

City of Geneva Council Work Session – March 8, 2010

Phil Cordova called the work session to order at 6:47 p.m.

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

Bruce Beckwith asked if engineering started for some of the street projects. Jim Pearson replied that the engineering has moved forward.

Jim Pearson asked Council if there were any questions regarding the Ashtabula County Health Department letter that was included with the City Manager's Report.

Mr. Pearson affirmed that the County Health District Advisory Council Meeting will be held March 25<sup>th</sup>.

Bruce Beckwith asked if this was a "probably", or if it was "pretty much going to happen".

Jim Pearson replied that he can't say – he does not know if there will be more negotiations between the Health Department and the County on that building sale. The general feeling amongst a lot of the Trustees is that they should buy the building and resolve this issue.

Mr. Pearson wanted Council to be aware that there could be a change from a combined health district to a general health district.

Work Session adjourned at 6:49 p.m.

Recorded by: Laurie Donatone  
Clerk of Council

**MINUTES**  
**City of Geneva**  
Council Meeting  
March 8, 2010  
7:00 p.m.

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

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

Motion by Beckwith, seconded by Latimer to accept the minutes of the February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2010 Council Meeting. Roll call, 5 years.

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

Department Presentation – Street – Tim Bittner

- 250 tons of salt was used from last year at \$67.20 per ton = \$16,800.00. This year 443 tons of salt was used at \$56.41 = \$25,009.93. Another bill for 100 ton was received today for \$5,641.00 which brings the total for 2010 to \$30,650.93 out of a \$57,000.00 budget. Mr. Bittner hopes the weather will improve because they still have November and December of 2010 to consider.
- 434 man hours have been used to plow and salt roads. This year the Street Department used part time help and received many compliments on the job they did. In 2008 the City spent \$8,434.00 and \$6,700.00 in 2009. So far in 2010 the City spent \$1,600.00.
- The Street Department has been trimming trees around town from December 1<sup>st</sup> through March 31<sup>st</sup> to keep them from getting out of control. Mr. Bittner was proud to announce that on March 17<sup>th</sup> the City of Geneva will be receiving a Tree City USA Award at the 2010 Northeast Ohio Tree City USA Award Ceremony. Mr. Bittner offered thanks to the Shade Tree Commission, Street Department and Fire Department for helping to maintain and water the trees.

Bill Buskirk affirmed that the City has done a lot of work maintaining the City's trees, the Shade Tree Commission meets regularly and the State Arborist has been giving advice on the trees. Mr. Bittner explained that the State Arborist trained the Street Department on how to trim the trees properly. A lot of hours have been spent planting, mulching, watering and removing trees which helps to beautify the City.

Mr. Buskirk added that it is important that the City have a plan putting the right trees in the right areas along with a good maintenance program.

Jim Pearson stated that he asked the CIC Committee if they would support tree replacement on Broadway out of their Tree Fund. Discussions will be held regarding cost to be approved at the next CIC Meeting.

Mr. Pearson added that Mr. Griffiths was very complimentary to the City and Street Department for the snow removal downtown which sets Geneva apart from other communities.

Bill Buskirk thanked Tim Bittner for his presentation and wished him luck with the large amount of paving scheduled this summer.

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.

Robert David thanked the City Manager and Council for having them at the Council Meeting to give their 2009 State of the Hospital Year End Review.

## New Services

- Urologist - Dr. Kevin Banks.
- Pain Management Specialist – Dr. Arpan Desai.
- UH Geneva Medical Center is working very hard to secure Neurology and Oncology services. Mr. David feels these are two core services that he believes our community needs.

## Accomplishments

- Infrastructure of the hospital.
- Lab expansion.
- Process of renovating space upstairs for Quality Department.
- Process of finalizing plans to renovate the cafeteria.
- UH Geneva Medical Center was the first hospital within the University Hospital Health System to go live on the Electronic Medical Record with Computerized Physician Order Entry. The Electronic Medical Record for University Hospitals is a \$110,000,000.00 project. Only 8% of hospitals in the entire country have the Electronic Medical Record and only 2% have Computerized Physician Order Entry. The Computerized Physician Order Entry allows any one of your Physicians to enter in orders anywhere in the world and see your test results.

## Rick Trice

- Quality – UH Geneva Medical Center exceeds the benchmarks set up nationally with hospitals of similar size.
- Employee Engagement – Several surveys have been conducted making UH Geneva Medical Center one of the top 99 employers in Northeastern Ohio. Mr. Trice stated that they will not stop until they become one of the top 100 employers in the nation. A lot of effort is put into employee engagement on a daily basis.
- Patient Satisfaction/Customer Excellence – Mr. Trice stated that they work day in and day out with the employees to provide the best patient satisfaction/customer service possible and he shared a story in reflection to that. Mr. Trice added that when our community comes into UH Geneva Medical Center, they expect the best quality care, which is provided. UH Geneva Medical Center goes over and above with their patient relationship and dedicated staff.

Robert David thanked the City Manager, City Council and the community for supporting their facility and stated that they are very proud that their quality metrics are best practices in the entire country. Mr. David concluded that people needing to be hospitalized can feel comfortable that they are receiving top notch quality care at UH Geneva Medical Center.

Bill Buskirk stated that Council appreciates the investment made to the community which has added so much to the quality of life in Geneva and the surrounding areas along with being one of the largest employers in the City.

## Items for Consideration of Council

Ordinance 3023 was read, second reading. (AN ORDINANCE MODIFYING THE REQUIREMENTS FOR SERVING ON THE GENEVA ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD).

Resolution 3127 was read, first reading. (A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT TO PARTICIPATE WITH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION OFFICE OF CONTRACTS FOR THE PURCHASE OF SODIUM CHLORIDE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY).

Bill Buskirk affirmed that this is the annual salt purchase that was discussed by Tim Bittner.

Motion by Beckwith, seconded by Cordova to declare Resolution 3127 an emergency measure. Roll call, 5 yeas. Motion by Piotrowski, seconded by Beckwith that the rule of law requiring certain Resolutions be read at three separate meetings be waived and suspended and Resolution 3127 be placed on the final roll for passage. Roll call, 5 yeas. Roll call on passage, 5 yeas. Resolution 3127 duly passed.

## City Manager's Report – Jim Pearson

- Mr. Pearson mentioned the \$59,000.00 that NOPEC will be providing to the City and stated that he asked the City staff and Council to come up with a green project that will help save energy and reduce our carbon footprint. Fireman Dale Arkenburg put a lot of time into researching solar energy and will have a presentation March 11<sup>th</sup>. The City is looking at that

as a potential project along with additional state and federal grant money. Mr. Pearson encouraged Council to let him know of any ideas they may have.

- Mr. Pearson informed Council that Mrs. Ackley donated ten plus acres of property to the CIC east of town, south of the tracks and ten acres on the north side of the tracks. Mr. Pearson would like to get the house taken down with Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) dollars and have a piece of property that could be available for development.
- Mr. Pearson asked that the Utilities Committee schedule a meeting to discuss Automatic Meter Reading, the Elm Street Rehabilitation Project and Master Meters.
- IT upgrades approved by Council will be moving forward over the next couple of months.
- Mr. Pearson announced that the Ashtabula County Civic Development Corporation is starting their annual campaign which is focused on travel and tourism this year. They like the Wine and Culinary Project so much that they are granting the City \$200,000.00 toward that project.

Unfinished Business - None

New Business

Motion by Latimer, seconded by Piotrowski to appoint Laurie Donatone designee for newly elected Council – Timothy Miller and re-elected Council – Rodger Fuller and Philip Cordova for Certified House Bill 9 Public Records Training to be held March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2010 in Mayfield Village. Roll Call 5 yeas. Motion: Carried

Payment of Bills – No questions

Committee Reports

Crystal Latimer requested that Council have a proclamation prepared declaring Arbor Day the same day as Community Day to maintain Tree City USA status.

Chief Starkey affirmed that Community Day is May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2010.

Phil Cordova announced that the Planning Commission approved the City's application for the MARCS Tower at last week's meeting.

Bill Buskirk asked when that will be moving forward.

Chief Starkey explained that they are waiting to find out if a Federal Grant will be received.

Preliminary discussions on the agreement just started. If all goes well, power should be up in July.

Citizens – None

Council meeting adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

Recorded by: Laurie Donatone  
Clerk of Council

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President of Council

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Clerk of Council