

CITY OF GENOA
City Council Meeting Minutes
June 17, 2008

Mayor Walker called the regular meeting for the City Council to order at 7:00 p.m. Roll call taken. Aldermen Wesner, Carroll, Curley, Sheahan, Pizano, Watson and Hansen were present. Alderman Jursich was absent.

Mayor Walker led the Pledge to the Flag.

Guest speaker—Representative Robert Pritchard was present to update the Council on the business in Springfield. Legislature has been very dysfunctional and inept this past session. Leadership is in a crisis. Some changes in leadership will be possible in the House and Senate this fall. He is encouraging the public to voice their opinions to the representatives and senators to vote to elect new leaders in January. There is a proposal to have a Constitutional Convention, and this raises several issues. Many organizations are opposed to this because they are concerned about changes to pensions and health care and the cost of a Convention is in the millions of dollars. He is concerned that personal political agendas are overriding the welfare of the residents of the State of Illinois. He is concerned about issues pertaining to education and healthcare. In DeKalb County, doctors no longer serve patients who use Medicaid. Capital improvement needs have not been addressed. The general climate of taxing businesses, imposing fees and preventing them from expanding in Illinois is very discouraging. Business was not conducted as a result of the stalemate in the government of Illinois. The budget passed was a spending plan. The speaker stated the revenue is up to the Governor. The State is in deep financial straits and needs reform and leadership. These are his observations and he is interested in hearing from the public on State issues. There were no further comments or questions from the Council or the audience.

Motion made by Alderman Wesner to accept the minutes of the regular City Council meeting of June 3, 2008, seconded by Alderman Hansen. Roll call vote taken. Aldermen Wesner, Carroll, Curley, Sheahan, Pizano and Hansen voted yes. Alderman Watson abstained. Motion carried.

Motion made by Alderman Curley to approve payment of the accounts payables for the first half of June 2008, seconded by Alderman Watson. Alderman Carroll questioned the cost of the environmental study needed for the sale of certain property. Roll call vote taken. Aldermen Curley, Sheahan, Pizano, Watson, Hansen, Wesner and Carroll voted yes. Motion carried.

ITEMS FROM INDIVIDUALS IN ATTENDANCE

Gordon Jones spoke on behalf of Genoa Main Street reporting the “Wet Paint” project is scheduled for this weekend. The prep work has been done and they could use more volunteers for painting. Next weekend is the first Movies on Main Street and the Zoo Fest Dinner.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Economic Development Commission met on June 5th and this was the first Roundtable meeting. This was an opportunity to provide information to the DeKalb County Economic Development Corporation in the process of their strategic plan. They were very well attended with 16 participants representing various interests. The next Roundtable meeting will be the first Thursday in September. The Plan Commission met on June 12th and reviewed one petition for a Special Use Permit for Genoa Pizza.

OLD BUSINESS—none

NEW BUSINESS

An ordinance approving issuing a Special Use Permit to allow an outdoor seating area for 313 West Main Street—Motion made by Alderman Pizano to approve an ordinance approving issuing a Special Use Permit to allow an outdoor seating area for 313 West Main Street, seconded by Alderman Hansen. There were concerns about the area left for passing by the business. The plan allows for 5 feet for the general public to get by. If this proves not to be acceptable, the license agreement will provide for changes. The agreement also provides for liability matters to be covered by Genoa Pizza. Roll call vote taken. Aldermen Pizano, Watson, Hansen, Wesner, Carroll, Curley and Sheahan voted yes. Motion carried.

Approval to execute an agreement between Genoa Pizza and the City of Genoa for a terminable license to permit an outdoor seating area—Motion made by Alderman Watson to approve executing an agreement between Genoa Pizza and the City of Genoa for a terminable license to permit an outdoor seating area, seconded by Alderman Wesner. Roll call vote taken. Aldermen Watson, Hansen, Wesner, Carroll, Curley, Sheahan and Pizano voted yes. Motion carried.

An ordinance repealing ordinance 2004-44, pertaining to 15 minute parking on N. Genoa Street—There has been a request to remove the 15 minute parking on N. Genoa Street because of the closing of the liquor store on the corner. Mayor Walker proposed eliminating only the three parking spaces on the west side of N. Genoa Street and leave the 15 minute parking on the east side of N. Genoa Street. As businesses in the area change, this matter will have to be revisited. Motion made by Alderman Curley to approve an ordinance repealing 15 minute parking on N. Genoa Street on the west side of the street only, seconded by Alderman Wesner. Roll call vote taken. Alderman Curley, Sheahan, Pizano, Watson, Hansen, Wesner and Carroll voted yes. Motion carried.

An ordinance adopting the prevailing wage rates for the County of DeKalb in the City of Genoa, Illinois—Motion made by Alderman Wesner to approve an ordinance adopting the prevailing wage rates for the County of DeKalb in the City of Genoa, Illinois, seconded by Alderman Watson. Roll call vote taken. Aldermen Wesner, Carroll, Curley, Sheahan, Pizano, Watson and Hansen voted yes. Motion carried.

An ordinance authorizing the City Council to grant a Special Permit for a temporary beer garden to a business that holds a valid liquor license in the City of Genoa—Motion made by Alderman Hansen to approve an ordinance authorizing the City Council to grant a Special Permit for a temporary beer garden to a business that holds a valid liquor license in the City of Genoa, seconded by Alderman Hansen. Roll call vote taken. Aldermen Hansen, Wesner, Carroll, Curley, Sheahan, Pizano and Watson voted yes. Motion carried.

CLOSED SESSION

For the purpose of approving the minutes of the previous closed session and for the purpose of discussing land acquisition—Motion made by Alderman Sheahan to go into closed session for the purpose of approving the minutes of the previous closed session and for the purpose of discussing land acquisition, seconded by Alderman Curley. Roll call vote taken. Aldermen Sheahan, Pizano, Watson, Hansen, Wesner, Carroll and Curley voted yes. Motion carried.

Motion made by Alderman Curley to reconvene to the regular session of the City Council, seconded by Alderman Sheahan. Voice vote taken. All voted yes. Motion carried.

In closed session, the City Council accepted the minutes of the previous closed sessions of September 4, 2007 and November 26, 2007. There was no further action taken by the Council in the closed session.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Administrator's report—Administrator Misurelli has received information from the Department of Revenue and the population count is 5,374. He expects to begin receiving the revenue corresponding to this number a month earlier than anticipated. The next challenge is implementing the Police Pension program.

Public Works—Director Gentile said Genoa fared well during the recent storms in avoiding any major damage. His staff continues additional brush chipping as a result of the abundance of fallen tree debris. He will be submitting to the Council a proposal for reserving the pavilion in Citizen's Park.

Police Department—Chief Solar reviewed his crime report. His goal this year is to have no open felony cases. Highlighted this month was the Child Safety Fair hosted by the K-9 Unit. Genoa Days was fairly calm, with a handful of arrests. The arrests made were either unrelated to the festival or minor in nature. He did not receive any complaints about the music from the beer garden.

Mayor's report—Mayor Walker and Administrator Misurelli continue to work on outstanding Council issues and will update the Council accordingly. He plans to meet with IDOT next week to discuss the intersection of Pearson Drive and Route 23. He announced that Saturday was the

second annual Brett's Run which hosted approximately 700 participants, almost double from last year. This was well run, well attended and highly supported.

ANNOUNCEMENTS—none

Motion to adjourn the regular City Council meeting made by Alderman Wesner, seconded by Alderman Carroll. Voice vote taken. All voted yes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.