

**MINUTES**  
**March 11, 2013**  
**Government Services Committee**  
**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. Minutes 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. Any references to discussion and/or statements are only to provide greater clarity to the public and they may not reference all, some, or any of an individual speaker's comments.

Vice Chairman Sparks called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

**1. Roll Call**

**Members Present:** Aldermen Chanzit, Liva, Sparks, Stark, and Tenuta  
**Members Absent:** Aldermen Dietz and Thelin Atac  
**Also Present:** Aldermen Frydendall and Volk, Jeff Albertson, Building Commissioner; Howard Chason, Information Systems Director; Todd Davis I.S. Systems Manager; William McGrath (7:35 p.m.), City Administrator; Police Chief Schira, Mayor Schielke (7:42 p.m.), and Connie Rizo, Recording Secretary

**2. Approve Minutes for February 25, 2013**

**Motion:** To approve the 2/25/13 Government Services Committee meeting minutes.  
**Maker:** Liva  
**Second:** Stark  
**Voice vote:** 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, Motion Carried.

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

None.

**4. Resolution 13-40-R: Resolution to Seek a Permit from IDOT for Loyalty Day Parade (D/C Autenreith 03/05/13)**

Chief Schira stated this was the traditional request to IDOT for a temporary closure of Route 25 for the purposes of the Loyalty Day Parade on May 5, 2013. Chief Schira indicated it needed resolution and is what has been done in the past years. Ald. Chanzit indicated it was his recollection that last year there was a discussion on items such as these that are annual and just following procedure that they bypass the Committee level and go straight to the City Council for approval. Chief Schira replied he

was given permission on certain recurring events, but he clarified for this event a resolution is needed each time to submit to the State of Illinois. Chief Schira indicated he was unaware if a blanket resolution could be done for future years.

Ald. Stark inquired if there would be a change in the parade route this year. Chief Schira indicated the route would be the same as last year.

**Motion:** To recommend to the City Council approval of Resolution 13-40-R to seek a permit for IDOT for the Loyalty Day Parade to close Route 25.  
**Maker:** Liva  
**Second:** Stark  
**Voice vote:** 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, Motion Carried.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

#### **5. Resolution 13-39-R: Resolution Amending the Intergovernmental Agreement for the Tri-City Police Records (GJS 03/04/13)**

Chief Schira summarized that with the grant and City funds back in 2007 an updated New World Records Management System was obtained that is shared by the Tri-Cities and that Batavia was the main partner with St. Charles and Geneva. Chief Schira indicated the Sugar Grove Police Department recently joined Tri-Com and they have requested to enter into an agreement with Batavia to share in the records management system also. Chief Schira mentioned it is more cost effective for the City with the more partners there are.

Ald. Liva inquired if any additional seat or use would be incurred affecting the software licensing. Howard Chason replied that anyone who joins the record management system after the City of Batavia would pay for their own seat license. Chason stated any additional cost would be purchased directly from that city from New World. Chason added if an additional license is needed for the server that city would pay for it themselves. Chason ended by stating additional cities joining would save Batavia support costs because it is divided in more ways.

**Motion:** To recommend to the City Council approval of Resolution 13-39-R to amend the intergovernmental agreement for the Tri-City Police Records to include the new cities making use of the software.  
**Maker:** Liva  
**Second:** Tenuta  
**Voice vote:** 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, Motion Carried.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

#### **6. Resolution 13-31-R: Resolution Authorizing Execution of an Agreement with New World Systems for Software Maintenance (Todd Davis 03/04/13)**

Todd Davis mentioned that the New World System has been running for six years with the City of Batavia, with the first year being covered by a warranty. Davis stated there was a 5-year maintenance agreement with New World and it is now time to renew the agreement. Davis shared that staff has spent quite a bit of time working with New World and other cities and tried to negotiate a favorable agreement in light of the fact that there was no negotiating leverage with New World to keep using the software. Davis relayed the City is very happy with the financial terms it was able to obtain with no increase in price for the first two years of the agreement. Davis commented that for each of the remaining three years there would be a 2% increase, which is better than the previous contract. Davis ended stating the rest of the terms of the agreement would remain the same.

Ald. Liva inquired if the annual amount the City would be paying would then be recovered from the sharing communities. Davis replied that the \$44,982 breaks out into 57% being paid by Batavia, \$6,200 from Geneva, \$13,300 St. Charles, and with Sugar Grove coming on board with the system Batavia's percentage would lower to \$24,060 and would save each of the partnering cities about \$1,400 each.

Ald. Liva inquired what the price of the license agreement was for the New World software when purchased six years ago. Davis could not recall and indicated that traditionally maintenance is 20% of the license cost, but Batavia's amount was between 15% to 16%.

Vice Chairman Sparks inquired if there was a chance that New World would double the fees when the current contract would end and what position the City would be in with all its data or if it would be lost. Davis stated he would not expect New World to double the fees and that all the data would not be lost. Vice Chairman Sparks asked if this is the only company that does this type of service. Davis commented it is a specialized industry and that there are probably only a couple of strong companies in the market, with New World being one of them. Davis stated there were a reasonable number of smaller companies in the records software business. Davis mentioned if New World forced the City to go with another company it would be technically possible and the City would not lose its data since the City owns it data.

**Motion:** To recommend to the City Council approval of Resolution 13-31-R to authorize execution of a 5-year annual support agreement with New World Systems for software maintenance.  
**Maker:** Liva  
**Second:** Tenuta  
**Voice vote:** 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, Motion Carried.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

**7. Resolution 13-41-R: Resolution Authorizing Execution of an Agreement with First Inspection Services for Plumbing Inspections (Jeff Albertson 03/05/13)**

Jeff Albertson stated that the City of Batavia has used an independent plumbing inspection contractor since 2003 and since that time the City has received somewhere between sporadic to frequent complaints about the current provider. Albertson indicated the complaints are about customer service and the excessive fees charged for re-inspection. Albertson mentioned that staff has worked with the provider in the past with limited success in eliminating the complaints. Albertson stated in 2010 the City felt it was time to move to a different provider and placed adds, but did not obtain a new provider. Albertson shared that the complaints have continued and in 2012 it was decided it was to the point again to seek another provider because the current provider was affecting the reputation of the City. Albertson stated quite a few area qualified applicants came forward and a provider was selected in First Inspection Services. Albertson indicated First Inspection Services has the experience and customer service philosophy the City needs to work with its residents/customers. Albertson relayed that a contract was negotiated with this new provider. Albertson indicated a schedule of the proposed fees was included with his memo and equated to a \$5 per inspection increase over the current provider, but it would not increase the fees charged for plumbing permits. Albertson mentioned the contract, as written, would be a 1-year term and that the contract with the current provider was open-ended allowing either party to terminate the contract with a 30-day notice. Albertson stated something similar would be desired with the new provider if the Committee/City Council agreed. Albertson stated the City Attorney and the provider attorney did review the agreement and their comments have been incorporated into the agreement. Albertson opined that First Inspection Services would provide excellent service to the City as they have a good reputation in the area.

Ald. Stark inquired what the fee is when a plumbing permit is requested. Albertson replied it varies depending on the type of work. Albertson explained plumbing permits for water heaters are \$60, general plumbing work \$85, and a per inspection charge of \$75. Albertson indicated this is what is charged to the plumber. Ald. Stark inquired if there were funds available through the permit and inspection fees to cover the \$55. Albertson confirmed there were funds available.

Ald. Tenuta stated she was pleased to see the City was making a change to First Inspection Services because she was getting a lot of feedback on plumbing inspections. Ald. Tenuta stated she was in favor of allowing either party to terminate the contract with a 30-day notice. Ald. Tenuta indicated she would be interested in knowing in the future if there were no complaints regarding the increase in the rate and was pleased to note the permit funds would cover the rates. Vice Chairman Sparks inquired if the permit fund covers re-inspection. Albertson stated re-inspection would be charged on a per inspection basis back to the contractor and/or owner.

Vice Chairman Sparks stated that from his experience in listening to the constituents in his ward he has heard complaints that owners have failed inspection and indicated they were likely failed just so the inspector could come and claim a re-inspection fee.

**John Kraft, 1241 Danforth Drive, Batavia, IL**, introduced himself as the co-owner of Kraft Plumbing in Batavia.

Vice Chairman Sparks inquired how Kraft would handle inspections of work performed by Kraft Plumbing. Kraft replied that it was up to the building commissioner on how to handle those situations. Kraft explained that the plumbing company is not allowed to inspect its own work per the State Plumbing Code. Albertson stated the items are being worked through presently and the City has been in discussions with Geneva on this same topic and working out partnering situations as a backup basis, potentially discussing with St. Charles as well as the State of Illinois about getting the state regional inspector out for certain needed instances. Albertson shared the State is very adamant about requiring the inspections be conducted by a licensed plumber per the State Plumbing Law.

Ald. Tenuta inquired on the time delay if a situation arises where the plumber already did work on a particular home and someone else needs to be scheduled to do the inspection instead. Albertson indicated delays would not occur and that the City has to give the current provider a 30-day notice to terminate the current contract and that City Staff was proposing to start the new contract May 1, 2013. Albertson indicated the City of Batavia has several other cities that they have worked well with and that St. Charles has a plumbing inspector on staff along with the State Regional Office in West Chicago who could assist if needed.

Ald. Liva inquired if the 30-day notice was sufficient time to find a replacement or would the City work through its known network until a point in time when a provider was found. Albertson stated the City would take the approach of working through its network. Ald. Liva inquired if a 60-day notice would be more desirable. Albertson stated the City would desire keeping to the shortest amount of time due to past experience, but could go longer if necessary.

Ald. Stark inquired of the plumbing permits obtained last year what was the percentage from Kraft. Albertson stated he did not have an exact number, but opined there were not too many. Kraft opined approximately eight or less. Albertson stated on average there are 25 plumbing permits per month.

Ald. Liva inquired on the work load of the St. Charles inspector. Albertson indicated that inspector was a full-time staff member with St. Charles.

Vice Chairman Sparks was in favor of Kraft Plumbing. Kraft stated the negative situations the aldermen brought up have affected Kraft Plumbing and many other local plumbers in the Fox Valley and were frustrating. Kraft opined that those situations could occur in the future, but mentioned that some of the little stuff was generated to increase fees. Kraft stated he knows how Kraft Plumbing wants to be treated by an inspector on the job and opined all parties involved know how to accomplish that going forward.

**Motion:** To recommend to the City Council approval of Resolution 13-41-R to authorize execution of an agreement with First Inspection Services for plumbing inspections.

**Maker:** Tenuta

**Second:** Stark

**Voice vote:** 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, Motion Carried.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

### **8. Liquor Code Updates Further Discussion**

Bill McGrath indicated no redrafting for distribution had taken place since the last Government Services Committee meeting. McGrath mentioned very few comments have been received since the last meeting. McGrath commented that the fees seemed to be the highest concern overall. McGrath relayed that Batavia's fees are lower than most other cities. McGrath shared that recommendations would come out in the next 10 days and there would be further discussion on March 25, 2013. McGrath stated the hope is get the new liquor code passed at the April 1, 2013, City Council meeting.

McGrath stated at the last meeting the direction was to address the issues from the VFW. McGrath stated Atty. Drendel drafted a change to Class E to expand it to cover clubs, churches, to authorize the retail sale of liquor for consumption in any building or properties owned by the same church/club, as well as not requiring adjunct licenses. Chief Schira stated he had an occasion to speak with the representative for the VFW after he reviewed the proposed liquor code language and he mentioned the 50-foot setback from property lines could particularly cause a problem. Chief Schira stated admittedly the 50 feet was an arbitrary number, but pointed out the liquor code would not like the license holder to be right up against the property line whilst consuming to enter into questionable situations. Chief Schira stated he would work with the VFW on this issue.

McGrath shared that there was a comment from Bob Hanson of Funway that there are two party room activities that include bowling at his establishment. Thus, McGrath indicated there would be an insertion to the code to expand the term bowling alley and associated party and activity rooms to address the Funway situation.

McGrath stated there were two items that were raised at the last meeting that City Staff desired direction on: 1) Current draft for the BYOB licenses required that the alcohol had to be poured by the liquor license holder or a server, and 2) Current ban on employees or elected officials having an interest in a liquor license.

Ald. Stark inquired if no more than a 5% interest in a liquor license/business would be the approach to take if allowed for City employees or elected officials. McGrath stated that is the standard for ownership that is felt to be a reasonable amount for controls to be maintained. Vice Chairman Sparks inquired if that meant the individual could not work at the liquor establishment either. McGrath stated the recommendation is for the individual to not work at liquor establishments.

Vice Chairman Sparks stated if a spouse were to have a majority ownership in a liquor establishment what stance did the City take on those situations. McGrath stated he would have Atty. Drendel review the situation, but mentioned the interest statements aldermen complete annually and commented if a spouse or child was an owner in a

liquor establishment that should be considered the same for the aldermen. Ald. Frydendall stated he was familiar with a situation where a wife owns 100% of the stock in a bar and her husband is a fire chief in that community and it has been that way for several years and he did not want to see Batavia in that same situation to avoid the appearance of impropriety.

McGrath commented that alcohol is different from other things the City regulates and has close ties to liability for injury or death and, if not well run, can lead to connections with other undesirable activity. Ald. Frydendall was more interested in individuals attempting to hide behind corporations spouses are involved in. McGrath stated the current liquor license states if the license is owned by a corporation anyone who owns more than 5% of stock in it would be subjected to the background checks. Ald. Volk stated it should be reviewed closely by the City Attorney and that the liquor code should contain the tightest language to avoid such situations and was in favor of the 5% limitation. Ald. Volk stated as long as he has been on the City Council this does not appear to have been an issue. Chief Schira clarified if the City Council wants to move ahead with the prohibition they should realize that it would only prevent an elected official or city employee from having a share in the liquor license above 5% in the town (Batavia) they are employed with or an official of, so if occurring in another town it would not pertain to them.

Ald. Liva asked for clarification on the definition of packaged sales of liquor. McGrath stated he believed the sale of separate cans was allowed and if someone was in a vehicle with a broken 6-pack it could be used as some type of violation. Chief Schira stated in a vehicle there would need to be an open container for there to be a violation. Chief Schira stated the liquor code on packaged sales is to deal with Class A licenses, but mentioned there are towns that indicate individual bottles or cans of liquor, which are not currently prohibited in Batavia. McGrath commented about the practice at some craft breweries where a customer could provide a container and the brewery would fill it. McGrath stated if Batavia had such craft breweries it would need to figure a way to handle such situations.

The consensus among the Committee members was to favor the restriction of no more than a 5% interest in a liquor license/business for City employees or elected officials.

McGrath commented on the challenge to enforce the BYOB licenses requiring that the alcohol be poured by the liquor license holder or a server. Ald. Chanzit commented that some establishments would choose to pour the liquor or have a server pour the liquor in BYOB situations because it is a service issue and lends to looking classier to show the business owner is taking care of the customer. Vice Chairman Sparks stated it should be up to the establishment how they want to handle the situation, but that the City would not force them to pour the liquor. Ald. Stark inquired how that would work because she wanted to know if the establishment would have someone monitoring customers over serving themselves on their own alcohol. McGrath stated that it is the establishment's liability for dram shop purposes and they would need BASSET training. Chief Schira indicated corkage issues were discussed, but the City felt the control was up to the

individual establishment. Chief Schira stated he could envision that an establishment might begin starting to charge a corkage fee.

**Guy Morgano, 1460 Terrance Drive, Naperville, IL**, introduced himself as an employee of Parent Petroleum, a family-owned gasoline retailer. McGrath stated he was contacted and relayed that the current code does not allow liquor licenses for gasoline stations in Batavia. McGrath indicated that Mayor Schielke has also spoken out against liquor licenses for gasoline stations in Batavia. McGrath advised Morgano he could come to the Committee to speak further on this topic. Morgano stated that Parent Petroleum's main office is in St. Charles, with a satellite office in Carol Stream. Morgano stated that Parent Petroleum operates the BP on McKee and Randall Road in Batavia. Morgano stated recently in the last years several other cities in the suburban Chicagoland area have begun, via ordinance, allowing convenience stores in gasoline stations to sell beer and wine. Morgano stated the reason that his convenience store would like the opportunity to sell alcohol in Batavia is to allow the gasoline retailer to optimize and stay as profitable as possible in this tough economy. Morgano stated offering beer and wine is an additional service the gasoline retailer can provide to its customers. Morgano pointed out that the big box stores (i.e. Wal-Mart, Costco, Jewel) have encroached on the gasoline business and have become direct competition for Parent Petroleum for the same customers, so being able to offer beer and wine as another service would be beneficial to Parent Petroleum in the business industry.

Morgano stated he has been in the convenience store business for 18 years and his company has been in business for 30 years. Morgano mentioned he worked for Thornton's Gas and Food Mart for nine years. Morgano stated he has previously worked for BP. Morgano stated he is the General Manager for Parent Petroleum and is well-trained and well-versed in understanding that the sale of beer and wine is a privilege and not a right and that the business intent is to serve the proper customer. Morgano expressed there are systems in place at their current stores that the right people purchase liquor products. Morgano shared Parent Petroleum operates five locations that do sell alcohol, with 14 stores in total. Morgano commented he would like Parent Petroleum to be able to sell beer and wine at the Batavia location.

Mayor Schielke mentioned if Batavia were to change the prohibition of having liquor sold at gas station convenience stores there were 11 other business owners in Batavia who would like the opportunity to sell liquor. Vice Chairman Sparks asked what would be the process if a change on the current liquor code stance on this issue was desired. McGrath explained there would need to be a motion to change the code to allow that type of license and then decide how many licenses the Committee would want to allow. McGrath indicated currently liquor is not allowed to be sold at gas stations and convenience stores.

Ald. Chanzit stated the gas station convenience store in question owned by Parent Petroleum had 60-80% of the floor space is open currently. Ald. Chanzit inquired if there was anticipation of the city liquor code being changed the reason Morgano had such a large open space at his location or were there different merchandising opportunities. Morgano replied that the open area was for a quick serve restaurant.

Ald. Volk stated if alcohol sales were split up amongst the 11 other new establishments it would take sales away from the current liquor stores already in Batavia. Ald. Volk stated he has never had difficulty making a purchase for liquor at the stores that already exist in Batavia. It was his opinion that allowing gas station/convenience stores to sell liquor would likely hurt the existing liquor stores in Batavia. Ald. Volk expressed he did not see an upside to allowing gas station/convenience stores to sell liquor in Batavia.

Vice Chairman Sparks inquired if it would be more work for the police to monitor 11 gas stations if they sold liquor. Chief Schira stated occasional walk throughs would occur as the police do with all the liquor licensees, but it would not be a vast increase in activity for the Police Department.

McGrath stated he would like to know if the Committee was in favor or not of drafting a change to the liquor code to allow liquor sales by gas stations/convenience stores. Vice Chairman Sparks stated he agreed with Ald. Volk.

Ald. Tenuta stated she had concerns about the gas stations/convenience stores monitoring who they are selling liquor to. Ald. Tenuta inquired how often the liquor commissioner has inspected the establishments where Parent Petroleum does sell liquor in other communities. Morgano stated approximately from once a quarter to once every six months. Ald. Tenuta inquired if Parent Petroleum has received violations. Morgano replied he has had a violation at their store in Westchester, Illinois. Ald. Tenuta stated she was concerned about the due diligence of every gas station that would sell liquor. Ald. Tenuta also stated she was concerned about the quickness of the liquor sale at gas stations/convenience stores and those who should not purchase attempting to try to purchase in these types of locations. Morgano stated he understood Ald. Tenuta's concerns. Morgano stated it was counterproductive to Parent Petroleum not to follow the rules and abide by them as strictly as possible because it does not want to be fined or have to appear before an organization/community as a failure. Morgano indicated their company works hard and requires their employees to go through BASSET training as well as not permitting anyone under 21 years of age to work at locations that sell alcohol. Ald. Tenuta expressed that Batavia has to look at the matter from a policy perspective and not just taking into account one gas station/convenience store. Morgano stated he could not speak for other organizations wanting to also obtain liquor licenses.

McGrath inquired how long Morgano has been selling liquor at his locations in the other cities that allow the sale of alcohol in gas stations/convenience stores. Morgano stated Carol Stream and Kildeer were just approved, so Parent Petroleum was now going through the permitting process. Morgano indicated the two Westchester stores have been selling liquor for three years. Morgano stated he has been with the corporation for four years and the location in unincorporated Wheaton has been selling alcohol as long as he has been with the company, but did not know when they first got their liquor license. Morgano stated in the 18 years that he has been in the business he has always had a store somewhere that sold alcohol that he was responsible for. Morgano

addressed the quickness of a sale and offered the example of being able to go in and out of a Walgreen's just as quick.

Ald. Liva asked McGrath to define convenience stores. McGrath stated in defining requirements for the other liquor license holders by size it excludes convenience stores. Ald. Liva inquired how the gas station in question would fit in according to its size. Morgano stated his station is 4,200 square feet. McGrath stated for package liquor the location would need to be 8,000 square feet. McGrath commented about minimum square footages needed for grocery stores and other certain minimum square footage devoted to alcohol products. McGrath stated he would be able to send the information to the Committee for their review. Ald. Liva inquired which area communities do allow liquor sales at gas stations/convenience stores. McGrath stated he could provide that information. Chief Schira stated that North Aurora just approved their first gas station to sell liquor and that St. Charles and Geneva still prohibit liquor sales at gas stations. Morgano stated his company was petitioning Geneva as well since they just bought a location on State Street in Geneva.

Ald. Frydendall asked if the sales taxes were paid at the location of sale or moving sales tax to another location in another city. Morgano replied he was not the accountant at the company and that it was his assumption that the business pays the taxes however it is required by law. Ald. Frydendall was displeased where towns have businesses in place, but the town they are doing business in does not receive sales tax revenue from that business. Morgano stated at his establishments the local sales tax apply and typically where sales of beer and wine are added to a gas station convenience store the location experiences a 30% increase in business during the first year. Morgano stated Parent Petroleum is a billion dollar organization that has 14 convenience stores and is in compliance with the law. Ald. Frydendall opined that the State Legislature needs to control this situation. Ald. Frydendall expressed that the only situation that Batavia needs to continually monitor is that of the sales tax charged from business done in Batavia collecting the City of Batavia tax revenue from those businesses. Ald. Frydendall inquired if the records of Parent Petroleum could prove something or was the data not available. McGrath replied the City can have a conversation with Parent Petroleum and indicated they do pay the gasoline tax and are registering that the sales of gasoline are taking place in Batavia.

Vice Chairman Sparks indicated he has not been approached by residents requesting more alcohol in gas stations. Vice Chairman Sparks asked if McGrath could provide the information on sales tax and the surrounding communities who allow alcohol sales at gas stations/convenience stores and discuss this further at a future Government Services Committee meeting. McGrath stated these issues may be handled under a different timeline, but that presently the code needs to be updated for those who currently hold a liquor license in Batavia.

Morgano thanked the Committee for their consideration.

## **9. Project Status Update**

None.

## **10. Other**

None.

## **11. Matters From The Public**

**Dale Richard, 1118 Larkspur, Batavia, Illinois**, thanked the Committee for hearing and addressing the concerns of the VFW.

**Carl Dinwiddie, 1156 Pine Street, Batavia, Illinois**, commented he is a patron of the Parent Petroleum gas station run by Guy Morgano in Batavia and that the establishment has great employees. Dinwiddie further mentioned that the employees at that location are kids with a higher turnover rate. Dinwiddie expressed at area liquor stores there are employees who are older and that the liquor stores are a single purpose establishment. Dinwiddie opined that with the gas station convenience store having so many offerings it might be difficult to monitor all situations. Dinwiddie added if Morgano is granted the opportunity to sell liquor at his establishment it would open the door for all the other similar locations in Batavia. Dinwiddie shared Ald. Volk's view that there is a fixed demand for liquor and, as such, there is fixed tax revenue and actually nothing in it for the City of Batavia.

Mayor Schielke stated he was at a meeting of the Executive Committee with the Metropolitan Mayor's Caucus today. Mayor Schielke stated at that meeting the members were informed by the lobbyist that works for the organization of the general consensus in Springfield after the Governor's message last week. Mayor Schielke indicated the Governor's Office is proposing an \$18.61 per capita reduction in the city share of the state income tax. Mayor Schielke stated 26,000 (population of Batavia) times \$18.61 would mean a \$483,860 reduction that Batavia would experience if it passes.

Mayor Schielke stated that another interesting piece of legislation is relative to those who are moving sales tax to cities other than the ones they do business in having 75% rebated back while giving the host city 25% of someone else's sales tax. Mayor Schielke stated the new law passed under the "transparency" everyone is supposedly embracing would result in the release of a publication of 40 companies in Illinois that are moving sales tax to cities other than the ones they do business in. Mayor Schielke stated he anticipates there will be a company from Batavia on that published list.

Chief Schira stated his concern with gas stations/convenience stores having liquor sales with single employees working evening hours is that they would likely be targeted for shoplifting. Chief Schira expressed if the Committee was prone to allowing liquor sales at gas stations/convenience stores they need to realize the vulnerability of the businesses with single employees working evening hours.

## **12. Discussion: Filling Vacant Position (WRM 3/8/13)**

McGrath stated this agenda item was necessitated by the fact that Meredith Hannah (25-hour a week economic development analyst) was leaving as an employee for the City. McGrath stated he understood via the budget discussions that it was the desire of the aldermen to have adequate resources in the economic development function. McGrath wanted to know if the Committee was in agreement with the approach the City would be taking to refill the vacant position and spoke of the desire to move quickly. McGrath stated after discussions on the matter there was no question that the position needs to be refilled. McGrath stated the intention is to come back to the Committee with the information regarding a full-time position employee who would concentrate on business retention, business expansion, economic development marketing, and business attraction. Jason Bajor as Economic Development Director would perform credit analysis of those who want to have business/economic development relationships with Batavia, economic development financing, real estate development, and real estate re-use.

McGrath mentioned when Susie Petkus and Angelique Parker left the employ of the City the general communication has been decentralized and made departments responsible for their own areas in the website. McGrath stated over the last four or five years in communication Batavia is feeling pressure in this area. McGrath indicated Hannah had been taking on general communication tasks for the City via E-blasts and working with MainStreet. McGrath stated a full-time person would also likely take on the communication function. McGrath opined the website needs to be totally updated and redone. McGrath encouraged the Committee members to keep these issues in mind when the next budget season approaches. McGrath stated he would welcome comments and would return to a future Government Services Committee meeting with a job description to fill the vacancy.

Ald. Tenuta stated she was pleased with the approach revealed by McGrath and commented when looking back at the history of the strategic planning that she witnessed having this address the concern surrounding economic development with the refill of the vacancy. Ald. Tenuta expressed it was important to contemplate and discuss how Batavia communicates its brand and what the City is. Ald. Tenuta was in favor of the position being a full-time position and balancing what Bajor does and what this new hire would do. Ald. Tenuta agreed the website needs to communicate better what Batavia is.

Ald. Liva expressed concern during the past budget process whether Bajor's time was too divided and not be able to give appropriate portions of time to economic development. Ald. Liva stated he was in favor of a full-time new hire or two part-time employees providing the hours necessary to accomplish the job functions the City is trying to accomplish in refilling this position.

Vice Chairman Sparks stated he received a memo from Ald. O'Brien wherein Ald. O'Brien made mention of agreeing to make the position full-time and being more proactive in economic development. Vice Chairman Sparks stated he was in agreement with Ald. O'Brien.

### **13. Executive Session: Collective Bargaining**

**Motion:** To adjourn to Executive Session for the purposes of discussion of collective bargaining.  
**Maker:** Stark  
**Second:** Chanzit  
**Voice vote:** 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, Motion Carried.

The meeting was adjourned to Executive Session at 8:47 p.m. and when Regular Session resumed at 8:56 p.m. all the same committee members were present except for Ald. Chanzit.

### **14. Adjournment**

A motion was made by Ald. Stark and seconded by Ald. Liva to adjourn the meeting at 8:56 p.m. All were in favor and the motion was carried.

Minutes prepared by  
Connie Rizo