

March 2024 City Manager Report

Thank you to our DPW teams and Fire teams for assistance during the recent storms.

Thank you to Clerk Wright for her current service to the community and her future service as a firefighter.

Solar Eclipse – The City is participating on several task forces related to the Eclipse on April 8, 2024. The City goal is the health and safety of our residents and visitors for this event. To this end we are expending resources related to health and wellness including staffing traffic control, providing bathroom and garbage facilities, designating parking spaces, preparing for emergencies, shuttling, and supporting businesses/residents/visitors. There will be events the weekend prior to the event including restaurant sales, art installations, campus events for HWS community, a 5k run, park activations, and much more.

OEO Community Survey – This City property is located on Exchange Street and prior to releasing a RFP a community survey will be available in a variety of formats to help hone the vision for this property. The survey will gather information on what our community would see in this site.

Storm Task Force – members will include a wide representation of community stakeholders exploring challenges faced by storms in the City. First convening will be March 12 at 5:00pm. Location will be announced soon.

Current Vacancies

Safety Coordinator: This is a 3-year position to establish a Citywide Safety and Compliance program. Currently these items are dispersed among the various departments with departmental only oversight. This position will streamline safety and compliance and begin to redevelop systems to ensure not only compliance but also cross functional relationships and accountability. Please get applications in ASAP.

Clerk: The position is posted on our website with a first review of applications on March 15. This is a council appointed position and has a city residency requirement.

Laborers: We are in the process of hiring of laborers to begin the Laborer to CDL to MEO program. This program will allow us to hire laborers with the expectation that after 12 months they will have a CDL and become a Motor Equipment Operator (MEO). This pipeline training program will be a new program in the City. More details will be on our website soon for those who want to apply.

Department of State Meeting on Revitalization Initiatives: I have been asked by the Department of State and Empire State Development to attend and present at this April 25 meeting for municipal leaders regarding our Downtown Revitalization Initiative at Monroe Community College. This invite only forum will bring together municipalities to discuss the successes and lessons learned through 7 years of DRI awards.

Short Term Rental Information

We have been able to utilize our services through RentalScape to better understand STR in the City of Geneva. This software allows us to pull all STR property owners contact information, rental listings, and much more. This will be the permit portal for the STR ordinances.

From there here are a few items that I thought Council may be interested in.

- Currently there are 136 unique properties that have been listed/rented within the last six months.
- Of the 136 listed properties, 86 were active in January 2024.
- There was a 10% occupancy rate in January 2024 for STRs in Geneva.
- The revenue generated for the hosts during from February 2023 to January 2024 is \$2.3M.
- From February 2023 to January 2024, 73% of the rentals are occurring in the main structure of a home, 21% are in multi-family homes.
- For this same time period, the most sought rental during the same time period is a four-bedroom unit with over 30% of rentals occurring within those spaces. Just over 15% of rentals are for 1 bedroom. The amount of people seeking 2 and 3 bedrooms is nearly the same at 22% each.

2023 Non-Agricultural Nonpoint Source Planning and MS4 Mapping (NPG) program Grant Award

The City was awarded \$50,000 for this planning grant to assist in engineering design for our storm water system. Council approved this grant application in August of 2023. We will need to supply a 10% match to receive these funds.

Special Election

The Special Election is on Tuesday, March 12, 2024. The election is being held at Courtyard Apartments Community Room and residents can vote this week Thursday & Friday 10am -6pm, and Saturday and Sunday 9am- 5pm. Tuesday is the final day to vote from 6am - 9pm. For those preferring to vote by mail, the Board of Elections has made the process straightforward with available online applications and detailed instructions for ballot return. It's important to note that voters who choose an Early Mail or Absentee ballot are advised to consider postal service timing to ensure their vote counts.