

**CITY OF LAKE GENEVA REGULAR COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES
MONDAY, MARCH 3, 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 February 3, 2025

Motion by Ames to approve, second by Hoiland.

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.

Bill Huntress, 1015 Pleasant St, spoke about traffic, parking downtown, a proposed parking garage, and downtown construction projects.

Cindy Yager, 1284 Edgewood Dr; reported on Hillmoor Commission activities, including the approval of the mission and vision, archaeological study sites, and emphasis on the importance of public input. She announced a special meeting is scheduled this week to work on the Knowles Nelson grant revisions.

Dennis Loeser, 336 Laurie St, spoke about the downtown parking issues, and suggested adding "no littering" signs, recent construction projects, the Parks Director position, and the Building Administrator position.

Sarah Hill, 1024 George St, thanked the Committee for their service and time and spoke about thinking globally and acting locally, spoke in favor of getting the YMCA on the Hillmoor property, and discussed a past project of improving a blighted property by developing a Kwik Trip store.

Jim Gaugher, YMCA Board of Directors, N2131 Center St, spoke about the future of the YMCA and the potential for a future site on the Hillmoor property, requesting the topic be sent to the Hillmoor Commission for consideration.

Mike Kramp, YMCA Board of Directors, 460 Oakwood Ln, spoke in favor of the school referendum, highlighting the YMCA and school partnership, and spoke on the decision to pursue the opportunity to build an expansion branch location in Delavan. He stated the YMCA is not leaving Lake Geneva, just expanding.

Presentation: Operational Referendum; Lake Geneva Joint #1 School District, George Chironis, Director of Business Services

George Chironis and Erin Ziegler from the Lake Geneva Joint #1 School district gave a presentation on their upcoming Operational Referendum.

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 updated recent Committee activities including Cemetery pricing, a Riviera Comp form, STR software contract, court resurfacing, and lagoon dredging.

Personnel Committee-Chair Yager

Alderson Yager spoke about the progress of the Parks Director position and other committee considerations, and job description formatting.

Public Works Committee-Chair Fesenmaier

Alderson Fesenmaier spoke on Electric vehicle charging stations, one-sided parking on North St, the brush drop off site at Public Works, sidewalk evaluations for improvements, the Traffic Signal Maintenance contract, native plantings, Main St maintenance, pedestrian crossing improvements at Broad and Dodge, the possibility of a Parking Commission, and a grant application for a stop light at Townline & Edwards.

Piers, Harbor, and Lakefront Committee-Chair Frame

Alderson Frame reported that there was not a meeting in February. The Committee meets next week and will discuss the bid status for the lagoon piers and lagoon dredging.

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 Fesenmaier reported on the White River Culvert project, and the Big Foot Lift station.

Tree Board-Esposito

Alderson Esposito spoke on the planning of an Arbor Day event with the Library, tree removal report, and announced the Committee is looking for more members.

Police and Fire Commission-Straube

Mayor Krause reported that the Flock camera locations are being decided on, and the hope is that they are up and running in the next month. A study was done regarding the need for new facilities. The Linn FD contract expires at the end of March, and the language is being finalized for an agreement.

Plan Commission-Esposito

Alderson Esposito spoke on a window update project at Edie's and various other requests for buildings downtown.

Board of Park Commissioners-Yager

Alderson Yager reported on the progress of the Veterans Park Playground project.

Library Board-Ames

Alderson Ames reported on continuing programming and the 130th anniversary committee's progress.

Historic Preservation Commission-Esposito

Alderson Esposito reported on the local landmark designation program, signage by the Mill Pond, the progress of the archaeological study, and grant opportunities.

Avian Committee-Yager

Alderson Yager spoke on the birding backpack program with local hotels, World Migratory Bird Day, participation at the Museum's Tuesday at 2 program, and bird strike mitigation display options.

Tourism Commission-Fesenmaier and Stoodley

Alderson Fesenmaier spoke on recent grant awards and evaluation forms. She clarified that the Tourism Commission money comes only from Room Tax Collected, and does not use any taxpayer dollars.

Cemetery Board-Frame and Stoodley

Alderson Stoodley announced that a 20% pricing increase has been approved. An Ordinance to address the scattering of ashes is being addressed 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 spoke on the discussion to possibly reschedule Winterfest in the future, but that VISIT has decided not to reschedule.

The Donald Driver commercial planning continues.

Lake Geneva has been nominated for the best small town in the Midwest.

***Geneva Lake Museum-Hoiland**

Alderson Hoiland reported that there was no meeting in February, but they do have a leaky roof that needs repair.

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

No meeting, no report.

Geneva Lake Environmental Agency-Fesenmaier

Alderson Fesenmaier reported on Agency activity including the contract for a new Executive Director.

***Geneva Lakes Family YMCA-Straube**

No meeting, no report.

***Geneva Lake Use-Frame**

No meeting, no report.

Business Improvement District-Straube

Alderson Straube reported that President Osborne is taking a leave of absence, and that Vice President Tumas will be taking over for the time being.

The BID will be discussing the option to move Oktoberfest back to Flat Iron Park.

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

No meeting, no report.

Adjournment

The next meeting is on April 7, 2025, at 6:00 pm.

Motion by Ames to adjourn, second by Yager.

No discussion. Motion carried on a voice vote.

The meeting adjourned at 7:22 pm.

These minutes are unofficial until approved by the Committee.

Vanessa Jahns

Deputy City Clerk