

TOWN OF GENEVA COUNCIL MEETING
March 10, 2026 at 6:30 P.M.

Those present were asked to please rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

The meeting was called to order by President Lynn Burry. Roll call showed Council members Andrew Briggs, Arlen Mitchel, Agnes Schoch, Clerk-Treasurer, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer, and Town Attorney present. Stan Ringger not present.

This meeting was livestreamed on the Town of Geneva's YouTube channel.

PRESENT: General Public: Cathy Mitchel, Mark Schoch, John Patch, Tony Lothridge, Duane Booth, Jessica Miller, Robert Rhoades, Matt Bullock, Alix Foster

On a motion by Andrew Briggs, seconded by Arlen Mitchel, and passed unanimously, Executive Session meeting minutes for 2/16/2026 were approved. **On a motion** by Arlen Mitchel, seconded by Agnes Schoch, and passed unanimously, Council meeting minutes for 2/10/2026 were approved.

No citizen comments at this time.

Police Report – Marshal Booth is requesting handicap spots and reserved spots in front of the new police department. Town Attorney will check in to see if this needs to be done through an ordinance. Miscellaneous quotes for a new police truck have been received. Quotes range from \$40,000 to \$70,000 fully equipped. Golf cart concerns discussed and Marshal Booth suggested changes to the ordinance. Age should be moved up to a minimum of 18 years old, or 16 years old with a valid driver's license. Additionally, something should be stated in the ordinance about being at least 2 years old to be on the golf cart, and seated in an actual seat. Marshal Booth asked that the golf cart ordinance list specifics on fines, right now it is listed as a range. **On a motion** by Agnes Schoch, seconded by Andrew Briggs and Lynn Burry (who made the quorum), the following ordinance changes to driver's age and specific fines were approved: Must be 16 years old with a valid driver's license or 18 years old to drive the golf cart; fines will be: \$100 for first offense, \$200 for second offense, and \$500 for third offense. Arlen Mitchel voted present. Marshal Booth was able to obtain 8 rifle-rated plates for the bullet proof vests for the police department free of charge through the police academy.

Fire Report – Chief Schoch reported 2 members of the fire department participated in a Rapid Intervention Team training in Indianapolis. Bathroom remodel is still in process. The Geneva Volunteer Fire Department approved using fundraising money to update the office with new paint and carpet, which is an approximate cost of \$3000. GVFD wants to purchase an LED sign to replace the current sign by Case and Quart. The fire department will allow the sign to be used for external advertisements for a donation to the fire department. **On a motion** by Arlen Mitchel, seconded by Andrew Briggs, and passed unanimously, pursuing the LED sign was approved. Andrew Briggs suggested that only non-profits advertise on the sign. The next Fire Ops 101 is tentatively scheduled for September 2026.

Work Force Report –Workforce Manager reported that safety expectations have been set with the employees. The replacement of the Red Gold water line is tentatively scheduled for the first week of April. Matt will contact NIPSCO and the State to be sure all guidelines and requirements are met. Matt has delved into the iWorQ program and feels that it does have value. Works orders, tracking costs, and inventory management can be handled with this program. This contract is up for renewal. Contract is for 3 years at a cost of \$5000 each year. Matt has requested training from iWorkQ as well. Because the Nuisance module was cancelled, we are required to sign a new contract for the Public Works portion within 25 days. Matt will be asking for an extension as training has not be scheduled yet. Matt reviewed numbers from the new Neptune system, including numbers of meters that were read vs. not read. Matt, Agnes and Marshal Booth had an online meeting with companies concerning the I.T. changeover and we should have a quote by the end of the week.

New Business – **On a motion** by Andrew Briggs, seconded by Arlen Mitchel, and passed unanimously, Ordinance 2026-3 Amending Holiday Pay was introduced. This ordinance removes holiday pay from part-time employees. The Deputy Clerk Treasurer is exempt from this change. Motion to adopt will be discussed at the April council meeting. Bob Rhoades, representing the Limberlost Conservation Club, donated the basketball court on Butcher Street to the Town of Geneva and will pay for the deed transfer. **On a motion** by Agnes Schoch, seconded by Arlen Mitchel, and passed, Council accepted the donation of the basketball court for the Town of Geneva. Andrew Briggs voted present due to conflict of interest. The 2026 Planning Services Contract for Mark Wynn's office was presented to Council. The annual fee is \$1200.00. **On a motion** by Arlen Mitchel, seconded by Agnes Schoch, and passed unanimously, Council accepted the 2026 contract.

Old Business – The fire truck specs were discussed. Chief Schoch discussed the quote process through the HGAC, and the costs have already been negotiated by the federal government. Lynn Burry requested that quotes be good for 60 days. **On a motion** by Andrew Briggs, seconded by Agnes Schoch, and passed unanimously, Chief Schoch was given the authority to obtain quotes for the new fire truck.

Traffic concerns at 5th and Williams Streets discussed. Currently a 3-way stop. Possibility of removing both the north and west stop signs, and leave the stop sign going eastbound. Marshal Booth is requesting the alley that is on the north side of the new police department be changed to one way going west. Additionally, the parking spots would need to be changed to angled parking to accommodate the police vehicles. This would affect the bank parking. Marshal Booth suggested High Street to the alley be one way going west. Both the stop signs and alley change would need to be changed in the ordinance. **On a motion** by Arlen Mitchel, seconded by Agnes Schoch, and passed unanimously, the proposed traffic changes were approved and updated ordinance can be introduced at the April meeting.

Arlen Mitchel took the signed contract to Limberlost Construction for the window replacement and was advised once the weather breaks the windows will be replaced. Arlen Mitchel asked for Matt Bullock's assistance in moving the Clerk's office to the new police building. Matt indicated there is no internet service over there now, and if it's only going to take a few days, the office can just be closed. Clerk will contact both mold companies to see if the quotes would still be good, and if not, get updated quotes. Arlen Mitchel would like to see the bathrooms at Affolder Park updated. Lynn Burry stated a committee needs to be put together to draw up a plan. Marshal Booth, Matt Bullock and Arlen Mitchel will be on the committee to come up with a plan for the bathrooms at the park. Arlen Mitchel would like to utilize the second floor the Town Hall for retired school teachers to tutor students. Arlen referenced the John Jay Center in Portland. This item needs more research. Lynn Burry updated Council on the Nuisance Committee. Meeting was held today; several warnings and invoices will be going out this week. May 30, 2026, from 8 AM to 12 noon will be the first Heavy Trash Day of 2026.

Volunteers will be needed and the word needs to get out. Clerk already has the dates in the window at the Town Hall, information has but put out on social media and the Town's website, and notices will go in the Berne Witness.

Tap deposits and callout fees discussed. Nick stated the amounts were already agreed upon several months ago, the Council just needs to decide if an added fee to the monthly utility bill be to cover the cost of the new Neptune program. Council members discussed the pros and cons of adding an additional fee. Council members were not interested in adding a fee at this time. This could be figured into a future rate increase. Nick Baumgartner will proceed with updating the ordinance concerning callout fees and tap deposits.

Clerk Treasurer On a motion by Arlen Mitchel, seconded by Agnes, and passed unanimously, Council approved the February 2026 Bank Reconciliation. **On a motion** by Agnes Schoch, seconded by Arlen Mitchell, and passed unanimously, Council approved the February 2026 Accounts Payable Vouchers.


Town Attorney – no updates at this time.

Council Members – Agnes Schoch provided a TIF update to Council. Several ideas have been suggested, such as: landscaping and trees in the park basketball and pickleball court, extending the walking path. Lynn Burry said to give all of the suggestions to the TIF board for consideration.

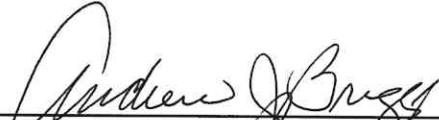
On a motion by Andrew Briggs, seconded by Agnes Schoch, and passed unanimously, motion to adjourn was approved.

Meeting adjourned.

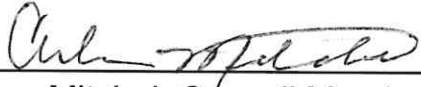
Next Meeting: April 14, 2026 at 06:30PM



Lynn Burry, President



Andrew Briggs, Vice President



Arlen Mitchel, Council Member



Stan Ringger, Council Member



Agnes Schoch, Council Member



Christina Booth, Clerk Treasurer

March 10, 2026 Minutes

