

CITY OF BATAVIA
MINUTES OF THE BATAVIA CITY COUNCIL
August 6, 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 7:30 p.m.

2. INVOCATION followed by PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

3. ROLL CALL

11 of 14 aldermen were present.

Aldermen (by ward): Michael O'Brien (1), Alan Wolff (2), Elliot Meitzler (3), Dan Chanzit (3), Anthony Malay (4), Susan Stark (4), Lucy Thelin Atac (5), Mark Uher (5), Nicholas Cerone (6), Michael Russotto (6) and David Brown (7) were present. Scott Salvati (1) and Drew McFadden (7) were absent. Martin Callahan (2) was absent for roll call, but joined the meeting at 7:34 pm.

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

City Administrator	Laura Newman
City Attorney	Roman Seckel
City Clerk	Ellen Posledni
Director of Public Works	Gary Holm
Director of Finance	Peggy Colby
Fire Chief	Randy Deicke
Community Development Director	Scott Buening
Chief of Police	Dan Eul
Communications Coordinator	Chris Cudworth
City Engineer	Rahat Bari

4. ITEMS REMOVED/ADDED/CHANGED

None.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

Ald. Atac read the Consent Agenda as follows:

Accept and Place on File:

- A. Plan Commission Minutes for June 6, 2018
- B. May and June 2018 City Council Financial Reports

Approvals:

- C. July 27, 2018 Payroll \$910,696.43
- D. Accounts Payable Check Register \$4,795,293.28.
- E. City Council Minutes for July 16, 2018

F. **RESOLUTION 18-93-R:** Authorizing Request for Permit from IDOT for Intermittent Closure of Route 31 for 2018 Half Marathon Special Event (GH 7/18/18 COW 10/0) CS

Motion by Ald. Atac, seconded by Ald. Stark, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion carried 11 yea/ 0 nay/ 3 absent.

6. MATTERS FROM THE PUBLIC: (For Items NOT on the Agenda)

None.

7. CHAMBER

Chamber President Holly Deitchman thanked the Community Development Department staff for the great work they've been doing with Batavia businesses in need of their assistance.

She shared information about upcoming events:

- Music Matters Summer Fest, Saturday, August 11, 9 am to 9 pm on the Riverwalk
- BC2 Breakfast at Country Inn and Suites, Wednesday, August 8, 7:30 am
- Ribbon-cutting for A Step Above Dance Academy, Friday, August 10, 4 pm
- Women in Business Progressive Luncheon, Eagle Brook Country Club, about 100 attendees in partnership with other local chambers for networking, August 14, 11:30 am
- Networking-It at State Street Jewelers in Geneva to support Mutual Ground, August 15, 5 pm
- Multi-chamber event at Tri City Health Partnership, August 16, 4:30 pm
- Bulldog Boosters Corn Boil at Batavia High School, August 17, 5 pm
- Human Resources series at Valley Industrial Assn., topic is onboarding, August 23
- Ribbon-cutting for Fast Color in Aurora, a Chairman's Circle member, August 24, noon

More information can be found at bataviachamber.org.

Chamber member Angela Birchfield from DataLink Associates spoke to the council about the company's IT business, providing personalized IT support to small businesses. They are located on Oswald Ave. and have been in Batavia for 15 years, but are new to the Chamber. Mayor Schielke welcomed Ms. Birchfield and noted that the company is providing services that are in growing demand.

Ald. Callahan joined the meeting at 7:34 pm.

8. PRESENTATION: Batavia Historical Society/Depot Museum Historic Church Walk (D. Hoefler)

Mr. Hoefler discussed the Historic Church Walk that will be hosted by the Batavia Historical Society on September 9. The walk includes visits to Bethany Lutheran Church, Calvary Episcopal Church, Congregational Church of Batavia and Batavia United Methodist Church, all historic structures featuring beautiful architecture and all within a few blocks of each other. The event benefits the expansion of the Depot Museum and a special exhibit on Batavia churches that opened at the museum on July 25. Several businesses are sponsoring the event, and Chris Cudworth will be posting information on the city's website. Those interested can also go to bataviahistoricalsociety.org for more information. The event runs from 1 to 4 pm, and attendees can start at the Depot Museum or at any of the churches. Refreshments will be served.

Mayor Schielke noted that this will be a great event and that these churches all have an interesting history dating to the 1800s. Mr. Hoefler shared that Calvary Episcopal Church was built as a wedding gift so that John Van Nortwick's daughter could get married in a "proper church."

This year's Batavia Brotherhood Banquet, which brings together men from all of Batavia's places of worship, is celebrating its 50th anniversary. It may be the longest-running gathering of its kind in Illinois.

Mayor Schielke shared an anecdote about William Van Nortwick being mentioned in the movie "12 Years a Slave." Van Nortwick donated a lot of money to the Batavia Historical Society and also was a "Monuments Man" as depicted in the movie "Monuments Men." Van Nortwick wrote a book about the experience titled *Watch Your Step*.

9. PROCLAMATION: Tri City Health Partnership Medical And Dental Clinic (K. Lamansky)

Ms. Lamansky was not in attendance and the Proclamation was not available. This item was postponed to a future meeting.

10. ORDINANCE 18-53: An Ordinance Amending The Official Zoning Map For A PFI, Public Facilities/Institutional Development With A Planned Development Overlay District 303-313 East Wilson Street, 14 North Van Buren Street And 13-27 North Prairie Streets. Batavia Park District, Applicant (DR 7/19/18 COW 7/24/18 10/0) CD

Ald. Brown introduced the item, which went through the Plan Commission and public hearing. The ordinance will allow the Batavia Park District to expand the parking lot and playground where houses were previously demolished.

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

11. RESOLUTION 18-95-R: Authorizing Execution Of 2018 Street Resurfacing Contract With Geneva Construction Company For An Amount Not To Exceed \$1,154,903 (RB 8/3/18)

Ald. Wolff introduced the resolution. He noted that due to time constraints, the item was not discussed at the Committee of the Whole meeting. The contract covers resurfacing of about five miles of city streets along College, Lathem and Madison. Kane County is providing \$58,000 in grant money towards the project.

Ald. Meitzler asked why the contingency was only 3 percent. City Engineer Rahat Bari noted that the figure was all that was left in the budget. He said that projects normally are within 3 to 5 percent, and if the 3 percent is exceeded, they will come back to City Council to request action.

Motion by Ald. Wolff, seconded by Ald. O'Brien, to approve the resolution as presented. Motion carried 12 yea/ 0 nay/ 2 absent.

Ald. Wolff asked if the IDOT resolution to appropriate Motor Fuel Tax funds also needed to be voted on and adopted by the city. Atty. Seckel said it did.

Motion by Ald. Wolff, seconded by Ald. O'Brien, to adopt the IDOT resolution for appropriation of \$362,713 in Motor Fuel Tax funds for the resurfacing project described in Resolution 18-95-R. Motion carried 12 yea/ 0 nay/ 2 absent.

12. ORDINANCE 18-50: Amending Chapter 1 (Streets And Sidewalks) Of Title 7 (Public Ways And Property) Of The Batavia Municipal Code (SH 7/18/18 COW 7/24/18 10/0) GS

Ald. Atac introduced the item related to amendments of the city code. The amendments are recommended as part of city staff's regular review of the code.

Ald. Chanzit noted his appreciation for changes in language regarding parades and gatherings that may involve what is deemed as unpopular speech.

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

13. RESOLUTION 18-92-R: IGA Between City Of Batavia And Batavia Public Library (CC 7/12/18 COW 07/17/18 11/0) GS

Ald. Atac introduced the item related to an intergovernmental agreement with the Batavia Public Library to create a self-guided tour of Batavia's windmills.

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

14. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Administrator Newman said the IEPA has approved a \$3 million loan to assist with the stormwater-sewer separation project with interest rates much lower than bonds would be. She congratulated the Public Works Department on their great work securing this loan.

The Siemens fence is starting to come down this week, and No Trespassing signs will be posted.

Riverside Pizza will be opening in the former Walgreens building on Wilson Street. This will be its third location.

Tri-Com has received a regional grant to acquire \$215,000 worth of new radio equipment for only \$9,000.

Please Slow Down signs are now available for residents to put in their yards. Distribution will be now through September 7. Signs can be picked up at City Hall, the BPS 101 administration building or Batavia Public Library. They should be placed at least 13 feet from the curb, not in the parkway, in order to not obstruct drivers' view of the road. The Please Slow Down initiative will run through September 7, after which residents can return signs after September 7 to City Hall or the BPS 101 building for future redistribution, or keep the signs and place them in their yards during a future campaign. The city would like feedback on the campaign. Comments can be emailed to slowdownbatavia@cityofbatavia.net. Administrator Newman thanked Mr. Cudworth for his work creating the signs. Mr. Cudworth noted that 500 signs will be available.

Ald. Wolff asked in light of the petition filed today to revoke Home Rule status, is the city prepared to communicate what is at stake in this vote? Administrator Newman suggested that this topic will be covered at tomorrow night's COW meeting. On its face, the petition appears to have sufficient signatures, and citizens have five business days to file an objection or the item will appear on the ballot.

Ald. Stark asked about construction barrels that have appeared along Shumway. Mr. Bari explained that the barrels were delivered there in error and will be moved.

15. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ald. Brown said the COW will be held tomorrow at 7 pm and will include discussion of Community Development's current workload. Director Buening noted that Administrator Newman will be representing the department at the meeting. The Environmental Commission meets at 7 pm tomorrow; on August 13, Historic Preservation meets at 5:30 pm and the Bicycle Commission meets at 7 pm.

There were no other committee reports.

16. OTHER BUSINESS

None.

17. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Schielke noted that the city has received three federal project grants for projects that must be underway by October 2020, or the funds would be withdrawn. He explained that the federal government has put this policy in place because cities were being granted money for projects that weren't ready to start for years. These projects are 80 percent funded by the federal government, and 20 percent funded by the city. Use of the Motor Fuel Tax has helped make these projects a reality for Batavia. The three projects that must get underway by October 2020 are:

- Rebuilding Main Street from Water Street to Van Nortwick; estimated cost: \$2.5 million
- Rebuilding South Prairie Street, which is complicated by the railroad crossing at Wilson Street (IDOT suggested we stop before the intersection to avoid potential issues with the project); estimated cost: \$1.8 million
- Installation of a traffic signal at Deerpath Road and Main Street in partnership with Kane County; the county is leading that project and splitting the remaining cost after the grant with Batavia

The mayor commended city staff for their efforts to get these projects moving to avoid losing the grant funds. He also thanked Chris Lauzen and the Kane County Highway Department for their partnership.

A new project, Batavia Then and Now, will be featured on the city's website. The project will feature historical photos of Batavia, many never seen, that were collected by town historian William Wood, the namesake of Hoover-Wood Elementary School. Before his death, Mr. Wood gifted Mayor Schielke with his collection of photos, which are being scanned to share with the public. Mr. Cudworth is visiting the sites depicted in the photos and taking present-day photos of the same locations. These side-by-side comparisons will be shared on the city's website over the next year and will be viewable through the Batavia Then and Now. The first installment will include the 1958 *New Yorker* Ice Skaters on the Pond cover featuring the Depot Pond next to a photo of the January 2018 recreation of the scene. Up to four new photos will be featured side-by-side every one or two weeks over the next year.

Chief Eul shared that a car was stopped today at 11:15 on the east side because the officer recognized it as one that was suspected of involvement in local home burglaries. One occupant fled, and the officer called for backup. Both the driver and occupant who fled were eventually taken into custody, confessed and have been charged. The men are allegedly linked to a recent burglary in Batavia and may be linked to burglaries in other towns as well. Felony charges are pending. Chief Eul reminded everyone how important it is to keep doors and cars locked, and keep garages closed. He also said that cutting screens and entering homes through unlocked windows is a primary way for burglars to access homes. He commended Officers Jensen and Handel for their work in identifying and apprehending the subjects.

18. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Ald. Brown, seconded by Ald. O'Brien. Motion carried by voice vote.

The City Council meeting adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

Minutes prepared and submitted by Ellen Posledni, City Clerk, August 11, 2018.