

TOWN OF GENEVA COUNCIL
September 13, 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, Clerk-Treasurer Tony Davidson, and Town Attorney Dave Baumgartner present.

General Public: Mark Schoch, Tony Lothridge, Gabe Schwartz, Zach Hess, Tyler Ritter -Butz, Trent Shaffer, Jessica Miller Represented the Berne Witness.

Public Hearing for Additional Appropriations:

4426-Cumulative Capital Improvements-Special Fire for Fire Equipment	\$118,295.86
2240-Public Safety Loit	\$138,077.14
4425-Cum Fire Fund	\$67,034.10
2401-APRA	\$50,000.00

Discussion held about over appropriations, Agnes mentioned that there was over appropriation because the tanker costs \$366,373.00 and what was advertised totals \$373407.10. Tony Davidson said that Farmers and Merchants had a documentation fee or \$500.00 and interest payment of \$1834.11 totaling \$2334.11 added to the cost of the tanker totals \$368,707.11. Tony then asked what other costs are coming with the tanker. The difference of about \$4700, Arlen Mitchel asked if we planned on putting back into Safety what is not used. Agnes said that we should not take all out of cum fire because this would spend this down to zero dollars. Gary Hendershot asked how is cum fire funded? Agnes said it comes from the state, and we put it in there for fire department purchases. Gary Hendershot asked if that could only be spent on fire? Agnes said it's a cum fire fund so its cumulative fund for the fire department. Gary Hendershot stated that safety could be used for other avenues. Agnes said that was correct, Discussion held about over appropriation of funds.

Public hearing closed with no public comments.

On a motion by Marvin Schwartz 2nd by Gary Hendershot to Adopt Resolution 2022-05 additional Appropriations for Fire Tanker with the chance of amendment for decrease of numbers and passed unanimously.

Fire Chief Gabe Schwartz spoke on issues regarding the tanker and the township trustees. Gabe felt the council was taking it out on the fire department. Gabe addressed the rumors going around and asked the council if the rumors were true. Marvin Schwartz and Agnes Schoch both said that the rumors going around are not true. Gabe talked about the money spent on training and equipment that the fire department has spent.

On a motion by Gary Hendershot 2nd by Arlen Mitchel to approve of minutes from the August 2, 2022 budget workshop meeting and passed 2-0 as councilmen Marvin Schwartz was not in attendance at the budget meeting.

On a motion by Marvin Schwartz 2nd by Arlen Mitchel to approve of minutes from the August 9, 2022 Council meeting and passed unanimously.

On a motion by Marvin Schwartz 2nd by Arlen Mitchel to approve of minutes from the August 18, 2022 budget workshop meeting and passed unanimously.

On a motion by Marvin Schwartz 2nd by Arlen Mitchel to Adopt Ordinance 2022-7 Fixing Salaries and benefits for 2023 All Elected official of the town of Geneva and passed unanimously.

On a motion by Arlen Mitchel 2nd by Gary Hendershot to introduce Ordinance 2022-10 Fixing salaries, comp and benefits for 2022 for the fire department and passed unanimously.

On a motion by Marvin Schwartz and 2nd by Arlen Mitchel to Waive and Suspend the Rules and Procedures to adopt Ordinance 2022-10 Fixing salaries, comp and benefits for 2022 and passed unanimously.

On a motion by Gary Hendershot 2nd by Arlen Mitchel to Adopt Ordinance 2022-10 Fixing salaries, comp and benefits for 2022 and passed unanimously.

Agnes Schoch said that on the introduction of the 2022-8 excluded the fire department giving a 3% raise. Tony Davidson said that his budget the 3% increase was 17,334.50. The increase with the additional money takes it to \$18,058 which was over what was introduced. Agnes said it was a \$542 increase and if we did not raise it to \$18,600 then the fire department would be excluded from the 3%. Agnes continued that everyone but the fire department would get a 3% raise and exclude the fire department. Discussion continued.

On a motion by Marvin Schwartz 2nd by Gary Hendershot to Adopt Ordinance 2022-8 Fixing Salaries, Compensation and benefits programs for 2023 for all appointed officers and employees of the town of Geneva and increase the \$18,600 fire department Compensation and passed unanimously.

On a motion by Gary Hendershot 2nd by Arlen Mitchel to approve the 2023 Holiday Calendar and passed unanimously.

Public Hearing for 2023 Budget: Ordinance 2022-9

GENERAL	\$708,603	MVH	\$266,608	LRS	\$24,000
CEDIT	\$77,000	LL	\$7,200	UNSAFE	\$15,000
RIVERBOAT	\$0	RAINY	\$0	SAFETY	\$86,939
CCI	\$0	CCD	\$25,000	FIRE	\$0
CCG	\$200,000	TIF	\$40,000	ARP	\$0
WATER	\$250,235	W-B&I	\$53,000	W - DEP	\$75,000

SEWAGE	\$350,196	SEW DEP \$60,000	STORM	\$30,000
STORM - DEP	\$60,000	TRASH \$145,000		

Discussion held about increasing the general with the additional fire to \$709,145.

Public hearing closed with no public comments.

On a motion by Marvin Schwartz 2nd by Gary Hendershot to Adopt Ordinance 2022-9 for the 2023 budget and passed unanimously.

Dave Baumgartner spoke about the Hub building is having a tax sale at the end of October. The issue is we would not get the deed for a year and the owner has 1 year to redeem that property. Dave mentioned about using the unsafe building ordinance and funds to purchase residences in the town. If there are abandoned properties we could use the unsafe building ordinance and we could use to clean up.

Dave spoke about the planning commission approving the rezoning of the hospital building. The council will need to approve the ordinance and Dave will make sure to get the ordinance out to see.

On a motion by Gary Hendershot 2nd by Arlen Mitchel to approve *Bank Recon for August 2022* and passed unanimously.

On a motion by Arlen Mitchel 2nd by Gary Hendershot Approval *Accounts Payable Vouchers for August 2022* and passed unanimously.

Citizen comments: None

Agnes asked Trent if we had any information on the leak at the Lake of the Woods. Trent said Andy Yoder was digging to fix it and it was the owner's responsibility.

Agnes mentioned that with the addition of Russ Flueckiger the nuisance ordinance committee is now full, 2 citizens, police officer, town employee makes a full board.

Agnes spoke IDEM is working on getting an extension because we did not get an SRF loan and we do not have the million dollars for the project.

Agnes spoke about the Lexipro grant, and Lexipro writes the grants for a fee.

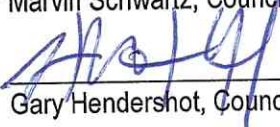
On a motion by Marvin Schwartz, seconded by Gary Hendershot and passed unanimously, the meeting was adjourned.



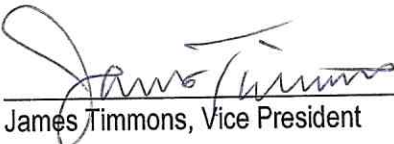
Agnes Schoch, President




Marvin Schwartz, Council Member



Gary Hendershot, Council Member



James Timmons, Vice President



Arlen Mitchel, Council Member

Attest: 

Anthony Davidson, Clerk-Treasurer