

Village of Geneva on the Lake  
Regular Meeting of Council  
Minutes of Meeting 7/20/2020

Mayor Bennett called the meeting to order at 7:32 PM.

Roll call was taken and the following council members were present: Jennifer Allison, Matt Caudill, Cindy Herda, Gary Himes, P.J. Macchia and Don Woodward. Also present were Fiscal Officer Kim McKinley, Solicitor Kyle Smith, Police Chief Esser and Fire Chief Craft.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited; a moment of silence followed.

MINUTES TO THE PREVIOUS MEETING: Macchia made a motion, seconded by Allison to approve the minutes of the June 15, 2020 council meeting. The motion passed with all in favor. Hearing no corrections, the minutes were approved as presented.

PERSONS APPEARING BEFORE COUNCIL: Michelle Firment, Jenny Reed and Tim Mills

Michelle Firment residing at 4852 Kathryn Dr has concerns with property to the south owned by Alicia and Adam Burkhart and property across the street owned by Suk Hui Hays whereas Charles Hall is the tenant. There has been an ongoing issue with both properties with hoarding. She has tried to ignore the problem for several years; however, the issue has gotten out of control. Not only is the issue an eyesore for the neighborhood, the situation is detrimental to the health and wellbeing of herself, her of neighbors and their vehicles. Mrs. Firment apologized for having to be appear at the council meeting. She feels that she has exhausted every option. She has been in contact with the police department the last couple of years. She was advised to have her property surveyed, install a camera system and post no trespassing signs. The unsanitary condition has led to a rodent infestation in her own home and she feels situation is child endangering. The issue was temporarily resolved in November of 2019 once Adman Burkhart appeared in court. She has contacted the new police chief and has spoken to several officers. Her calls have not been returned and the officers need to be educated on the property maintenance code.

Administer Shaffer has begun the process of issuing notice identifying the public nuisance and identifying the timeline to abate. In addition, he has notified the owners to inform them of zoning violations and failing to operate a business without a license. Solicitor Smith talked about the process including the serving notice and the 10-day appeal process. Solicitor would like to file civil charges, not criminal; the defendant would not be entitled to legal counsel. Defendant if found guilty, may have a court order in place for several years and defendant may be held in contempt for violation of order.

Jenny Reed feels the homeowner is trying to intimidate the neighbors by revving truck engine and shooting fireworks. She said a refrigerator with doors outside on the property. In addition, she seen a child crawl into a cooler and close the lid.

Solicitor requested officers be present while statements are taken on the mice, rodents, coolers, refrigerator, threats and intimidation. Solicitor will review ordinances with the new officers.

PAYMENT OF BILLS: Macchia made a motion, seconded by Allison to approve the payment of bills. The motion passed with all in favor.

POLICE REPORT: Chief Esser provided a written report for month of June.

WORK SESSION REPORT: Fiscal Officer provided a report of the meeting held on July 13, 2020.

ADMINISTRATOR REPORT: Jeremy Shaffer provided a summary on his written report for June. Report included Lake Erie water levels, a Street and WWTP Report. Administrator Shaffer provided an updated on Hearthside Grove, an OPWC emergency funding approval for storm water outfall for \$180,000; total of six outfalls. He has requested federal assistance for the protection of critical infrastructure at then west of Geneva Township Park for

\$266,000. Tim Mills added that the Craig Parker has taken over for Tony Long. He has all the financing in place and he has experience with contractors. He is doing the work at no charge.

Administrator completed the final application for siphon project. The initial funding is \$206,900 on a \$413,000 project. Village Administrator Shaffer will apply for a CDBG Critical Infrastructure grant to fund the balance in the fall. Fire Chief Craft would like to purchase a new squad at a cost of \$288,000 fully equipped. USDA has indicated that the fire department has a very good chance of receiving a \$100,000 grant toward squad. Administrator Shaffer would like to request a bond levy of 1.7 mills. Village may request a reduction in millage if grant request has been approved. Woodward made a motion, seconded by Macchia to place a 1.7 mill levy for five years on the November ballot. The motion passed with all in favor.

Solicitor recommended a special meeting for next week. Two resolutions would be required with the second one needing to pass the first meeting in August.

OLD BUSINESS:

***ORDINANCE 2020-40: AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE APPOINTMENT OF AARON SCHWARZ AS SUPERINTENDENT OF THE VILLAGE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT, EFFECTIVE JULY 27, 2020 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.*** Macchia made a motion, seconded by Allison to pass as an emergency. The motion passed with all in favor. Macchia made a motion, seconded by Allison to waive the three reading rule. The motion passed with all in favor. Macchia made a motion, seconded by Allison to pass Ordinance 2020-40. The motion passed with all in favor.

***ORDINANCE 2020-43: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING 2020 APPROPRIATIONS IN VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS.*** Macchia made a motion, seconded by Allison to waive the three reading rule. The motion passed with all in favor. Macchia made a motion, seconded by Allison to pass Ordinance 2020-43. The motion passed with all in favor.

***ORDINANCE 2020-44: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING TRANSFER FROM LOCAL CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUND.*** Macchia made a motion, seconded by Allison to waive the three reading rule. The motion passed with all in favor. Macchia made a motion, seconded by Allison to pass Ordinance 2020-44. The motion passed with all in favor.

NEW BUSINESS: Mayor Bennett would like to update sergeant requirements. Cynthia Herda has resigned from her position on council effective immediately following this meeting.

Woodward made a motion, second by Macchia to solicit letters of interest for the vacant position on council with term ending December 31, 2021; interested parties need to respond by August 7, 2020. The motion passed with all in favor. Fiscal Officer will post with Star Beacon, Gazette and on village website.

Village Administrator will arrange to have up to six trash dumpsters placed at WWTP in lieu of spring cleanup.

Woodward made a motion, seconded by Macchia to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed with all in favor.

Mayor Bennett adjourned the meeting at 8:38 P.M.

Recorded by: Kimberly A. McKinley, Fiscal Officer