

Village of Geneseo Board of Trustees – October 06, 2025

Board Present:

Chris Ivers, Mayor
Keith Walters, Deputy Mayor
Alex Livingston, Trustee
Marlene Hamann-Whitmore, Trustee
Eddie Lee, Trustee

Other Village Representatives Present:

Shawn Forrester, Clerk & Treasurer
Dan Quinlan, Superintendent of Public Works
Ericka Elliott, Village Attorney

Others Present:

Dan Hayes, Brendan Fuhr, Kyle Scoville, Steven Tuttle, Mark Chiarenza, Ella J Hinckley, Sally Nelson, Sarah Strobel, Dante Herbel, and Steve Miskell

Meeting Opened:

Mayor Ivers opened the meeting at 5:01pm. All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Action Items:

Review of Minutes:

The minutes from September 22, 2025, were presented. *Deputy Mayor Walters moved to accept the minutes, as presented. Trustee Hamann-Whitmore seconded. After much discussion the minutes were accepted as amended with ayes from all.*

Municipal Lot Signs:

Trustee Hamann-Whitmore and Trustee Lee looked at the municipal lot and its signage on September 9, 2025. Trustee Lee stated that they believed the current signage was ambiguous and recommended generic information/rules signs at the 3 entries, change the one- and two-hour parking to all two-hour parking, make the parking lot time from 8am to 5pm to be synonymous with Main Street times and update the office pamphlet. There was discussion regarding incorporating this into the Wayfinding Grant Project. Mayor Ivers moved the discussion to the employee area of the municipal lot and noted that employee only signs were needed. *After discussion it was decided that the municipal lot signs should wait till for the Wayfinding Grant and the Employee Only signs be installed.*

Local Law #3:

Mayor Ivers explained the process of Local Law #3 and noted the outreach of the Board to reach as many people as possible. The notice was in print both the Livingston County News and the PennySaver, on the Village Website, posted at the Village Building and available at the Farmers Market. *Deputy Mayor Walters moved to put Local Law #3 to a vote. Trustee Livingston seconded.* Local Law #3 is as follows;

A Local Law entitled "Repealing Local Law No. 1 of 2021 and Opting-In to Allow Adult Use Cannabis Retail Dispensaries within the Village of Geneseo, New York" as authorized by the New York State Cannabis Law.

BE IT ENACTED by the Village Board of Trustees of the Village of Geneseo, County of Livingston, State of New York, as follows:

Section I: LEGISLATIVE INTENT

It is the intent of this Local Law to repeal local law No. 1 of 2021; to opt-in to allow adult-use cannabis retail dispensary licenses in the Village of Geneseo, New York under New York State Cannabis Law Article 4; and to amend the Village of Geneseo Zoning Code (including Village Code §130-135) to clarify that such adult-use cannabis retail dispensary uses are only authorized in the Village's Mixed Use 2 (MU-2) zoning district.

Section II: AUTHORITY

This Local Law is adopted pursuant to New York State Cannabis Law §131, which authorizes the Village Board of Trustees to repeal a local law which prohibited establishment of cannabis retail dispensary licenses in the Village, subject to a permissive referendum under New York State Municipal Home Rule Law §24.

Section III: LOCAL OPT-IN

The Village Board of Trustees repeals Local Law No. 1 of 2021, by which the Village Board of Trustees opted-out of allowing cannabis retail dispensaries. By this new Local Law, the Village Board of Trustees opts-in for allowing cannabis retail dispensaries within the Village's jurisdiction.

Section IV: ZONING CODE AMENDMENT

The Village Board of Trustees amends Village Code §130-135 to authorize "Licensed Cannabis Retail Dispensary" as a "use requiring a special use permit" in an MU-2 zoning district subject to the same bulk and area restrictions as "Bar or Tavern" use. A true and accurate copy of said amendment to Village Code §130-135 is attached hereto and incorporated herein as "Exhibit A."

Section V: SEVERABILITY

If any clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, or part of this Local Law or the application thereof to any person, firm or corporation, or circumstances, shall be adjudicated by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or unconstitutional, such order or judgment shall not affect, impair, or invalidate the remainder thereof, but shall be confined in its operation to the clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, or part of this Local Law or in its application to the person, individual, firm or corporation or circumstance, directly involved in the controversy in which such judgment or order shall be rendered.

Section VI: PERMISSIVE REFERENDUM/REFERENDUM ON PETITION

This Local Law is subject to referendum on petition in accordance with Cannabis Law §131 and the procedure outlined in Municipal Home Rule Law §24.

Section VII: EFFECTIVE DATE

This Local Law shall take effect immediately upon filing with the Secretary of State, provided that such filing occurs no sooner than 45 days after the adoption of this Local Law by the Village Board of Trustees. Pursuant to Cannabis Law §131, this Local Law is subject to a permissive referendum and may not be filed with the Secretary of State until the applicable time period has elapsed to file a petition, or a referendum has been conducted approving this Local Law.

After much discussion including the Board's due diligence, the survey results regarding allowing retail cannabis sales. Local Law #3 was carried with ayes from Mayor Ivers, Trustee Lee, Trustee Livingston and Trustee Hamann-Whitmore and a nay vote from Deputy Mayor Walters.

Compost:

Mayor Ivers Thanked Sarah Strbel and Dante Herbel for all their hard work and noted that since the Dog Park at Highland Park was being relocated to a new location at Kelsey field the Board was considering rescinding it's prior approval for composting at Highland Park and revisit the idea at a later date after the new Dog park opens. *Deputy Mayor Walters moved to rescind the prior authorization of composting in Highland Park. Trustee Livingston seconded. After discussion the motion carried with ayes from all.*

Court Audit:

The Annual Court Audit for June 2024 to May 2025 was presented. Trustee Lee noted that he found no negative findings and all internal controls were excellent. *Deputy Mayor Walters moved to accept the 2024-2025 Court Audit as presented. Trustee Hamann-Whitmore seconded. With no further discussion the 2024-2025 Court Audit was accepted.*

Tax Relevy:

Mayor Ivers presented the resolution to send the 2025 delinquent Village taxes to Livingston County for collection.

Deputy Mayor Walters offered the following resolution and moved for its adoption:

Whereas the Village of Geneseo hereby requests that the County of Livingston collect certain delinquent Villages taxes for the tax levy of June 2025, and

Whereas the Village of Geneseo will take no action to recover said unpaid taxes pursuant to Section 1440 of the Real Property Tax Law of the State of New York and no sale on account of said unpaid taxes will be held pursuant to law,

Now therefore it is resolved that the Village of Geneseo officially requests that the County of Livingston collect certain delinquent Village taxes for the tax levy of June 2025 as of October 1, 2025, pursuant to Section 1442 of the New York State Real Property Law. And it is further resolved that a copy of this resolution, duly certified by the Treasurer of the Village of Geneseo, shall be transmitted forthwith to the Livingston County Treasurer and the Clerk of the Livingston County Board of Supervisors.

Trustee Livingston seconded the motion, and it was carried by the following vote:

Christopher Ivers, Mayor - Yes

Keith Walters, Deputy Mayor -Yes

Marlene Hamann-Whitmore, Trustee - Yes

Eddie Lee, Trustee - Yes

Alex Livingston, Trustee - Yes

NYSLRS Standard Workday:

Deputy Mayor Walters offered the following resolution for New York State Retirement Services.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village of Geneseo, 40XXXX hereby established the following standard workdays for these titles and will report the officials to the New York State and Local Retirement based on their record of activities: Chris Ivers, Mayor, Marlene Hamonn-Whitmore, Trustee and Shawn Forrester, Clerk Treasurer.

Trustee Livingston seconded. The resolution carried with ayes from all.

Tree Board:

Dan Hayes presented the Board with the Tree Board's proposed Tree Ordinance. Mayor Ivers explained next steps, including Attorney review and voting on the Ordinance. The Mayor and the Board thanked the Tree Board for their hard work.

Mayor Updates:

Mayor Ivers updated the Board regarding the NY Forward Parks and Main Steet Grants, as well as the Small Business Projects Grant.

Board Updates/Information:

Fire Department:

Trustee Livingston presented Chief Chanler's Report. Noting The new ladder truck has been placed in service and the annual fundraising activity, the "Turkey Party" will be held on Nov. 22nd at 7 PM.

Mayor Ivers noted that Chief Chanler had concerns over the "No Left Turn Sign" in Center Street, and there would be a meeting with Mayor Ivers, Chief Chanler and Superintendent Quinlan to discuss options.

Police Department:

Chief Osganian's report was presented.

Trustee Hamann-Whitmore thanked Chief Osganian for securing the "Shop with a Cop Grant" through Walmart.

Community Main Street:

Trustee Lee updated the Board that the Scarecrow Festival on Friday, October 3rd had been successful. There were 30 scarecrows and many visitors.

Department of Public Works:

Superintendent Quinlan's monthly report was presented.

Adjourn:

Deputy Mayor Walters moved to close the meeting at 5:34pm. Trustee Livingston seconded. With no further discussion the meeting was closed with ayes from all.

Shawn Forrester

Clerk Treasurer