

# **CITY OF BATAVIA – SPECIAL CONFERENCE MINUTES MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2020**

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

In attendance from the City of Batavia were Matt Worth, Chief Heubusch, Dawn Fairbanks, Lisa Casey, and Captain Herberger. Andrew Maguire was in attendance from the BDC.

## **Call to Order**

Council President Jankowski called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Councilmember Canale led the Lord's Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **Public Comments**

Sam DiSalvo, 111 Main St, thanked Council for listening and adding more citizens to the police advisory group. He wanted to talk about closed door discussions of hiring a city manager and felt it was nepotism when Mrs. Tabelski was appointed Assistant City Manager (ACM) when her husband was on Council even though he abstained from the vote. He noted there were at least 20 changes from the original deer management plan (DMP) to the one proposed at tonight's meeting which included putting the City Manager and Police Chief in charge. Mr. DiSalvo stated that areas 1, 2, and 3 had pulled out from the deer plan which left only areas 4 and 5 that were put in by the ACM. He felt that was representative of problems that would happen if she was put in charge. Mr. DiSalvo provided Council with a petition of people who wanted a full search for a City Manager.

John Roach, 116 Grandview Ter, noted that he took the opposite view on hiring a City Manager. He noted that by now Council should have been able to make a decision to either search for a new one or hire Mrs. Tabelski. He also noted that he heard that a Councilmember put the petitions in businesses. He also asked if it was a coincidence that the last time Council approved stipends it was for men but when it was for women some voted no.

Dave Majewski, 53 Ellicott Ave, was curious about where area 4 would be in the DMP because his son owns land adjacent to it. He wondered if this is just a city plan now since only areas 4 and 5 can be hunted. He asked for clarification on the zones and why only City employees could hunt there. He noted that he was concerned about liability on his son's property.

Noah Majewski, 8800 Alexander Rd, Batavia, noted that he owned property adjacent to area 4, he had many trespassers and he was concerned about liability from him nuisance beaver traps. He felt this was opening a whole new can of worms.

## **Council Response to Public Comments**

Council President Jankowski noted that he was not aware that the three areas were now not available and thought that was suspicious since Mr. DiSalvo's father was on the deer committee. He noted that step one was to approve the plan then the City could go to the landowners for approval. He understood the concern with trespassing and noted that this plan would police that. He noted we were looking to solve a problem and not hunt trophy deer. Council President Jankowski stated that once we have a plan then we can approach people and that the City was still trying to deal with the economy and the pandemic and the deer committee was not a priority. Councilmember Christian felt there were too many questions to vote on the plan tonight and suggested coming back with people who want to do this. Mr. Van Nest noted that the program proposed did not include use of guns. Council President Jankowski noted that the reason only City employees would be allowed on City property was for liability purposes and asked Mrs. Tabela if she had received any notification of people who wanted to withdraw. Mrs. Tabela stated that she had not and, in fact, received notification from the committee that Noah Majewski was interested in participating in the program. Council President Jankowski noted there were some miscommunications with the committee, we asked how we could help, but, unfortunately, before we could do that, they quit. He noted that we used the Irondequoit model and, who better to enforce this program than law enforcement. He commended the committee for their work and noted they did a lot of hard work. Councilmember Christian was against the extra cost of the police working the program. Councilmember Briggs didn't think the plan was to take police off the street.

## **Communications**

Brighton Securities requested to hold their annual Shred Day on Wednesday, September 23, 2020 at 212 East Main St from 12:00 – 3:00pm. This is for free disposal and shredding of documents. Council approved.

Informational only:

Athletes Edge youth baseball would be using Kibbe softball and Williams baseball fields through October 25<sup>th</sup>.

Boys of Summer would be using Williams baseball field on 9/10, 9/17 and 10/4 for youth fall baseball league.

All schedules have been coordinated with Mr. Tourt at the Bureau of Maintenance and both teams are set with requirements.

## **Council President Report**

Council President Jankowski announced that the next City Council Conference Meeting would be held on Monday, September 28, 2020 at 7:00pm at City Hall, Council Board Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor.

He also noted that he received an email regarding the Five Star Bank situation and the safety concern because of the other bank closure and the traffic that will concentrate at the west end location. Councilmember Christian noted that Mrs. Tabela had called the bank and they are now letting people inside so the drive thru backup should be resolved.

09/14/2020

## **Police Traffic Services Grant 2020-2021**

Chief Heubusch noted that they received just over \$9,000 for overtime detail to enhance traffic safety and this would record the receipt of those funds. Council agreed to move the item to the business meeting immediately following.

## **Executive Session – Employment Matters**

### **MOTION TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION**

#### **Motion of Councilmember Pacino**

**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;

**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 Councilmember Canale and on roll call approved 8-0.** Council entered executive session at 7:32 PM and exited at 8:17 PM.

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**Conference Meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Heidi J Parker  
Clerk-Treasurer**