

THE GENEVA CITY COUNCIL
JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

April 17, 2025 – 5:30 PM
City Hall – 2nd Floor Conference Room
47 Castle Street
Geneva, NY 14456

Presiding – Steve Valentino, Mayor

1. ROLL CALL

Present: Clr. Petropoulos, Clr. Gillotte, Clr. Grimaldi, Clr. Lavin, Clr. Brennan
Absent: Clr. Whitfield, Clr. Moracco, Clr. Pealer

2. DISCUSSION – Comprehensive Plan

City Manager Hendrix opened the Comprehensive Plan discussion by explaining the RFP timeframe, which would be at least three weeks. Then four to six weeks to review and bring a consultant on board. Councilor Lavin wondered if this item should be held for next Council. It was suggested by City Manager Hendrix that a time frame could be set with the consultant for a final product delivered in one year, or whatever term council decides on. Councilor Brennan shared that the Town of Geneva is upgrading their Comp Plan as well, and wondered if there would be some benefit to tie in, if there would be a benefit for each party to do so. Councilor Petropoulos said he'd prefer to keep the Comp Plan, and eliminate anything that makes it a Master Plan. He then wondered if the City has a Master Plan. Director West explained that there are area plans. City Manager Hendrix added that a Comp Plan is required, while other plans are not. Mayor Valentino reminded Council that the current Comprehensive Plan points to other documents. Discussion followed around the state and courts allowing all plans to be treated as Comp Plans. Mayor Valentino shifted focus to the draft RFP, explaining that he likes what he sees including the general nature, timelines, deadlines, and reference to past projects. Councilor Lavin also approved of the draft RFP. Director West wondered if Council would like an interview process. All Councilmembers present affirmed that they would like an interview process, which will be added to the RFP. Councilor Petropoulos added that he'd like to collaborate with stakeholders for the plan, and wondered how the County was or wasn't involved in development of the current Comp Plan eight years ago. Councilor Gillotte suggested exploring stakeholder involvement during the interview process, while the Mayor agreed that a general RFP will allow applicants to be more creative in their response. City Manager Hendrix then reviewed some metrics in the draft RFP.

3. DISCUSSION – Boards and Commissions

Mayor Valentino reviewed boards and commissions abolished, and what's left. The Human Rights Commission was discussed. It was decided that the Commission would remain, so it's available should the City need it again. The Mayor then shared that he and the Clerk have met with the Board of Ethics Chair, and that board is reviewing tenants, etc. which may be refreshed in the near future.

Councilor Brennan shared that he is not in favor of any more side roads like the MAP grant selection process and boards and commissions inquiry. He'd prefer to focus efforts on the budget and Comp Plan, as there is a lot of work ahead of council. Mayor Valentino suggested that when requests for information are made, the majority of council should give direction. Discussion followed, to include helping new Councilmembers when they come on board in January, work projects, council size, and a charter update. Councilmembers present agreed that the Boards and Commissions are working well now, and no changes are requested.

4. EXECUTIVE SESSION

ACTION TAKEN by Clr. Lavin; seconded by Clr. Petropoulos

MOVED THAT Council move to executive session at 6:00pm to discuss the employment history of a particular person.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ACTION TAKEN by Clr. Petropoulos; seconded by Clr. Gillotte

MOVED THAT Council exit executive session at 6:18pm.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. ADJOURNMENT

ACTION TAKEN by Clr. Lavin; seconded by Clr. Petropoulos

MOVED THAT the meeting be adjourned at 6:19pm

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Nicole Tillotson
City Clerk