

**CITY OF BATAVIA**  
**MINUTES OF THE BATAVIA CITY COUNCIL**  
**June 4, 2018, 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**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Schielke at 7:33 p.m.

**2. INVOCATION followed by PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Schielke offered a brief invocation. Ald. Atac led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3. ROLL CALL**

**12 of 14 aldermen were present.**

Aldermen (by ward): Scott Salvati (1), Alan Wolff (2), Martin Callahan (2), Dan Chanzit (3), Elliot Meitzler (3), Susan Stark (4), Anthony Malay (4), Lucy Thelin Atac (5), Michael Russotto (6), Nicholas Cerone (6), David Brown (7) and Drew McFadden (7) were present. Michael O'Brien (1) and Mark Uher (5) were absent.

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

City Administrator	Laura Newman
City Clerk	Ellen Posledni
Deputy Fire Chief	Craig Hanson
Police Chief	Daniel Eul
City Attorney	Edward Boula
Community Development Director	Scott Buening
Communications Director	Chris Cudworth

**4. ITEMS REMOVED/ADDED/CHANGED**

None.

## 5. CONSENT AGENDA

Ald. Atac read the Consent Agenda as follows:

### **Accept and Place on File:**

A. April 2018 City Council Financial Report

### **Approvals:**

B. June 1, 2018 Payroll \$822,245.45

C. Accounts Payable Check Register \$1,214,082.82

D. City Council Minutes May 21, 2018

E. **ORDINANCE 18-38:** Annexing and Zoning 511 Pine Street (SCB 5/14/18 COW 5/22/18 12/0) CD

F. **ORDINANCE 18-30:** Requesting Transfer of Certain Parcels from the Batavia Park District (SCB 4/27/18 COW 5/22/18 12/0) CD

G. **RESOLUTION 18-59-R:** Authorizing the Transfer of Property to the Batavia Park District (SCB 4/27/18 COW 5/22/18 12/0) CD

**Motion by Ald. Atac, seconded by Ald. Stark, 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. PRESENTATION: Military Order of the Purple Heart — Jim Davidson

Jim Davidson offered some background on the Military Order of the Purple Heart, which is an organization comprised of U.S. veterans who have received a Purple Heart for being wounded in combat. Mr. Davidson has been working with local cities to become a Purple Heart City to honor Purple Heart veterans in the community.

Mayor Schielke asked if there is a list of people in Kane County who have received a Purple Heart. Mr. Davidson was not aware of such a list. He said a recipient's medals are listed on each veteran's DD-214 form.

Mayor Schielke noted that there is much patriotism in our local community and pointed to the large turnout on Memorial Day for the interment of Naval Officer Ryan Beckman, who was killed at Pearl Harbor during World War II and whose remains were recently identified.

## 8. PROCLAMATION: City of Batavia to become a Purple Heart City

Ald. Atac read the proclamation declaring Batavia to be a Purple Heart City.

**Motion by Ald. Atac, seconded by Ald. Stark, to approve the proclamation as presented.**

**Motion carried 12 yea/ 0 nay/ 2 absent.**

## 9. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Chamber president Holly Deitchman noted several upcoming events. To RSVP or for more information, people can visit [bataviachamber.org](http://bataviachamber.org):

- Ribbon-cutting, June 6 at 4 p.m., A Accurate Door
- Ribbon-cutting, June 8 at 9:30 a.m., Wedi Corp.
- Ribbon-cutting, June 12 at 9 a.m., Medvesta Hypnosis

- Women in Business Luncheon, June 12 at 11:30 a.m. at the Lincoln Inn; speaker will be Kelly Standing, who will present, “Networking, Not Working: How to Become a Master Mingler”
- BC<sup>2</sup>, a morning networking event, will be held June 13 at 7:30 a.m. at Comfort Inn and Suites
- 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Chamber Golf Classic, June 21 at 1 p.m., at Orchard Valley; shotgun start, lunch, dinner and raffles
- Human resources event with Valley Industrial Association, June 28 at 7:30 a.m., at Valley Industrial; topic is Employment Law
- Ribbon-cutting, June 29 at noon, Fast Color

Batavia Youth Baseball has asked Mayor Schielke to throw out the first pitch at the All-Star Game at Piron Field on Sunday, June 10.

The chamber now has 445 members, with three new members just today. It may be the largest membership in the history of the organization, and it is a good number for a community with 1,200 to 1,300 businesses.

Ms. Deitchman introduced Sebastian Wedi from Wedi Corp. Mr. Wedi began by thanking the veterans in the audience for their service. He immigrated to the United States and he appreciates what veterans have done for this country.

Mr. Wedi explained that his company is opening a manufacturing facility in Batavia. It is headquartered in Germany and manufactures innovative products for bathrooms. It has 450 employees worldwide and is excited to expand to Batavia.

Mayor Schielke welcomed Mr. Wedi and noted the company’s products are unique. Wedi’s facility in town is 110,000 square feet, and Mr. Wedi said the company already wants to expand that. Its products are just starting to take off in the United States and they are hopeful that Wedi will become a major operation and employer in Batavia.

Mayor Schielke described the international flavor of other companies in the vicinity of Wedi, including Aldi (Germany), U.S. Container (Japan), Chicago Export-Importers (China) and D & S Container (Japan). Beyond that, he noted that FermiLab, also in the area, was honored last week by the International Association of Electrical Engineers for developing formulas that made the MRI possible. The Mayor explained that that area of Batavia boasts international innovation, and Wedi is well-suited for the location. He thanked the company for choosing Batavia.

**10. RESOLUTION 18-66-R: Authorizing The Mayor To Execute A Licensing Agreement With The Fox Valley Patriotic Organization (LMN 5/18/18 COW 5/22/18 12/0) GS**

Ald. Atac introduced the resolution relating to an agreement for the construction, operation and maintenance of the Flag Day monument. The City Council recently approved the location west of City Hall and east of the Peg Bond Center in an open, green area.

Ald. Callahan shared that he is a member of the committee, and the group is committed to funding this project from donations across the Fox Valley. The group has already raised

\$260,000, and it will ensure that ongoing costs for maintenance are covered in perpetuity by private donations, not public funds.

Mayor Schielke shared that this is a unique time in Batavia's history, having just surpassed the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Flag Day. He said this monument will be a unique piece with an innovative design, unlike anything else in the U.S. He explained that the resolution puts together a fund to maintain the monument and makes a commitment to taking care of it. He hopes veterans and others take pride in it as a demonstration of Batavia's patriotism.

Ald. Callahan noted that anyone who attended Ofc. Beckman's interment ceremony on Memorial Day could feel the spirit of patriotism in this town.

**Motion by Ald. Atac, seconded by Ald. Cerone, to approve the resolution as presented.  
Motion carried 12 yea/ 0 nay/ 2 absent.**

**11. APPROVAL: Firework Permit For The Batavia Fireworks Committee In Care Of Mark Davis At The June 4, 2018 City Council Meeting (RD 5/31/18) CS**

Ald. Wolff introduced the item related to the July 4 fireworks show. Melrose Pyrotechnics will again produce the show, and the company carries a \$1 million insurance certificate. The Batavia Fire Department has reported no problems with this company.

**Motion by Ald. Wolff, seconded by Ald. Callahan, to approve the permit as requested.  
Motion carried 12 yea/ 0 nay/ 2 absent.**

**12. ORDINANCE 18-28: Vacation Of Part Of Goldenrod Drive Turnaround (SCB 5/21/18 COW 5/01/18 12/0) CD**

Ald. Stark introduced the item relating to the end of a turnaround that has a larger-than-standard easement. The city identified the area and has requested to return the excess property to the affected homeowners. Staff sent certified letters and receipt was verified. The city will maintain a utility easement.

**Motion by Ald. Stark, seconded by Ald. Chanzit, to approve the ordinance as presented.  
Motion carried 12 yea/ 0 nay/ 2 absent.**

**13. ORDINANCE 18-33: Grant Of Variances For MetroNet, 605 East Fabyan Parkway, Metro Fiber Net, Applicant (DMR 5/17/18 COW 5/22/18 11/0) CD**

Ald. Stark introduced the ordinance relating to a proposed utility structure for MetroNet that would require a variance.

**Motion by Ald. Stark, seconded by Ald. McFadden, to approve the ordinance as presented.  
Motion carried 11 yea/ 0 nay/ 2 absent. Ald. Meitzler abstained.**

**14. ORDINANCE 18-34: Conditional Use Permit For A Utilities Facility In The GC, General Commercial District. Metro Fiber Net, Applicant (DMR 5/17/18 COW 5/22/18 11/0) CD**

Ald. Stark introduced the ordinance relating to a proposed utility structure for MetroNet that would require a conditional use permit.

**Motion by Ald. Stark, seconded by Ald. McFadden, to approve the ordinance as presented.  
Motion carried 11 yea/ 0 nay/ 2 absent. Ald. Meitzler abstained.**

**15. ORDINANCE 18-35: Amending The Land Use Map Of The Comprehensive Plan Of The City Of Batavia. 1305-1355 South River Street. Bob Hansen, Windmill City Entertainment, Applicant (DMR 5/17/18 COW 5/22/18 11/0) CD**

Ald. Stark introduced the item relating to an expansion of the Funway property. The company is looking to expand its facility onto property where an old factory building has been removed. The first step in the process is to amend the land use map.

**Motion by Ald. Stark, seconded by Ald. Meitzler, to approve the ordinance as presented. Motion passed 11 yea/ 0 nay/ 2 absent. Ald. Salvati abstained.**

**16. ORDINANCE 18-36: Amending The Official Zoning Map For A GC, General Commercial Development With A Planned Development And South River Street Gateway Setback Overlay District. 1305-1355 South River Street. Bob Hansen, Windmill City Entertainment, Applicant (DMR 5/17/18 COW 5/22/18 11/0) CD**

Ald. Stark explained that this second vote on the Funway property changes the zoning map.

**Motion by Ald. Stark, seconded by Ald. Callahan, to approve the ordinance as presented. Motion carried 11 yea/ 0 nay/ 2 absent. Ald. Salvati abstained.**

**17. ORDINANCE 18-37: Conditional Use Permit For An Entertainment And Recreation Indoor And Outdoor Large Scale Use In The GC, General Commercial District 1305-1355 South River St. Bob Hansen, Windmill City Entertainment, Applicant (DMR 5/17/18 COW 5/22/18 11/0) CD**

Ald. Stark explained that this third Funway-related item is a conditional use permit that would allow Funway to complete its expansion plans. Owner Bob Hansen approached the podium to explain his plans to the Council.

Mr. Hansen will be turning over the business to his son, Dominic, who was also in attendance. The plan is to build one of the largest Go-Kart tracks in the U.S. Plans include enlarging the parking lot first, and then building the track, which Mr. Hansen hopes to open next year. A mini-golf course will be installed in the back parking lot as well, and an addition to the building will be used for storage.

Ald. Brown asked how long Funway has been in operation. Mr. Hansen said it opened in 1959 and moved a few times before landing at its current site. He bought the business in 1990. The new outdoor park will draw people from a larger radius. Right now, Funway draws people from a 20-30-mile radius, although the skating rink draws people from 60 miles away. The current facility has 20 lanes for bowling and is always busy.

Ald. Brown commended Mr. Hansen on his ability to grow this business when many bowling alleys and skating rinks have shut down over the years.

Ald. Wolff asked if the new cars will have a timing system. Mr. Hansen explained that the new system will be able to rank cars on the track by fastest lap, creating a more competitive racing experience.

Mayor Schielke said a local commercial has been airing on TV featuring an elderly woman driving a Go-Kart, and some residents of the Holmstad asked him if the commercial was filmed at Funway. Mr. Hansen said it was not. The Mayor noted that when the new facility is built, Mr. Hansen may start attracting busloads of people from the Holmstad.

Mr. Hansen said when he first built the Go-Kart track, he worked with the Batavia Police Department to help teach teenage drivers about drunk driving, and they did a drunk driving simulation so that students could experience what it was like to try to drive while impaired. He said the track is one of six in the Chicago area. He also noted that the city staff has been great to work with.

**Motion by Ald. Stark, seconded by Ald. Callahan, to approve the ordinance as presented. Motion carried 11 yea/ 0 nay/ 2 absent. Ald. Salvati abstained.**

### **18. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

Administrator Newman echoed praise for Funway and Bob Hansen. She said it is always exciting when Batavia businesses expand here, and she thanked Mr. Hansen for all he does to give back to the community.

Windmill Manor Apartments are nearing completion. The development is 80 units of senior housing. Windmill Landing, with 142 units of senior housing, is also nearing completion. Windmill Landing offers a range of living styles, from independent living to memory care, so that elderly citizens can remain within the development as they age and their needs change.

The city has received revised plans for Winding Creek, which will be built on farmland behind the former Sam's Club. It will have 200 rooftops, both single-family and townhomes.

June 6, the Plan Commission will consider signage for Burrito Parilla in the former White Castle building, a conditional use permit for Starfish Animal Rescue and a land swap agreement with the Batavia Park District.

The city has received plans for the parking lot and playground improvements at the Eastside Community Center. Staff is working on various items related to Prairie Commons.

In Public Works, multiple projects are out to bid: the Wilson and College storm sewer project, riverbank stabilization project and annual crack fill program.

Water main construction in Area 3 is nearing completion and storm sewer construction has begun.

Progress continues on the wastewater treatment plant project. The contractor continues to run about 25 days behind schedule, but steps have been identified to improve the schedule.

The environmental consultant will move forward to obtain additional borings on the One Washington Place site on June 6.

Ald. Meitzler noted that the Siemens property is looking green and asked when the fencing will come down. Director Buening said they will wait until there is 70% vegetation on the property, then they will erect No Trespassing signs and remove fencing.

Mayor Schielke asked if there was any information about the Chase Bank branch closing on S. Batavia Ave. Neither Administrator Newman nor Director Buening had details about the closing or future of the property. Mayor Schielke said he is interested to see what will happen there, and he hopes it is a retail/commercial use along Rt. 31 frontage. He said that property has had a business use for 150 years and does not want to see that changed.

Ald. Brown noted that the whole parcel could offer some interesting possibilities, but he agreed that Rt. 31 frontage should be retail.

Mayor Schielke said that downtown Western Springs is in a similar situation as Batavia regarding downtown development, and he suggested that a gathering with their City Council members may be interesting to learn how they are approaching their situation.

## **19. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Ald. Brown said the next COW meeting will be held June 5 at 7:00 p.m, and Plan Commission will be June 6 at 7:00 p.m. Historic Preservation will meet June 11 at 5:30 p.m.

Ald. Atac said discussions on the Strategic Plan will continue June 11 at the Eastside Fires Station from 7 to 10 p.m.

## **20. OTHER BUSINESS**

None.

## **21. MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Schielke said he was recently approached by a woman he knew as a child who had not been back to Batavia for 56 years. She told him she was amazed at the transformation of the downtown. She recalled factories on the river being littered with garbage and storage, and now it's like a garden, with a great view of the river. She asked what was happening at the wastewater treatment plant site, and Mayor Schielke explained that the project would totally enclose the plant and remove phosphorus before discharging water into the river. It is a multi-million-dollar investment that would benefit generations to come. The woman noted how proud she was of her hometown.

The Mayor said he has heard similar comments from many people over the years who have not visited Batavia for many years. He said previous mayors and other prominent citizens had far-sighted vision, standing up to a lot of grief and opposition, and it has paid off. Not all of them lived long enough to see it come to fruition, but they knew they were doing the right thing. Mayor Schielke also noted how important the river is to our town, and that it should be in the forefront of future decisions.

Mayor Schielke said he attended the kick-off Farmer's Market on Saturday and it was the best crowd he's seen there. He said there is so much activity downtown now and that we've reclaimed the river, and he thanked the Council for the part they have played in making Batavia a place to be proud of.

This Sunday is the Flag Day Ice Cream Social and Bulldogs Unleashed. Several Council members have volunteered to scoop ice cream during the event. In the evening, the Flag Day Committee will put battery-operated lights in 100 floating basket on the Depot Pond, with a patriotic theme. During the day will be family games, dance performances and a concert by the Community Band. Batavia Fire Department and Batavia Police Department have been great partners in this event, as always. The Batavia Fire Department set up the ladder truck during the Ice Skating on the Pond event in January so that photographers could capture the ice skating scene on the Depot Pond. Those photos will be interesting to view in 100 years.

**22. EXECUTIVE SESSION – Land Acquisition (SCB)**

**Motion to adjourn to Executive Session by Ald. Brown, seconded by Ald. Salvati. Motion carried 11 yea/ 1 nay/ 2 absent.**

The City Council meeting adjourned to Executive Session at 8:48 p.m.

**23. ADJOURNMENT**

The City Council meeting returned to Regular Session at 9:02 p.m.

**Roll call was taken and 12 of 14 aldermen were present.**

Aldermen (by ward): Scott Salvati (1), Alan Wolff (2), Martin Callahan (2), Dan Chanzit (3), Elliot Meitzler (3), Susan Stark (4), Anthony Malay (4), Lucy Thelin Atac (5), Michael Russotto (6), Nicholas Cerone (6), David Brown (7) and Drew McFadden (7) were present. Michael O'Brien (1) and Mark Uher (5) were absent.

Also present were:

City Administrator	Laura Newman
City Clerk	Ellen Posledni
City Attorney	Edward Boula
Community Development Director	Scott Buening

**Motion to adjourn by Ald. Brown, seconded by Ald. Salvati. Motion carried by voice vote.**

The City Council meeting adjourned at 9:04 p.m.

*Minutes prepared and submitted by Ellen Posledni, City Clerk, June 10, 2018.*