

CITY OF LAKE GENEVA REGULAR COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2023 - 6:00 PM
LAKE GENEVA CITY HALL; COUNCIL CHAMBERS (MAIN LEVEL)

Members: Council President: Mary Jo Fesenmaier
Council Vice-President: Cindy Yager
Alderspersons: Joan Yunker, Shari Straube, Linda Frame, Peg Esposito, Tim Dunn, Ken Howell

Call to order-Council President Fesenmaier
Council President Fesenmaier called the Committee to order at 6:00pm.

Pledge of Allegiance – Aldersperson Yunker
Aldersperson Yunker led the Committee in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call
Present: Fesenmaier, Yager, Howell, Esposito, Frame, Straube,Dunn, Yunker
Absent: none

Approval of the Committee of the Whole Minutes from September 5, 2023 and October 2, 2023 as prepared and distributed

Motion by Yager to approve, second by Yunker.
Aldersperson Esposito requested that under the Hillmoor Ad Hoc Committee report from September 5, 2023, the word "weekly" be changed to "bi-weekly" as the Committee meets every other week. She also clarified that upcoming meeting dates may vary due to the Holidays, and that anyone interested in attending should double-check the meeting dates on the calendar.
Motion carried 8-0.

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.

Sherri Ames, 603 Center St; thanked all the Committee members for being in attendance, spoke in support of Short-Term Rental software, and spoke on property assessments.

Neil Kolb, 700 Joshua Ln; spoke in support of the YMCA relocating to Hillmoor.

Jim Gaugert, N3121 Center St; spoke in support of the YMCA relocating to Hillmoor, and shared a graph showing ideas for consideration from a Hillmoor Ad Hoc Committee meeting.

John Swanson, 1150 Park Dr #701; spoke in support of the YMCA relocating to Hillmoor.

Cathy Stoodely, 919 Carey St; spoke in support of the YMCA relocating to Hillmoor. She highlighted the partnerships, programs, and services the YMCA offers. She asked the Council to partner with the YMCA.

David McConnell, 21 Lakeview Dr; spoke in support of the YMCA relocating to Hillmoor, highlighted programs offered by the YMCA, and spoke about the results of the YMCA survey.

Update regarding Dragon Days™ Festival of Fantasy; Paul Stormberg, Gyga Memorial Fund
Paul Stormberg from the Gyga Memorial Fund introduced Harold Johnson, chair of Dragon Days.
Mr. Johnson gave a report on the Dragon Days 2023 event and other initiatives planned by the Gyga Memorial Fund. Mr. Johnson explained the economic impact of this year's event and touched on predictions for next year.

Questions and general discussion between Mr. Johnson and the Committee followed.

Presentation regarding the 2023 Assessment Process; Dean Peters, Associated Appraisal Consultants
Dean Peters from Associated Appraisals, vice president of operations, gave an explanation of assessments and the tax levy in the state of Wisconsin, and gave a detailed report on the process followed for the City's full revaluation.

Questions followed between Mr. Peters and the Committee regarding land value assessments, commercial vs residential appraisals in regard to Short-Term Rentals, and the Open Book/Board of Review Process.

Hillmoor Ad Hoc Committee Report-Mayor Klein

Alderperson Fesenmaier reported that the next meeting is Thursday at 4:00pm.

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 Howell

Alderperson Howell gave a report on upcoming topics including Short Term Rental software and the purchase of a street sweeper.

Personnel Committee-Chair Dunn

No meeting, no report was given.

The Committee requested that a meeting be scheduled for December.

Public Works Committee-Chair Straube

Alderperson Straube gave an update on recent Committee topics including a curb raising project by the Walmart and Taco Bell parking lots.

Questions and discussion followed regarding a traffic study for a stoplight on HWY 50.

Piers, Harbor, and Lakefront Committee-Chair Yunker

Alderperson Yunker reported on pending equipment purchases, a boat slip replacement RFP, and that the City now carries liability insurance for the dam.

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-Frame and Howell

Alderpersons Frame and Howell were absent at last meeting, no report given.

Tree Board-Esposito

Alderperson Esposito reported on activity regarding the emerald ash boar and spongy moth problems, including a current physical eradication program and budgeting for soil injections in the spring. The Tree Board will be entering a tree in the parade of trees, and is looking into a project with local students to develop protectors for the trees on Main Street.

The City arborist considers requests for specific tree plantings.

Police and Fire Commission-Yunker

Alderperson Yunker reported that the neighborhood watch program is now operational.

Plan Commission-Yunker

Alderperson Yunker announced that the public hearings for the Alliant Energy and Lake Shore Drive Comprehensive Plan changes will be on November 16th.

The Short-Term Rental Ordinance will also be on the November agenda.

Board of Park Commissioners-Frame

No report given.

Library Board-Fesenmaier

Alderson Fesenmaier reported that the Library is continuing to work on its Strategic Planning for the next five years, and will be presenting at a future Committee of the Whole meeting.

Historic Preservation Commission-Dunn

Alderson Dunn reported on the replacement of historic markers around town, and the changes to the historic preservation ordinance.

Questions followed regarding the archaeological grant application and the letter of intent. Alderson Esposito gave background information on the financial details regarding the grant.

Avian Committee-Yager

Alderson Yager announced that the City received the 2023 High Flyer award, which is posted upstairs in conference room 2A. She explained this is a step above being a Bird City as it includes an educational component. The Committee is working on the 2024 application, has gathered information on gull deterrence, and will participate in the parade of trees at the museum. Alderson Yager announced that the butterfly garden at the library has broken ground.

Tourism Commission-Fesenmaier and Howell

Alderson Fesenmaier spoke about grant money given by the Commission and about future contract negotiations with VISIT Lake Geneva.

Cemetery Board-Fesenmaier

Alderson Fesenmaier spoke about the Pontem gravesite search software, revision of rules and regulation, and the purchase of properties for further cemetery development. Chair Sibbing attended the State conference for cemeteries.

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 meetings or materials posted on the City website.

*VISIT Lake Geneva-Yager

Alderson Yager spoke about the recent Impact Awards, the addition of 12 new partners to the Chamber, the ribbon cutting ceremony for Salt & Kai at the Markets of Lake Geneva, and highlighted the increase in marketing analytics. The Electric Christmas Parade is December 2nd, and the Bundle Up promotional drive goes through December 31st.

*Geneva Lake Museum-Dunn

Alderson Dunn gave an update on topics including the Dragon Days festival attendance, the Wizard of Lake Geneva exhibit is now 80% complete, highlighted the Parade of Trees, and announced the elevator installation project which is possible thanks to multiple grants.

Lake Geneva Economic Development Corporation-Howell and Yager

Alderson Yager reported that there is 1 lot left at the business park, and that the Corporation recently had a wonderful spread in the Lake Geneva Regional News highlighting the properties in the business park.

Geneva Lake Environmental Agency-Dunn

Alderson Dunn spoke on topics including invasive species, the need for a new home and boat, incorporating the agency into a taxing authority, and further financial needs.

*Geneva Lakes Family YMCA-Straube

Alderson Straube reported that there was no meeting in October, and the next meeting is this Thursday. She thanked everyone who spoke in support of the YMCA relocating to Hillmoor.

General discussion followed regarding the YMCA's letter of intent to purchase land at Hillmoor.

*Geneva Lake Use-Esposito

No meeting, no report.

Business Improvement District-Straube

Alderperson Straube reported that the board voted to increase the board size by 2 members, and announced holiday events including the tree lighting on November 24th during Black Friday and Shop Small weekend.

Geneva Lake Law Enforcement Agency-Mayor Klein

No report given.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Yager, second by Esposito

No discussion.

Motion carried 8-0. The Committee adjourned at 7:25pm.

These minutes are unofficial until approved by the Committee.

Vanessa Jahns

Deputy Clerk