

GENEVA CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
OCTOBER 21, 2024
6:00 P.M.

MINUTES

The Geneva City Council met in regular session on October 21, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. in the Council room at City Hall. Members present were Mayor David Hayes and Council Members Rufus Lee, Freddy McCoy, Kim Gillespie, Ryan Tidwell, Rich Bixby, Mike Fountain and Daniel L. Coleman. None were absent. Also present were City Clerk/Treasurer Lisa Johnson, City Attorney Jeff Gray and various department heads.

Mayor Hayes called the meeting to order.

Council Member Tidwell gave the invocation and Mayor Hayes led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council Member Gillespie moved to dispense with the reading and approve the October 7, 2024, minutes as presented. Council Member Lee seconded the motion which was approved by a seven (7) to zero (0) vote with Mayor Hayes abstaining.

Mayor Hayes announced the agenda needed to be amended to add Farm City Proclamation. Mayor Hayes signed a proclamation declaring November 22-28, 2024, as Farm City Week in Geneva.

Ms. Amanda Haines, CPA, with the firm Aldridge Borden, presented the FY 21, 22 and 23 audit reports. Council Member Bixby moved to approve and accept the reports as presented. Council Member Coleman seconded the motion which was approved by a seven (7) to zero (0) vote with Mayor Hayes abstaining. Copies of the audits are attached following this page:

Council Member Gillespie moved to approve an application to close Live Oak Street on October 31st from 5:30 to 8:00 for a Halloween Trick-or-Treat event. The motion was seconded by Council Member Lee and was approved by a seven (7) to zero (0) vote with Mayor Hayes abstaining.

Council Member Gillespie moved to approve a parade application for the Chamber of Commerce and DAV to hold a Veterans Day Parade on November 11th. The motion was seconded by Council Member Tidwell and was approved by a seven (7) to zero (0) vote with Mayor Hayes abstaining.

City Attorney Gray explained the need to grant access for an individual that was land locked from road access at the municipal airport.

Council Member Tidwell introduced the following ordinance which would convey the necessary property for access:

ORDINANCE NO. 10-2024-05

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF GENEVA, ALABAMA, AUTHORIZING THE SALE OR EXCHANGE OF REAL PROPERTY

It was moved by Council Member Tidwell that all rules and regulations which, unless suspended, would prevent the immediate consideration and adoption of said ordinance, be suspended, and that unanimous consent to the immediate consideration of said ordinance be given. The motion was seconded by Council Member Bixby. Mayor Hayes called for the vote, the roll was called with the following results:

Ayes: Nays: None Absent: None Abstentions: None

- Mayor Hayes
- Council Member Lee
- Council Member McCoy
- Council Member Gillespie
- Council Member Tidwell
- Council Member Bixby
- Council Member Fountain
- Council Member Coleman

The Mayor declared the motion carried.

After said ordinance had been discussed and considered in full by the Council, it was moved by Council Member Tidwell that Ordinance Number 04-2024-05 be now placed upon its final passage and adopted. The motion was seconded by Council Member Bixby. The question being put as to the adoption of said motion and the final passage and adoption of said ordinance, with the following results:

Ayes:

Nays: None

Absent: None

Abstentions: None

Mayor Hayes
Council Member Lee
Council Member McCoy
Council Member Gillespie
Council Member Tidwell
Council Member Bixby
Council Member Fountain
Council Member Coleman

The Mayor declared the motion carried and the ordinance passed and adopted as introduced and read.

Council Member Gillespie Moved to amend the Manning Document to increase the starting salary for the Court/Clerk Magistrate to \$18.00 per hour if certified. The motion was seconded by Council Member Lee and was approved by a seven (7) to zero (0) vote with Mayor Hayes abstaining.

Mayor Hayes reported on the following:

- City Hall walkthrough
- Airport dedication
- Passing of long time resident and businessman Glen Hammond
- Upcoming Halloween event
- Hiring of a Librarian
- Hiring of a Magistrate
- Company from Birmingham looking to locate in Geneva
- New park project
- Official signing for the FBO

Mayor has stated he was going to have a series of mobile inspections and visits of each district and would like for all Council Members to go on each session. The first inspections are for districts 4 and 7 and are scheduled for December 4th beginning at 3:00.

City Clerk Johnson reported on redistricting.

City Attorney Gray reported on court.

Council Member McCoy inquired about repairs to Park Avenue and status of all the parked vehicles at a residence on that street. He also reported on the sewer project in his district.

Council Member Coleman asked who is responsible for the one-way street signs at the school. He also asked about the status of the vans for the Senior Center.

Code Enforcement Officer Owens reported the burnt house on Campbell has been torn down and the asbestos survey has been completed on 319 W. Campbell Avenue

Chief Mock reported on two (2) openings in the police department and an increase in academy cost. He reported on a training day for officers.

Chief Mock requested approval to apply for a \$50,000.00 equipment grant. The grant should cover the cost of the equipment, there would be an additional \$350.00 for shipping and there is an option for a three (3) year warranty and software upgrade. Council Member Gillespie moved to authorize application of the grant and to approve the additional \$15,000.00 for the three (3) year warranty contingent upon grant award. The motion was seconded by Council Member Gillespie and was approved by a seven (7) to zero (0) vote with Mayor Hayes abstaining.

Fire Chief Latimer reported the equipment authorized under the grant award for the Fire Department has been ordered.

Mayor Hayes called for public comments. Chamber President Carl Corey gave a Chamber report.

Council Member Tidwell moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Council Member Bixby and was unanimously approved. Council adjourned at 7:25 p.m.