

CITY OF BATAVIA
MINUTES OF THE BATAVIA CITY COUNCIL
June 20, 2016 at 7:30 p.m. - City Council Chambers
100 N. Island Ave. Batavia, Illinois

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.

1. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER by Mayor Schielke 7:33 p.m.

2. INVOCATION followed by PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE led by Ald. Russotto

3. ROLL CALL: 12 of 14 aldermen were present.

Aldermen (by ward): Carl Fischer (1), Martin Callahan (2), Alan Wolff (2), Kyle Hohmann (3), Dan Chanzit (3), Susan Stark (4), Paula Mueller (4), Lucy Thelin Atac (5), Kevin Botterman (5), Michael Russotto (6), David Brown (7) and Drew McFadden (7) were present. Michael O'Brien (1) and Nicholas Cerone (6) were absent.

Also present were BATV and members of the press, public and the following:

City Administrator	William McGrath
City Attorney	Kevin Drendel
City Clerk	Heidi Wetzell
Interim Deputy City Clerk	Christine Simkins
Economic Development Consultant	Chris Aiston
Finance Director	Peggy Colby
Human Resources Director	Wendy Bednarek
Fire Chief	Randy Deicke
Complete	

4. ITEMS REMOVED/ADDED/CHANGED - None

5. CONSENT AGENDA

Accept and Place on File:

- A. Historic Preservation Minutes for May 9, and May 23, 2016
- B. Plan Commission Minutes and/or Zoning Board of Appeals for May 4, 2016
- C. May 2016 Building Report
- D. Committee of the Whole Minutes for May 10, 2016

Approvals:

- E. June 17, 2016 Payroll \$761,297.61
- F. Accounts Payable Check Register \$3,684,809.96
- G. City Council Minutes for May 16, and June 6, 2016

H. RESOLUTION 16-55-R: Request a Permit from IDOT for the Rt. 31 Road Closure for the July 4, 2016 Fireworks Display Special Event (Gary Holm 6/8/16) CS

I. APPROVAL: Fireworks Permit for the Batavia Fireworks Committee (Chief Deicke 6/13/16) CS

J. RESOLUTION 16-56-R: Request a Permit from IDOT for Road Closures for 2016 Half Marathon (Gary Holm 6/15/16) CS

Motion by Ald. Atac, seconded by Ald. McFadden, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion Carried 12 yea/ 0 nay/ 2 absent

6. MATTERS FROM THE PUBLIC: (For Items NOT on the Agenda) - None

7. OATH: Swear In Paid-on-Call Recruits (Chief Deicke 6/15/16)

Fire Chief Deicke introduced the new Paid –on – Call Recruits Randall Banker Jr, Aaron Bolton, Cory Hogan, and Anthony Stazzone. Mayor Schielke administered the Oaths of Office.

8. MAINSTREET MINUTE

Luke Freidenberg Batavia MainStreet Intern gave the MainStreet Minute in which he announced that Blues on the Fox was a sellout event. There was an annual meeting of MainStreet where 4 directors were appointed.

Mayor Schielke is very impressed with the number of attendees at the Farmers Market.

9. APPOINTMENT: Appoint an Interim Deputy City Clerk (JDS 6/16/16)

Due to the resignation of City Clerk Heidi Wetzel, there is a need for an interim city clerk for about ten months. Christine Simkins, an employee in the Utility Billing Department, has Volunteered to be the interim deputy city clerk. Chris is a thirty year resident and has been Employed at the City for ten years. The Mayor feels having the City Clerk in the building will be a big help during the upcoming federal and municipal elections. He knows Simkins has handled sensitive and delicate situations in Utility Billing and will bring the same skills to the position as city clerk.

Motion by Ald. Brown, seconded by Ald. Botterman, to approve the appointment of Christine Simkins as interim Deputy City Clerk until May 2, 2017 Motion carried 12 yea/ 0 nay / 2 absent

10. PRESENTATION: “Walk Your City Program” – Abbey Beck

City Administrator Bill McGrath introduced Abbey Beck who was born and raised in Batavia and is a member of the environmental commission.

Walk your City is a program that uses wave signage to direct people to the downtown and other areas. Beck noted that 60% of all trips are under one mile and the group would like to get more

of those people walking and biking instead of driving. The signs list the distance in minutes rather than miles and each sign has a QR code that will pull up info about the group their goal and the area. They have raised enough money to put up 22 signs and hope to have a few more by the time the signs are put in. The signs will last 18 months in the elements. The city has asked that the signs be taken down in the winter and put back up in the spring.

Beck also introduced Change One Campaign for a better Batavia to encourage people to make small changes that will have a great impact on the community and plant. Change one will be the theme of the green fair on the fox. There is a social media campaign to encourage people to post their one small change.

11. RESOLUTION 16-53-R: Approving Written Lease for 2 East Wilson Street (The Thomle Building) (Chris Aiston 6/2/16 COW 6/7/16 12/0) GS

Ald. Atac announced this is a new lease for the Thomle building. The lease is for a year at \$600.00 per month or \$7,200 per year plus utilities and sales tax; the City will pay real estate taxes.

The applicant noted that Downtown Batavia is their home and they are pleased to be able to build a community presence before going nationally with any product. The focus of the store is for personal care, self-care and compassion and compassionate gifts for people who need extra support. They will also be doing specialty work for large private and corporate events. They will carry items such as coffee mugs handmade pottery and small print shop cards. They hope to open in late August.

Ald. Callahan is happy to see the owners making an effort to be part of the community.

Motion by Ald. Atac, seconded by Ald. Callahan, to approve Resolution 16-53-R: Approving Written Lease for 2 East Wilson Street (The Thomle Building) lease with FAWN Gifts. Motion carried 12 yea/ 0 nay/ 2 absent

12. APPROVAL: Waive Liquor License Fee for Batavia Park District's Windmill City Fest (JDS)

Motion by Ald. Atac, seconded by Ald. McFadden, to approve Waiver of the Liquor License Fee for Batavia Park District's Windmill City Fest. Motion carried 12 yea/ 0 nay/ 2 absent

13. RESOLUTION 16-54-R: Authorize Execution of Franchise Agreement for Cable Television with Comcast of California, Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, and Michigan LP (WRM 6/16/16 COW 6/7/16 12/0) GS

Ald. Atac informed all this is a 10 year agreement which continues the statutory 5% franchise fee, the PEG fee will be billed monthly rather than quarterly and it includes the addition of the word "reasonable" to the description of any PEG Capital Plan proposed by the City from time to time.

Ald. Wolff stated this has been a long time coming as it is needed to pay the capital expenses for BATV. For the last 5 years there has been no franchise agreement that provides capital money for BATV.

Motion by Ald. Atac, seconded by Ald. Wolff, to approve Resolution 16-54-R: Authorize Execution of Franchise Agreement for Cable Television with Comcast of California, Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, and Michigan LP. Motion carried 12 yea/ 0 nay/ 2 absent.

14. PRESENTATION: Present Plaque to City Clerk Heidi Wetzel

The Mayor reminded all that City Clerk Wetzel is resigning to move back to Michigan to be near family and take a new job. He presented her with a plaque commemorating her 7 years of service.

Wetzel accepted the plaque and recalled the day that then Alderman Dietz, her neighbor, told her the current city clerk was retiring and she should put her government degree to good use by running for the office. She thanked the staff for being do supportive, the council for doing the hard work of getting along when they disagreed and the Mayor for proving the example of kindness and decency.

15. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – City Administrator Bill McGrath

The Walk your City presentation will be on the City website

There was an accident on one of the detention ponds. There was a large fish kill due to mix of algae, heat, and pesticides. Too much of the algae died too quickly and when dying they use a lot of oxygen and when they use the oxygen the fish cannot live. Many of the residents tried to catch live fish and move them to other ponds. The decay will end and in a few days the oxygen levels will return to normal. It is believed there are live fish that will repopulate.

On June 28 the Committee of the Whole will talk about the different range of strategies for treating different sections of the banks for erosion taking into consideration slope and utilities amongst other things. Some areas will be difficult to work with and there are some real limitations to how much work can be done

The massage establishment Gem Spa that has one employee involved in the criminal justice system. The city will give the owner notice of an induction to nor use the space. This will mean the space may be empty for a year which is unfortunate. City Attorney Drendel is talking with the attorney for the owner.

Blues on Water Street was well attaneded by those outside Batavia. It was a reminder that Batavia is part of a region and has the possibility of drawing more people from outside. It was very successful

Ald. Botterman asked about Blue Goose documentation and what percentage of the documents staff is waiting for the process to go forward. McGrath responded that since the first set of documents the city has received none. Per an agreement the City is not taking any possession of the documents and they are going directly to the consultant. A letter was sent regarding the August deadline which now looks unreasonable regarding the lack of documentation. . Botterman was under the impression at the end of May that everyone was anxious to see this process go forward

Aiston said the city needs to see an Itemized list of construction activity to see how much the project will receive in TIF funds. They also need to see the costs, lease, and revenues to determine a rate of return. Once the documents are in the team can do the job in two work weeks.

Botterman was asking as it seemed that there were some issues with the developer of this project leaving material on the Shumway Property. The response was that that they have not seemed to be cooperative on two different projects.

McGrath noted that regarding the Shumway property the Army Corps of Engineers is involved and the City may have to issue a ticket and take them to adjudication to get them to talk. He can't speak for the developer and thinks it is a complex project and that it is taking more time. Botterman stressed that he has no issues with the city staff on this and is expressing frustration at not seeing the follow through he would like

16. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Community Development Committee- Ald. Brown

The Community Development Committee will meet in the Committee of the Whole Meetings June 21 and June 28. Historic Preservation Committee will meet June 27 but there is nothing on the agenda and it may be cancelled.

Government Services Committee- Ald. Atac

The Government Services Committee will meet in the Committee of the Whole on June 21 and June 28.

City Services Committee – Ald. Wolff

The City Services Committee will meet in the Committee of the Whole on June 21

Public Utilities – No Report

17. OTHER BUSINESS- none

18 MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor is on the front page of the beacon news hugging Mazzur Hamid, a Muslim woman, at the feast breaking the fast of Ramadan at the Batavia Congregational Church. He was happy to see so many Batavians showing support.

Mayor Schielke had a discussion with an arson investigator who reviewed fires in the area including the one at the candle corporation last year. He was very effusive in his praise for the Batavia Fire Department and had in not been for their knowledge and efforts the whole building could have gone.

There have been many community gathering and events lately and there has been much praise about the value of keeping the events downtown and near the river. This makes Batavia stand out as a nice place to visit and socialize. He thanked the council for their support cooperation and willingness to work for the betterment of the community

19. CLOSED SESSION: 8:40 p.m.-9:26 p.m.

- a. Purchase of Real Property**
- b. Personnel**

Motion by Ald. Brown, seconded by Ald. Russotto to enter into executive session to discuss the Purchase of Real Property and Personnel. Motion carried 12 yea/ 0 nay / 2 absent

All those who entered Closed Session returned to Regular Session

20. ADJOURNMENT 9:28 p.m.

Motion to adjourn by Ald. Brown, seconded by Ald. Chanzit, motion passed by voice vote.

Minutes prepared and submitted by,
Heidi Wetzell
City Clerk