

CITY OF BATAVIA – CONFERENCE MINUTES

MONDAY, MAY 23, 2022

Present were Council President Jankowski and Councilmembers Viele, Pacino, Canale, McGinnis, Briggs, Schmidt, Bialkowski and Richmond.

Call to Order

Council President Jankowski called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Councilmember Briggs led the Invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance. In attendance from the City were Chief Heubusch, Chief Herberger, Dawn Fairbanks, and Lisa Neary.

Public Comments

Richard Beatty, 123 Summit St, noted that he was the president of the Landmark Society of Genesee County and wanted to remind Council of an upcoming play about the Brisbane building to bring attention to the mansion. On June 3rd, June 11th, and June 15th. He noted it would be about 40 minutes long.

Council Response to Public Comments

Councilmember Pacino noted that she would be at the play and would not watch the Brisbane building go down like some other buildings have in the past.

Communications

GLOW YMCA submitted an application for the Corporate Cup 5K on Thursday, August 4th at 6 pm in Centennial Park to raise funds for GLOW YMCA. Council approved.

Kiwanis submitted an application for a 5K road race on Monday, July 4th from 9-11am in Centennial Park. Council approved.

A request was submitted for fireworks after the Muckdog's games on Saturday June 4th and 18th. Council approved.

The Batavia Business Improvement District (BID) submitted an application for concerts in Jackson Square on Fridays from July 1st to August 26th from 7-9pm. Council approved.

The BID submitted an application for concerts in Jackson Square on Thursday, June 30th, July 28th and August 25th from 7-9pm. Council approved.

Blue Pearl Yoga requested to hold Yoga in the Park on Tuesdays and Thursdays in June through September in Centennial Park at 6:30pm. Council approved.

HCR Home Care requested to host a ribbon cutting meet and greet on Wednesday, June 8th from 11am – 2pm outside 47A Batavia City Centre. Council approved.

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Venue Entertainment submitted an application for a community block party on Saturday, August 6th from 2-10pm on South Swan St from Ellicott St to Sumner. Council approved.

The David McCarthy Memorial Foundation requested to hold a naming rights event at the ice arena on Friday, June 3rd at 5pm. Council approved.

Keller Williams of WNY requested to hold a homeowners workshop on Saturday, July 23rd from 12-3pm in the City Centre concourse to educate the community about the home buying process or a career in real estate. Council approved.

Gregory Munroe requested to hold a chicken BBQ in Austin Park on Saturday, June 4th from 1-4pm. Council approved.

Council President Report

Council President Jankowski announced the next regular City Council Business meeting to be held on Monday, June 13, 2022 at 7:00 pm at the City Hall Council Board Room, 2nd Floor, City Centre.

Council President Jankowski read a proclamation to the Batavia Police Department for their Flag Commemoration honoring fallen, retired police officers and putting flags on the graves. He noted that the police officers keep our neighborhoods safer and many had served longer than 20 years. He explained that each year they would honor those who passed away and made the proclamation, on May 23, 2022, to honor the departed police officers who rendered dedicated service to the City of Batavia. Council President Jankowski added that we can do the things we do because of them.

Councilmember Schmidt read a proclamation honoring Helen Ada Smith who will be turning 100 on June 2, 2022. She noted that Ms. Smith was a wife and mother, active in her church, and a 1940 graduate of LeRoy High School. She noted that Ms. Smith lived through the most eventful century and offered sincere congratulations on her 100th birthday.

Councilmember Bialkowski presented a proclamation to Nick Zinni honoring his membership in the Redfield Parkway Association. Councilmember Bialkowski noted that Mr. Zinni was an exemplary community and neighborhood volunteer, was part of the Redfield Parkway Association for over 20 years and served as treasurer. He noted that this proclamation was made for Mr. Zinni's many years of dedicated service in the community and for his devotion to the City of Batavia. Mr. Zinni noted that it was a pleasure to be at the meeting, he thanked Council for their service to the community as well. He noted that he didn't do the work of the Redfield Association alone and the recognition belonged to them. He noted that it specifically belonged to Kathy Owen who passed away exactly three years ago explaining that she was a great role model and mentor. He noted that we need people to look after people, that he was moving and was going to miss it.

Red Team Exercise Grant – Batavia Police Department

Chief Heubusch noted that each year the police department participates in the Red Team exercise for counterterrorism. He noted they were looking to receive a \$5,700 grant from homeland security. Council agreed to move the item forward.

Sidewalk Bids

Mrs. Tabelski noted that they were putting out bids on three streets so wanted to move this forward. Councilmember Schmidt noted that she had walked the streets that were being bid on and felt that the sidewalks on her street were worse and wondered how the sidewalk replacements were determined. Mrs. Tabelski noted that there is a capital streets plan which is reviewed each year to determine need and there was only so much money budgeted each year. She explained that when a street is redone, the sidewalks are usually done as well. She noted there is extra money for fixing potholes and they are trying to rehab the roads the best they can. Councilmember Canale noted that the City was still trying to catch up from years ago when there was no money for infrastructure improvements. Council agreed to move the item to a future business meeting.

Youth Program Funding Agreement

Mrs. Tabelski explained that this was an annual agreement for youth services and to receive grant funding of \$12,000 which was applied for by the City. She asked Council to approve of and receive the funds. Council agreed to move the item forward.

Creation of full-time Ordinance Enforcement Officer Position

Mrs. Tabelski noted that the City would like to create a new ordinance enforcement officer. She noted that we currently have two code enforcement officers but after some analysis have found that there is not enough staff to be able to do the grass, weed and debris enforcement. Councilmember Schmidt asked what they would do in the winter. Mrs. Tabelski noted they would be court cases to wrap up and can help out with closing out permits. She explained that this would take the full time position who did two jobs and make it into two positions each taking on those jobs full time. Councilmember Canale asked if this position would be responsible for issues with snow piles and the like. Chief Heubusch noted that the police would probably deal with those issues as a hazard but there would be some enforcement with codes as well. Council agreed to move the item forward.

Minor Land Use Action Exemption Agreement – City of Batavia and Genesee County Planning Board

Mrs. Tabelski explained that the City of Batavia refers land use actions to the Genesee County Planning Board (GCPB) so to streamline the process, the GCPB is allowing the City to enter into exemptions from referring items to the County. She noted that there were 14 items that this would help speed up development in the City. Councilmember Richmond felt it was a marvelous idea and would streamline the process. Council agreed to move the item forward.

USDA Rural Development Community Facility Program

Mrs. Tabelski noted that they had recently discussed the purchase of a new fire engine and received a loan for the purchase. She noted that the cost is approximately \$700,000 and recommended accepting the funding by the end of June to lock in a rate of 2.5%. She noted that she was looking for approval to move forward and there would be a formal loan resolution coming later. Council agreed to move the item to the business meeting immediately following.

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Conference Meeting adjourned at 7:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

**Heidi J Parker
Clerk-Treasurer**

05/23/2022