

CITY OF BATAVIA – CONFERENCE MINUTES

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2022

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

Call to Order

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

Public Comments

Rob Credi, owner of Pub Coffee Hub, was concerned with the lack of communication from the City to businesses on Harvester Ave. or other businesses outside the BID district. He felt that problems could have been avoided if there was better communication especially regarding the road work and parking restrictions on Harvester. He noted that his customers have a routine which was disrupted and pushed some of them elsewhere. Mr. Credi noted that there were a lot of inconsistencies afforded to his customers and the damage has been done. He asked Council what business owners can do to prepare for work in the City and minimize damage to their customers and have better communication with the City ahead of time. He would like parking to continue on both sides of Harvester and wondered if there were any incidents on the street when parking on both sides was allowed because he felt that vehicles actually went slower then. He asked to speak to the police chief about the parking situation.

Council Response to Public Comments

Council President Jankowski noted that this could be revisited and he could meet with the police for clarification. He noted that the City had changed parking before so it could be looked into for consideration. Councilmember Canale noted that his business is also in the Harvester Center and wondered if parking was going to be allowed on both sides of the street. He understood that there may be reasons we can't park on both sides but also maybe we can. Councilmember Bialkowski noted that he spoke with someone from outside the City who commented on how we still have so many locally owned businesses so encouraged everyone to continue to support those local businesses.

Communications

None.

Council President Report

Council President Jankowski announced the next regular City Council Business meeting to be held on Monday, January 9, 2023 at 7:00 pm at the City Hall Council Board Room, 2nd Floor, City Centre.

12/12/2022

Police Sergeant Swearing In – Heidi Parker, City Clerk, swore in Officer Christopher Lindsay to his new position as police sergeant.

Police Facility Update

Ken Pearl, Architecture Unlimited, gave an update on the police facility and had four renderings showing the general idea of the project. He noted that people may see activity at the project site soon but it's for a geo-technical report and not the actual start of the project. He provided a status of the overall design and noted that, of the three primary phases, the first two were finished and construction was up next. Mr. Pearl felt that we could be bidding by March, accepting bids in April and construction in May or June and was working on cost refining and details. He also noted that police participation had been great. Mrs. Tabelski noted that the cost was still expected to come in around \$13-\$15 million and looking for a \$2.5 million grant from Congressman Jacobs. She noted she was also trying to get USDA loan funding and would be bonding but trying to lower that as much as possible. Chief Heubusch thanked Mr. Pearl for his guidance and thanked his team at the police department, noted it's been a great project, and he appreciated all of Council's support. Councilmember Bialkowski asked what would happen to the old building. Mrs. Tabelski noted that the BDC was working on a feasibility study for the building and it would ultimately be privately owned as the City had no intention of keeping it.

Appraisal of City Centre Properties

Mrs. Tabelski requested to utilize VLT money to do appraisals on several City Centre properties. She noted that the goal was to obtain a market value so the City could give interested businesses a price. Councilmember Bialkowski asked about the status of Hall 2 as it previously was reported as very full. Mrs. Tabelski noted that she would take a look at that. Council agreed to move the item to the business meeting immediately following.

Purchase of Public Safety Vehicles – Use of Reserves

Mrs. Tabelski noted that the City usually budgets for the purchase of new vehicles but needed to order them now because of supply chain issues. Chief Heubusch noted that if vehicles aren't secured by a purchase order by the end of the year, we may not get them next year so were just trying to stay ahead of that situation. Council agreed to move the item to the business meeting immediately following.

* * *

Conference Meeting adjourned at 7:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

**Heidi J Parker
Clerk-Treasurer**

12/12/2022