

CITY OF GENOA  
City Hall  
Public Hearing & City Council Meeting Minutes  
July 21, 2020  
7:00 P.M.

Mayor Vicary called the public hearing to order for granting an additional cable television franchise at 7:00 p.m. Roll call was taken. Aldermen Wesner, Carroll, Di Guido, Stevenson, Winter, Cravatta, Brust and Lang were present. The question was asked if there would be connection to Pinehurst Circle which is located out of City limits. MicroNet responded that they will complete the in-town connections and then a Special Projects Manager will come back and analyze to see if other areas would be dense enough to meet their return on investment. Mayor Vicary closed the public hearing. Meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Mayor Vicary called the regular meeting of the City Council to order at 7:06 p.m. Roll call was taken. Aldermen Wesner, Carroll, Di Guido, Stevenson, Winter, Cravatta, Brust and Lang were present.

Mayor Vicary led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Guest Speaker** – None.

Motion made by Alderman Wesner to approve the minutes of the July 7, 2020 City Council meeting, seconded by Alderman Carroll. Voice vote was taken. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Motion made by Alderman Lang to approve payment of the accounts payables for the first half of July 2020 in the amount of \$104,259.68, seconded by Alderman Winter. Administrative Director, Alyssa Seguss was asked to elaborate on line item #3 regarding reimbursement for a fence due to error. She explained that a permit was issued for a 6-foot fence, but it was on a side yard, which is not allowed; only a 4-foot fence is permitted. The fence was already put up when the error was identified, so the City reimbursed the resident for the cost incurred to change the side yard fence to be in compliance. Roll call vote was taken. Aldermen Lang, Wesner, Carroll, Di Guido, Stevenson, Winter, Cravatta and Brust voted yes. Motion carried.

**ITEMS FROM INDIVIDUALS IN ATTENDANCE** – None

**OLD BUSINESS** – None

**NEW BUSINESS**

**CONSIDER A CABLE TELEVISION FRANCHISE AGREEMENT WITH METRONET:**

- Motion made by Alderman Cravatta to approve a Resolution approving and authorizing the execution of a Franchise Agreement with CMN-RUS, INC, seconded by Alderman Wesner. There was no discussion. Roll call vote was taken. Aldermen Cravatta, Brust, Lang, Wesner, Carroll, Di Guido, Stevenson and Winter voted yes. Motion carried.
- Motion made by Alderman Wesner to approve a Letter of Agreement with MetroNet, seconded by Alderman Stevenson. There was no discussion. Roll call vote was taken. Aldermen Wesner, Carroll, Di Guido, Stevenson, Winter, Cravatta, Brust and Lang voted yes. Motion carried.

**CONSIDER AN EXTENSION OF A PUD FOR 705 EAST MAIN STREET:**

- Corey Brackmann of Brackmann Construction addressed Council to provide an update regarding the 705 East Main Project. He indicated that he was close to an agreement with Dunkin Donuts and then Covid-19 hit and it fell by the wayside. He expressed that he doesn't have any committed tenants at this time and requested a 6 month to 1-year extension of the PUD. There was some discussion amongst Council and Mr. Brackmann; consensus was that the City would not lose or gain anything from approving the extension.
- Motion made by Alderman Wesner to approve an Ordinance approving an extension of a Final Planned Unit for a Commercial building located at 705 East Main Street, seconded by Alderman Di Guido. There was no discussion. Roll call vote was taken. Aldermen Wesner, Carroll, Di Guido, Stevenson, Winter, Cravatta, Brust and Lang voted yes. Motion carried.

**CONSIDER A FAÇADE GRANT AGREEMENT FOR THE BETH FOWLER SCHOOL OF DANCE BUILDING AT 303 WEST MAIN STREET:** Motion made by Alderman Stevenson to approve a Façade Grant Agreement with Beth Fowler for 303 West Main Street, not to exceed \$17,858.31, seconded by Alderman Brust. Administrative Director Seguss was asked if more funds for this program are available or if this grant used the remaining funds or exceeds the allotted amount for the fiscal year. She responded that with this Façade Agreement, it would be slightly over the allotted budget amount, but she believes there is still approximately 200k+ in the over-all fund. Roll call vote was taken. Aldermen Stevenson, Winter, Cravatta, Brust, Lang, Wesner, Carroll and Di Guido voted yes. Motion carried.

**CONSIDER THE FISCAL YEAR 2019/2020 BUDGET AMENDMENT:** Motion made by Alderman Di Guido to approve an Ordinance amending the Annual Budget for the Fiscal Year beginning May 1, 2019 and ending April 30, 2020 for the City of Genoa, DeKalb County, Illinois, seconded by Alderman Lang. There was some discussion regarding 2 previous employees who were given refunds from the Police Pension Fund. Roll call vote was taken. Aldermen Di Guido, Stevenson, Winter, Cravatta, Brust, Lang, Wesner and Carroll voted yes. Motion carried.

**CONSIDER PROPOSALS FOR BOND AND DISCLOSURE COUNSEL FOR THE CITY'S PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE BOND:** Motion made by Alderman Lang to approve a proposal from Chapman and Cutler for Bond Counsel and Disclosure Counsel for the City's 2020 Public Infrastructure Bond, not to exceed \$9,500, seconded by Alderman Wesner. There was no discussion. Roll call vote was taken. Aldermen Lang, Wesner, Carroll, Di Guido, Stevenson, Winter, Cravatta and Brust voted yes. Motion carried.

**CONSIDER INCREASING THE FENCE PERMIT FEE:** Motion made by Alderman Winter to approve an Ordinance amending Appendix A of the City Code of the City of Genoa, seconded by Alderman Brust. There was some discussion regarding the proposal of raising a fence permit amount. It was explained that it is due to 2 inspections being needed as opposed to 1. The increased fee will cover the City's cost to pay the Building Inspector. Roll call vote was taken. Aldermen Winter, Cravatta, Brust, Wesner, Carroll, Di Guido and Stevenson voted yes. Alderman Lang voted no. Motion carried.

**CONSIDER CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE DEKALB COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT FOR A GRANT:** Motion made by Alderman Wesner to approve the contribution of \$2,500 to the DeKalb County Soil and Water Conservation District to aid in the application for a Watershed Planning Grant, seconded by Alderman Stevenson. Public Works Director, Rich Gentile explained that this works in conjunction with other entities, including the ability to tap into their Consultant. The grant will assist with larger projects, including the ditch on Walnut that needs to be switched over. Roll call vote was taken. Aldermen Wesner, Carroll, Di Guido, Stevenson, Winter, Cravatta, Brust and Lang voted yes. Motion carried.

**CONSIDER THE FUTURE OF THE POLICE K-9 PROGRAM:**

- Discussion regarding the Police K-9 Program: Chief Smith addressed Council to express why he feels the Police K-9 Program is needed. He stated that the Dog will provide positive PR for the City and the Police Department; will act as an extra Officer on the night shift; will be a passive dog, so will be more friendly and there is already a vehicle in the current fleet equipped for the dog. Chief Smith explained that although nothing was budgeted for a new K-9, there are other budgeted funds available due to Officer Gates resigning and not being replaced, as well as the Police Department buying a car as opposed to an SUV. The approximate cost of the Dog would be \$11,500, plus fuel cost and discounted veterinarian visits. The Police Department already has a bite suit and other equipment. He also indicated that the Police Department receives monetary and dog food donations, which will help to keep costs down. There was some discussion amongst Council and consensus was the K-9 Program would be great for the City & Police Department.
- Motion made by Alderman Cravatta to proceed with the purchase of a Police K-9, seconded by Alderman Lang. There was no additional discussion. Roll call vote was taken. Aldermen Cravatta, Brust, Lang, Wesner, Carroll, Di Guido and Stevenson voted yes. Alderman Winter abstained.
- Motion to proceed with donations for the Police K-9: *Due to the previous item being passed, there was no need to proceed with this agenda item.*

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

***Administrative Report*** – Administrative Director, Alyssa Seguss had no report.

***Finance Report*** – Finance Office Manager & Treasurer, Jan Tures was absent.

***Public Works*** – Director Gentile reported that the water main project has been completed; paving repair work is scheduled for later in the week and next week, work will begin on the Well 4 Generator, Motor Control Center and the Well itself.

***Police Department*** – Chief Smith reported that they have been working on the new radios. They don't work inside the building; only outside and in the Police vehicles. He then reported that one of the Officers has been exposed to Covid-19.

***Mayor's Report*** – Mayor Vicary reported that due to Covid-19, air travel has greatly decreased and United Airlines will be laying off 30,000 employees in the next few days. He stated that he

is unfortunately one of those being laid off. He is unsure if he will be able to secure another position within United Airlines and if he does, he doesn't know where it will be. He indicated that he is planning on finishing out his term as the Mayor of Genoa, but will not be seeking re-election. He thanked Council and Staff for their patience and understanding.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS** – Alderman Stevenson announced that Alderman Di Guido has been promoted to Sergeant First Class (E-7) in the Army Reserve.

Motion to adjourn the regular meeting of the City Council was made by Alderman Wesner, seconded by Alderman Winter. Voice vote was taken. All voted yes. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 7:48 p.m.