski that the rule of law requiring certain Resolutions be read at three separate meetings be waived and suspended and Resolution 3135 be placed on the final roll for passage. Roll call, 6 yeas. Roll call on passage, 6 yeas. Resolution 3135 duly passed.

City Manager's Report – Jim Pearson

- Mr. Pearson announced that Laurie Donatone, Clerk of Council has handed in her resignation effective July 1st, after serving five years in this position. Mr. Pearson asked Council for direction on how they would like to proceed and explained that historically the position was posted internally.

Bill Buskirk affirmed that they have had good results previously.

Council agreed to post the Clerk of Council's position internally.

- Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) granted Ohio American a 13.5% bulk water increase. This translates to a 4.5% rate increase to the customer base. If Council so desires, Mr. Pearson will have the Law Director prepare legislation.

Council agreed to have Mr. Pearson move forward with the preparation of legislation.

Mr. Pearson stated that the County would like to have a joint press release on this issue.

- There was a water main break on Walnut Street ~~The Fire Department is in the process of repairing that break.~~ **which is in the process of being repaired. Correction made at the June 28, 2010 Council Meeting.**

- Construction started on Sherman Street today.

Bill Buskirk mentioned that the City of Geneva along with five other communities won a prize based upon small communities support. Mr. Buskirk stated that he feels this is fantastic, especially since we were up against a lot of larger communities and affirmed that Dave Gilbert's comments on the radio really helped a lot.

Mr. Pearson added that Dave Gilbert worked very hard on the EfficientGovNow Grant as well as a lot of the City Staff. This grant makes you feel good with the whole concept of regionalism and will have a huge impact once the shared GIS service is available.

Unfinished Business - None

New Business

Liquor Permit ~ Maggie A. Lillis – DBA Coconut Tropical Grill, 37 N. Broadway, Geneva.
Jim Pearson explained that there was a change of address and Ms. Lillis had to reapply for a permit.
Chief Dudik found no reason to object to this permit.

- No Objections

Payment of Bills – No questions

Committee Reports

Bruce Beckwith stated that a Safety Committee Meeting was held this evening to discuss a potential Fire District. Chief Starkey will work with a Township Trustee regarding feasibility and inform Council of their findings.

Rodger Fuller stated that NAD met Wednesday and approved the purchase of a new ambulance. The ambulance will not be received until the end of the year.

Citizens – None

Motion by Fuller, seconded by Beckwith to adjourn to executive session to discuss property acquisition. Roll Call, 6 yeas. Council adjourned to executive session at 7:37 p.m.

Motion by Latimer, seconded by Piotrowski to re-convene the June 14th, 2010 Council Meeting. Roll call, 6 yeas. The meeting re-convened at 8:18 p.m.

Council meeting adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

Recorded by: Laurie Donatone
Clerk of Council

President of Council

Clerk of Council