

CITY OF BATAVIA – CONFERENCE MINUTES

MONDAY, JANUARY 24, 2022

Present were Council President Jankowski and Councilmembers Pacino, McGinnis, Briggs, and Bialkowski. Councilmembers Karas and Viele were absent and Canale and Schmidt joined via phone conference.

Call to Order

Council President Jankowski called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM immediately following the special business meeting.

Public Hearing to Provide Information to the Public on an Ordinance Amending Chapter 190 Entitled “Zoning” of the City of Batavia Municipal Code to Amend the Zoning Map of the City of Batavia

A motion was made by Councilmember Briggs to open the public hearing which was seconded by Councilmember Pacino. The motion was approved on roll call, 7-0.

There were no speakers.

A motion was made by Councilmember Bialkowski to close the public hearing which was seconded by Councilmember McGinnis. The motion was approved on roll call, 7-0.

Public Comments

Brian McCarthy, 5 Carolwood Dr, noted that he was speaking on behalf of his brother’s foundation, the David M McCarthy Memorial Foundation, and was excited to have the opportunity for the naming rights to the Batavia ice rink. He noted they were a charitable foundation that supports youth athletics in Genesee County. He noted that they have a huge golf tournament supported by the community to raise funds and thanked Guy Pellegrino for stepping up to assist. He noted that they were both coaches of their youngest sons so they will be involved in the rink for a long time and asked Council for their support in naming the ice rink after his brother.

Guy Pellegrino, 35 Edgewood Dr, noted that he was ecstatic about this opportunity and felt the rink couldn’t be named after a better person. He noted this was one of the most special ventures he has embarked on and stated that they would make the rink a better place which is why they asked for a 10-year commitment.

Council Response to Public Comments

Councilmember Pacino felt that it was a wonderful idea. Council President Jankowski thanked them for proposing a longer-term agreement. Councilmember Schmidt noted that her son and grandson spent a lot of time at the rink and she appreciated this. Councilmember Canale noted that he was all for it and noted that the rink brings in a lot of tourism to the City. Councilmember Bialkowski thanked them and noted that he was glad it was from someone local.

Communications

None.

Council President's Report

Council President Jankowski announced the next regular City Council Business meeting to be held on Monday, February 14, 2022 at 7:00pm at the City Hall Council Board Room, 2nd Floor, City Centre.

He announced budget work sessions as follows:

Monday, January 24th after Council Meeting (Strategic Plan, General Gov't and Administration)

Tuesday, January 25th at 6:00 p.m. (DPW)

Monday, January 31st at 6:00 p.m. (Police and Fire)

Monday, February 7th at 6:00 p.m. (if needed)

Cloven Hoofed Animals – Council President Jankowski

Council President Jankowski noted that he intended for the title to read “farm animals” but didn’t know what they could do, if anything. With time permitting, he asked if Council wanted to look at what other municipalities had done regarding regulating farm animals in the City and if we needed to come up with some restriction. He noted that this stemmed from two complaints he received about residents with multiple goats that were loud and smelled and understood it was a low priority but said he told them that he would bring it up. Councilmember Pacino noted that if it was bothering other people then they should look into it. Councilmember Bialkowski heard that if the animal was considered a pet then there was nothing the City could do about it but had a similar personal issue, contacted the Genesee County Health Department, and they stepped in and took care of it quickly. Council President Jankowski noted that he was talking about farm animals that make a lot of noise, acknowledged it was non-urgent, but wanted to find out what other communities were doing. He felt they should look at their options and see what’s feasible. Mrs. Tabelski asked which type of animals she was to look into. Council President Jankowski stated that it should be animals that are normally raised on a farm for food and felt we don’t really have the room for them in the City. Councilmember Canale noted that he wanted to stay neutral but it has created some problems between neighbors and wants to make it palatable for everyone involved.

Batavia Development Corporation 2022 Presentation

Brett Frank, BDC Director, noted that he started in that position in September and explained why economic development was important. He noted that this was a question often asked and provided demographics, spoke about housing statistics and gave a history of the BDC. He discussed projects expected to start construction in 2022, which amounted to over \$51.6 million of investment. He noted they were trying to create a good quality of life and vibrant downtown. Councilmember Pacino asked how the BID fit into this. Mr. Frank explained the BID district was the area the BDC focused on and has the greatest assessed value of the City.

SEQR for 145 and 147 Pearl Street

Mrs. Wiedrick noted that a public hearing was held tonight regarding the rezoning of these properties and this was needed to move forward and approve the SEQR. Council agreed to move the item forward.

Zoning Amendment 145 and 147 Pearl Street

Mrs. Wiedrick noted that this was the resolution to approve the rezone and asked that it be moved forward. Council agreed to move the item forward.

Septage Rate Increase

Mrs. Tabelski noted that, after budget review, the septage rate should be increased to cover the cost to \$40 per thousand gallons. Council agreed to move the item forward.

Budget Resolutions That Require a Public Hearing

Mrs. Tabelski explained that there were two resolutions that required a public hearing so asking that they be moved to the next business meeting so they could be introduced and a public hearing scheduled. She noted that the resolutions were for the budget and local law 1 for the water rate change. Council agreed to move the resolutions forward.

2022 Capital Resolution

Mrs. Tabelski noted that the Richmond/Harvester project was listed twice in the original resolution so this would just remove the extra item. She explained that they wanted to start moving on the projects and needed Council's approval to do so which was why she was asking to move it to the next business meeting which was a little earlier than usual. Council agreed to move the item forward.

Ice Rink Naming Rights

Mrs. Wiedrick thanked Mr. Pellegrino and Mr. McCarthy for a chance to work with both of them and gave some background about David McCarthy. She noted that a foundation was founded out of a tragedy after Mr. McCarthy died in November 2006. She reviewed the agreement terms and asked Council to move this resolution forward. Council agreed to move the item forward.

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Conference Meeting adjourned at 7:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

**Heidi J. Parker
Clerk-Treasurer**

01/24/2022