

CITY OF GENOA  
City Council Meeting Minutes  
January 20, 2009

Mayor Walker called the regular meeting of the City Council to order at 7:00 p.m. Roll call taken. Aldermen Wesner, Carroll, Curley, Sheahan, Hansen and Vicary were present. Aldermen Pizano arrived at 7:05 p.m. and Alderman Watson arrived at 7:06 p.m.

Mayor Walker led the Pledge to the Flag.

Guest speaker—none

Motion made by Alderman Curley to accept the minutes of the regular City Council meeting of January 6, 2009, seconded by Alderman Sheahan. Voice vote taken. All voted yes. Motion carried. Alderman Pizano arrived.

Motion made by Alderman Sheahan to approve payment of the accounts payables for the first half of January 2009, seconded by Alderman Wesner. Roll call vote taken. Alderman Sheahan, Hansen, Vicary, Wesner, Carroll, Curley and Pizano voted yes. Motion carried. Alderman Watson arrived.

#### ITEMS FROM INDIVIDUALS IN ATTENDANCE

Gordon Jones spoke on behalf of Genoa Main Street Organization. The ice rink is now open. They had about 20 volunteers assist to get it set up. On January 31 they will have the official grand opening at noon. They are starting a skate exchange through Genoa Main Street so interest parties should contact them to participate in this. Genoa has continued to receive positive press on the skate rink compared to some of our neighboring communities.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administrator Misurelli said the next Economic Development Commissions quarterly meeting is March 5<sup>th</sup> at noon. The next Plan Commission meeting is February 12 and he is aware of a couple of possible petitions, and he will update the Council as these progress.

OLD BUSINESS—none

#### NEW BUSINESS

Resolution for IDOT to approve closing of Route 72 (Main Street) for Genoa Days Celebration—Motion made by Alderman Curley to approve a resolution for IDOT to approve closing of Route 72 (Main Street) for Genoa Days Celebration, seconded by Alderman Wesner.

Roll call vote taken. Aldermen Curley, Sheahan, Pizano, Watson, Hansen, Vicary, Wesner and Carroll voted yes. Motion carried.

Mayor Walker commented that we should look at upgrading and/or improving the public address system downtown so during these events it could be used to return lost children, etc. They can discuss this at a future meeting.

Resolution granting use of a Municipal Parking Lot by the Genoa-Kingston Fire Department—pertaining to the Genoa Days Celebration—Motion made by Alderman Wesner to approve a resolution granting use of a Municipal Parking Lot by the Genoa-Kingston Fire Department—pertaining to the Genoa Days Celebration, seconded by Alderman Sheahan. Roll call vote taken. Alderman Wesner, Carroll, Curley, Sheahan, Pizano, Watson, Hansen and Vicary voted yes. Motion carried.

Discuss designating parking restrictions in the City of Genoa cul-de-sacs and courts—Mayor Walker introduced the discussion, and if the Council approves this, it should begin the next snow season. Residents were invited to comment. Chris Higgins of 544 Jackson Court is concerned because his household has a number of vehicles. Mayor Walker said the proposal is to make parking prohibited after a 2” snowfall. Snow plowing is difficult in these areas because of parked cars. Mike Brann of 542 Jackson Court does not object to the restricted parking, but he has a complaint that his yard is being damaged during snow plowing. He was directed to contract Administrator Misurelli regarding the yard damage. Mr. Brann complimented the Police Department on their patrolling of the neighborhood, because their presence has improved the peacefulness of the area. There were no further comments from residents. In summary, Mayor Walker commented that letters went out to all residents in the cul-de-sacs and courts and they were invited to attend the meeting and voice their opinions. Also, this was discussed at a previous Committee of the Whole meeting. This is a difficult situation because it limits the residents parking, but it also hampers Public Works when clearing snow. Alderman Sheahan said that he agrees with minimum inconvenience to the residents; however, he is in favor of the restricted parking to clear the area and then the cars can be parked in the street once the area has been plowed. Alderman Hansen commented that there are other areas to consider, such as dead end streets, for future discussion. Director Gentile will investigate this matter to see how many would be affected. Signs in these areas will be posted according to their design to prevent blockage during plowing. Another aspect of this problem is when there is a heavy snowfall and where snow is moved. A resident commented that he sometimes has large piles of snow in his yard. Director Gentile will look into this matter. Alderman Curley commented that she has concerns about emergency vehicles entering and exiting these areas with cars parked on the streets. Mayor Walker directed the Chief to contact the First Department for any concerns they may have.

Resolution designating parking restrictions in the City of Genoa on cul-de-sacs and courts—Motion made by Alderman Sheahan to approve a resolution designating parking restrictions in the City of Genoa on cul-de-sacs and courts to begin next snow season, seconded by Alderman Wesner. Roll call vote taken. Alderman Sheahan, Pizano, Watson, Hansen, Vicary, Wesner, Carroll and Curley voted yes. Motion carried.

## CLOSED SESSION

For the purpose of approving the minutes of the previous closed session.

For the purpose of collective bargaining and discussing the appointment, employment, dismissal, compensation, discipline and/or performance of specific employees.

Motion made by Alderman Curley to go into closed session for the purpose of approving the minutes of the previous closed session and for the purpose of collective bargaining and discussing the appointment, employment, dismissal, compensation, discipline and/or performance of specific employees, seconded by Alderman Wesner. Roll call vote taken. Alderman Curley, Sheahan, Pizano, Watson, Hansen, Vicary, Wesner and Carroll voted yes. Motion carried.

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

In closed session, the Council accepted the closed session minutes of January 6, 2009. No other action was taken.

## DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Administrator's report—Administrator Misurelli reports that the Chamber of Commerce will be conducting the Community Expo for 2009. It will be March 7<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Genoa Middle School. He has received the maps for the 2010 Census, so that is beginning soon. In reviewing this year's snow and ice control so far, we are doing very well being prudent with our salt reserves.

Public Works—Director Gentile reiterated our conscientiousness in our ice and snow maintenance this winter season. Alderman Wesner said that the tenants of an apartment building on S. Stott Street and E. Main Street are parking close to the corner and they create a site hazard. Director Gentile will investigate this further. Mayor Walker directed the Chief to review this also. Alderman Wesner said also in that area large vehicles are parking in such a way that they cover the sidewalks when in the driveways. In addition, she commented on the trucks making deliveries or pickups that block First Street. City staff will contact the business and pursue alternative measures with them. It was suggested that only trucks shorter in length make the deliveries and pickups. Chief Solar will examine this possibility.

Police Department—Chief Solar reports that Officer Christiansen is resigning. He has been offered a position with the Sheriff's Department. This position will remain vacant until further notice. Chief Solar encouraged those who know of elderly citizens, etc. who may need a well-being check during our severe weather conditions contact his office.

Mayor's report—Mayor Walker continues to work on the budget. The Park District is using another location for meetings, but he would like to offer the use of the Council Chambers on our off meeting nights. If anyone has any objections to this, they should contact the Mayor.

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