

TOWN OF GENEVA COUNCIL

June 14th, 2022 at 6:30 P.M.

The Council President asked those present to please rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

President, Agnes Schoch, called the meeting to order. Roll call showed Council members Marvin Schwartz, Gary Hendershot, Arlen Mitchel, Agnes Schoch, Jim Timmons, Clerk-Treasurer

PRESENT: General Public: Tony Lothridge, Gabe Schwartz, Zach Hess, Tyler Ritter - Butz, Trent Shaffer, Curt Chaffins, Shawn Fosnaugh, Dana Thomas, Dewayne Trusty, Lynn Burry, Sally Burry, Fred Gilbert, Allen Mann, Robert Elzey, Pete Shawver, Kaitlyn Bisel, and Jessica Miller Represented the Berne Witness and Justin Ayers Represented the Decatur Daily Democrat.

On a motion: by Marvin Schwartz, seconded by Arlen Mitchel, and passed unanimously, the Council approved the minutes from the May 10th meeting.

Rob Keisling; from AEP discussed the LED street lights and the upgrades taking place in surrounding areas and have been working in Berne. The upgrade has no install fees, no change out fees, and replaces the dull light with a bright white light. The offset in the cost of the project is helped by the efficiency of the LED to the current lights. AEP will maintain and timing to start is in July, and the project will take 5 days start to finish. He asked for council approval to begin working on the project.

On a motion: by Marvin Schwartz, seconded by Arlen Mitchel, and passed unanimously, the Council approved the AEP upgrades.

Colten Bickel; from Adams County Economic Development spoke about the rebranding of the ACEDC and spoke about the 260 new jobs and 4.6 million in investments with currently working on 2 projects. He encouraged everyone to check out the webpage, social media and look at Club 720 program they offer. He asked the town for a 1 time 2-year commitment or a 2 time 1 once a year payment kicking off in July of this year. He asked for a total amount of \$984.55 year 1 and \$984.55 year 2 or a lump sum of \$1969.10. Anthony Davidson said he would rather pay a 1-time lump sum payment and move forward. President Agnes Schoch announced that we are receiving Cedit money from Adams Memorial Hospital for \$4950 which would offset the cost of the request.

On a motion: by Gary Hendershot, seconded by Arlen Mitchel, and passed unanimously, the Council approved Colten Bickel's request for a 1-time lump sum payment to ACEDC for \$1969.10.

Citizen: Kari Cooper Police matter request council time to address her concerns and was not present.

Citizen: Robert (Bob) Elzey spoke to the council about getting gravel put in his alley by 230 short street. He also spoke about people parking on the sidewalks so no one could walk on them. He also mentioned that a truck was parked with a Texas plate near his residence has been parked there for many months and wondered what could be done about it. He also had a concern about people running stop signs by his residence and wanted to know what could be done about it. President Agnes Schoch addressed Bob Elzey about getting the concern for his alley way taken care of by the town work force and working for a solution to the problem. Marshal Hess also let Bob know that he would put more police presence around the area of his concern to help. He also addressed people parking on the sidewalk and will work towards a solution to the problem.

Citizen: Fred Gilbert spoke about the concern of traveling down Spring street and questioned if we could get it repaved. Fred also asked where the council was on approving the new medical building or what was the next steps in getting this approved. Trent Shaffer from the town let Fred know that we have a project on Spring Street coming up and that is the reason that it has not been repaved. Shaun Fosnaugh also let Fred know that they did some patch work today on the street in hopes to make the road better until the project completes.

USDA Rural Development: Hearing was held, President Agnes Schoch opened the hearing to anyone who would like to address the board from the public. No public concerns were voiced, and President Agnes Schoch closed the hearing.

On a motion: by Arlen Mitchel, seconded by Gary Hendershot, and passed unanimously, to move forward on the USDA Grant.

Update from Utilities: Trent Shaffer let the council know about the leak in the alley between Lincoln Street *and* Spring Street where we had some upset citizens about the water running in backyards and Spring street. Trent also let the council know about another leak on west Line Street that he has called in a locate on to fix the problem. President Agnes asked about flushing hydrants which Trent said we usually do in May and October but no website access we haven't done it. We have access and we look to begin flushing very soon. Anthony Davidson let the council know that we have ordered cameras for security down at the brush and leaf sight working with the county. President Agnes Schoch also asked about keeping hours of the brush and leaf sight open longer then noon on Saturday. The decision was to table the discussion until the camera system is installed. President Agnes Schoch also asked about fixing the lights at the Koufax Diamond from the claim submitted. Trent said that the contractor has been out and currently waiting on a quote. President Agnes Schoch also asked about the CCG and Trent Shaffer completed the street assessment and sent to Ryan Lefeld however he is on vacation. Trent also let the council know that the decals for Curt's truck is on backorder and have been on order for a while. Gary Hendershot asked about responsibility 2 retention ponds by 27 and Rainbow road. Gary said the citizens who live on the lake said there is a film on it and blaming the retention ponds on putting contained water in the lake. Trent said the retention ponds are dry and it goes through a sand filter before it goes out to the lake. Trent said we have never tested that water and Gary said 27 is monitored by the highway department. Gary Hendershot also thanked the town workforce for working on the ball diamonds and keeping all the moving parts in order.

Marshal Zach Hess: reported for the Police Department. Fuel used was 468 gallons, Training in Berne June 20 for radar. Department new hire physical exam took place Saturday June 11th and had 3 applicants participate and pass and also took the written test and all 3 also passed. Zach said background checks are next and after that he would like to set up a time to interview the applicants. Tyler completed a new criminal investigator training. Zach let the council know that he spoke to the guy who has things out on Railroad street. Zach said he let him know that we need it cleaned up by the celebration. Zach reported to the council that he has been working on getting quotes from his accident he was involved in which will all be covered by insurance, and currently his truck is not in commission. Zach also mentioned Mike Brown said the virtual machines are going to need to be rebuild. Mike is working on getting a quote for a PC tower in his office and once he gets it he will let the council know also talked about tablets vs older laptops. President Agnes Schoch said money was appropriated money from local law to cover the cost. President also asked Zach to do whatever he can to save gas money because of the increased cost. Gary Hendershot asked what the sheriff departments policy is for running cars. Zach was not certain of the sheriff's department rules. Zach said the department has had a 1-hour policy for cars running. Gary Hendershot also asked about 3 and 4 wheelers on the road. Zach said they have to be insured and street legal along with a permit purchased from the police department. Gary Hendershot also asked about how and if ordinances are served and asked for an update on what has been done to clean up the town ahead of the celebration. President Agnes Schoch asked about sending out the Nuisance Ordinance Synopsis and times of the dumpster at the brush and leaf site. President Agnes Schoch asked Anthony Davidson to write a letter, informing the citizens that we have fines for violations and the dumpster is available to assist residence in the clean-up. Gary Hendershot said we are 60 days from the festival and would like the citizens to clean up and take pride in their property. President Agnes Schoch spoke about asking our attorney to change to a fine and increase the fine. Tony Lothridge mentioned Decatur's policy and said he would happy to send it over for review. It was announced tonight Tyler and Zach were officially sworn in by Anthony Davidson as the Chief Deputy Marshal and Town Marshal

Fire Chief Gabe Schwartz: reported 5 First Responder runs, 3 Fire calls. Gabe mentioned that the FD had some more cutting to do on the car behind the station and then it will be removed before the celebration. Gabe mentioned 2 Fire Department members competed Indiana river rescue school in South Bend moving the department to 6 certified members. Tony Lothridge completed a 65-hour certified fire investigator course joining Art Booth as the only 2 in Geneva. Gabe reported on some general information about the fire department as Marvin Schwartz requested last meeting for fire fighter compensation conversation that was tabled last month. Gabe reported 24 active members with a full roster being 30 with an average firefighter serving 12 years. Gabe reported that volunteer firefighters usually lose money going to things throughout the year. Gary Hendershot asked Gabe about communication between the Chamber and Fire Department and wanting the FD to be more active in the celebration. Gary asked why the FD declined a breakfast for the celebration. Gabe answered that they are cooking the night before at the ball diamond for the fireworks. Gabe said the FD would be out until midnight and have to turn around and start of the breakfast at 4 am. Gary asked about pools being filled, with the citizens having clouding water after the pool fill. Gabe answered Gary with maybe the hydrants not being flushed maybe had something to do with it but he isn't sure. Discussion was held about

putting a fill station at the water tower. President Agnes Schoch tabled the fill station discussion at the water tower so Trent Shaffer could get quotes.

Geneva Chamber Report: No report from the Geneva Chamber

On a motion: by Jim Timmons, seconded by Gary Hendershot, and passed unanimously, approval of J&M Manufacturing Co CF1/PP form.

On a motion: by Jim Timmons, seconded by Gary Hendershot, and passed unanimously, approval of ETI, LLC CF1/PP form.

New Business #Ordinance 2022-4 amending 2021-8 amending salaries, compensations and benefit programs for the town of Geneva.

On a motion: by Marvin Schwartz, seconded by Gary Hendershot, and passed unanimously, to Waive the rules and procedures.

On a motion: by Marvin Schwartz, seconded by Gary Hendershot, and passed unanimously to Adopt ***#Ordinance 2022-4.***

Appointments for Planning Commission: Lynn Burry and Kevin Huffman.

A ***On a motion:*** by Marvin Schwartz, seconded by Arlen Mitchel, and passed unanimously, to appoint Lynn Burry and Kevin Hoffman. To the Planning Commission.

New Hire for General Laborer position, the recommendation from the work force was Cody Conner. Gary Hendershot asked to abstain from voting due to not being apart of the process from being gone.


On a verbal approval the council members motioned for Gary Hendershot to abstain from voting.

On a motion: by Marvin Schwartz, seconded by Arlen Mitchel, and passed unanimously, to hire Cody Conner for the General Labor position.

A ***On a motion:*** by Marvin Schwartz, seconded by Arlen Mitchel, and passed unanimously, to Approve of the Bank Reconciliation.

A ***On a motion:*** by Marvin Schwartz, seconded by Arlen Mitchel, and passed unanimously, to approve the Accounts Payable Vouchers.

A ***On a motion:*** by Jim Timmons, seconded by Gary Hendershot, and passed unanimously, to adjourn the monthly meeting.



Agnes Schoch, President



Marvin Schwartz, Council Member



Gary Hendershot, Council Member



James Timmons, Vice President



Arlen Mitchel, Council Member

Attest: 

Anthony Davidson, Clerk-Treasurer

Geneva Town Council - Meeting Attendance Sheet - June 14, 2022

NAME

Signature

1. Dana Thomas
2. Sharon Nelson
3. Del Wayne Trusty
4. L. W. N. Barry
5. Erika Hill
6. Fred Gilbert
7. Ally Mann
8. Robert L. Chapp
9. Sally Bury
10. ~~_____~~
11. Gail Schwartz
12. ~~_____~~
13. Pat Shanley
14. Tyler Rixter Bots
15. Kaitlyn Bodel

Zachary Hess

April Beppan

Elizabeth Hill

Justin Ayres