

# **CITY OF BATAVIA – CONFERENCE MINUTES**

## **MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2020**

Present were Council President Jankowski and Councilmembers Bialkowski, Briggs, Pacino, McGinnis, Canale, Viele, Karas, and Christian.

In attendance from the City of Batavia were Matt Worth, Chief Napolitano, Chief Heubusch, Lisa Casey, and Lisa Neary.

### **Call to Order**

Council President Jankowski called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Councilmember Karas led the Invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Public Comments**

None.

### **Council Response to Public Comments**

None.

### **Communications**

The Batavia Business Improvement District submitted an application for Christmas in the City on Saturday, December 5<sup>th</sup> from 2:00 – 6:45pm in downtown Batavia. There will be a parade at 6:00pm from Jefferson to Liberty along with crafts and activities. Council approved.

### **Council President's Report**

Council President Jankowski announced the next regular City Council Business meeting to be held on Tuesday, October 13, 2020 at 7:00pm at the City Hall Council Board Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, City Centre.

Council President Jankowski noted that since June 20<sup>th</sup> the Council had been working towards replacing the City Manager position and have appointed a search committee made up of Councilmembers Pacino and Canale along with Matt Worth and Dawn Fairbanks who will advertise for the position. They will consider internal, local and national applicants.

### **Audit Presentation – Freed Maxick – Laura Landers**

Ms. Landers handed out a slide presentation to Council and reviewed the historical chart and balance sheet of the funds. She noted that they issued an unmodified, or clean, opinion on the financial statements and had met with and reviewed in detail the financial statements

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with the audit committee. She noted that GASB 84 was implemented which resulted in a restatement of fund balance in the general fund. She reviewed operations results and noted that no amounts were assigned to fund reserves based on recommendations of the audit committee because of the uncertainty of funds going forward. She noted that unassigned fund balance was in compliance with the City's internal fund balance policy at 3/31/2020 and, overall, the City's trial balance presented a strong cash position and fund balance. Ms. Landers explained that the water fund ended with a surplus, good cash balance and strong net position. She noted that the sewer fund ended with a slight surplus, overall health cash and net position. She explained that the City's enterprise funds were doing well at 3/31/2020. She stated that a management report was issued with no significant deficiencies or material weaknesses and felt that management was taking the right steps with the City's funds during these times. She also noted that this was her last presentation to the City as she was retiring in the near future.

### **Stipend Resolution**

Council President Jankowski noted that the Charter stated that there shall be an assistant city manager and Mrs. Tabelski had been doing both since June 20<sup>th</sup>. He requested a stipend for her like Council did for Mr. Worth when he filled in as Interim City Manager. He wanted to offer the same to Mrs. Tabelski as had been offered to others. Councilmember Briggs noted that she supported it and Councilmember Viele stated that it was well deserved. Council agreed to move the item forward.

### **Habitat for Humanity – 50 Oak Street**

Mrs. Tabelski noted that she had a request from Habitat for Humanity for a transfer of this property to them to bring the foreclosed property back to life and increase the taxable value. She noted they want to invest approximately \$58,000 – 62,000 into the house to provide a home for a family. Councilmember Christian stated that they were a great organization and a majority of the people who do the work are women. Council agreed to move the item forward.

### **EnerGov Software Contract**

Mrs. Tabelski noted that the City was still negotiating the final fees but wanted to get this in front of Council now. She noted this was part of Phase 2 of the software conversion and this is a component piece of the project. She noted we would start implementing this in January. Council agreed to move the item to a future meeting once final figures were obtained.

### **Introduce Ordinance Amending Municipal Code and Scheduling of Public Hearing – Public Garage I-1 Industrial District**

Mr. Worth noted that this would change a local law to allow repair garages in I-1 zones and has been through City and County planning. Councilmember Christian thanked Mr. Worth for all the hard work put into this change. Councilmember Bialkowski asked if this would open the door for other uses? Mr. Worth noted that it's an avenue for it, yes, and this change would still require a special use permit.

### **Amend City Centre Concourse Roof Replacement Project**

Mr. Worth explained that as the old roof was removed they noticed severe decking deterioration and negotiated a price to fix this with the contractor. He noted they needed an additional \$5,000 to close out the project and that all leaks had been repaired. He noted there was a 20-year full warranty through the manufacturer. Council agreed to move the item forward.

### **Surplus of Vehicles**

Mr. Worth noted that three vehicles had been replaced and requested to declare them surplus and auction them off. The funds would go back into reserves. Council agreed to move the item forward.

### **NYPA LED Street Lighting Proposal**

Mr. Worth explained that they had been working on this for about two years to be more efficient with the City street lighting. He noted that they engaged with the NY Power Authority and they would take all the lights, change them to LED lights and the savings would pay for the cost of the project. He noted that NYPA offers a turn-key program, could provide a tight estimate, and he had a high level of confidence in the project. Council President Jankowski wanted to confirm that it would cost over \$3,000 less per year if we got new lights and that was confirmed. Councilmember Bialkowski noted that he drove through a city with three different light styles and wondered if that would be the same in Batavia. Mr. Worth noted that the main arterials and decorative lights would be consistent white lights and residential would have sodium lights. He also noted that the white lights help the eye clarify things like color which could be helpful in identifying car colors, etc. Council agreed to move the item forward.

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## **MOTION TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION**

### **Motion of Councilperson Pacino**

**WHEREAS**, Article 7, Section 105(1)(h), of the Public Officer's Law permits the legislative body of a municipality to enter into Executive Session to discuss "...the proposed acquisition, sale, or lease of real property or the proposed acquisition of securities, or sale or exchange of securities held by such public body, but only when publicity would substantially affect the value thereof..."and;

**WHEREAS**, Article 7, Section 105(1)(f), of the Public Officer's Law permits the legislative body of a municipality to enter into Executive Session 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..."and;

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**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Council of the City of Batavia, that upon approval of this Motion, the City Council does hereby enter into Executive Session.

**Seconded by Councilperson Viele and on roll call approved 9-0.**

Council entered executive session at 7:50pm and adjourned at 8:16pm.

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**Conference Meeting adjourned at 8:17 PM.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Heidi J. Parker  
Clerk-Treasurer**