

**CITY OF LAKE GENEVA REGULAR COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES
MONDAY, JUNE 2, 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, Linda Frame, Joel Hoiland, JaNelle Powers, Brian Smith and Cathy Stoodley

Call to Order

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

Fesenmaier announced the Short-Term Rental Software presentation is postponed to next month's meeting.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Present: Fesenmaier, Yager, Ames, Frame, Hoiland, Powers, Smith, Stoodley

Absent: None

Approval of the Committee of the Whole Minutes from May 5, 2025

Motion by Ames to approve, second by Yager.

No discussion, motion carried on a voice vote.

Comments from the public as allowed by Wis. Stats. §19.84(2). 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.

Victoria Ross, 301 Cadence Cir, City of Lake Geneva Avian Committee, spoke in support of the City adopting a Dark Sky Ordinance.

Betty Volquardsen, 1000 Cumberland Cir, spoke in support of the City adopting a Dark Sky Ordinance.

Scott Brutosky, 1011 Main St, spoke on the pier projects and expressed interest in re-opening the discussion of the piers replacement project.

Sarah McConnell, 21 Lakeview Dr, spoke in support of the City adopting a Dark Sky Ordinance and the brush drop off at Public Works.

Robert Furlo, 1243 Pleasant St, spoke in support of reopening the discussion of transferring buoys to slips.

Eric Gallagher, 225 Pearson Dr, spoke on the rules for residents at the brush drop off at Public Works.

Bob Nabasny, 1544 W Main St, spoke on the buoy and pier system, in support of reopening the discussion, expressing that slips are much safer than buoys. He offered a suggestion for a 5-year pre-paid lease program.

George Zimmerman, 61 Lakeview Dr, requested the reconsideration of converting the buoys to slips, highlighting various aesthetic and safety issues with the buoys, and offered participation in an advisory group.

Nick Staggs, 1122 Wisconsin St, spoke on the various issues with buoys and requested the reconsideration of converting the buoys to slips.

Dan Solverson, 1032 Geneva St, requested the reconsideration of converting the buoys to slips, and offered potential funding solutions.

Ted Ahrens, 1823 Conant St, requested the reconsideration of converting the buoys to slips, highlighting safety and

aesthetic issues, and offered potential funding ideas.

Jennifer Garrels, 1622 Evergreen Ln, requested the reconsideration of converting the buoys to slips.

Joe Reed, 1617 Evergreen Ln, requested the reconsideration of converting the buoys to slips, highlighting safety issues and supported researching to topic further.

Craig Lambrecht, 416 Madison St, requested the reconsideration of converting the buoys to slips, highlighting issues with weight lists and environmental concerns.

Acknowledgment of Correspondence

Alderson Fesenmaier acknowledged correspondence received of Kevin Singh from Guac Star regarding window coverings, and requested that Alderson Hoiland refer the topic to the Building & Zoning director and possibly the Plan Commission.

Presentation:

GLEA Protocols: Blue-Green Algae and E.coli; Geneva Lake Environmental Agency, Holly Baseman, Executive Director

Holly Baseman, GLEA Executive Director, introduced herself and her professional background. She presented proposed protocols regarding E Coli and Blue Green Algae.

Questions and discussion followed between Ms. Baseman and Committee members on topics such as logistics of testing, proactive clearing of plant materials, the lagoon, seagulls, and algae bloom training,

Overview of Short-Term Rental Software; Deckard, Garrett Lundberg, Solutions Consultant

Postponed to July meeting.

Public Questions/Comments on Short-Term Rentals; limited to five minutes.

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

Alderson Ames reported on recent event permits and licenses considered by the Committee, software for meeting videos, and displaced lagoon lessees getting season launch passes.

Personnel Committee-Chair Hoiland

Alderson Hoiland reported on the Committee's action plan, open positions, potential ordinance updates, and a review of the government policy manual.

Discussion followed regarding the responsibility of the Council on policy vs operations. Clarification was offered that the Council sets policy but does not get involved in day-to-day activities.

Public Works Committee-Chair Stoodley

Alderson Stoodley reported on topics including mowing at Hillmoor, brush drop off, street repair, and updates to the parking lot at Seminary Park. Upcoming topics include looking at how paid parking can be captured during Winterfest with varying dates, trailer parking at Dunn field, 4-way stop at Broad and Dodge, speed limit change to 25mph on Main in front of Hillmoor, an Ordinance regarding Private Roads, and flashing beacons near the schools. Discussion followed on the 4-way stop at Broad and Dodge, highlighting the safety concerns showing the need for this to occur sooner than 2027-2028. Clarifications were offered on the reasons for the changes to the operations at the brush drop off.

Piers, Harbor, and Lakefront Committee-Chair Yager

Alderson Yager reported on continuing discussions on the lagoon, dredging in the lagoon, repairs of fencing at

the beach.

The next meeting is June 10th, the chair will look into the procedure for reconsideration of the buoy and slip item.

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 Smith

Aldersperson Fesenmaier reported on a budget amended to expand the leak survey area and a mural proposal for the Utility Commission building.

Tree Board-Ames

No meeting, no report. Next meeting is in August.

Police and Fire Commission-Hoiland

Aldersperson Hoiland reported that the Commission officers were elected at the last meeting, and that hiring issues were discussed.

Plan Commission-Hoiland

Aldersperson Hoiland reported on design reviews for downtown businesses.

Board of Park Commissioners-Yager

Aldersperson Yager reported on the review of projects at Vets Park including the rebidding of the basketball courts and the bidding process for the playground, the re-striping project for Maple Park and Dunn Field: Tennis Courts only at Maple Park, 8 permanent pickleball courts at Dunn Field. The YMCA programming contract was approved.

Library Board-Ames

Aldersperson Ames reported on the membership of the Strategic Planning and Personnel subcommittees and various upcoming events and programming at the Library.

Historic Preservation Commission-Powers

Aldersperson Powers reported on recent topics, including participation in the Tuesdays at Two program, updates to the local landmark designation application, a memorial for Patrick Quinn, updates to various plaques, and reprinting of the walking tour programs.

Avian Committee-Powers

Aldersperson Powers reported that the officers were elected at the most recent meeting, and spoke on the possibility of updating the bylaws, the purple martins, birding backpacks program, the Dark Sky Program, and World Migratory Bird Day observance.

Tourism Commission-Fesenmaier and Frame

Aldersperson Frame reported on recent updates given by VISIT.

Aldersperson Fesenmaier spoke on topics including recent grants, updates to paperwork, and the inclusion of guidelines in the application,

Cemetery Board-Stoodley and Frame

Aldersperson Stoodley reported on the RFP for repairs to the office building, and topics to be addressed such as ash spreading, and decor rules and guidelines.

Aldersperson Frame spoke on road repairs.

Discussion followed on proposed benches.

Hillmoor Commission-Yager

Aldersperson Yager spoke about cleaning up the hwy 50 frontage, potential improvements to the parking lot entrance, the new Hillmoor Commission newsletter, land use zones, the development of a project evaluation system and criteria, and site visits at nearby nature parks.

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**

Aldersperson Yager reported on new membership to the Chamber, and highlighted various events spoken about during the Tourism Commission report.

***Geneva Lake Museum-Powers**

Aldersperson Powers reported on recent activity, including officer elections, fundraising events, exhibit repair, new landscaping, new acquisitions, and the possibility of a summer children's program.

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

Aldersperson Hoiland reported that they haven't met for a couple of months but will be meeting again soon. He highlighted the corporation's website and the purpose of the corporation and stated it is searching for land or buildings to purchase.

Geneva Lake Environmental Agency-Fesenmaier

Aldersperson Fesenmaier reported on the protocols presented by the Executive Director and the Clean Boats Clean Waters training for boat launch attendees.

***Geneva Lakes Family YMCA-Stoodley**

Aldersperson Stoodley spoke about YMCA programs, including the grab n go lunch program and repairs at Vets Park.

***Geneva Lake Use-Frame**

No meeting, no report given.

Business Improvement District-Stoodley

Aldersperson Stoodley spoke about the Wine Walk hosted by the BID in May and efforts to catalog property owners/managers in the downtown area to assist with vacancies.

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

No meeting, no report given.

Adjournment

Motion by Ames to adjourn, second by Stoodley.

No discussion, motion carried on a voice vote.

The meeting adjourned at 7:41pm.

These minutes are unofficial until approved by the Committee.

Vanessa Jahns
Deputy City Clerk

Approved July 7, 2025