

CITY OF BATAVIA
MINUTES OF THE BATAVIA CITY COUNCIL
November 18, 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. Chanzit 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), Dan Chanzit (3), Joe Knopp (4), Mark Uher (5), Abby Beck (5), Nicholas Cerone (6), Michael Russotto (6), and Drew McFadden (7) were present. Tony Malay (4) and Keenan Miller (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
Director of Public Works	Gary Holm
Finance Director	Peggy Colby

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

None.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

Ald. Chanzit read the Consent Agenda as follows:

Accept and Place on File:

- A. Committee of the Whole Minutes for October 22, 2019
- B. September 2019 City Council Financial Report

Approvals:

- C. November 15, 2019 Payroll \$875,095.24
- D. Accounts Payable Check Register \$3,565,099.46
- E. City Council Minutes for November 4, 2019
- F. **APPROVAL:** Class F Liquor License for Alcohol Service at Water Street Studios “Winterfest Art Market” hosted by Batavia Enterprises, December 13-15, 2019 (DME 11/13/19)
- G. **ORDINANCE 19-80:** Proposing the Establishment of Special Service Area 42 for the Nagel Industrial Park/Farmstead III Development (SCB 11/7/19 COW 11/12/19 14/0) CD
- H. **RESOLUTION 19-115-R:** Accepting a Plat of Dedication for a Portion of Giese Road (SCB 10/31/19 COW 11/12/19 14/0) CD
- I. **RESOLUTION 19-117-R:** Authorization to Bind Insurance for GL, Property and Workers Compensation (PC 11/07/19 COW 11/12/19 14/0) GS
- J. **RESOLUTION 19-118-R:** Approving Task Order #3 with Siemens for an amount not to exceed \$39,889.00 to perform equipment inspection and cleaning at Main Substation, Northeast Substation and Southeast Substation (RB 11/8/2019 COW 11/12/19 14/0) PU

Motion by Ald. Chanzit, seconded by Ald. Knopp, 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)

Batavia resident Corinne Pierog addressed the Council to introduce herself and discuss her candidacy for Kane County Board Chair.

8. MAINSTREET

Executive Director Jamie Saam discussed shop local efforts launched for the holiday season. Last weekend, 16 downtown businesses participated in a promotion with the chamber, and combined sales are expected to exceed \$20,000.

Small Business Saturday is November 30. Shoppers can collect ornaments at local businesses with a \$10 purchase; 10 ornaments earn shoppers a decorative Christmas tree to be picked up in the MainStreet office as well as an entry in a drawing to win season tickets for the Albright Theatre.

The Winterfest Art Market with Water Street Studios is December 13- 15 featuring local artisans and artists.

It's sponsorship season. Businesses interested in sponsoring MainStreet should email beth@downtownbatavia.com.

Mary Popiel of Special Occasions spoke about her business and her excitement about the growing retail sector in downtown Batavia. April is Child Abuse Awareness Month, and she is planning to spearhead a monthlong collection to benefit CASA Kane County.

Mayor Schielke noted that Ms. Popiel's father was Joe Marconi, who was a true champion of downtown Batavia and envisioned the retail sector that is coming to fruition today.

9. PRESENTATION: Access Toy Drive – Roy & Jeannie Bailey

Roy Bailey spoke about the ACCESS Toy Drive, which has been going since 1948 to benefit children in Batavia with Christmas gifts. The date for the event is December 15, and family names are now being collected. They expect to serve 700 kids this year. Boys and girls 6 – 10 and teens are most likely going to be the largest groups.

Ald. Wolff noted that every year, he looks forward to shopping for the children and picking out what he would have liked to play with as a child; his kids participate as well. Donations can be dropped off at either Fire Department, the Batavia Public Library, Funway or any Batavia school. Gift cards, cash or checks should be dropped off at the Batavia Police Department. Checks should be written to Batavia ACCESS Toys.

Roger Breisch is president of his bowling league and presented Mr. Bailey with more than \$500 plus a collection of toys collected from league members.

Dottie Fletcher shared that the Moose Lodge will host a comedy show on November 23 to benefit the ACCESS Toy Drive. The event will also include a silent auction, and toys may be donated. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. for the 8:00 p.m. show.

10. PROCLAMATION: American Foundation for Suicide Prevention – Christine Breiten

Ald. Meitzler read the Proclamation declaring Saturday, November 23, 2019 to be Survivor Day in Batavia.

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

Christine Breiten then spoke about Survivors of Suicide Loss Day, which is held the Saturday before Thanksgiving every year. Events are held to allow survivors to gather together for support. This year, Ms. Breiten is spearheading an event in Batavia. So far, 35 people have registered, and 11 volunteers and seven agencies will assist. It will be held at Batavia Covenant Church from 10:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Learn more at afsp.org/survivorsday.

11. **ORDINANCE 19-78:** Amending the Municipal code Relating to Water Usage Rates (GH 11/6/19 COW 11/12/19 14/0) PU

Ald. O'Brien introduced the item related to a 3% rate increase for water usage, which will be used to help fund future work and maintenance. He noted that a 2015 rate study recommended a 6% rate increase. Mayor Schielke noted that this was discussed extensively at the Committee of the Whole meeting and the decision was made after careful consideration.

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

12. **ORDINANCE 19-79:** Amending the Municipal code Relating to sanitary Sewer Usage Rates (GH 11/6/19 COW 11/12/19 14/0) PU

Ald. O'Brien introduced the item related to a 4% increase in sewer rates. The city has just finished Phase I of the wastewater treatment facility project. The increase in funds will help pay for remaining work.

Ald. Knopp asked how long it will take to pay off the \$65 million in loans for this project. Director Holm noted that the loans come in stages, and each one is a 20-year term, so it will be decades before they are paid off.

Ald. O'Brien noted that a rate study recommended a 6% rate increase.

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

13. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Administrator Newman shared that the City Council is asked to bring in donations to the ACCESS Toy Drive on Monday, December 2. Many organizations in town come together to make this event possible, including BEI, which donates space to store and distribute the gifts.

Today pavement was installed in Area 3. Thank you to area residents for their patience during the stormwater-sewer separation project.

Two construction projects are underway in city buildings: The Public Works building is finishing their remodel, and another remodel will begin soon at City Hall.

On Wednesday, November 13, MainStreet, the Chamber of Commerce and city staff kicked off a Small Business Forum. About 50 people attended and discussed the process of launching a business. Participants indicated an interest in a deeper dive on the subject, and the group hopes to put together quarterly sessions.

Last week, the Batavia Public Library hosted a discussion on the 2020 census and the importance of 100% participation. Many organizations were involved.

MetroNet is nearly finished with its installations. City staff has a few more permits to review.

Leaf collection has resumed now that the snow is melting. Crews were out over the weekend to catch up. They are expected to finish the west side tomorrow and then start on the final collection on the east side. The final west side collection is next week. Residents can use yard waste bags for free collection in December.

The city website is an excellent source of important information. Residents can sign up for alerts, including text messages for red alerts and a weekly email newsletter.

Ald. Uher asked about the paving schedule for the parking lot at Andre's. Administrator Newman said they hope to get it done this year, but she will check on the schedule.

Ald. Wolff noted there will be a road closure at Van Nortwick and First Street for sewer work. The closure will last 7 to 10 days.

14. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ald. Chanzit reported that tomorrow night's COW will include a discussion of the budget, expansion of video gaming and an update on the city logo.

Ald. Callahan reported there would also be a discussion of a conditional use permit for U-Haul at 1921 West Wilson. The Plan Commission on November 20 will discuss an amendment to the zoning code.

15. OTHER BUSINESS

None.

16. MAYOR'S REPORT

Last Thursday, Fermilab held another groundbreaking for its neutrino facility. Part of this project will include the construction of a "mountain" that will be 4 to 5 stories tall and will be somewhat visible near the south end of the complex. The neutrino project will be shooting particles underground to South Dakota. Many countries are investing in the project, and several staff members noted to the mayor that this project could mean that Fermilab will continue to function for at least another 50 years.

The mayor discussed what an important neighbor Fermilab has been for Batavia and how different our landscape would be if it had not been built. President Johnson announced on December 16, 1966, that the lab would be built in Westin, Illinois, which has since been absorbed by the Fermilab facility. It is believed that President Johnson chose to site the facility in Illinois as a reward to U.S. Senator Everett Dirksen of Illinois, a Republican who was instrumental in passing the 1964 Civil Rights Act.

17. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Ald. O'Brien, seconded by Ald. Salvati, to adjourn. Motion carried by voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:41 p.m.

Minutes prepared and submitted by Ellen Posledni, City Clerk, November 22, 2019.