

MINUTES
May 17, 2022
Committee of the Whole – Hybrid Meeting
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, Connelly, Chanzit (remote), Solfa, Baerren, Leman, Ajazi (remote), Uher, and Cerone

Members Absent: Ald. Russotto, Beck, Malay, and Vogelsinger

Also Present: Mayor Schielke; Laura Newman, City Administrator; Gary Holm, Director of Public Works; Anthony Isom, Assistant to the City Administrator; Wendy Bednarek, Director of Human Resources; Peggy Colby, Director of Finance (remote); and Jennifer Austin-Smith, Recording Secretary (remote)

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

3. Items to be Removed/Added or Changed

None.

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

None.

5. Consent Agenda

(The Consent Agenda is made up of items recommended by city staff that requires recommendation to the full City Council by the COW. This agenda is placed as a separate item on the COW agenda. The items on the Consent Agenda are usually minor items, already budgeted, standard non-policy activities or outgrowths of earlier meetings and are voted on as a "package" in the interest of saving time on non-controversial issues. However, any council member may, by simple request, have an item removed and placed on the "regular" agenda.)

- a. **Approval: COW Executive Session Minutes for March 15, 2022 – Personnel & Collective Bargaining**
- b. **Approval: City Council Executive Session Minutes for April 18, 2022 - Personnel**

Motion: To approve Consent Agenda as presented

Maker: Wolff

Second: Uher

Roll Call Vote: **Aye:** Wolff, Miller, Connelly, Chanzit, Solfa, Baerren, Leman, Ajazi, Uher, and Cerone

Nay:

10-0 Vote, 4 Absent, Motion carried.

6. Discussion: Proposed Uses for Anticipated TIF Funds

Newman reported that one of our Tax Increment Financing (TIF) is going to be ending in 2024. In order to utilize those funds and be reimbursed for eligible projects under the act we would have to identify how we would use those funds. The funds must be obligated and spent prior to December of 2025. Staff has met to discuss ways to use those funds in a way that would be allowable under the act and for infrastructure/streetscape projects that were presented to the Committee of the Whole (COW) last year that were planned but no funding source had been identified.

Holm discussed potential projects such as: riverbank stabilization, remodeling City Hall, one-way conversion on North River Street, and permanent Catenary Lighting on North River Street. Uher suggested more Woonerfs. Chair Wolff discussed expanding River Street to the north for more development and completing the arch for Newsboy Alley. Newman stated that the arch for Newsboy Alley could be placed in the 2023 budget and the City could ask for Requests for Proposals (RFPs) for the design of the arch. The COW discussed the benefits of efficiency and safety in remodeling City Hall and freeing up the General Fund by utilizing TIF funds.

Newman stated that the purpose of setting up a TIF is to make improvements to that area that make development more likely, whether you incentivize private development or you make improvements to the infrastructure or public assets located therein. The COW discussed projected costs of the various projects. Holm stated that this discussion would be revisited at a future COW meeting.

7. Project Status

Newman reported on the following:

- The Batavia Police Department will be hosting Kane County Emergency Management: Youth Preparedness
- Newman stated that she will forward an email message from Lauren Underwood's office stating that grand funding for the relocation of the Food Pantry and Clothes Closet will be one of her top priorities

8. Other

Newman announced City staff and Fermi Lab have come to agreement on the language for the grant of easement agreement but time is of the essence. Newman asked the COW if they would give direction to approving the Mayor signing the agreement and then placed on the agenda of the next City Council meeting for approval. There was no objection voiced by the COW.

9. Executive Session: Personnel

Motion: To enter into Executive Session for Personnel

Maker: Uher

Second: Cerone

Roll Call Vote: **Aye:** Uher, Cerone, Wolff, Miller, Connelly, Chanzit, Solfa, Baerren,
Leman, Ajazi

Nay:

10-0 Vote, 4 Absent, Motion carried.

The Committee entered Executive Session at 7:57pm and exited at 8:28pm.

10. Adjournment

There being no other business to discuss, Chair Wolff asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:28pm; Made by Uher; Seconded by Cerone. Motion carried.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Jennifer Austin-Smith, Recording Secretary