

CITY OF BATAVIA
MINUTES OF THE BATAVIA CITY COUNCIL
August 19, 2019, 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. Knopp led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

12 of 14 aldermen were present.

Aldermen (by ward): Michael O'Brien (1), Scott Salvati (1), Martin Callahan (2), Alan Wolff (2), Elliot Meitzler (3), Tony Malay (4), Joe Knopp (4), Mark Uher (5), Abby Beck (5), Nicholas Cerone (6), Michael Russotto (6) and Keenan Miller (7) were present. Dan Chanzit (3) and Drew McFadden (7) were absent.

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

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| City Attorney | Roman Seckel |
| City Clerk | Ellen Posledni |
| City Administrator | Laura Newman |
| Fire Chief | Randy Deicke |
| Deputy Police Chief | Glen Autenreith |
| Director of Public Works | Gary Holm |
| Director of Human Resources | Wendy Bednarek |
| Economic Consultant | Chris Aiston |

4. REMINDER: Please speak into the microphone for BATV recording

Mayor Schielke reminded all in attendance to use the microphones.

5. ITEMS REMOVED/ADDED/CHANGED

Ald. Salvati noted that the years referred to in item H in the Consent Agenda for the City Council Executive Minutes should be 2018 rather than 2019.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

Ald. Salvati read the Consent Agenda as follows:

Accept and Place on File:

- A. Historic Preservation Commission Minutes for June 24, 2019
- B. Committee of the Whole Minutes for July 30, 2019
- C. Building Reports July 2019

Approvals:

- D. August 9, 2019 Payroll \$934,513.92
- E. Accounts Payable Check Register \$3,270,593.19
- F. City Council Minutes for August 5, 2019
- G. **APPROVAL:** 2019 COW Executive Session Minutes for July 23, 2019
- H. **RESOLUTION 19-093-R:** Release of Executive Session Minutes
 - a. Committee of the Whole - May 15, 2018 and June 26, 2018
 - b. City Council July 16, 2018 and October 15, 2018
- I. **APPROVAL:** Class D-1 Liquor License Application for Oak and Swine Restaurant (DME 8/01/19 COW 8/13/19)
- J. **APPROVAL:** Class G Liquor License for Gammon Coach House, Pal Joey's, River's Edge Bar & Grill, Fernando's Street Kitchen & Wilson Street Tavern for the 2019 Batavia Main Street Downtown Block Party. (DME 8/14/19)
- K. **RESOLUTION 19-091-R:** Authorizing Execution of a Contract with Denler, Inc. for the 2019 Crackfilling Program (TFG 8/07/19) CS
- L. **RESOLUTION 19-094-R:** Rejecting the bid by Utility Dynamics Corporation to construct New feeder line from NE Distribution Substation and re-bid the Project (RB 8/09/19) PU

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

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

None.

8. OATH OF OFFICE: Officer Chris Potthoff - Promotion To Police Sergeant (DME 8/15/19)

Deputy Chief Autenreith introduced Sgt. Potthoff, an 11-year veteran of the Batavia Police Department who has served in a variety of roles. He is being promoted to sergeant of the evening shift.

Mayor Schielke congratulated Sgt. Potthoff, noting that he has been a model officer in Batavia. He then administered the oath of office.

9. RECOGNITION: Watch Commander Timothy M. O'Brien's 29 Years Of Service
Deputy Chief introduced retired Watch Commander O'Brien and shared highlights of his background in Batavia. He is a Batavia High School graduate and retired August 3 after 29 years of service.

Mayor Schielke thanked Commander O'Brien for his dedication to the city and presented him with a plaque. The mayor noted that he never heard anything but positive comments about Commander O'Brien's service in Batavia.

10. MAINSTREET

No representative was present so no presentation was made.

11. RESOLUTION 19-090-R: Awarding A Grant Under The Gateway Improvement Program For Funway (CA 8/15/19 COW 8/06/19 13/0) CD

Economic Consultant Chris Aiston introduced the item related to Funway's application for a Gateway Improvement Grant from the city. The grant will help pay for new awnings, an improved parking lot and landscaping. He noted this is a key location as a gateway to Batavia.

Owners Bob and Dominic Hansen addressed the Council and thanked the city for such a simple grant application process. Funway has been operating in Batavia since 1959 and their new expansion project opened to the public on May 1, with new go-kart tracks, new cars, and a new mini golf course. Their goal is to be a regional attraction, and people have been traveling more than an hour just to come to Funway.

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

12. RESOLUTION: 19-096-R: Permit For Special Event River Street Road Closures (GH 8/15/19) GS

Ald. Wolff introduced the item related to closing River Street for special weekend events. There was a discussion at the COW to extend the time to close the street. They decided the first step would be to ask for Friday and Saturday closure this fall. He added that he feels there should be an agenda of events scheduled to justify the street closure.

Administrator Newman said that staff met internally and with representatives of MainStreet to get a clearer idea of desired programming. The street would close Friday to Saturday afternoon. Friday events would include live music and extra outdoor seating where people could eat food from local vendors. She added that they may choose to extend the closure beyond October depending on the weather and evolving plans.

Ald. O'Brien said the River Street project took a lot of effort, and he sees this development as the next step. These closures will help MainStreet, the city and the downtown. He wants to see River Street continue to move forward. He added that the street has won national awards and been recognized internationally, and he hopes future Councils continue to support these types of projects.

Ald. Salvati said he is glad they have made headway on this item and he thinks it's fine not to allow alcohol in the open areas. He said the concept is different than what other towns have, and it makes Batavia's downtown a destination.

Ald. Wolff noted that the resolution says September through the end of October. Director Holm said it should be amended through the end of the year.

Motion by Ald. Wolff, seconded by Ald. Salvati, to approve the resolution as amended to extend the closures through the end of the year. Motion carried 12 yea/ 0 nay/ 2 absent.

13. RESOLUTION: 19-097-R: Agreement Between City Of Batavia And FOP Patrol 2019-2021 (WB 8/19/19) GS

Director Bednarek introduced the contract, noting that it includes a 2.75% annual wage increase.

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

14. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Building continues to boom in Batavia in industrial, commercial and residential sectors. The city is seeing expansions, remodeling and new construction.

Work and inspections continue at the Raising Cane's site. Despite rumors on social media, the company has confirmed it plans to open in December.

Prairie Commons has opened its first model buildings and Phase I construction continues.

Work continues on utilities and grading in the Winding Creek subdivision.

The Randall 15 Theatre was closed for a week after a large outage occurred on Randall Road last week. The outage was traced to a wiring issue inside their building, but they have reopened with a generator for now. It will be another two or three weeks before they can get the parts they need to correct the problem. City staff worked hard to help them identify the problem.

Director Holm explained that a fault in their wiring caused a fault in the city's system. The theater had no main disconnect. Ald. O'Brien asked why they did not have this, which is required by city code. Director Holm said it was not code when the building was built, but they are now going to be in compliance.

Mayor Schielke noted that the theater's owner called him to apologize for the outage and to thank city staff for their support through the situation. They are pleased to be in Batavia and are considering adding a restaurant component to the business.

Several upcoming zoning and municipal code changes are going to be discussed at upcoming meetings relating to cannabis legislation, beekeeping, industrial island landscaping, and the number of tattoo parlors allowed in the city. A new application for an additional tattoo parlor is expected by city staff.

Roadway resurfacing is underway. The Ward 1 drainage project is winding down. The Mahoney Creek project will wrap up this fall. The Ward 3 drainage project is beginning.

Last week, Gov. Pritzker signed legislation approving needle exchange programs. Point-to-Point will now be able to move forward with their initiative without concern from the Kane County State's Attorney.

15. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ald. Salvati said the new city logo will be discussed at tomorrow night's COW, and recreational cannabis will be on next week's agenda.

Ald. O'Brien said Director Holm will discuss infrastructure costs at tomorrow's COW, and next week will be discussion to authorize a representative to sign loan documents related to bonds.

Ald. Wolff reminded citizens to check the city website for brush pickup dates and to keep street drains clear.

16. OTHER BUSINESS

Ald. Wolff reminded everyone that Friday night is the Corn Boil at BHS. The first football game is August 31.

17. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Schielke said ACCESS Toy Drive will hold a fundraiser this year at the Moose Lodge. It will be a comedy show with some well-known comedians and will be held on November 23. Last year the Toy Drive served 713 kids in Batavia.

The mayor noted that many area communities are struggling financially and it's a recurring theme in meetings he attends. Cities are going through layoffs and are not sure how they are going to continue. About 12 pockets of cities around Chicago are doing well, and the tri-cities is one of those pockets. Questions continue around state and federal finances and grant funds. Plans Batavia has in the near term will need to be self-funded.

Ald. O'Brien praised the mayor for keeping property taxes low and keeping sales tax revenue coming in from Randall Road.

Mayor Schielke added that some interesting things are happening along Randall Road, and also noted that the retention pond in front of the former Sam's Club is no longer needed and could be developed in the future.

18. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Ald. Salvati, seconded by Ald. Knopp, to adjourn. Motion carried by voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

Minutes prepared and submitted by Ellen Posledni, City Clerk, August 26, 2019.