

**Village of Batavia – MINUTES of COUNCIL MEETING,  
May 11, 2020**

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**Batavia Village Council  
Minutes of Meeting  
Monday, May 11, 2020**

The Batavia Village Council met in regular session on Monday, May 11, 2020, at 7:00 pm with Mayor Thebout presiding. Mayor Thebout called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The meeting was streamed live, so the public was able to see and hear the proceedings.

**Roll Call of Members Present**

Mr. Handra, Ms. Turner, Mr. Garrison, Mr. Vickers, and Mr. Gipson. Ms. Cole did not attend.

**Village Officials Attending the Meeting:** Administrator Dennis Nichols and Fiscal Officer John Waite  
Solicitor Christopher Moore was not present, but listened on the live stream.

**Others Attending the Meeting:** Joann Martino.

**Approval of Financial Reports:**

Mr. Handra made motion to approve the April Bank Statements and Cash Journal, seconded Mr. Gipson. The motion passed 5-0

**Approval of Minutes:**

Ms. Turner made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 13, 2020 Council Meeting, seconded by Mr. Gipson. The motion passed 5-0

**Police Department, Chief Young**

Chief Young did not attend the meeting. His written report was submitted to Council.

The Mayor informed Council that we will be losing one of our officers who has accepted a job with Loveland.

Mr. Vickers asked the Mayor if the Chief has heard anything on the COPS Grant application. The Mayor told him that the Chief hasn't received anything yet.

**Village Administrator: Dennis Nichols**

**Sale of 389 E. Main Street**

The Village of Batavia Clermont County CIC, Inc. sold 389 E Main Street to Nu Biz, Inc. for \$192,500, for ½ in cash and ½ on terms. The purchasing group owns and operates Abby Girl Sweets at Jungle Jim's, plus two other locations. They own a company called United Grounds and plan to operate a coffee roasting and blending firm at 389.

**Village of Batavia – MINUTES of COUNCIL MEETING,  
May 11, 2020**

---

Disposition of 196 E Main Street

The project is on hold until we stabilize our finances.

We received an inquiry from a group who wanted permission to tour the building to see if there are any “ghosts”. We turned them down and told them that the building isn’t safe.

Sewer system

We are wrapping up the OPWC infiltration and inflow project and expect completion in June.

Fishbeck is completing design and a report for the OEPA that we can merge our systems into the county system. The county is collecting flow data as we finish lining pipes.

Water System

We have completed the requirements for a merger into the county’s system and we are waiting for the draft of a joint resolution with the county.

State Route 32, 132 and 222

We are pursuing a state safety grant to reconfigure SR 222 to improve safety and flow. We met with Burgess & Niple today and they plan to submit the proposal to ODOT this week. We have a meeting scheduled with ODOT on Friday. If ODOT accepts the proposal, the state will pick up all of the costs other than our preliminary engineering costs.

Since the turn lane at the intersection has been closed, the number of accidents has been reduced.

An Ordinance Authorizing the Transfer and Sale of Certain Undeveloped Parcels of Land through the Village of Batavia Clermont County CIC, Inc.

**Ordinance 1455-20**      2<sup>nd</sup> reading

The Village owns several undeveloped parcels of land that are of no benefit to the Village. This allows us to transfer those parcels to the CIC and sell them, if and when, the transfer would benefit the Village.

Blight

The Administrator recommend declaring nuisance at 225 Wood and 280 South Fourth Streets and setting hearings in May and June.

A Resolution Ordering the Demolition of Structures at 225 Wood Street as a Public Nuisance

**Resolution 287-20**      1st reading

The Village of Batavia sent notice to the owners and lienholders of the subject property on March 13, 2020, with a deadline of 4:00 p.m. April 3, 2020, to obtain and present to the Batavia Village office a copy of an executed demolition permit issued by Clermont County Permit Central, with demolition to occur within 15 days after the issuance of that permit; and the owners acknowledged receipt of notice, but neither complied nor appealed

**Village of Batavia – MINUTES of COUNCIL MEETING,  
May 11, 2020**

---

A letter from neighbors, Jack and Kathy Leon, complaining about the neglect of 225 Wood Street, with photographs was submitted.

Mr. Nichols told Council that Street Superintendent Wayne Smith received a call from Ken Johnson offering to demolish the house at 225 Wood Street in exchange for a first position in line to acquire ownership of that property. Mr. Nichols rejected the offer as improper.

**A Resolution Ordering the Demolition of Structures at 280 S Fourth Street as a Public Nuisance**  
**Resolution 288-20**      1st reading

The Village of Batavia sent notice to the owners and lienholders of the subject property on March 13, 2020, with a deadline of 4:00 p.m. April 3, 2020, to obtain and present to the Batavia Village office a copy of an executed demolition permit issued by Clermont County Permit Central, with demolition to occur within 15 days after the issuance of that permit; and the owners acknowledged receipt of notice, but neither complied nor appealed

**Mayor, John Thebout**

**Car Show**

The car show scheduled for May has been cancelled. It has been rescheduled for September 13.

Mr. Gipson told council that there is an informal car show gathering on Main Street every Saturday morning.

**Village-wide yard sale June 6-7**

The mayor asked council if they wanted to cancel or postpone the yard sale. There was concern about going forward, but since the Village does not regulate the yard sale, it was decided to leave it to the various residents to determine if they wanted to interact with the public by having a yard sale.

Mr. Garrison asked the Mayor if the Village has a noise ordinance. He wants to complain about a group of cars with loud mufflers that have circulating through the Village. The Mayor told him that there is a noise ordinance, but the police officer must witness the event.

**Fiscal Officer: John Waite**

Mr. Waite presented the Fiscal Officer's report on April activity.

**Bond Issue**

We had expected to sell \$4.25 million in bonds in April. That didn't happen because the corona virus shutdown disrupted the financial markets. The disruption is ongoing and we will not be selling the bonds in May. We are currently expecting to sell them in July.

**Payroll issues**

The federal government passed a law called Family First Corona Response Act (FFCRA) that says any employee who is unable to work because of lack of childcare because the schools and day

**Village of Batavia – MINUTES of COUNCIL MEETING,  
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care centers have been closed, is entitled to have up to 12 weeks off at 2/3 of their normal payroll. We currently have one employee utilizing FFCRA.

**Committee Reports:**

Finance Committee:	Bob Handra	Next Meeting, Thursday, May 28 @ 6:00 pm. The May meeting is being suspended.
Planning Commission	Bob Handra	Next Meeting, Thursday, May 19 @ 7:00pm The May meeting is being suspended

**New Business / Public Comment**

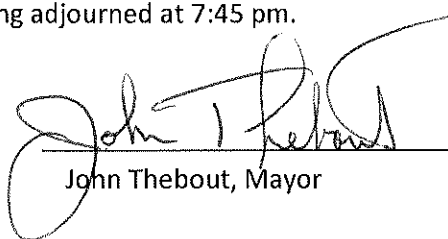
Ms. Turner informed Council that the Farmers Market hopes to open July 1<sup>st</sup> but the County Health Department has imposed some new rules regarding social distancing for farmers markets.

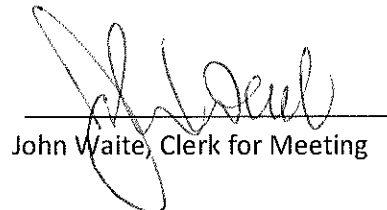
The annual Joint Cemetery Meeting with the Township Trustees that is normally held in May has been rescheduled for June 8.

**Adjournment:**

Mr. Handra made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Gipson. Motion passed 5-0  
The meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm.

ATTEST:

  
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John Thebout, Mayor

  
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John Waite, Clerk for Meeting