

THE GENEVA CITY COUNCIL

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

May 13, 2024 – 5:15 PM

City Hall – Second Floor Teams' Room
47 Castle Street
Geneva, NY 14456

Presiding – Steve Valentino, Mayor

Watch the livestream on the city of Geneva's YouTube Channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/cityofgenevany>

1. ROLL CALL

Present: Clr. Lavin, Clr. Pealer, Clr. Gillotte, Clr. Petropoulos, Clr. Moracco, Clr. Brennan, Clr. Whitfield
(arrived at 5:23pm); Mayor Valentino

Absent: Clr. Grimaldi

2. WORKSESSION ON KAYAK VENDORS

Clr. Lavin began the conversation noting that it is up to staff to vet vendors who responded to the RFP and make a recommendation. Some Counselors wondered if Mr. Stivers would deliver, citing another operation of his that doesn't always run on time. Several Councilors wondered about costs the city would incur due to dock requests related to some of the vendor's proposals. Clr. Brennan noted at one point that kayaks and paddleboards can launch from the beach, and that despite some proposals asking for a dock, a dock really isn't needed. Discussion also followed regarding a fee schedule structured around net profit, which some thought could be near zero, depending on how profit is determined by the vendor. The City Manager noted that the only revenue the city will realize from the kayak vendor contract will be via sales tax revenue and the lease fee. Mayor Valentino reminded the group that the intention is for the kayaks on the lakefront not to be an expense for the city. He further noted that Woodard is the proposal that spelled out revenue specifically.

The Counselors also discussed liability for the city, noting that if the kayak vendor business is sued, the city surely will be as well. The City Manager will work with legal to craft the contract, and with NYMIR on insurance to best protect the city. She went on to remind the group that all Recreation activities have the potential for liability, and that this is a pilot program. Specific contract points and performance were discussed. Clr. Gillotte noted that Stivers has the necessary equipment and is ready to go, discussion followed regarding the low fee to the city offered by this vendor, and concerns about weather deliverables can be met on time due to an already busy business. Several counselors noted that Stivers is local, has a marina and believe he will be easy to work with due to proximity and his investment in the community. Additionally, Stivers diversity is noted as an enhancement, as they are also proposing to include bike rentals. Others preferred Woodard's proposal due to experience running a similar business on Canandaigua Lake, their offer to share payroll details, and the highest lease offer, as well as committing to run seven days a week. Additionally, Woodard's proposal has

the least impact on lakefront views, as their equipment will be brought in and out daily and stored on two trailers, that will remain empty in the parking lot during operating hours, creating no obstruction to lake views. Comments include noting that Woodard seems like the most serious proposal. Director West provided the staff recommendation of Woodard for several reasons, including that there would be a few items to negotiate with Stivers, Woodard is only asking for two parking spaces for their equipment storage, and is buying into the three year pilot period. He notes that contracting with Woodard would be fast, easy, and not overly complicated for staff.

3. RESOLUTION TO APPROVE LAKEFRONT KAYAK VENDOR PROPOSAL

David West presented the following resolution:

WHEREAS,

The Lakefront Park and Seneca Lake are two of Geneva's greatest assets and the City of Geneva wishes to create opportunities for more residents and visitors to fully experience and enjoy the lake, and;

WHEREAS,

the City of Geneva approved the release of a Request for Proposals for a Lakefront Kayak Vendor, and;

WHEREAS,

the City received 3 proposals in response to the RFP, and has carefully evaluated the proposals to choose the one that best serves the Geneva community, providing the maximum benefit through the unique combination of services offered, licensing fee structure, and the highest likelihood of successful, safe operation of kayak vending and associated services with the minimum of ancillary impacts, and

WHEREAS,

this project is a Type 2 action under NYS SEQR as construction or expansion of a primary or accessory/appurtenant, non-residential structure or facility involving less than 4,000 square feet of gross floor area and not involving a change in zoning or a use variance and consistent with local land use controls, and minor temporary uses of land having negligible or no permanent impact on the environment.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

that the City Council hereby selects the Kayak Vendor proposal from Woodard Rentals, LLC, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Manager is authorized to continue negotiation of the final contract of vending in good faith based on the priorities expressed by Council and the general welfare of the Geneva community and to execute any and all contracts deemed necessary to carry out this program as authorized by Council.

ACTION TAKEN by Mayor Valentino; seconded by Clr. Pealer

MOVED THAT this resolution be approved

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. ADJOURNMENT

ACTION TAKEN by Clr. Pealer; seconded by Clr. Gillotte
MOVED THAT the meeting be adjourned at 5:45pm
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (7-1 Absent)

Nicole Tillotson

City Clerk