

## **Rochester center recommended as consultant for city-town task force**

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BATAVIA -- The Center for Governmental Research in Rochester is being recommended as project consultant for the joint city-town of Batavia task force looking into consolidation of the two municipalities.

The task force released its recommendation during a joint city-town meeting during the Town Board's monthly meeting Wednesday night.

Task force Chairman Chad Zambito said CGR was among five entities that responded to the panel's request for proposals. All five were interviewed independently, he said, and CGR was considered best equipped to handle the task.

The cost, up to \$50,000, is within budget, he said, and is capped "so there should be no surprises down the road."

The task force was formed in April to pursue possible consolidation and to draft a joint charter for the city and town to consider. Seven of its total of eight members and two alternates were at Wednesday night's meeting.

"It's a dedicated group," Zambito said. "Most of them are here and they are pretty excited about the process."

The task force began meeting at the end of May, he said, and has a target date next year for completing its work.

Part of the consultant's charge is to lay out a time line, he said. The goal is November of 2012.

The Town Board passed a motion supporting the task force's recommendation of CGR which was also consultant for a study of operations at the Genesee County Nursing Home last year. Town Clerk Teressa Morasco said a copy of the motion will be forwarded to the city which has the hiring authority as lead agency for a state grant to cover the cost of a consultant for the city-town project.

City Manager Jason Molino said City Council will consider the matter at either its Monday night meeting or at a meeting the following Monday.