

THE GENEVA CITY COUNCIL
JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

SEPTEMBER 9, 2025 – 6:00 PM
City Hall – 2nd Floor Council Chambers
47 Castle Street
Geneva, NY 14456

Presiding – Steve Valentino, Mayor

1. ROLL CALL

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

2. PRESENTATION – 2026 Budget

City Manager Hendrix opened the 2026 Budget presentation with an overview of the goals of this budget. Comptroller Blowers reviewed the CPI, projected sales tax revenue, economic indicators and their impact on the 2026 budget. He then explained priority setting for this budget, noting that this is a budget that just covers the cost of doing business.

City Manager Hendrix reviewed the Water Fund, Sewer Fund, and General Fund. The proposed Water Fund budget for 2026 is \$3,982,144, with zero impact on customers. The Sewer Fund is \$5.9 million, again with no customer impact. The General Fund proposed total appropriations are \$22,224,755, a \$3 month increase for a median home in the City.

Comptroller Blowers next reviewed Enterprise Funds. He shared that Recreation is being considered to convert to an Enterprise Fund where its revenue could cover its expenses. The Water Fund was reviewed, followed by the Sewer Fund.

Comptroller Blowers then reviewed General Fund budgets since 2016, explaining that the budget has been fairly flat while staff continues to get a lot done. Historic tax rates were reviewed, since 2016 as well. The proposition for the 2026 tax rate is \$12.40. General Fund Revenue was reviewed, followed by City Manager Hendrix reviewing General Fund expenditures.

Comptroller Blowers then presented the Capital Improvement Plan through 2030.

In conclusion City Manager Hendrix reviewed the budget calendar and department requests that didn't make it into the 2025 and 2026 budgets.

Mayor Valentino thanked the City Manager, Comptroller and staff for their work to prepare this budget. He expressed disappointment that Council didn't provide specific direction for the budget. Mayor Valentino pointed out that 10+ vehicles were not funded in this budget, and wondered if they were replacements for current vehicles or additions to the City's fleet. City Manager Hendrix explained that most were meant to replace current vehicles, plus one new truck for recreation. Mayor Valentino pointed out the maintenance costs that will be incurred by putting off vehicle replacement, and reminded council that a large portion of the budget increases come from costs the City can't control. Councilor Lavin shared that he appreciates this budget as a starting point, and believes the city should think more like a business, being aggressive in revenue generation.

3. ADJOURNMENT

ACTION TAKEN by Clr. Gillotte; seconded by Clr. Petropoulos
MOVED THAT the meeting be adjourned at 7:21pm
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5-4 absent)

Nicole Tillotson
City Clerk