

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
MONDAY, MARCH 6, 2017 - 6:00 PM
CITY HALL BUILDING, COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Council President Kordus called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Alderman Kordus.

Roll Call. Present: Aldermen Chappell, Skates, Kordus, Flower, Gelting, Hedlund, Horne. Absent (Excused): Alderman Howell. Also Present: City Administrator Oborn and Mayor Kupsik.

Mr. Kordus announced the April Committee of the Whole meeting will be cancelled.

Gelting/Horne motion for approval of minutes from February 6, 2017 Committee of the Whole Meeting as distributed. Motion carried unanimously.

Comments from the public as allowed by Wis. Stats. §19.84(2), except for public hearing items.

Ed Yaeger spoke against the proposed annexation of the Geneva Inn. He feels the item should be decided by a referendum.

Darien Schaefer, VISIT Lake Geneva, spoke on the room tax analysis report included in the packet and what VISIT Lake Geneva does to promote the area.

Mary Jo Fesenmaier, 1085 S Lake Shore Dr, spoke against the potential annexation of the Geneva Inn.

Dick Malmin, N1991 S Lake Shore Dr, spoke against the potential annexation of the Geneva Inn.

Discussion on funding Tourism Commission and/or selecting a tourism entity

Mr. Kordus stated the Tourism Commission item is coming up for a second reading, but there is no mechanism to fund it yet. He would like to discuss how funding should be set up for this year before the second reading of the ordinance. Alderman Gelting is very comfortable with the arrangement the City had with VISIT Lake Geneva in 2016. Mr. Oborn said there are two options: in 2017 the funds can be designated to VISIT Lake Geneva in full or the Tourism Commission can be established. He noted the Tourism Commission will be the identity that allocates the funds out. Mr. Horne added if the Tourism Commission is created, they will decide how to disperse the funds. Ms. Chappell shared her concern about all of the funds going to one entity. Ms. Flower questioned if the Riviera would be applicable. Mr. Kordus said it is understood if we increase the amount of tourism, we do increase our infrastructure costs. Ms. Chappell expressed that tourism can become unwelcome at a point as it puts a large burden on the City. Mayor Kupsik stated the commission is being set up to have a positive impact. Mr. Hedlund said the City cannot withhold money from VISIT Lake Geneva. He agrees with the principle of the City getting the funds first and then giving it. Mr. Horne suggested funding the commission and giving them strong recommendations on how to disperse. Mr. Kordus said for the April FLR meeting he would like to put some type of funding mechanism in place to fund at least \$100,000 up front to the Tourism Commission. He feels it would be premature to put it on the agenda before it is determined if there will be a commission or not.

Standing Committee Reports given:

Finance, License & Regulation Committee, Alderman Kordus
Personnel Committee, Alderman Hedlund
Public Works Committee, Alderman Kordus
Piers, Harbors, & Lakefront Committee, Alderman Skates

Committee, Commission and Board Reports given:

Utility Commission, Aldermen Hedlund & Flower
Tree Board, Alderman Skates
Police & Fire Commission, City Administrator Oborn
Plan Commission, Alderman Skates
Board of Park Commissioners, Alderman Skates

Library Board, Alderman Gelting
Historic Preservation Commission, no report given
Cemetery Board, Alderman Kordus
Avian Committee, Alderman Horne

Other Boards and Committee Reports given:

Chamber of Commerce, Alderman Kordus
Geneva Lake Museum, no report given
Lake Geneva Economic Development Corporation, Alderman Gelting
Geneva Lake Environmental Agency, Alderman Horne
Geneva Lakes Family YMCA, Alderman Skates
Geneva Lake Use Committee, Alderman Flower

Adjourn

Gelting/Flower motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:28 p.m. Unanimously carried.

/s/ Stephanie Gunderson, Assistant City Clerk

THESE ARE NOT OFFICIAL MINUTES UNTIL APPROVED BY THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE