



City Manager Updates: April 2025

Goal 1: Ensure Fiscal and Organizational Stewardship of City Resources

City Staff Vacancies

The two cost savings vacancies that are currently in place as part of the 2025 budget process are a police officer and sergeant vacancy. To assist in reducing the total 2025 budget a rolling vacancy of at least two positions must be kept until ~\$200,000 of cost savings is achieved.

Recruitment for a police officer will soon begin with a plan to hire for participation at the June Academy.

Hiring for Seasonal Labor

We are hiring seasonal laborers and recreation attendants. Please spread the word about these temporary positions at the Department of Public Works and Recreation Center. Applications are now open: <https://ontario-portal.mycivilservice.com/>

Exemption Reminder for Homeowners

The deadline to file exemptions either new or renewal for Low-income senior is May 1st. New STAR Enhanced applications must be filed by May 1st. If you have been receiving the STAR Enhanced exemption there is no need to reapply. If you are a veteran and are not receiving the exemption, please apply with a copy of your DD214 by May 1st. If you have questions on any exemptions, please reach out to the Assessor prior to May 1st by calling 315-484-0313 or 315-828-6552. The assessment office public hours are Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 8:30-4pm. Other times are available by appointment, please call ahead.

Training

- I will be attending the New York State City/County Management Association Conference in April and presenting on the future use of AI in local government. This conference will be held in Cooperstown New York on April 30 – May 2.
- Two new officers are currently in the Finger Lakes Law Enforcement Academy.
- Our newest firefighter is currently at the Fire Training Academy in Webster.
- Nine Department of Public Works staff attended UDIG NY Spring Safety Training and completed Annual Safe Digging Best Practices Programming.

City Window and Cornice Work

City Hall is currently under construction. Be advised that available parking spaces and traffic flow around city hall will be impacted and there will be inconveniences.

Normal business hour ingress and egress will be maintained during the project. Access to the ground floor elevator will also continue to be open.

Water and Sewer Rate Study Request for Proposals

We have received five proposals from consultants for the Water and Sewer Rate Study. Staff will be reviewing these documents to select a vendor to begin work on this important study. As mentioned in our budget meetings we have asked the selected consultant to have initial information prepared by the end of summer so that it may be incorporated into our budget discussions.

CDBG Housing Program Administrator Request for Proposals

We have received three proposals from firms able to administer the CDBG Housing Program. The selected firm will work with the homeowners to assist them with the construction process and ensure programmatic compliance. The firm is paid for by grant funds.

Bridge NY Middle Street Bridge Project Request for Proposals

We have received four proposals from firms to replace and install our Middle St Bridge. The selected firm will work DPW to install the bridge upgrades detailed in our Bridge-NY grant. The firm is paid for by grant funds.

Goal 2: Promote Economic Development within the City

County Infrastructure Grant Program

The City of Geneva has been awarded this funding from the County. We will now work with the County to secure this funding from New York State. This funding will go to our ATAD expansion. An allocation of \$1M was awarded to each County and Ontario County held their own grant application cycle to determine which municipality would receive this funding from the State.

Property Sales Process

In 2024 the City of Geneva adopted a procedure for the periodic review of property owned by the City and for review of offers to purchase that property for private use. As a part of that process the city reviews offers received once a quarter. Criteria for review of those offers is defined in the procedure and includes both looking at the purchase price, the taxes that would be generated by the property following the sale, goals of the City as defined in the Comprehensive Plan, and the potential costs of the transfer and cost avoided by no longer owning the property.

The 2025 Second Quarter review is scheduled for the beginning of April and any offers not received by April 4, 2025 will be reviewed in the 3rd quarter with a due date of July 6, 2025. The City reserves the right to decline an offer for any reason if it is deemed to not be in the best interest of the future of the City.

Properties can be viewed using Ontario County's OnCor system at <https://www.ontariocountyny.gov/714/OnCor> The form for property offers is on the City of Geneva's website at https://cityofgenevany.com/DocumentCenter/View/2181/Property-Offer-Form_fillable-box

Goal 3: Increase and Sustain Intergovernmental Relations with City Partners

YMCA Use of Washington Street Park

City staff members from DPW and Recreation met with the Director of the YMCA to discuss the use of Washington Street Park during the summer as a location during the construction at the Y. The teams will meet again at the park to review the needs of the YMCA to hold summer camp and where they can locate a large tent, portable toilets, and any other camp related items. If we can logistically support the YMCA use of the park, an agreement will be drawn up to outline the mutual responsibilities and will be further discussed at the May council meeting.

Fire Services Shared Services Meeting

Chief Parrotta is continuing to collect data from the other jurisdictions. Our next meeting is April 15, and the parties will further discuss areas of collaboration, including community engagement, financial/cost savings strategies, OSHA and training requirements, and ISO ratings systems.

NYSEG Hours

A lot of people have questions about their NYSEG bills and some have concerns about the new AMI meters. If any community members would like to speak to a NYSEG representatives in person, their walk-in offices are open for Customer Service during the days and hours noted below.

Sodus: 14 State St, Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Geneva: 152 Border City Rd, Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Rochester: 180 S. Clinton Avenue, Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Rochester: 400 West Avenue, Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Geneva City School District Community Partners Meeting

The Geneva City School District held a community partner meeting on March 20. This annual meeting allows the district to review their goals and provide updates on their metrics. The groups broke out and discussed the three district priorities – Safe and Supportive Learning Environments, Academic Achievement, and Equity & Inclusion.

For the 2025-2026 budget, the school district is projecting a 3% increase. In 2024-2025 the school district budget increased by 8%.

Finger Lakes Visitors' Connection Meeting

I participated in this ½ day session along with Councilmembers Brennan, Gillotte, and Lavin on *How to Build Our Communities Using Tourism as a Tool*. This facilitated discussion allowed community groups from across the county to come together and work with Josiah Brown

(<https://thenewyorksherpa.com/>). The information gathered through the breakout sessions will be utilized to support the transition of the new executive director of FLX Visitor's Connection.

Goal 4: Develop and Implement Strategies to Create and Continue Dynamic Communications Regarding City Actions

Community Conversations

Community Conversations kicked off on March 12 with just over a dozen community members, plus Councilmembers Brennan and Petropolous. Our next community conversation will be held on April 18 from 11am – 1pm, with Special Guest Recreation Director David Sharman at the Bozzuto Center.

Radio

Starting on April 3, 2025 we will have an ongoing 7:50am radio presence highlighting the City of Geneva. This will allow time for myself and other City department leaders to provide updates on current projects, programs, and services as part of the morning radio program.

CGI Video Production

City staff will be working with CGI Video Production to create four videos about Geneva. These videos will be placed on our main page and allow us to highlight the City. We will be producing four videos – a welcome video and three themed videos. Categories are still being honed but a few thoughts are: Working & Investing in Geneva; Living & Staying in Geneva; Arts, Culture, & Community; Visting Geneva. Business members will also be provided sponsorship opportunities by CGI to compliment the City videos.

Goal 5: Enhance the Quality of Life for City Residents

Police Department February 2025 Statistics

- Calls for Service: 2,886
- Mental Health Calls: 15
- Domestic Incidents: 31
- Overdoses: 8
- Property Checks: 1,362
- Parking Tickets Issued: 638
- Overtime Hours: 150 hours

Spring Break Recreation Camp

Spring Break camp is back for kids age 5-12. Camp starts on April 14th and runs through the 18th. Hours are 8am to 12pm. Registration details can be found here: <https://cityofgenevany.com/259/Recreation-Department>

Annual Easter Egg Hunt

The Annual Easter Egg Hunt is April 12th at 9am. This annual event is held at the Recreation Complex.

Summer Camp

Half and full day summer camp registration is now open. Camp begins on July 7th and runs through August 15th. Sign ups are available on the Recreation website.

Avian Influenza

Since January, Buildings and Grounds team members have worked 23 hours to collect, report, and dispose of 112 deceased waterfowl within the City, since January 2025.

Street Light Outages

50 new drivers have been received, and 21 outages have been repaired in last two weeks. We have hired a temporary employee to assist with additional electric work in the coming weeks.

Buildings and Grounds

Staff members are repairing mowers and fixing damages from winter operations.

Playground equipment safety inspections have been completed, and deficiencies are being addressed.

Highway

Potholes and Utility Pavement Repairs are occurring throughout the City. Crews began saw-cutting utility break areas and repaired a sewer blockage under the Main Street median.

Water Treatment Plant Transformer Project

Switchgear equipment has been delivered to WTP and staff are coordinating an install with contractors. Staff began distribution flushing and chlorine residual testing. Water quality reports are included in this quarters water bills.

Lake Tunnel

The benches have been completed, and concrete sidewalk work is started. We look forward to the completion of this area by this summer. This is a DRI project.

Resource Recovery Park

We have submitted NYSDEC request for Exempt Facilities; Negotiated agreements with Casella for trash compactor and co-mingled rolls offs; Ed Arnold Recycling for metals roll offs. This will be an ordinance change that Council will review in April. The goal for opening an expanded Resource Recovery Facility will be April 2025. Residents of the City will be able to obtain a permit to use the expanded options of recycling (\$25/per calendar year for an annual unlimited use) and trash (\$75 for a punch card with fifty-two (52) punches, each punch is for two (2) thirty (30) gallon bags).

Pedestrian Rail Trail

We have coordinated with Ontario Concrete to begin the access ramp at the Clark Street entrance.

Gazebo Replacement

We are coordinating Geneva Community Projects on the final concept for the replacement Gazebo at Lakefront. Funding was allocated by both GCP and the City to replace the current gazebo which is in disrepair.