

CITY OF GENOA  
City Hall  
City Council Meeting Minutes  
November 3, 2021  
7:00 P.M.

Mayor Brust called the meeting of the City Council to order at 7:00 p.m. Roll call was taken. Aldermen Wesner, Pulley, Freund, Stevenson, Winter, Cravatta, Holcomb and Lang were present. Quorum present.

Mayor Brust led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Guest Speakers – None

Motion made by Alderman Pulley to accept the minutes of the October 20, 2021 City Council meeting seconded by Alderman Lang. Voice vote was taken. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Motion made by Alderman Stevenson to approve payment of the account’s payables for October 31, 2021, seconded by Alderman Lang. Roll call vote was taken. Aldermen Wesner, Pulley, Freund, Stevenson, Winter, Holcomb, Cravatta and Lang voted yes. Motion carried.

**ITEMS FROM INDIVIDUALS IN ATTENDANCE** – None

**OLD BUSINESS** - None

**NEW BUSINESS**

**RECOGNITION OF EAGLE SCOUTS CHRISTIAN HUERTA, JAMES DRESKA, AND HUNTER SWANSON**

**Update on Progress in Riverbend By Grainger** – Brian Grainger was present and stated that currently there are 28 units with 27 of them are sold. Next year they are hoping that 8-12 more units will be complete maybe more depending on the interest; there has been some interest in a couple having basements and they are looking into that. Later next year they will start the club house. Alderman Cravatta stated that he had a resident approach him in regards to the entrance and wondered whose responsibility that on up keep, Brian and Alyssa stated that they would look into that.

**APPROVE THE 2021 TAX LEVY DETERMINATION FOR THE CITY OF GENOA:**

Staff has prepared the 2021 Tax Levy Determination:

City of Genoa	\$820,000
Genoa Riverbend SSA	\$ 80,753
Derby Estates SSA	\$ 8,100
Genoa Oak Creek Estates SSA #4	\$ 11,318

Motion made by Alderman Wesner for an agreement to approve the 2021 Tax Levy Determination for the City of Genoa, seconded by Alderman Stevenson. The tax levy determination being presented results in a 2.3% reduction in the City of Genoa’s tax rate. A detailed presentation will be provided at the City Council

meeting. A Public Hearing and final approval will be at the December 1, 2021 meeting. Finance director Jan Tures gave a presentation explaining the Tax Levy. Roll call vote was taken. Aldermen Wesner, Pulley, Freund, Stevenson, Winter, Cravatta, Holcomb and Lang voted yes. Motion carried.

**Discuss the Reduction of the Genoa Township Park District Fitness Center's Rent for the Months of November and December:** This past July, the City Council approved a Resolution that reduced the Park District Fitness Center's rent by 50% in July, August, and September. The Resolution also states, "A 50% reduction of rent, excluding utilities, for an additional 3 months (October 2021, November 2021, and December 2021) shall be contingent on the Fitness Center providing a profit and loss statement in September of 2021 that demonstrates the Fitness Center is still operating at a deficit". In September, the Fitness Center had a loss of \$8.26. This item was on the October 20, 2021 City Council Agenda and the Council approved the 50% reduction for October, however, the Council had some questions so the item has been placed on the agenda once again to consider the reduction for November and December. Paul Bafia, Executive Director of the Park District, Holly and Jock were present at the meeting to answer questions and discuss the plan to get fitness center back up and running to not need any further assistance from the city. Staff is looking for guidance on how to proceed with the Fitness Center's rent. At this time the council agreed to give the fitness center November and December a rent reduction of 50% and then meet again towards the end of December to have another discussion and see where their numbers are at.

**Reject All Bids for the 2021 Partial Service Lateral CIPP Lining Project:** Motion made by Alderman Wesner to reject all bids for the 2021 Partial Service Lateral CIPP lining project, seconded by Alderman Pulley. On October 27, 2021, a bid was received for the sewer lateral lining project which amounted to \$70,000. \$130,000 was budgeted for the lateral lining project and Item F, with Item F being prioritized. City Staff and Civil Engineering Services is recommending that the Council reject all bids received for the 2021 Partial Service Lateral CIPP Lining Project. Staff will reconsider the scope of the project and analyze the costs compared to benefits. No further discussion. Roll call vote was taken. Aldermen Wesner, Pulley, Freund, Stevenson, Winter, Cravatta, Holcomb and Lang voted yes. Motion carried.

**Award A Bid to Visu-Sewer of Illinois, LLC, for the 2021 Sanitary Sewer CIPP Lining Project Base Bid, Alternate 1, Alternate 2, and Alternate 3, and Reject Alternate 4, Not to Exceed \$113,727:** Motion made by Alderman Stevenson, award a bid to Visu-Sewer of Illinois, LLC, for the 2021 Sanitary Sewer CIPP Lining Project Base Bid, Alternate 1, Alternate 2, and Alternate 3, and Reject Alternate 4, not to exceed \$113,727, seconded by Alderman Lang. There were 2 bids received on October 27, 2021 for the sanitary sewer main lining project. Staff and C.E.S. are recommending approval of the base bid, alternate 1, 2, and 3 which would entail sewer lining on Holly Court, Jackson Court, Reid Road, Watson Drive, and Cooper Court. Alternate 4's cost far exceeded Staff's estimate, which is explained in Item G. These areas were prioritized due to the infiltration and inflow into the sanitary system these mains allow. Lining will reduce I&I and prolong the life of the sewer mains as well as reduce flow into the City's Waste Water Treatment Plant that has limited capacity remaining. Due to the high cost from the bids, this project was prioritized over the lateral lining because the main lining must be done first. No further discussion. Roll call was taken Aldermen Wesner, Pulley, Freund, Stevenson, Winter, Cravatta, Holcomb and Lang voted yes. Motion carried.

**Approve Sandblasting and Spray lining the Locust Street Lift Station by Advanced Rehabilitation, Not to Exceed \$17,000:** Motion made by Alderman Wesner to approve the sandblasting and spray lining the Locust Street Lift Station by Advanced Rehabilitation, not to exceed \$17,000, seconded by Alderman Lang. A bid was received for lining the Locust Street Lift Station (Alternate 4 discussed above), which amounted to \$31,500. Staff had previously received a quote for this work which had come in at almost half the cost. Attached is a quote to sandblast and spray line the Locust Street lift station for \$17,000. The cost difference is likely due to both the bidder's availability to do the work as well as materials used for the project. The Contractor has done work in the City of Genoa previously. This project is in an effort to reduce the infiltration and inflow into the sewer system. There was no discussion. Roll call vote was taken. Aldermen Wesner, Pulley, Freund, Stevenson, Cravatta, Holcomb and Lang voted yes. Motion carried.

**Approve Health Insurance Renewal Effective December 1, 2021 through November 30, 2022:** Motion made by Alderman Pulley to approve the Health Insurance Renewal effective December 1, 2021 through November 30, 2022, seconded by Alderman Wesner. The City has received renewal proposals for the City's Employee Health Insurance Program. The Program includes health, prescription drug, dental, life, and disability insurance for qualified employees. In 2020, the City's health insurance renewal reduced 14.5% which resulted in a \$43,105 cost savings. The renewal for medical, dental, life, and disability effective December 1, 2021 had an increase \$42,260. Blue Cross Blue Shield adjusts their quote based on the previous year's claims, changes in employees and their coverage, and the filed rates established by the State of Illinois. City Staff has discussed this cost increase with the City's health insurance broker and ways to reduce the cost of the renewal premiums. One option is losing the City's grandfathered-in status with the City's current plan and implementing an Affordable Care Act (ACA) plan. The City did request quotes from the broker to purchase an ACA plan for health insurance and the City Employee's benefits would be greatly reduced while still increasing the premium in cost by \$24,503 for the upcoming year of coverage. Additionally, there is a possible 20% excise tax that the city may be required to pay under the ACA plan. Staff is recommending approval of the current insurance program due to the net cost savings of \$845 over three years (2019-2022), however, action may need to be taken should the City see a similar increase again for 2023. There was no discussion. Roll call vote was taken. Aldermen Wesner, Pulley, Freund, Stevenson, Cravatta, Holcomb and Lang voted yes. Motion carried.

**Discuss Downtown Streetscape Designs:** The City of Genoa will be applying to the Rebuild Illinois' Rebuild Downtowns and Main Streets Capital Grant Program (RDMS). There is \$50 million in funding available. The current project costs based on preliminary drawings are estimated at \$900,000. RDMS does not require a minimum funding match but it would aid in the success of the grant application if the city were to match with at least 10%. While the grant application is due in January 2022, it is likely that the project would not begin until 2023. Images from Aldermen that submitted design ideas were compiled into a presentation. Through the presentation and discussion, Staff and the Engineers are seeking input on design preferences so that the grant application process can be finalized. Kevin from CDS was present to answer any questions and help with the discussion to get ideas of what the council is looking for to improve the downtown area. Lots of ideas were brought up and it seems all were interested in new street signs, brick in either the sidewalks or over the street, lighting down main street and even on some of the side streets, banners, landscaping, some type of art or murals and another thought was maybe purchasing a building or property downtown to revitalize and create something in the downtown area.

**Recognition of Alderman Katie Lang Upon Her Retirement as Ward 4 Alderman.** Mayor Brust gave Alderman Lang a proclamation and everyone wishes Alderman Lang the best of luck in her new adventures.

## **DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

**Administrative Report** – City Administrator, Alyssa Seguss reported that the Mayor, Jan, Chief and herself had first meeting to begin negotiations with the Police Commission for the contract that expires in April of 2022; Annual report and calendar is underway, the city held a calendar contest with the high school for the design of the cover in which there were a few designs submitted and a finalist has been chosen which will be shown at the next meeting; Flood Brothers stated waste removal this last week, there were no major issues the city received just a few phone calls in regards to the billing but nothing major. Genoa Street will be closed from November 4<sup>th</sup> till November 20<sup>th</sup> for reconstruction as well as many streets within town are being paved currently.

**Finance Report** – Treasurer & Finance Director, Jan Tures stated that she has nothing new to report at this time.

**Public Works** – Public Works Director, Janice Melton stated that she has nothing to report at this time

**Police Department** – Chief Smith reported that he would like to thank the mayor and council for recognizing the Eagle Scouts it has been shared already on the Genoa Police Page on Facebook, there were 236 kids for the trunk or treat, Halloween there were no reported incidents, Friday there were 2 cars that were paintballed but it was between 2 high school students and has been taken care of; the K9 grant that was on Facebook was not awarded to Genoa but he wanted to thank everyone who voted.

**Mayor's Report** – Mayor Brust has nothing to report at this time

**ANNOUNCEMENTS** – Alderman Lang was happy to see in census report that our population has gone up, it was not a huge increase but we did not loose any residents as some of the other surrounding communities have.

Motion to adjourn the meeting of the City Council was made by Alderman Wesner, seconded by Alderman Lang. Voice vote was taken. All voted yes. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 9:16 p.m.