

THE GENEVA CITY COUNCIL

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

DECEMBER 17, 2024 – 5:30 PM

City Hall – 2nd Floor Council Room
47 Castle Street
Geneva, NY 14456

Presiding – Steve Valentino, Mayor

1. ROLL CALL

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

Absent: Clr. Lavin

2. EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

MOVED THAT Council move to executive session at 5:31pm to discuss collective negotiations pursuant to article fourteen of the civil service law
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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

MOVED THAT Council exit executive session at 5:50pm.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. RESOLUTION – Ratifying Labor Agreement with City of Geneva Firefighters IAFF Local 2859

City Manager Hendrix presented the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the collective bargaining teams for the City of Geneva and IAFF City of Geneva Firefighters Local 2859 have concluded negotiations for a successor collective bargaining agreement covering the period of January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2027;

WHEREAS, the City Manager is now recommending that the City Council adopt a three (3) year contract with this unit the following are the areas of modification proposed:

- Section 3 - Salaries
- Section 5 - Retirement
- Section 6 - Health Plan
- Section 12 - Working Schedule and Hours (Holidays, Military Leave)
- Section 13 - Uniform, Bedding, and Cleaning Allowance
- Section 15 - Mileage
- Section 25 - Drugs and Alcohol

- Section 26 - Addition of Management Rights

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that this City Council hereby ratifies said agreement and authorizes the expenditure of the necessary funds therefor; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the City Manager be and hereby is authorized to execute said agreement on behalf of the City of Geneva.

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

MOVED THAT this resolution be approved

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (8-1 absent)

4. RESOLUTION – Ratifying Labor Agreement with City of Geneva Police Officers Local 3471, Council 82, New York State Law Enforcement Officers Union, AFSCME

City Manager Hendrix presented the following resolution:

WHEREAS, The collective bargaining teams for the City of Geneva and City of Geneva Police Officers Local 3471, Council 82, New York State Law Enforcement Officers Union, AFSCME have concluded negotiations for a successor collective bargaining agreement covering the period of January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2025;

WHEREAS, the City Manager is now recommending that the City Council adopt a two (2) year contract with this unit the following are the areas of modification proposed:

- Article 2 – Recognition
- Article 4 – Salary & Step Definition
- Article 5 – Longevity
- Article 7 – Retirement Plan
- Article 8 – Work Schedule and Overtime
- Article 9 – Clothing Allowance – Equipment Issue
- Article 10 – Holidays, Vacation, and Sick Leave
- Article 11 – Health Insurance
- Article 12 – Educational Benefits
- Article 17 – Miscellaneous Provisions
- Article 21 – Policies, Rules, and Regulations
- Article 25 – Compensation Time

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that this City Council hereby ratifies said agreement and authorizes the expenditure of the necessary funds therefor; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the City Manager be and hereby is authorized to execute said agreement on behalf of the City of Geneva.

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

MOVED THAT this resolution be approved

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (8-1 absent)

5. RESOLUTION – Supporting the Submittal of an Application for the SWIFR EPA Grant

City Manager Hendrix presented the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the City of Geneva, New York, is committed to promoting environmental sustainability, public health, and economic vitality within the community; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) offers the **SWIFR (Strengthening and Advancing Infrastructure for Resiliency) EPA Grant**, which supports local initiatives aimed at enhancing environmental infrastructure, resilience to climate change, and the improvement of public health; and

WHEREAS, the City of Geneva in partnership with the Town of Geneva has identified several projects within their jurisdictions that align with the objectives of the SWIFR EPA Grant, including but not limited to, improvements to the operations of the Vermiculture Trench, Resource Recovery Park, and Resource ReUse Center; and

WHEREAS, the City of Geneva believes that securing the SWIFR EPA Grant would provide the necessary financial resources to further the City's environmental and public health goals, as well as strengthen the community's resilience to future environmental challenges; and

WHEREAS, the City of Geneva acknowledges the importance of collaboration with local, regional, and federal partners, including the Town of Geneva, to maximize the impact and success of the SWIFR EPA Grant-funded initiatives;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Geneva, as follows:

1. **Support for the Application:** The City of Geneva fully supports the submittal of an application for the SWIFR EPA Grant to fund relevant projects that advance environmental sustainability, resilience, and public health within the community.
2. **Authorization to Apply:** The City of Geneva hereby authorizes the City Manager and appropriate City staff to submit and manage the application for the SWIFR EPA Grant, including any necessary documents, reports, and follow-up actions required by the EPA.
3. **Commitment to Environmental Sustainability:** The City of Geneva reaffirms its dedication to fostering a sustainable, resilient, and thriving community for current and future generations through continued efforts in environmental stewardship and infrastructure development.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this December 17, 2024 by the City Council of the City of Geneva, New York.

City Manager Hendrix explained that these grant funds would be used for a Resource Recovery Park at the City's Doran Ave. site as a shared service with the Town of Geneva. In addition to the current vermiculture trench and yard debris collection, trash and recycling would be added to the site. Additionally, a re-use center would be added as a way to reuse building supplies and other materials. City Manager Hendrix explained that there is no match with this grant, which includes funds to administer the grant.

Councilor Pealer thanked the residents who wrote this grant, noting that as a municipality situated between two landfills, we've learned how important ecology and sustainability are. He then wondered if there is any way to boast what residents can keep out of the landfill with this program. City Manager Hendrix explained that there is no baseline, as city trash collection is privatized, but over time the city will be able to measure. Councilor Pealer then wondered if the transfer station will be open longer more than the current resource recovery park model, City Manager Hendrix hopes so, at least for longer days in the beginning of the roll out.

Mayor Valentino thanked the Ontario County Board of Supervisors for voting to close the landfill in 2028.

Councilor Whitfield wondered about safety; the City Manager explained how regulated the operation will be. Discussion followed related to the proposed punch card system, sharing with the town, and hazardous waste disposal.

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

MOVED THAT this resolution be approved

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (8-1 absent)

6. ADJOURNMENT

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

MOVED THAT the meeting be adjourned at 6:05 pm

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUS (8-1 absent)

Nicole Tillotson
City Clerk