

**Village of Batavia – MINUTES of COUNCIL MEETING,
December 14, 2020**

**Batavia Village Council
Minutes of Meeting
Monday, December 14, 2020**

The Batavia Village Council met in regular session on Monday, December 14, 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.

Roll Call of Members Present

Mr. Handra, Ms. Turner, Mr. Garrison, Mr. Vickers, Ms. Cole, Mr. Gipson

Village Officials Attending the Meeting: Mayor John Thebout, Administrator Dennis Nichols, Fiscal Officer John Waite, Solicitor Christopher Moore, Street Superintendent Smith, Chief Young, and Officer Whitaker

Others Attending the Meeting: Joanne Martino

Approval of Financial Reports:

Mr. Garrison made motion to approve the November Bank Statements and Cash Journal, seconded by Mr. Gipson. The motion passed 6-0

Approval of Minutes:

Mr. Handra made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 9, 2020 Council Meeting, seconded by Ms. Turner. The motion passed 6-0

Village Administrator: Dennis Nichols

Roads, Maintenance, and Facilities

196 E Main Street has been demolished.

The Cincinnati Preservation Society continues to work on restoring 225 Wood Street. There has not been a closing on the purchase yet.

Water Utility – We received a signed waterline easement from Jeff Bach today. We have a meeting scheduled with Lyle Bloom on Friday to discuss the transfer of the water utility.

Streamside Residential Development – Hal Homes has started installing sewer lines on section two. Sales of lots in section one continue to be strong.

Electric Utility – Duke Energy has objected to the Village creating an electric utility for only one customer. Mr. Nichols met with the City of Hamilton Electric Utility to see if they would be interested in administering Batavia's Electric Utility if we decide to offer the service to the entire Village. We still believe that it would be best of only serve the one customer.

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Rumpke contract two-year renewal

Our current contract with Rumpke allows for a two-year renewal with some price adjustments. Rumpke has proposed a two-year renewal of the existing contract with annual increases of 1.8% for trash and 1.6% for recycling.

Mr. Vickers made a **Motion** to approve the Rumpke contract two-year renewal with the price adjustments, seconded by Mr. Handra.

Vote by roll: Mr. Gipson, yes, Ms. Cole, yes, Mr. Vickers, yes, Mr. Garrison, yes,
 Ms. Turner, yes, Mr. Handra, yes **Motion passed 6-0**

Kubicki Project – There is nothing new. The Administrator is waiting on some paperwork from the developer.

Angelo Santoro concerts – There was a Christmas concert on Friday, December 11. Because of the coronavirus restrictions, there are no concerts scheduled until March.

Police Department, Chief Young

Chief Young submitted his monthly report to Council. There wasn't any increase in activity for the month of November.

The two used police cruisers have been delivered. As soon as the equipment from the present cruisers is transferred we plan to sell our old cruisers.

We have submitted a contract renewal for the school resource officer to the Batavia School Board. They will be voting on the contract at tonight's school board meeting.

Kayla Altman has resigned from her position as an auxiliary officer.

The Chief has had the police checking for speeders on N Riverside Dr. between Main Street and Wood Street.

Mayor, John Thebout

The Mayor has spoken with a member of the Batavia School Board and asked him to see if the School Board would be willing to lease the Broadway site to the Village for use as a park.

Joanne Martino told Council that before 196 E Main Street was demolished there was a lot of chatter on social media about not wanting to see another building on Main Street being torn down. Now that it has been demolished the chatter seems to have turned positive and people are excited about a green space.

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Village Solicitor, Christopher Moore

The Solicitor held up the waterline easement that we have just received from Jeff Bach. It was supposed to have been signed by both Jeff and his wife, but it is only signed by Jeff. Jeff informed us that he hasn't had any contact with his wife for ten years. The Solicitor said that he will take the easement to the Recorder's Office and see if they will record it.

Duke Energy's position in the Electric Utility lawsuit is that the Village must provide electric to the entire Village not just to one customer. We disagree with that.

The police department received an order from a judge that they can clean out old evidence from the evidence room. They have to destroy the old evidence.

Fiscal Officer: John Waite

Mr. Waite presented the Fiscal Officer's report on November activity. After contracting with RITA for income tax collection and administration, we ended 2020 with a \$200,000 increase over 2019. Our General Fund balance at the end of the year will be \$900,000.

Ordinance 1463-20 3rd reading

Adopt appropriations for the first quarter, 2021.

Mr. Handra made a **Motion** to adopt **Ordinance 1463-20**, seconded by: Mr. Gipson

Vote by roll: Mr. Gipson, yes, Ms. Cole, yes, Mr. Vickers, yes, Mr. Garrison, yes,
Ms. Turner, yes, Mr. Handra, yes **Motion passed 6-0**

Ordinance 1463-20 Adopted

Ordinance 1464-20 3rd reading

Adjust Wages for Fiscal Officer for 2021

Mr. Vickers objected to providing a 10% wage increase to the Administrator and a 5% wage increase to the Police Chief but only providing a 3% wage increase to everyone else. Mr. Gipson asked if there was sufficient funds to provide 5% wage adjustments. The Fiscal Officer responded that the Village currently had sufficient funds. Mr. Gipson said the wage adjustments should be merit based instead of just the same for everyone.

Mr. Vickers made a **Motion** to amend **Ordinance 1464-20** to increase the wage adjustment from 3% to 5% and to adopt **Ordinance 1464-20** as amended, seconded by Ms. Turner

Vote by roll: Mr. Gipson, yes, Ms. Cole, yes, Mr. Vickers, yes, Mr. Garrison, yes,
Ms. Turner, yes, Mr. Handra, yes **Motion passed 6-0**

Ordinance 1464-20 Adopted

Ordinance 1465-20 3rd reading

Adjust Wages for Village Administrator for 2021

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Mr. Garrison didn't contest that the Administrator has done good work for the Village, but thought that a 10% raise was more than the Village should give anybody.

Mr. Gipson made a **Motion** to adopt **Ordinance 1465-20**, seconded by: Ms. Cole

Vote by roll: Mr. Gipson, yes, Ms. Cole, yes, Mr. Vickers, yes, Mr. Garrison, no,
Ms. Turner, no, Mr. Handra, yes **Motion passed 4-2**
Ordinance 1465-20 Adopted

Ordinance 1466-20 3rd reading

Adjust Wages for Police Chief for 2021

Mr. Vickers made a **Motion** to adopt **Ordinance 1466-20**, seconded by: Mr. Gipson

Vote by roll: Mr. Gipson, yes, Ms. Cole, yes, Mr. Vickers, yes, Mr. Garrison, yes,
Ms. Turner, yes, Mr. Handra, yes **Motion passed 6-0**
Ordinance 1466-20 Adopted

Resolution 298-20 3rd reading

Adjust the Street Department Wage Schedule

Mr. Gipson made a **Motion** to amend **Resolution 298-20** to increase the wage adjustment from 3% to 5% and to adopt **Resolution 298-20** as amended, seconded by Mr. Vickers

Vote by roll: Mr. Gipson, yes, Ms. Cole, yes, Mr. Vickers, yes, Mr. Garrison, yes,
Ms. Turner, yes, Mr. Handra, yes **Motion passed 6-0**
Resolution 298-20 Adopted

Resolution 299-20 3rd reading

Adjust Wages for Police Officers for 2021

Mr. Gipson made a **Motion** to amend **Resolution 299-20** to increase the wage adjustment from 3% to 5% and to adopt **Resolution 298-20** as amended, seconded by Ms. Turner

Vote by roll: Mr. Gipson, yes, Ms. Cole, yes, Mr. Vickers, yes, Mr. Garrison, yes,
Ms. Turner, yes, Mr. Handra, yes **Motion passed 6-0**
Resolution 299-20 Adopted

2020 Appropriations Amendment

Ordinance 1469-20 1st reading Pass as an emergency and waive the 3 readings

The year 2020 ends with a third payroll in December. We need to increase appropriations for salaries to cover the third payroll. We also need to increase appropriation for police insurance and water department payments to Clermont County. We need to pass this as an emergency.

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Mr. Handra made a **Motion** declare an emergency and to waive the three readings because of the necessity to cover December payroll, seconded by Ms. Turner

Vote by roll: Mr. Gipson, yes, Ms. Cole, yes, Mr. Vickers, yes, Mr. Garrison, yes,
Ms. Turner, yes, Mr. Handra, yes **Motion passed 6-0**

Mr. Vickers made a **Motion** to adopt **Ordinance 1469-20**, seconded by: Mr. Handra

Vote by roll: Mr. Gipson, yes, Ms. Cole, yes, Mr. Vickers, yes, Mr. Garrison, yes,
Ms. Turner, yes, Mr. Handra, yes **Motion passed 6-0**
Ordinance 1469-20 Adopted

Committee Reports:

Finance Committee: The Finance Committee meets on the fourth Thursday of each month. The fourth Thursday of December this year is Christmas Eve. Does Council want to change this month's finance committee meeting from December 24th to December 17th (three days from now) or does Council want to cancel this month's finance meeting?

Mr. Handra made a **Motion** to cancel this month's finance committee meeting, seconded by: Mr. Gipson Vote: 6-0 Motion passed

The December Finance Committee Meeting has been cancelled.

Planning Commission Bob Handra The December 15 Planning Committee Meeting has been cancelled.

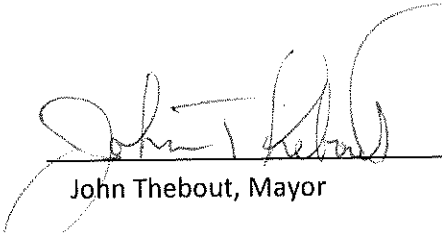
New Business / Audience Participation:

None.

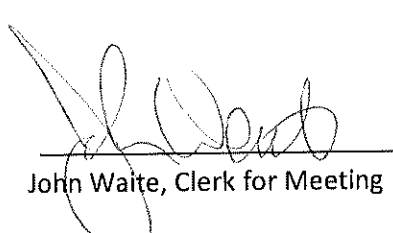
Adjournment:

Mr. Vickers made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Gipson. Motion passed 6-0
The meeting adjourned at 8:02 pm.

ATTEST:



John Thebout, Mayor



John Waite, Clerk for Meeting