

# **CITY OF BATAVIA – CONFERENCE MINUTES**

## **MONDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 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, Ray Tourt, Chief Napolitano, Chief Heubusch, Lisa Casey, Lisa Neary, and Jocelyn Sikora.

### **Call to Order**

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

### **Public Comments**

None.

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

None.

### **Communications**

There were no communications other than Christmas in the City had been cancelled and they were going to do a wreath contest, similar to the scarecrow contest, instead.

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

Council President Jankowski announced the next regular City Council Conference and Business meetings to be held on Monday, December 14, 2020 at 7:00pm at the City Hall Council Board Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, City Centre.

**Proclamation for Matthew J Worth, Director of Public Works** – Council President Jankowski began his proclamation to Mr. Worth by saying that he was going to be really missed. He continued noting that Mr. Worth has over 33 years of service to the City including one year as interim City Manager. He noted that Mr. Worth is in charge of the entire public works department which was about 60 employees and managed many federally and internally funded projects. He noted that Mr. Worth exhibited strong leadership and won APWA and NYS Director of Public Works Awards. Council President Jankowski stated that it was with great pride that the City recognized Mr. Worth for his many accomplishment and thanked him for his dedication and service to the City. Mr. Worth noted that he works with many great people and thanked them, and his family, for all of their support.

**Proclamation for Retired Fire Fighters Tom Douglas and Tim Stengel -**

11/23/2020

Councilmember Bialkowski presented a proclamation to Tom Douglas who retired from the City of Batavia after over 22 years of service as a firefighter. He noted that Mr. Douglas began in the fire department's ambulance service and brought a lot of experience to the job. He noted that Mr. Douglas implemented the Emergency Medical Service program and the City sincerely thanked him for his dedication and service. Mr. Douglas stated that he had a fantastic and great career and thanked his family for their support.

Councilmember Briggs presented a proclamation to Tim Stengel who retired from the City of Batavia after over 20 years of service as a firefighter. She noted that Mr. Stengel became a mentor to new employees and was a positive role model throughout his career. She noted that he displayed a calming presence within the department and the City thanked him for his service to the community. Mr. Stengel noted that it was a privilege to serve the City of Batavia, he had a great career and was blessed.

### **Donation Presentation from Retired Fire Fighter Tom Douglas to City of Batavia Fire Department**

Tom Douglas noted that he always believed in serving the community and when you leave you should give something back. Mr. Douglas then presented to the City of Batavia Fire Department 10 personal thermal imaging cameras. He thanked Municipal Emergency Services for their help with the cost. Chief Napolitano thanked Mr. and Mrs. Douglas and said that most don't realize how important the cameras are when on the job. He noted that this was an example of the Douglas's generosity and that the young firefighters learned from two of the best (referencing retired FF Tim Stengel as well). He thanked them on behalf of the fire department.

### **City of Batavia – City Court Part-time Judge**

Council President Jankowski asked for Council approval to start advertising for this position. Council approved.

### **Investment Policy**

Mrs. Tabelski recommended a change to the investment policy to allow the City Manager to invest in any financial institution, even if it is not detailed in the current list, so investments could be made more quickly. She noted that, if a financial institution was used that was not already listed, she would update Council at the next meeting of the change and all new institutions, if any, would be added to the list in the Investment Policy when the policy is reviewed at the end of each fiscal year. She noted that this would allow for more timely investments to earn the most we can on the City's funds. Council President Jankowski asked that it be added that the Deputy Director of Finance and City Clerk agree to the use of the new financial institution in addition to the City Manager for a check and balance. Council agreed to move the item forward.

### **Property Access for Remedial Action – 267 Bank Street**

Mr. Van Nest, City Attorney, noted that DEC was working on Batavia Iron property and wanted to access 267 Bank St to do some further testing. He noted they were just asking

for access, it was very straight forward and standard. Council agreed to move the item forward.

### **Fiber / Broadband Connectivity Solution Project**

Mrs. Tabelski noted that the city connects with a point to point system but many variables affect the connections. She noted she was looking at a fiber connection to connect all of our properties and was currently reviewing nine proposals. She noted this cost was not one that was cut during the COVID cuts due to the need for the facilities to be able to communicate effectively. She noted that if the radios were to break, it could cost around \$35,000 to fix. She asked to bring the agreement, with specifics at that time, to the 12/14/2020 meeting for approval. Council agreed to move the item forward.

### **Scheduling City Council Meetings for 2021**

Council President Jankowski noted that this was just the meeting schedule for 2021 and asked if there were any concerns or corrections. Being none, Council agreed to move the item forward.

### **Youth Bureau – Path Forward**

Council President Jankowski was asking/directing the City Manager to look into alternatives for the youth bureau to provide the same services, or better, at the same location but for a lower cost. He asked that she include the Youth Board for ideas and noted that he didn't want to lose any services. Councilmember McGinnis noted that he met with board member Dave Twichell who noted that he and board member Paula Fischer had over 20 years of service with the board and he offered some suggestions. One of the ideas was to cut ties with the current youth director and restore the full time position left by Lydia Schauf. He noted that he wanted to do what was best for the kids and the City budget. He also wanted to have the Youth Board continue to be in place even if there was an agreement with the YMCA, for example, to provide services, and have a Councilmember on board to relay information back to Council. Council President Jankowski asked for the public's and Youth Bureau's patience as we deal with the safety of everyone with the pandemic. He noted we need to take care of this first. Councilmember Bialkowski asked if Council could get a spreadsheet of the costs involved. Councilmember Christian suggested opening the services up to other organizations through an RFP. She also noted she didn't want it to move from its current area. Council President Jankowski offered to assist Councilmember McGinnis on the Youth Board if needed.

\* \* \*

**Conference Meeting adjourned at 7:38 PM.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Heidi J. Parker  
Clerk-Treasurer**

11/23/2020