

THE GENEVA CITY COUNCIL
JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS
REGULAR COUNCIL WORK SESSION

January 3, 2022 – 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. Burrall, Clr. Pealer, and Clr. Noone
Excused: Clr. Salamendra

2. CITY MANAGER SEARCH PROCESS DISCUSSION

Mayor Valentino thanked City Manager Gerling for her time here and wished her well. He said that staff provided council with information from the last city manager search, and City Manager Gerling provided information on the timeline for the search and other recommendations. City Manager Gerling told everyone that the announcement will go out locally, regionally and nationally by January 14th with a due date of February 14th. The search committee responsibilities overview will be done by January 31st with a letter going out to the committee with their responsibilities and timeframe. The mayor will meet with the committee to provide an overview of responsibilities and review the timeline. A confidentiality agreement will be signed and subcommittees established. Council and search committee will review the applications in February and the subcommittees will finalize their list of yes, no and maybes. Around March 21st council will hold an executive session to determine candidates to interview. Zoom interviews will be held with the selected candidates the week of April 11th. Council will hold another executive session to determine the finalists the week of April 18th. City council will hold in-person interviews with the finalists the week of May 9th with a possible resolution for city manager appointment by June 1st.

Clr Burrall asked if council could get a copy of the advertisement from the previous search, and Personnel Officer, Jennifer Slywka, said she would get that out to council. Clr. Burrall asked about the makeup of the search committee, and Mayor Valentino said that staff reached out to community partners. Mayor Valentino read the list of 20 community partners used for the 2018 search: Resident/Human Rights Commission, Religious Organizations, Hispanic Community, Financial institution, Academic Institution, Former Councilor, County Supervisor, Former City Manager/City Department Head, BID, LDC, IDA, Ontario County Economic Development, African American Men's Association, NAACP, Developer, School District or their representative, Major Industrial Employer, Finger Lakes Health executive/leadership, Geneva Housing Authority executive/leadership, and Community Partner (such as the Boys and Girls Club). Mayor Valentino said that we asked for one representative from each of these organizations.

Mayor Valentino referred to the evaluation form that will be used noting that there is a point system used for each answer. When Clr. Gaglianese asked about strategy, Mayor Valentino said that strategy can be discussed in executive session. Clr. Camera said that he feels the timeline is too aggressive. Mayor Valentino said that it is important to use a timeline to keep everyone to task and there is nothing wrong with modifying the timeline as we go. He assured everyone that council will not settle for less than they want, noting it could take longer to get the right person. Clr. Noone said that he feels if council is transparent and communicating the process along the way, there should be no issue. He said he would like to have an evaluation process put in place before the new city manager is appointed to avoid any issues in the future. Clr. Pealer asked for the current job description, and Ms. Slywka said she would get that out to council.

Clr. Regan said that she does not want everyone to forget about the sixth ward seat, and she encouraged council to move on that as soon as possible. Mayor Valentino said he would like to see a blast go out. Clr. Noone said he would like council to hold interviews the week of January 17th or 24th to vote in February. Clr. Camera said it would be nice to have a written statement from each of the candidates like a resume and statement of interest.

3. EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

MOVED THAT council adjourn to executive session at 6:35pm to discuss the medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (7-1 absent)

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

MOVED THAT council leave executive session at 7:49pm

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (7-1 absent)

4. ADJOURNMENT

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

MOVED THAT the meeting be adjourned at 7:49pm

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (7-1 absent)

Lori Guinan

City Clerk