T H E G E N E V A C I T Y C O U N C I L

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

October 27, 2021 – 6:00 PM

Cornell AgriTech Campus, Jordan Hall
630 W. North Street
Geneva, NY 14456

Presiding – Steve Valentino, Mayor

1. ROLL CALL

Present: Clr. Regan Clr. Camera, Clr. Gaglianese, Clr. Noone, Clr Pruett, Clr. Burrall, Clr. Pealer, and Clr. Salamendra (attended via Zoom),

2. PUBLIC COMMENT REGARDING THE PROPERTY TAX CAP OVERRIDE

Asst. City Manager Blowers told everyone that this comes up every year, and council has approved it in the past even if we did not anticipate going over the tax cap. He said that miscalculations could come in to play, so it is best to approve the override even if the city does not go over. He said he recommends approval to avoid penalties. When asked, he said that last year's reevaluation took us over the cap, and before that, three or four years ago was the last time.

Mayor Valentino opened the public comment.

Brenda Cardinale said she would like to thank the Geneva Police Department, the Geneva Fire Department, and the Geneva City DPW Department for the extraordinary job they did last night during the terrible storm we had. She said we all appreciate it. She said I am here tonight for myself and many taxpaying friends. We are all concerned about this year's budget process. We are asking you tonight to vote in favor on the proposed resolution to override the statutory tax cap for the 2022 budget. We are concerned that the council majority does not understand that a "yes" vote does not give our City Manager a green light to raise taxes. We are concerned because of the reckless treatment we have witnessed after City Manager Gerling rolled out her proposed budget in September. We are concerned that the council majority does not realize that there is absolutely nothing negative in approving this and that you need 6 votes to pass this. This has always been a smart defensive move with absolutely NO negative repercussions. We are concerned because of the anticipated bedlam that will undoubtedly follow later in tonight's agenda during the proposed budget discussion portion. We are nervous. We are concerned that you will vote this down and are unaware of the financial penalties the city would incur if the override is eventually needed. Please listen to the explanation and instructions from Sage and Adam when this override of the tax cap is presented. We are concerned that a majority of council has elected to trample from the start of the proposed budget in such an unprofessional and chaotic fashion in your work sessions. We have no confidence in the council majority. We are concerned that the council majority has already rejected the City Managers proposed budget that was soundly based on council input over the course of 2021. We are concerned that the council majority will not approve the tax cap override and continue to ignore the needs of every tax payer in the city. Nobody likes to pay taxes, but we all feel that the initial budget restored manpower and services that we feel provide us all with value for our taxpayer dollars. If you don't understand the tax cap, maybe you can Google it with more success than you had when you Googled "How to run a police department" or "How to run a fire department." We are concerned that your only successful Google attempt was "How to demoralize a whole city workforce." Yes, we are concerned, and I want to close with a message to the council majority. WE HAVE NO CONFIDENCE.

3. 2022 PROPOSED BUDGET DISCUSSION

Mayor Valentino said that council left their last meeting with direction for staff to come back with $700,000 worth of possible cuts.

Additions and Deletions to get to Council Requested $700,000 Reduction

Notes:

- *Staff is only recommending approval of the revenue increase items and not the equipment reserve usage or deletions.*
- *The details included below are only short summaries and not comprehensive.*

Items Tally	Savings
Gain by Moving Fire Equipment to Equipment Reserve	$ 39,875
Increase Projected Occupancy Tax Revenue	$ 40,000
Increase Building Permit Fees	$ 10,000
Delete - ONI - Neighborhood Revitalization	$ 3,000
Delete - Personnel - Electronic Payroll	$ 35,000
Delete -Cornell Ag & Food Tech Farm Park	$ 15,000
Delete -Economic Development	$ 15,000
Delete -Management Training	$ 10,000
Delete -Communication reduction	$ 15,000
Delete -Seneca Park Trail Project	$ 13,000
Delete -B&G Equipment - Loader	$ 30,000
Delete -B&G - McDonough Park	$ 10,000
Delete -3/4 Ton Pickup - Highway	$ 40,000
Delete - In-Car Cameras - Police	$ 20,280
Delete - Code Enforcement Officer	$ 71,390
Delete - Code Enforcement Officer	$ 71,390
Delete - Rec Supervisor	$ 55,811
Delete - Motor Equipment Operator - B&G	$ 69,818
Delete - Motor Equipment Operator - B&G	$ 69,818
Delete - Motor Equipment Operator - Highway	$ 69,818
TOTAL	**$704,200**

Additions

1. **Move Fire Equipment to Equipment Reserve – Gain of $39,875**
   These amounts were set to come from the Fire Department budget. Instead, they could come from the Equipment Reserve fund, decreasing the General Fund budget by the amount above. This will decrease the amount of remaining funds in our Equipment Reserve for future expenditures. The 2022 budget does not include any replenishment funds into the equipment reserve.

2. **Projected Occupancy Tax Revenue – Increase Revenue by $40,000**
   Occupancy Tax numbers for the 3rd quarter have just come in and based off of those numbers, we project that we can increase Occupancy Tax revenue for 2022 by the amount above.

3. **Building Permit Fees – Increase Revenue by $10,000**
   Our building permit fees have not been increased in several years. We would look to increase the minimum amounts to make them more consistent with peer municipalities. Doing this should add the amount above to revenues for 2022. Changes to fee schedule are highlighted below.

Code Enforcement			
	Residential:		
	New Construction, Additions	$0.12 sq ft / $100.00 minimum	*Originally proposed as current $50 minimum*
	Renovation	$0.12 sq ft / $100.00 minimum	*Originally proposed as current $50 minimum*
	Deck, Unheated Porch	$0.12 sq ft / $100.00 minimum	*Originally proposed as current $50 minimum*
	Fencing	$40.00	
	Storage Building	$40.00	
	Swimming Pools	$50.00	
	Hot Water Heater / Furnace	$40.00	
	Commercial:		
	New Construction, Additions	$0.15 sq ft / $100.00 minimum	
	Renovation	$0.12 sq ft / $100.00 minimum	*Originally proposed as current $50 minimum*
	Roof Permit	$100.00	
	Demolition Permit	$100.00	
	Use Variance	$150.00	
	Area Variance	$150.00	

Deletions

4. **ONI Neighborhood Revitalization – Decrease Expense by $3,000**
   $5,000 was proposed for supporting neighborhood association activities. Resident leaders are wanting to jump in to do COVID safe community-building activities and looking to the City to help support and encourage these efforts. $2,000 will still allow for some activities to get going with some potential reductions of what is planned.

5. **Personnel – Electronic Payroll – Decrease Expense by $35,000**
   This shift to a more 21st century payroll best practice has been advocated by HR and Finance for multiple years. This will shift time focus for staff to more meaningful HR and Finance duties and allow employees to better access their information in real time.

6. **Cornell Ag & Food Tech Farm Park - Decrease Expense by $15,000**
   The food and beverage industry continues to be a priority economic development focus area. The Tech Farm provides the largest available land for manufacturing expansion. The Tech Farm is at an exciting moment of growth and the City's role continues to play an important role. Not providing these funds slow both development growth efforts as well as business incubator and expansion efforts.

7. **Economic Development - Decrease Expense by $15,000**
   This deletion would reduce funds for the Downtown Business Improvement District (BID) economic development efforts that support City operations (design review committee, downtown events review and assistance minimizing business impacts, workforce development efforts and events drawing visitors to downtown). In addition, this would reduce funds for city commercial/mixed use property sale efforts and Geneva Made regional and national promotion.

8. **Management Training - Decrease Expense by $10,000**
   This deletion would hinder the team approach training presented in this budget. The funds are for an outside coach to assist in both the overall framework of the teams and the staff development for best using teams to move our focus areas forward strategically and efficiently. Building the strategic, measurable and goal-oriented teams is critical to the success of our core focus areas identified in the budget message (code enforcement; capital projects & city infrastructure; communications; community, housing and economic development; public safety and emergency services; employee development and budget management).

9. **Communication - Decrease Expense by $15,000**
   Communication has been a core priority for City Council. The proposed $30,000 allocation for a shared position with BID was an efficient use of funds that provided needed attention to resident and visitor communication. This cut takes that position down to a quarter focused on our needs, which will dilute improvements we hoped to gain on the communication front.

10. **Seneca Park Trail Project - Decrease Expense by $13,000**
    This is an approved grant submission for connection improvements to our trail network from the lakefront through Seneca Park and the regional system heading east. If deleted at this time, staff will come back with a budget amendment if the project is awarded. This is a one-time expense that could be pulled from fund balance; however, staff does not recommend pulling from fund balance during a time that we are strategically working to replenish the fund balance.

11. **B&G Equipment – Loader - Decrease Expense by $30,000**
    The impact of this decrease is continuing to use an early 1990's loader that annual maintenance exceeds what we will get from auction.

12. **B&G McDonough Park - Decrease Expense by $10,000**
    Decreasing this amount would get us behind in our critical code compliance related maintenance work at McDonough Park.

13. **3/4 Ton Pick-up Highway Dept - Decrease Expense by $40,000**
    The impact of this decrease is continuing to use an early 1990's ton pick-up truck that annual maintenance exceeds what we will get from auction.

14. **In-Car Cameras Police Department - Decrease Expense by $20,280**
    Body cameras have been a huge asset to the Police department. Deleting the Chief's recommendation for in-car cameras reduces safety measures for residents and police officers.

15. **Two Code Enforcement Officers - Decrease Expense for each position is $71,390**
    We have one current budgeted building inspector position (for 2021) and have recommended to fill this position as a code enforcement officer and add one additional code enforcement officer for 2022. With the current workload, we are operating predominantly in reactive mode for what is coming in. Staff and City Council both want to spend more time in proactive code enforcement. Deleting one or both positions will negatively impact being able to move forward with both Council and staff efforts for reoccurring property issues as well as more proactive code efforts and policy improvements.

16. **Rec Supervisor - Decrease Expense for $55,811**
    Deletion of this position would reduce the programmatic side of the recreation department. This is already a short-staffed department with one full-time maintenance mechanic and one department head. Adding a rec supervisor allows for additional year-round programming.

17. **Three Motor Equipment Operators (Two for Buildings & Grounds and one for Highway) - Decrease Expense for each position is $69,818**
    This is another area where the reduction of staff over the last decade has reduced our ability to keep up with needed maintenance of our capital infrastructure, tax our personnel resources during emergency and short change our ability to be proactive. The added DRI and lakefront projects will add to the department workload and without these positions will continue to be behind for ongoing maintenance and beautification.

<u>Pulling Back to the Larger Picture: Excerpts from the City Manager Budget Message:</u>

The 2022 Budget Goal is to rebuild the City's human capital, resources and infrastructure to effectively and efficiently provide the highest level of tax payer value in serving our residents, businesses and visitors.

The **strategies** to achieve this goal are:

- *Conservatively forecasting revenue* in all three funds, balancing modest optimism from 2021 revenue to date with historical experience of COVID-19 shortfalls and the risk of unanticipated economic downturns;
- *Investing in people, including* both team members and partner collaborations, to enable a shift to a more proactive, less reactive approach.
- *Aligning department expenditures with priorities*, including deferred infrastructure investments across departments; and
- *Instigating new cross disciplinary teams* to empower staff at all levels to invest in strategic planning and seek innovative methods to forward our priorities.

Our proposed budget **increases staffing, resources and infrastructure investment to enable us to better serve our residents**.

A **zero-based budgeting approach** was utilized for the 2022 budget to ensure that priorities and strategic activities are funded efficiently and without excess. We started the budget process with **a deficit of over $2.3 million and department staffing requests for more than 20 positions**. We focused proposed expenditures and team member time to align with the following City **Council priorities**:

- Strict and well-resourced **code enforcement** and streamlined **complaint action**;
- Forward the Comprehensive Plan "**Beautification**" vision through **quality-of-life improvements** for residents, businesses and visitors;
- Provide **enhanced resident communications** of City government activities and engagement opportunities; and
- Increase revenue opportunities.

As well as to **provide quality and responsive service to our residents, businesses and visitors** that allow us to:

- **Invest in infrastructure** including allocating additional resources to ensure that the Downtown Revitalization Streetscape and Lakefront amenities shine;
- **Empower and support residents, neighborhoods, volunteers and community partners** in leading initiatives that forward the City's Comprehensive Plan; and
- Further our **commitment to being a Triple Bottom Line organization** that values the impact we have on our environmental, social and financial sustainability.

And, we continue to move forward the 2016 Comprehensive Plan initiatives and will integrate the plan's guidance to make strides in achieving our <u>Community's Vision</u> of a

BEAUTIFUL, PROSPEROUS, EQUITABLE, CONNECTED AND SUSTAINABLE GENEVA;

and live up to our <u>Community's Values</u> of being s*tewards of our special natural setting; living into our "uniquely urban" character and nurturing our sense of community; celebrating our multi-cultural heritage; taking care of our arts, architectural and recreational assets; and growing a strong economy.*

<u>**Council Question:** What did the Rec department do in 2020?</u>

Recreation Department 2020 (Primarily from Quarterly Reports, which began in 2nd quarter)

<u>**1st Quarter updates**</u>

<u>Rink Operations</u>

- Open 7 days a week for Public Skating
- Hosted 18 NCAA contests
- Hosted 50 Youth Hockey Games
- Planning and applications for 2 Farmers Markets
- Planned all Spring 2020 Programming Spring Break Rec program, Eater Egg Hunt, Youth Soccer, and Co-ed Softball, Free Pickleball Clinic, Yoga
- Prepared all Spring Turf Programming Adult Soccer, Adult Lacrosse and Youth Lacrosse schedule.

<u>**2nd quarter updates**</u>

<u>Maintenance Projects</u>

- Painting Exterior of Recreation shop.
- Repair Dog Park gate and Fountain.
- Lighting and electrical upgrades.
- Landscaping at complex and at parks.
- Storage re-organization and clean out.
- Entry Door and Window Project.
- Refrigeration and plumbing upgrades.
- Misc. deferred maintenance at complex due to staff shortage for 2 years.
- DPW Assistance: Mowing and trimming and Lakefront and parks cleanup/maintenance

<u>Community Projects</u>

- Managing food Distribution in partnership with GNRC.
- Bike Swap. We helped give away over 80 bikes to community members in need.

In addition, one staff member was on voluntary furlough in the last month of the 2nd quarter.

3rd quarter updates

- Successful Farmers Market season with a combined 35 market days between Wednesday and Saturday markets.
- Managed Food Distribution Gave out over 1500 Boxes of food for families. In partnership with GNRC, Food Link and Food Justice Deacon Henry Farro.
- Completed majority of our Refrigeration and plumbing upgrades.
- Assisted Building and Parks weekly with lakefront and Parks cleanup.
- Dog Park Gate repairs and maintenance completed.
- We started our Ice plant and will start renting ice October 1st to HWS and GGHO

4th quarter updates

- Ice Rink is open 7 days a week for hockey teams. We are selling ice to Youth Hockey and the Colleges following all Covid19 safety protocols.
- Continue management of county wide Food Distribution. We gave out over 1200 Boxes of food for families. In partnership with Food Link, Food Justice Deacon Henry Farro, and Geneva Community Center.
- Deferred mechanical maintenance.
- Assisted Building and Parks weekly with lakefront and Parks cleanup.
- Halloween Parade through the City in partnership with GFD and DPW

Clr. Camera said that his overall reaction to this is that we need DPW, noting that many items on the list provided to council are DPW. He said he feels this is a compromise to public safety. He said that if our infrastructure was doing better, the fire department would not have been out as much last night with all of the flooding. He said he feels the list presented tonight is nonresponsive. Clr. Camera said that he has never voted against the tax cap override, but he is going to tonight because he feels we can use our reserve fund because that is what it is for.

Clr. Pealer said that he feels the original budget was responsible and responsive because it included council's requests for economic development, code enforcement, and beautification of our community. He said he does not support the cuts presented tonight, but he does support lowering the tax burden. He said this list cuts services noting that there were many volunteers out last night during the storm. He said that it is not fair for council members to compare Geneva to other communities one to one. He said he feels the ARPA funds are not being used for residents, small businesses, and loss of revenue. He said he also does not support cuts to recreation.

Clr. Gaglianese thanked staff, department heads, and the city managers for putting together a responsible budget. He said he does not agree with the cuts presented tonight. He referred to the fire department reports last week saying that since they went over the money council agreed to give them, he would like to make a motion to give them additional funds to cover their costs as noted in the reports. He said that we also need to build up our community and he would like to give the YMCA and Boys and Girls Clubs $22,500 each. He finished by saying that the city needs to maximize our ARPA funds noting that Elmira put a great deal back into the community, businesses and homes, and the City of Geneva needs to do the same.

ACTION TAKEN by Clr. Gaglianese; seconded by Clr. Pruett
MOVED THAT $11,429 be added to the fire department contracts line item

Clr. Regan said that her issue with that line item is the clarity. She wondered how many times council has to ask for this information. She said she feels that many of the items are already in the budget, noting that the reports look like a slush fund, and this raises questions with her.

Fire Chief Combs explained to council that he has nothing to do with the volunteer contracts and what they spend the money on, noting that their purchases have nothing to do with his budget line items. He added that a set of gear for one firefighter costs $3,500. He said that the contracts are contracts for services to use for whatever they need and is a contract they have with the city, noting that they have not asked for an increase for many years. He said that each company has their own boards and bylaws, and he is not involved in what they spend their money on. City Manager Gerling said that moving forward, the companies will provide reports to the city, noting that they supplement the funds the city does not provide. When asked about training, Chief Combs explained that there are two sides; volunteer and career staff. He handles the career staff and each company handles their volunteers. He said that New York State, Ontario County, and the NYS Fire Academy all put out mandatory training classes and each company sets up their own training for their members. He said the courses cost money and they often are required to pay for meals and mileage as well.

ACTION TAKEN by Clr. Camera; seconded by Clr. Salamendra
MOVED THAT the above motion be TABLED
ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye – Clr. Camera, Clr. Regan, and Clr. Salamendra
Nay – Clr. Burrall, Mayor Valentino, Clr. Pruett, Clr. Gaglianese, Clr. Noone, and Clr. Pealer
MOTION DEFEATED

Clr. Noone said he feels the documentation provided by the fire companies was straightforward and he can't imagine it helps morale with it being called a slush fund. He said their equipment is outdated and out of service and needs to be replaced. He said that firefighters put their lives on the line, but they are not safe.

Clr. Salamendra said she is not in favor of this motion, and she agrees with Clr; Regan that the city needs a better accounting. She said that it is clear that we all want a well-functioning department, but funds are not available.

Mayor Valentino said he feels this is more a budget discussion rather than a line item one. He said that the city is extremely fortunate to have the number of volunteers we do, because if we didn't, we would need more paid staff.

Clr. Burrall said that if the request for more money had come in with documentation, he feels council would be in a different position. He said he feels it should be labeled more that just agreements. He said that departments should put in a request next year, and he would be in favor of it then.

{Roll call on the original motion}

ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye – Clr. Pruett, Clr. Gaglianese, Clr. Noone, and Clr. Pealer
Nay – Clr. Camera, Clr. Burrall, Clr. Regan, Mayor Valentino, and Clr. Salamendra
MOTION DEFEATED

Clr. Burrall thanked the city manager and assistant city manager for the information presented tonight, noting that council asked staff to give options on how the budget could be cut, but there are not many on the list that make sense to make Geneva a better place, and he does not want to remove.

Clr. Salamendra said that council needs to be serious about keeping the tax rate down. She said that councilors ask hard questions because they want to make sure the city is running properly. She said that she has been clear about recreation and feels the city needs to rebuild it noting that we pay too much and don't get a lot in return. She said she would like to see the director position eliminated and to move Dave Sharman to a more direct position at the ice rink and contract out. She said she is not in favor of purchasing the pumper this year. She said she would like to make a motion to restore the deputy fire chief and police admin positions back to the original proposals with the deputy fire chief position starting in April and the police admin position starting in June.

ACTION TAKEN by Clr. Salamendra; seconded by Clr. Regan
MOVED THAT the Deputy Fire Chief position not be filled until April 2022
ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye – Clr. Pruett, Clr. Burrall, Clr. Regan, Clr. Salamendra, and Clr. Camera
Nay – Clr. Gaglianese, Clr. Noone, Mayor Valentino, and Clr. Pealer
MOTION CARRIED

ACTION TAKEN by Clr. Salamendra; seconded by Clr. Regan
MOVED THAT the police administrative aid position not be filled until June 2022

ACTION TAKEN by Clr. Pruett; seconded by Clr. Regan
MOVED THAT the motion be AMENDED to fill the position April 2022
ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye – Clr. Pruett, Clr. Regan, and Clr. Noone
Nay – Clr. Gaglianese, Clr. Burrall, Clr. Salamendra, Clr. Camera, Mayor Valentino, and Clr. Pealer
MOTION DEFEATED

{Roll call on the original motion}

ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye – Clr. Pruett, Clr. Regan, Clr. Salamendra, and Clr. Camera
Nay – Clr. Gaglianese, Clr. Burrall, Clr. Noone, Mayor Valentino, and Clr. Pealer
MOTION DEFEATED

Clr. Salamendra said that she is in favor of no new police positions, delay of purchasing the pumper, no cuts to the DPW original budget, for the two code enforcement officer positions, and to not split the deputy between fire and code.

Clr. Noone thanked staff for the information presented tonight, but questioned if they are in line with council's goals and values and if they will move the city forward. He said we need to move the city forward quickly, especially with economic development.

Clr. Regan asked about occupancy tax and if the city was collecting from the air BnBs yet. Asst. City Manager Blowers explained that staff budgeted conservatively for occupancy tax collections in 2021 and 2022, but we are seeing higher numbers so far in 2021 with the hotels. He said that the zoning update will allow us to collect occupancy tax from the air BnBs. Clr. Regan said that she is really in favor of a 0% tax increase, but she is not in favor of cutting DPW staff. As for recreation, she said she does not want the budget line to go down, but asked if we could negotiate with the Boys and Girls Clubs for programming partnerships. She said that as for the new pumper, she feels waiting a year would be helpful. Asst. City Manager Blowers explained that anything in the capital plan would be bonded, and would not affect spending until 2023.

ACTION TAKEN by Clr. Pruett; seconded by Clr. Pealer
MOVED THAT the $8,000 added for funding the Heritage Trail be removed
ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye – Clr. Pruett, Clr. Pealer, and Clr. Camera
Nay – Clr. Burrall, Clr. Regan, Clr. Salamendra, Clr. Gaglianese, Clr. Noone, and Mayor Valentino
MOTION DEFEATED

ACTION TAKEN by Clr. Pruett; seconded by Clr. Pealer
MOVED THAT the $20,000 added for funding Tree Removal be removed
ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye – Clr. Pealer, Clr. Regan, and Clr. Gaglianese
Nay – Clr. Pruett, Clr. Burrall, Clr. Salamendra, Clr. Camera, Clr. Noone, and Mayor Valentino
MOTION DEFEATED

Clr. Salamendra said that she believes strong code enforcement is fire prevention noting that tenants have a hard time getting things fixed by their landlord. She said she would like to focus more on code and would like to receive updates on what is being done and how the person in that position is filling their time.

ACTION TAKEN by Clr. Pruett; seconded by Clr. Camera
MOVED THAT the Deputy Fire Chief be removed from the budget
ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye – Clr. Regan, Clr. Burrall, Clr. Salamendra, and Clr. Camera
Nay – Clr. Pruett, Clr. Pealer, Clr. Noone, Clr. Gaglianese, and Mayor Valentino
MOTION DEFEATED

4. <u>RESOLUTION OVERRIDING THE STATUTORY TAX CAP FOR 2022</u>

WHEREAS, the State of New York has enacted General Municipal Law requiring that municipalities, with certain exceptions, caps the growth of the property tax levy; and

WHEREAS, the statutory formula for calculation of permitted property tax levy growth requires the City of Geneva to roll back property tax rates to stay within statutory caps; and

WHEREAS, the City Manager's 2022 proposed budget forecasts the need to exceed the statutory property tax levy cap.

WHEREAS, it is the intent of this resolution to override the limit on the amount of real property taxes that may be levied by the City of Geneva pursuant to General Municipal Law § 3-c, and to allow the City of Geneva to adopt a budget for the fiscal year 2022 that requires a real property tax levy in excess of the "tax levy limit" as defined by General Municipal Law § 3-c. This resolution is adopted pursuant to subdivision 5 of General Municipal Law § 3-c, which expressly authorizes the City Council to override the tax cap by the adoption of a resolution approved by vote of sixty percent (60%) of the City Council.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: The City Council of the City of Geneva; Ontario County is hereby authorized to adopt a budget for the fiscal year 2022 that requires a real property tax levy in excess of the amount otherwise prescribed in General Municipal Law, §3-c.

Clr. Regan said she feels passing this is the responsible thing to do, but she hopes council is not always in this position. City Manager Gerling said that even with passing this resolution, council can still make it their goal to go below the cap. Clr. Camera said that it is good to have this cap in place, and he would like to see more budget discipline. He did note that the reserves are in place for this reason.

ACTION TAKEN by Mayor Valentino; seconded by Clr. Noone
MOVED THAT this resolution be approved
ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye – Clr. Regan, Clr. Burrall, Clr. Salamendra, Clr. Pealer, Clr. Noone, Clr. Gaglianese, and Mayor Valentino
Nay – Clr. Pruett and Clr. Camera
MOTION CARRIED

5. RESOLUTION ADOPTING 2022 GENERAL FUND BUDGET

WHEREAS, the General Fund budget of the City of Geneva for the year 2022 has been submitted to the City Council for its approval, and

WHEREAS, it appears that the General Fund budget as it is presently presented should be adopted.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Geneva, New York, that the General Fund budget as presently presented be and it hereby is adopted, and that a copy of the General Fund budget as hereby adopted be set forth in full in the minutes of this meeting, and

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED that the several sums in the General Fund budget for the year 2022 as appropriations for expenditures, in the total amount of **$ 18,229,263** be and the same hereby are appropriated in the amounts provided for in the attached Chart of Accounts**.**

ACTION TAKEN by Clr. Noone; seconded by Clr. Burrall
MOVED THAT the Increase in Projected Occupancy Tax Revenue of $40,000 be added to the budget
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ACTION TAKEN by Clr. Noone; seconded by Clr. Burrall
MOVED THAT the Increase in projected Building Permit Fees of $10,000 be added to the budget
ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye – Clr. Regan, Clr. Burrall, Clr. Salamendra, Clr. Pruett, Clr. Camera, Clr. Noone, Clr. Gaglianese, and Mayor Valentino
Nay – Clr. Pealer
MOTION CARRIED

ACTION TAKEN by Clr. Pruett; seconded by Clr. Regan
MOVED THAT the Fire Equipment purchase be moved to Equipment Reserve
ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye – Clr. Regan, Clr. Salamendra, Clr. Pruett, and Clr. Camera
Nay – Clr. Burrall, Clr. Pealer, Clr. Noone, Clr. Gaglianese, and Mayor Valentino
MOTION DEFEATED

ACTION TAKEN by Clr. Pealer; seconded by Clr. Camera

MOVED THAT the Council Salaries totaling $36,500 be removed from the budget

ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye – Clr. Regan, Clr. Burrall, Clr. Pealer, and Clr. Camera
Nay – Clr. Salamendra, Clr. Pruett, Clr. Noone, Clr. Gaglianese, and Mayor Valentino

MOTION DEFEATED

When Clr. Burrall asked about the McDonough Park costs, Director of Public Works, Joe Venuti explained that staff was looking at the electrical system and many other items to make it more code compliant noting that they originally asked for $25,000. Clr. Burrall said he is all in favor of getting the facility up to code, but he would also like to see more recreation for our residents at this facility.

Clr. Salamendra asked about the electronic payroll line item. City Manager Gerling told everyone we are looking to improve our current system. Asst. City Manager Blowers explained that this is a one-time cost for upgrades to our current software that would allow us to eliminate paper copies. He said that everything would be done electronically and not outsourced. Clr. Salamendra said that she would like it to be clear that there is a freeze in hiring new police positions, and she said she would like to see limits put on over time for all departments with budget amendments coming to council to cover those costs.

Clr. Camera said he would like to ask staff about the idea of investigating revenue opportunities of providing a fire service contract to the Town of Geneva, as he heard that they pay something like $400,000 for fire service. He said that if there is grant money for consolidating government services, he would like staff to investigate and bring back to council. He said he also agrees with the police hiring freeze and is willing to cut the economic development budget if we can get the Legion project moving along.

Clr. Gaglianese said that the hiring freeze with the police is putting a strain on the department especially with upcoming retirements.

Clr. Burrall said he feels the possibility of subcontracting out payroll locally would be a good discussion item for council.

ACTION TAKEN by Clr. Regan; seconded by Clr. Pruett

MOVED THAT the $35,000 for Electronic Payroll Upgrades be removed from the budget

ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye – Clr. Regan, Clr. Burrall, Clr. Pruett, Clr. Salamendra, and Clr. Camera
Nay – Clr. Pealer, Clr. Noone, Clr. Gaglianese, and Mayor Valentino

MOTION CARRIED

ACTION TAKEN by Mayor Valentino; seconded by Clr. Noone
MOVED THAT the 2022 Proposed Budget be approved as amended

Clr. Camera said that he would like to see $25,000 removed from the city attorney budget line item. City Manager Gerling said that she is strongly against this because the number listed is not one that can be sustained as there are things that happen that are beyond our control. Clr. Camera said that a budget amendment can be done later when things come up.

ACTION TAKEN by Clr. Camera; seconded by Clr. Regan
MOVED THAT the City Attorney Salary Line Item be Reduced by $25,000
ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye – Clr. Regan, Clr. Salamendra, Clr. Pruett, and Clr. Camera
Nay – Clr. Burrall, Clr. Pealer, Clr. Noone, Clr. Gaglianese, and Mayor Valentino
MOTION DEFEATED

{vote on the original motion}
ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye – Clr. Regan, Clr. Burrall, Clr. Salamendra, Clr. Noone, Clr. Gaglianese, and Mayor Valentino
Nay – Clr. Pruett, Clr. Pealer, and Clr. Camera
MOTION CARRIED

6. RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE 2022 TAX LEVY

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Geneva has heretofore adopted General Fund and Workers' Compensation budgets for the year 2022 and appropriated the several sums in the budget for the year 2022 in the total amount of **$8,210,373**, and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the adoption of said budget the amount necessary to be raised by taxation upon the real property and franchises subject to taxation by the City of Geneva is **$7,857,450** for General Fund expenditures and **$352,923** for Workers' Compensation premiums.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Geneva, New York, that the amount necessary to be raised by taxation to defray the expenses of the City of Geneva for the year 2022 is **$8,210,373** and that the said **$8,210,373** be and the same hereby is levied upon all real property and franchises subject to tax by the City of Geneva according to the valuations thereof as shown on the current assessment roll, and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the City Clerk, in accordance with Section 5.11 of the Geneva City Charter, file with the City Comptroller, a certified copy of the Appropriation Resolution and a copy of the budget for the year 2022 as adopted by the Geneva City Council, and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the City Comptroller shall extend and apportion the said amount of **$ 8,210,373** levied to be raised by taxation on the last assessment roll delivered to him and shall under warrant signed by the Mayor and the City Clerk and annexed to said assessment roll, proceed to collect the several sums specified in said roll as assessed against the persons or property therein named and described, together with the percentage of penalty applicable thereto as provided by the Geneva City Charter and Section 999 of the Real Property Tax Law, and in the manner provided by said Charter.

ACTION TAKEN by Mayor Valentino; seconded by Clr. Pealer
MOVED THAT this resolution be approved
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7. <u>RESOLUTION ADOPTING 2022 WORKERS COMPENSATION FUND BUDGET</u>

WHEREAS, the Workers' Compensation Fund Budget of the City of Geneva for the year 2022 has been submitted to the City Council for its approval, and

WHEREAS, it appears that the Workers' Compensation Budget as presently presented should be adopted.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Geneva, New York, that the Workers' Compensation Budget as presently presented be and it hereby is adopted, and that a copy of the Workers' Compensation Budget, as hereby adopted be set forth in the minutes of this meeting, and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the several sums in the Workers' Compensation Budget for the year 2022 as appropriations for expenditures, in the total amount of **$352,923,** be and the same hereby are appropriated in the amounts and for the several purpose of payment of workers' compensation insurance premiums.

ACTION TAKEN by Mayor Valentino; seconded by Clr. Gaglianese
MOVED THAT this resolution be approved
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8. <u>RESOLUTION ADOPTING 2022 WATER FUND BUDGET</u>

WHEREAS, the Water Fund Budget of the City of Geneva for the year 2022 has been submitted to the City Council for its approval, and

WHEREAS, it appears that the Water Fund Budget as presently presented should be adopted.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Geneva, New York, that the Water Fund Budget as presently presented be and it hereby is adopted, and that a copy of the Water

Fund Budget as hereby adopted be set forth in the minutes of this meeting, and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the several sums in the Water Fund Budget for the year 2022 as appropriations for expenditures, in the total amount of **$3,552,158** be and the same hereby are appropriated in the amounts and for the several purposes therein specified in the attached Chart of Accounts**.**

ACTION TAKEN by Clr. Noone; seconded by Clr. Camera
MOVED THAT this resolution be approved
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9. RESOLUTION ADOPTING 2022 SEWER FUND BUDGET

WHEREAS, the Sewer Fund Budget of the City of Geneva for the year 2022 has been submitted to the City Council for its approval, and

WHEREAS, it appears that the Sewer Fund Budget as presently presented should be adopted.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Geneva, New York, that the Sewer Fund Budget as presently presented be and it hereby is adopted, and that a copy of the Sewer Fund Budget as hereby adopted be set forth in the minutes of this meeting, and

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED that the several sums in the Sewer Fund Budget for the year 2022 as appropriations for expenditures, in the total amount of **$5,213,232** and the same hereby are appropriated in the amounts and for the several purposes therein specified in the attached Chart of Accounts**.**

ACTION TAKEN by Clr. Noone; seconded by Clr. Pealer
MOVED THAT this resolution be approved
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10. ADJOURNMENT

ACTION TAKEN by Clr. Noone; seconded by Clr. Pealer
MOVED THAT the meeting be adjourned at 9:02pm
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Lori Guinan

City Clerk