

CITY OF GENOA  
City Hall  
City Council Meeting Minutes  
December 15 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 and Holcomb were present. Alderman. Quorum present. Motion made by Alderman Wesner to have Alderman Cravatta present via phone due to work conflict, seconded by Alderman Holcomb. Alderman Cravatta was present in person to meeting at 7:45pm.

Mayor Brust led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Guest Speakers – Brian Wallace, Kate Holcomb and Carolyn Tobinson from Kishwaukee Valley Wanderers presented to the council about putting in a disc golf course at Carol Park. They have reached out to local businesses about sponsoring a hole for the golf course and received a huge acceptance. They have also had several people stating they will come help clear away any overgrowth to put in the disc golf. The council feels that this would be a great addition to the city and help get people into town. Kate Holcomb also presented to the council the upcoming events that the Kishwaukee Valley Wanderers will be doing next year.

Motion made by Alderman Stevenson to accept the minutes of the December 1, 2021 City Council meeting and 2021 Public Hearing on December 1, 2021, seconded by Alderman Holcomb. Voice vote was taken. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Motion made by Alderman Wesner to approve payment of the account's payables for December 15, 2021, seconded by Alderman Pulley. Roll call vote was taken. Aldermen Wesner, Pulley, Freund, Stevenson, Winter, Cravatta and Holcomb voted yes. Motion carried.

**ITEMS FROM INDIVIDUALS IN ATTENDANCE** – Citizen Jim Joyce addressed the council in regards to the Midweek newspaper, he feels that the newspaper should no longer be delivered to homes, as in his current neighborhood there is a driveway that has 6 papers that are piled up, he would like the Midweek to stop delivering to homes. The mayor stated that the city will look into this and thanked him for his time.

**OLD BUSINESS** - None

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Consent Agenda by Omnibus Vote** – Motion made by Alderman Wesner to approve a motion of unanimous consent of the city council for use of an Omnibus vote to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Alderman Stevenson. No further discussion. Roll call vote was taken. Aldermen Wesner, Pulley, Freund, Stevenson, Winter, Cravatta and Holcomb voted yes. Motion carried.

Motion made by Alderman Freund to approve the motion to approve the consent agenda that includes the following items, seconded by Alderman Wesner. No further discussion. Roll call vote was taken. Aldermen Wesner, Pulley, Freund, Stevenson, Winter, Cravatta and Holcomb voted yes. Motion carried.

- Use of Citizen's/Carroll Park and downtown sidewalks during the Eggapalooza event on April 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022

- Use of Citizen's/Carroll Park during the Clean the Kish event on June 25, 2022
- Use of Citizen's/Carroll Park during the Kishwaukee Valley Wanderers Kayak & Canoe the Kish event on July 16, 2022
- Use of Citizen's/Carroll Park during the Kishwaukee Valley Wanderers Rumble on the River event on September 9, 2022
- Use of Citizen's/Carroll Park for the Volksfest events September 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022

**Approve an Economic Development Services Agreement:** Motion made by Alderman Holcomb to approve an economic development services agreement with Jock Sommese to continue working as the Economic Development Consultant for the City of Genoa. Mr. Sommese has served as the City Economic Development Consultant since June of 2021 and aided with the city with re-establishing the Economic Development Commission as well as connecting the Mayor and City Staff with local resources to further economic development. In the coming months, Mr. Sommese will be working to set up meetings with local business owners to enhance relationships and discuss growth of Genoa, seconded by Alderman Pulley. The Mayor stated that the current agreement ends December 2021, he would like to extend the contract and have Jocks focus shift towards working on small business retention and how to keep the downtown area thriving. Roll call vote was taken. Aldermen Wesner, Pulley, Freund, Stevenson, Winter, Cravatta and Holcomb voted yes. Motion carried.

**Presentation Regarding the Rebuild Downtowns and Main Streets Capital Grant Program Application-** City Administrator Alyssa Seguss and Kevin from C.E.S. went over the presentation of the proposal that will be submitted for the Capital Grant Program for the revitalization of the downtown area. Kevin suggested that if the city could afford to match either 10 or 20% of the total cost it looks better for approval of the grant. Alderman Stevenson asked Finance Director Turess if the city has the funds to match 20%? Turess stated that the funds were available for that match in the Public Improvement Bond. The council all agreed to match 20% of the improvement.

**Approve the Purchase of a CAD System from Central Square, Not to Exceed \$12,030-** Motion made by Alderman Wesner to approve the Police Department to purchase a CAD (Computer Aided Dispatch) System to replace their existing system that is outdated and no longer supported. This system will help streamline the mandatory reporting required by the State of Illinois. This purchase was budgeted for in the 2021-2022 Budget and there are sufficient funds in the line item within the budget, seconded by Alderman Pulley. No further discussion. Roll call vote was taken. Aldermen Wesner, Pulley, Freund, Stevenson, Winter, Cravatta and Holcomb voted yes. Motion carried.

**Approve and Authorize the Mayor to Sign an IEPA Final Loan Closing Amendment for Drinking Water Project L175598, Well Number 4 Improvements and Water Main Replacements-** Motion made by Alderman Pulley to approve and authorize the mayor to sign an IEPA final loan closing amendment for drinking water project L175598, well number 4 improvements and water main replacements. There is a revised loan document for the Well 4 and water main projects that was completed earlier this year. A description of the original project is included in the loan document. This loan document is being amended in order to reduce the principal by \$104,912.79 (from \$1,459,129.70 to \$1,354,216.91) due to the project being completed under budget, seconded by Alderman Winter. No further discussion. Roll call vote was taken. Aldermen Wesner, Pulley, Freund, Stevenson, Winter, Cravatta and Holcomb voted yes. Motion carried.

Eligible Project Cost:	\$1,354,216.91
Construction Period Interest	\$ 1,378.65
Less Principal Forgiveness	\$ 800,000.00
Total Amount Financed	\$ 555,595.56

1.5% interest rate

20 year term

**Approve and Authorize the Mayor to Sign a Master CPA Professional Services Agreement with Sikich LLP-** Motion made by Alderman Stevenson to approve and authorize the mayor to sign a Master CPA Professional Services Agreement with Sikich LLP, The City of Genoa has contracted with Sikich since 1999 for audit services. Sikich provides auditing services to over 100 governmental clients, making them a prominent auditing firm in Northern Illinois. For the past 22 years, Sikich has provided excellent auditing services as well as outstanding resources regarding accounting issues. The agreement includes the general conditions of working with Sikich and will not need to be renewed each year, seconded by Alderman Holcomb. No further discussion. Roll call vote was taken. Aldermen Wesner, Pulley, Freund, Stevenson, Winter, Cravatta and Holcomb voted yes. Motion carried.

**Approve and Authorize the Mayor to Sign a Statement of Work with Sikich LLP, Not to Exceed \$24,165-** Motion made by Alderman Winter to approve and authorize the mayor to sign a statement of work with Sikich LLP, not to exceed \$24,165, in previous years, Sikich has included the statement of work within the agreement for services, however, has since made these two separate documents. Moving forward, should the city continue to work with Sikich, only the Statement of Work will need to be approved each year. While the agreement in the above item includes their general conditions, such as confidentiality, billing, and communication practices, the statement of work details the services to be provided to the City of Genoa specifically. This year, the costs of these services has increased by 3%, totaling \$24,165. This cost increase is similar to increases in previous years and a minimal increase for the cost of doing business given the current financial climate. The cost for these services is largely attributed to the City of Genoa Fiscal Year Ended April 30, 2022 Audit, which is required by law. An audit of the Police Pension Fund and an opinion on the generally accepted government auditing standards are also required, which is included in the Statement of Work being considered seconded by Alderman Cravatta. No further discussion. Roll call vote was taken. Aldermen Wesner, Pulley, Freund, Stevenson, Winter, Cravatta and Holcomb voted yes. Motion carried.

## **DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

***Administrative Report*** – City Administrator, Alyssa Seguss reported that they had a meeting with the police union before city council and she is happy to report that both parties are in agreement with proposals that both parties have submitted and everything should be in place for the April 2022 deadline. Alyssa also reported that the Mayor, Finance Director and herself have been having meetings discussing the upcoming budget and looking into some investment and reserve policies. Alderman Stevenson asked about the house on North Sycamore Street that used to be rented out to the chamber. Alyssa stated that currently at this time it is sitting vacant however we have had some revenue coming in over the last fiscal years from IDOT has rented it out for a decent amount but other than that it is sitting vacant. We do encourage for it to be rented as opportunities arise.

***Finance Report*** – Treasurer & Finance Director, Jan Tures stated that they are on the way of discussing budget and looking into investment policies for our surplus. Jan also stated that she looked into the LED street lights as Alderman Cravatta had asked about in the last meeting, as she has found that the city is currently saving about 13% but it is hard to tell if this is due to the LED lights or due to the winter billing not in yet.

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

***Police Department*** – Deputy Chief stated that he has nothing to report at this time

***Mayor's Report*** – Mayor Brust stated that on Thursday December 16<sup>th</sup> at 11:00am they are doing a ribbon cutting for South Genoa Street to celebrate the road improvement that was long overdue. The city has also received recently a proposal from a developer for a spilt residential with commercial property within the city limits of Genoa, we are hopeful that more information can be shared in the near future. In the new year the staff will be looking at properties throughout town that is zoned a certain way or needs rezoning to bring in new things, if any council members would like to be part of these discussions to please let Alyssa know.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS** – None at this time

Motion to adjourn the meeting of the City Council was made by Alderman Wesner, seconded by Alderman Stevenson. Voice vote was taken. All voted yes. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 8:06 p.m.