

CITY OF GENOA
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
City Hall
February 16, 2023
8:30 P.M.
City Council Chambers
333 East First Street, Genoa, IL 60135

Mayor Brust called the meeting of Committee of the Whole to order at 8:58 p.m. Roll call was taken. Aldermen Wesner, Pulley, Freund, Stage, Winter, Cravatta, Hughes and Holcomb were present. Quorum present.

NEW BUSINESS

DISCUSSION OF 2023 HARVEST FESTIVAL: Mayor Brust stated that we are here to have a discussion of the 2023 Harvest Festival, to come up with ideas, things council would like to see happen differently or something that they want to see at the festival, along with committees. Alderman Pulley stated that they will be asking for \$10,000 approval for Harvest Festival, a lot of that money goes into logistics like signs, fliers and a million little things to run the festival. A bulk of the money goes to rides about \$7500-\$8500 last year, about \$1200 came back from the rides. Alderman Pulley stated that this is a small committee and would like to have some input and ideas from the council. Mayor Brust is asking if anyone has ideas for revenue resources, ideas or recommendations for sponsorship. One thing that is very important was the original idea was hey lets do something for the community and Alderman Pulley wanted to have something to showcase the business and organizations; since it has grown, expanded and widened the question has come around what is the actual purpose of Harvest Fest? Is this purpose to be a community showcase? Is this purpose to be a family event or shut down as a festival feel? Alderman Pulley had the idea of For Genoa by Genoa in his head. He is hoping the Lions club will join. The boysouts, FFA, Library all helped, Museum Opened Up last year.

Some Ideas that were talked about was do we shut down Main Street? Last year the sidewalks were very crowded. Do we have vendors? Flea Market? Do we want to keep this a family event? Bike decorating parade for kids and or golf cart parade.

If anyone is interested in helping out with marketing and advertising, coordinate movie night, be on the committee, business liaison and sponsorship coordinator, participant manager. Alderman Hughes stated that he is willing to be on the committee. Meetings are typically on Mondays at 10am. Alderman Winter suggested to put it on social media to see if anyone would be willing to help out.

Alderman Winter stated that she feels it would be great to have as many local and out of town people coming to Harvest Fest to support local businesses and vendors that will be at the festival. It's a great way to support the businesses and show people how great Genoa is. A flea market

was mentioned. Alderman Cravatta stated that it would be great to have vendors who pay to have a booth to help support Harvest Festival.

Council felt that if we can get vendors, crafts and fill up most of Main Street, they would be interested in closing down Main Street. Seguss is going to look into closing Main Street, so that if we need it closed the permit is in place. Council felt that we should be charging for vendors, unless they are a non-for-profit vender.

Council also felt that having the Chamber Fall Crawl after the Harvest Fest was fantastic as people could go as a family to Harvest Fest then have the adult event of the Fall Crawl; however, it does not seem the chamber wants to have these two events on the same day.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Alderman Pulley, seconded by Alderman Freund. Voice vote was taken. All voted yes. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 9:40 p.m.