

**MINUTES**  
**September 22, 2020**  
**Committee of the Whole**  
**City of Batavia**

Please **NOTE:** These minutes are not a word-for-word transcription of the statements made at the meeting, nor intended to be a comprehensive review of all discussions. They are intended to make an official record of the actions taken by the Committee/City Council, and to include some description of discussion points as understood by the minute-taker. They may not reference some of the individual attendee's comments, nor the complete comments if referenced.

Chair Wolff called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

**1. Roll Call**

**Members Present:** Chair Wolff; Ald. Miller, Russotto, Beck, Chanzit (on phone), Baerren, O'Brien, Callahan, Malay (on phone), Cerone (on phone), and McFadden (on phone)

**Members Absent:** Aldermen Knopp, Meitzler and Uher

**Also Present:** Mayor Schielke (entered at 7:47pm); Laura Newman, City Administrator; Gary Holm, Director of Public Works; and Jennifer Austin-Smith, Recording Secretary

**2. Reminder: Please speak into the microphone for BATV recording**

**3. Items to be Removed/Added/Changed**

There were no items to be removed, added or changed.

**4. Matters From the Public (For Items NOT on the Agenda)**

There were no matters from the public at this time.

**5. Resolution 20-111-R: Accepting 10 feet sidewalk easement from Covenant Church for the purpose of construction of a 5 feet sidewalk along the east side of the church property (RB 9/18/2020) CS**

Chair Wolff overviewed the memo. Chair Wolff asked if there were any questions or comments from the Committee. Baerren stated that she agrees with Alderman Beck to continue to monitor the kids with the potential of putting a crossing in that area. Newman agreed. Beck added that there are Park District programs in that area that could benefit from a crosswalk as well.

**Motion:** To recommend approval of Resolution 20-111-R: Accepting 10 feet sidewalk easement from Covenant Church for the purpose of construction of a 5 feet sidewalk along the east side of the church property

**Maker:** Wolff

**Second:** Miller

**Roll Call Vote:** **Aye:** Wolff, O'Brien, Callahan, Malay, Cerone, McFadden, Miller, Russotto, Beck, Chanzit, Baerren

**Nay:**

11-0 Vote, 3 Absent, Motion carried.

## **6. Discussion: Update from the City Administrator and Mayor from their Discussions with other Taxing Bodies**

Newman reported last Tuesday she and the Mayor attended the regularly scheduled board meetings for the Library District as well as the Park District. There also was a special meeting for the Batavia Township Board especially for consideration of TIF 6. Newman discussed her PowerPoint Presentation that she presented to each one of those taxing bodies. She stated that they also walked through the presentation that Chris Aiston had presented to the Committee about the basis for establishing TIF 6. Newman answered any questions the groups had and follow-up questions had been answered. Newman reported that the Library District is meeting tonight for a final decision on what direction they will provide to their Executive Director. The Joint Review Board is scheduled to meet on October 1<sup>st</sup> at 10:30am in City Council Chambers. A Public Hearing is scheduled for November 2, 2020, which is the first City Council meeting of November. We have applications in Community Development for anyone who would like to register as an interested party. If you register as an interested party then you receive all notices associated with TIF 6 for a period of three years and there is an option to renew.

O'Brien asked for the numbers for TIF 1. Newman answered for Batavia Schools, TIF 1 expires in 2025 and Batavia Schools will receive \$729,901.68 every year thereafter from the EAV that has been created from TIF 1. That is a big success story. This pales in comparison from what we expect from TIF 6. If we are able to realize all of the redevelopments we have planned to occur in that area, which would create four times as much EAV as we had created in TIF 1. The One Washington Place project alone would create ten million dollars of the almost forty-eight million dollars in projected EAV for TIF 6. Newman discussed with the Committee what the Library District and School District could expect to receive with TIF assistance.

## **7. Discussion: Strategic Plan Update and S.W.O.T. Analysis**

A handout was distributed to the Committee that included the following information: 2019-2023 Strategic Plan, Vision, Mission Statement, Fundamental Values, and 2019-2023 Goals. Newman overviewed the 2019-2023 goals with the Committee of the Whole (COW). The COW discussed the benefits of the community survey, riverbank stabilization and the boardwalk shops and partnering with Batavia MainStreet to ensure the shops move to a brick and mortar location. Callahan commented that the transition from incubator to full-term businesses should be evident in the City.

Special Committee of the Whole meetings were scheduled to discuss the Strategic Plan and S.W.O.T. Analysis on October 12<sup>th</sup> and October 26<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in City Council Chambers. Newman stated that she would send out the survey for the S.W.O.T. analysis so that we could compile the information and have it for our use at our first meeting on October 12<sup>th</sup>. The meeting will be held from 7pm-10pm and Chair Wolff noted that the meeting would not go any longer than 10pm. Newman added that the categories that have been used for organization might not be the right categories. She stated that we may decide as we go through this different categories may make more sense. She may suggest a category for financial sustainability because that will be a common theme for municipal government in the foreseeable future.

## **8. Project Status**

Newman reported on the following:

- The Candidate Guide for April 6<sup>th</sup> election is now available. A seat is available in each ward and a two year unexpired term in First Ward.
- We are working to determine winter outdoor dining policies. The City of Chicago came out with their guidelines just yesterday.
  - Ensure our businesses know how to move ahead as soon as possible.
- Public outdoor dining areas that furniture will be removed the week of November 9<sup>th</sup> in order to get snow removal equipment through in case there is snowfall.
- Public Works projects: 2020 resurfacing project and should be completed by early October, Area 3 sewer separation project is scheduled to be completed by the end of construction season, Prairie Street is on schedule to be completed by mid-October, South Batavia Avenue is anticipated to be completed by the end of this construction season, work along Main Street partially completed by end of 2020 and will be done on a block by block basis with residual work to be completed in 2021. Chair Wolff stated that there have been complaints about the dust and the street will be watered down to reduce the amount of dust.
- There has been an uptick in burglaries to motor vehicles. She encouraged citizens to remove valuables from vehicles and always lock doors especially at night.

## **9. Other**

Miller asked what the City would be doing with Halloween. Newman stated that the most the City has been involved with Halloween and trick-or-treating in the past is posting the hours that trick-or-treating will happen. The City is staying even more hands off this topic. Just today, the CDC came out with guidelines, which categorize door-to-door trick or treating as a high risk in terms of COVID. That information was posted on social media and people can make their own decision on how to proceed.

## **10. Adjournment**

There being no other business to discuss, Chair Wolff asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:12pm; Made by O'Brien; Seconded by Russotto. Motion carried.