

CITY OF GENOA  
Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes  
March 24, 2008

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

Amendments to the agenda—none

Motion made by Alderman Watson to accept the minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting of March 4, 2008, seconded by Alderman Curley. Roll call vote taken. Aldermen Watson, Hansen, Curley, Sheahan and Pizano voted yes. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS—none

NEW BUSINESS

Genoa Main Street Organization request for financial support—Mim Evans was present to request the continuation of financial support from the City Council. There already exists great financial investments in the downtown area by private and public entities. The value of the property downtown affects the private neighborhoods adjacent to it, and the downtown affects the City's tax base. If the downtown is not kept attractive, other businesses will not locate here. Many of the current downtown businesses attract out-of-town dollars. The downtown provides affordable locations for local home-based businesses to expand. The area provides "think green" efforts by reusing existing buildings and walkability for customers. A strong downtown helps keep professional services. The downtown has lost businesses, but has also gained businesses which is an accomplishment in today's economy. For every dollar the City contributes, three additional dollars come into the program. In addition, volunteer hours last year totaled a value of over \$60,000. Privately funded programs have advanced with the support of Genoa Main Street such as the scholarship program which was able to offer two scholarships this year and the banner fundraiser has nearly raised everything needed. Money invested by the community remains in the community to promote it. Information on the activities and programs of Genoa Main Street were distributed to the Council. She asks that the funding level of \$10,000 remains intact for the Genoa Main Street Organization. Mayor Walker commented as the Council goes through the budget process, he would encourage the continuation of the support of Genoa Main Street. Several Aldermen commented that they support the Genoa Main Street, and there were no objections regarding their continued support.

Consideration for permission to use Municipal Parking Lot by the G-K Sports Boosters—The G-K Sports Boosters submitted a request to use the Municipal Lot on May 17<sup>th</sup> for the sale of G-K Cog items. There were no objections and this will appear on a future Council agenda for approval.

Discuss feral cat program—Several Council members commented that the program does seem to be working and this should remain a part of the budget. There were no objections to the continuation of this program as requested by the DeKalb County Animal Shelter.

Discuss Riverbend Park Improvements—Mayor Walker referred to the report submitted by Director Gentile. It demonstrates the improvements made and the anticipated improvements, depending on the housing market.

## DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Administrator's report—Administrator Misurelli reports the Special Census is moving along smoothly and he expects it to be completed shortly. There was an article in the local newspaper honoring the City of Genoa along with several other communities as participants in the Tree City USA Program.

Public Works—Director Gentile reports that there is no charge for the portable restroom located at Citizen's Park during the off season.

Police Department—Chief Solar said that the Department is running its semi-annual eligibility list and selection process and they have received over 100 applications. They will be doing agility testing at the high-school on the 5<sup>th</sup>. He received word today that John Klink is under orders until September of 2009.

Mayor's report—Mayor Walker stated that he and several staff members will be attending the required 2-day NIMS classes and testing. He and staff are working on infrastructure issues. Also, they continue to work on the City properties available for development or for sale. He announced "Brett's Run" will be an event conducted during Genoa Days. Director Gentile stated that there will be improvements made on the North Locust Street lift station the first week in April. Mayor Walker asked the Chief to monitor speeders going to various sports practices. Alderman Watson commented on the signs that spring up over the weekend. Director Gentile stated that City employees are authorized to remove "illegal" signs in the public ways. The Chief can schedule an auxiliary officer to remove these.

Motion made by Alderman Curley to adjourn the meeting of the Committee of the Whole, seconded by Alderman Sheahan. Voice vote taken. All voted yes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.