

**CITY OF LAKE GENEVA REGULAR COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES
MONDAY, APRIL 7, 2025 - 6:00 PM
LAKE GENEVA CITY HALL; COUNCIL CHAMBERS (MAIN LEVEL)**

Members: Council President: Mary Jo Fesenmaier
Council Vice-President: Cindy Yager
Alderspersons: Sherri Ames, Shari Straube, Linda Frame, Peg Esposito, Joel Hoiland, Cathy Stoodley

Call to Order

Council President Fesenmaier called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Present: Fesenmaier, Yager, Ames, Straube, Frame, Esposito, Hoiland, Stoodley
Absent: None

Approval of the Committee of the Whole Minutes from

Motion to approve the minutes from March 3, 2025, by Ames, second by Esposito.
No discussion. Motion carried on a voice vote.

Comments from the public as allowed by Wis. Stats. §19.84(2), except for public hearing items. Comments will be limited to 5 minutes. Be further advised that matters brought up at this time may be referred to the appropriate committee or individual for further discussion and consideration.

None.

Presentation: Friends of the Lake Geneva Public Library; Nina Ruskey

Nina Ruskey, Friends of the Lake Geneva Public Library, gave a presentation on the Friends of the Library, highlighting the differences between the Library Board and the Friends of the Library, the activities and functions of the Friends of the Library, and the bylaws and structure of the organization.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS. The following Aldermen will be given the opportunity to make announcements or reports at the meeting in regards to committee activities they have been involved in since the last meeting on behalf of the City, future activities and citizen contacts. It is not contemplated that these matters will be discussed or acted on but referrals to the appropriate committees and/or individuals will be made.

Finance, License, and Regulation Committee-Chair Ames

Aldersperson Ames reported on recent committee activity, including licenses and permits approved for various events occurring this year, discussion on the Historic Preservation Ordinance, no parking zones, and various contracts.

Personnel Committee-Chair Yager

Aldersperson Yager reported on the Parks Director job description that was approved by the Committee today. The City Administrator interviews are done and negotiations are taking place with the candidate. The Committee's next step is having Department heads review their job descriptions and putting them into the proper format.

Public Works Committee-Chair Fesenmaier

Aldersperson Fesenmaier reported on recent Committee topics, including the Food Pantry parking placards, the native planting program that was sent to Park Board for review, and the brush drop off hours.

Piers, Harbor, and Lakefront Committee-Chair Frame

Aldersperson Frame reported on dredging, and upcoming agenda items, including the pier replacement bid award, the history of the lagoon, dam, and spillway, and discussed attending a county workshop regarding blue algae.

COMMITTEE, COMMISSION AND BOARD REPORTS. The following committee representatives will be given the opportunity to make announcements or reports at the meeting in regards to committee activities they have been involved in since the last meeting on behalf of the City, future activities and citizen contacts. These matters will be required to be placed on the agenda to comply with Wis. Stats.

Utility Commission-Fesenmaier and Stoodley

Alderson Stoodley reported on a warning of non-compliance with chlorine from the DNR, Alderson Frame reported that the culverts have been replaced, and that work will continue on the South Street project by Bigfoot.

Tree Board-Esposito

Alderson Esposito reported on the continuing concerns with the trees on Main Street. They are looking for partnerships to combat the issue and for an alternative to the holiday lights on the trees.

Other topics of discussion with the Board include bird flu, tree trimming.

Questions followed regarding invasive species such as spongy moth and various mitigation efforts.

Police and Fire Commission-Straube

Alderson Straube reported on the conflict with the meeting times of both PFC and the YMCA Board, and announced that the mayor had reassigned Alderson Hoiland.

Alderson Hoiland reported on a fire service contract with the Town of Linn.

Plan Commission-Esposito

Alderson Esposito reported on the approved window installation at Edie's, a sign update at 728 Main St, a Commercial Indoor Lodging conditional use at 827 Dodge St, Zoning Code updates regarding paved parking areas, fence set backs to alleyways, and Symphony Bay development plans.

Board of Park Commissioners-Yager

Alderson Yager reported on the Veterans Park Playground project updates, the potential for adult fitness equipment, and the discussion of native plantings on Park Row.

Questions and discussion followed regarding the plan for the Veterans Park Playground, renderings and/or photos of proposed equipment will be available soon. Tennis Court and Pickleball Court updates were provided for Maple Park and Dunn Field.

Library Board-Ames

Alderson Ames thanked Nina Ruskey for the presentation given tonight. She also spoke on various upcoming events hosted by the Library, and encouraged visiting the Library's website.

Alderson Frame acknowledged Library Director Emily Kornak. Alderson Ames then acknowledged additional board members.

Alderson Yager spoke on the wonderful programming provided by the Library.

Historic Preservation Commission-Esposito

Alderson Esposito announced that the archeological survey at Hillmoor is wrapping up, and a presentation on the findings will be taking place in May. The Commission would like to do a 3d imaging of the 3 Graces Statue, and is continuing to work on updating the local landmark designation ordinance.

The Commission is looking to do a memorial for longtime member Patrick Quinn, and is also looking at various signs for historic sites in the City.

Avian Committee-Yager

Alderson Yager reported that the Bird City application has finally been approved. The Committee recently did a presentation on migratory birds for the Tuesday at Two program at the Library.

Tourism Commission-Fesenmaier and Stoodley

Alderson Stoodley reported on the recently awarded grants, including Wee Whiskey Fest, Lake Geneva Women's Weekend, and Cheese Fest. The Commission still has about \$500,000 that can be allocated.

Alderson Fesenmaier reported on the Complimentary Request Form process, and announced that the Tourism Commission is financed solely through Room Tax monies only.

Cemetery Board-Stoodley and Frame

Alderson Stoodley reported on the approval of a logo for the Cemetery and its potential future usage on signs.

Hillmoor Commission-Yager

Alderson Yager reported on the recent public input session held by the Commission, highlighting the organization of the goals and objectives of the Commission, and gave an overview of some popular options provided from the members of the public present at the meeting.

Alderson Fesenmaier acknowledged correspondence received regarding objection to the paved trails, and discussed forming a policy addressing requests to read correspondence at meetings.

Questions and discussion followed on how the public input is being amassed and recorded. Alderson Yager clarified that Michael Krajovic is compiling all the information and will present it in the future.

COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES SERVING ON OTHER BOARDS AND COMMITTEES. The following committee representatives will be given the opportunity to make announcements or reports at the meeting in regards to committee activities they have been involved in since the last meeting on behalf of the City, future activities and citizen contacts. These matters will be required to be placed on the agenda to comply with Wis. Stats.

***No meeting or materials posted on the City website.**

***VISIT Lake Geneva-Yager**

Alderson Yager reported on the ribbon cutting for Creative Forces Art Studio, another ribbon cutting will be taking place at Lakeside Books following their next meeting. Event Planning for various yearly events continues.

***Geneva Lake Museum-Hoiland**

Alderson Hoiland reported on recent museum attendance, restaurant week participation, military room renovation, recent roof repair, and the upcoming Tuesdays at Two programs.

***Lake Geneva Economic Development Corporation-Hoiland and Yager**

Alderson Hoiland reported that the Corporation is looking to purchase land or buildings for development opportunities. A property in the business park has the potential for the Corporation to purchase it back. Questions and discussion followed on locations or areas that the Corporation is specifically looking at.

Geneva Lake Environmental Agency-Fesenmaier

Alderson Fesenmaier announced that the agency has hired a new executive director; she will be introducing herself to all the municipalities in the near future. Invasive species protocols will be further developed in order to add more details. Clean Boats Clean Waters will continue.

***Geneva Lakes Family YMCA-Straube**

No report given.

***Geneva Lake Use-Frame**

No meeting, no report.

Business Improvement District-Straube

Alderson Straube reported the bylaws will be updated in order for the District to take financial responsibility back over from the City.

Questions and discussion followed regarding benches and bike racks.

***Geneva Lake Law Enforcement Agency-Mayor Krause**

No meeting, no report given.

Next Meeting Date and Time: Monday, May 5, 2025, at 6:00 pm

Adjournment

Motion by Ames to adjourn, second by Yager.

No discussion. Motion carried on a voice vote.

The meeting adjourned at 7:05 pm.

These minutes are unofficial until approved by the Committee.

Vanessa Jahns
Deputy City Clerk

Approved May 5, 2025