

MINUTES
May 4, 2010
Government Services Committee
City of Batavia

Chairman Schmitz called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

1. Roll Call

Members Present: Aldermen Dietz, Liva, Schmitz, Sparks, Tenuta, and Thelin Atac
Also Present: Aldermen Frydendall (7:15 p.m.), Jungels, O'Brien, Volk, and Wolff (7:28 p.m.); William McGrath (7:03 p.m.), City Administrator; Randall Recklaus, Assistant City Administrator; Mayor Schielke (7:39 p.m.), Chief Schira (7:15 p.m.), and Connie Rizo, Recording Secretary

2. Approve Minutes for April 14, 2010

Motion: To approve the Government Services Committee meeting minutes of April 14, 2010.
Maker: Sparks
Second: Tenuta
Voice vote: 6 Ayes, 0 Nay, Motion Carried.

3. Items/Removed/Added/Changed

Ald. Dietz stated he would like to have an Executive Session added to this meeting for a discussion on personnel. Randy Recklaus advised that an Executive Session could be added as long as no action was to be taken as a result of the Executive Session.

Motion: To approve amending the agenda for the May 4, 2010, Government Services Committee meeting to add item 7A. Executive Session: Personnel
Maker: Dietz
Second: Thelin Atac
Voice vote: 6 Ayes, 0 Nay, Motion Carried.

4. Windmill City Fest Carnival Permit (DC Thomas 4/21/10)

Chairman Schmitz explained this permit request was for the Windmill City Fest and previously the \$200 has been waived for the permit to the Batavia Park District.

Motion: To recommend to City Council approval of the permit for Windmill City Days, and waiving the \$200 permit fee to the Batavia Park District for Windmill City Amusements.

Maker: Dietz
Second: Sparks
Voice vote: 6 Ayes, 0 Nay, Motion Carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

5. Ordinance 10-19 Amend Ordinance 04-71 as amended to Create a Compensatory Time Policy (Randy Recklaus 4/30/10)

Randy Recklaus stated that back in September the City Council approved an ordinance that created a pilot program allowing employees to take time off in lieu of overtime. Recklaus explained that a compensatory time program has been in place for the Police Department for some time and it has saved the City money, but has not gone without some challenges to manage the manpower. Recklaus stated that for this reason, the pilot program was a bit more restrictive than what was in place in the Police Department. The pilot program ended at the end of April and the results showed the pilot program was a success. Recklaus conveyed that the City saved \$13,700 from September until now using this pilot program. Recklaus advised the program was very popular among employees. Recklaus stated the City Staff recommends making this compensatory time policy a permanent part of the Employee Manual.

Ald. Liva asked for clarification on the amount of increments the employees can request for compensatory time. Recklaus replied that the usage of compensatory is up to a maximum of eight hours per instance.

Ald. Sparks inquired if there were any negative complaints from the employees. Recklaus replied that some of the employees want the program to be more flexible mirroring what is available in the Police Department, but the City wants to maintain operational flexibility and wants to continue it as it was administered in the pilot program.

Ald. O'Brien inquired if the compensatory time reflected what the employees do for premium time meaning if someone worked four hours overtime that would result in six hours of compensatory time. Recklaus confirmed that is how the compensatory time policy would function.

Ald. Dietz commented that the administrative staff has done a lot to maintain parity between departments in treating everyone the same. Ald. Dietz inquired if there were major discrepancies between the departments and if they were reconcilable for this compensatory time policy. Recklaus replied that due to the nature of the jobs in different departments and nature of collective bargaining agreements the compensatory time policy carried out in the pilot program was preferred over the one in the Police Department. Recklaus spoke in favor of potentially having the Police Department compensatory time policy change to be more like the pilot program some time in the

future. For the benefit of the new aldermen, Ald. Dietz commented how Recklaus and McGrath share a passion for treating employees equally whether union or non-union.

Motion: To recommend to City Council approval of Ordinance 10-19.
Maker: Dietz
Second: Sparks
Voice vote: 6 Ayes, 0 Nay, Motion Carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

6. Interviews for City Council

Mayor Schielke opened this portion of the meeting explaining that Ald. Barnard had resigned and that there was a need to fill the vacancy on the Batavia City Council for the Third Ward. Mayor Schielke explained that the person who would be appointed to this vacancy would serve from now until the next regular City Election when the Third Ward seat is scheduled to be up for a 4-year term on the City Council. Mayor Schielke stated the next City Election would be in April of 2011 and if the new alderman chose to they could run in the election in April of 2011 along with others qualified to do so.

Mayor Schielke asked each candidate to take three to five minutes to tell the Committee about themselves and then provide their ideas, thoughts, and positions on Batavia's future.

Dan Chanzit expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to address the Committee. Chanzit advised that he lives on Peebles Court in the townhomes behind the theater. Chanzit explained that he had previously applied when there was an opening in the Third Ward earlier this year commented that he would restate some of his key points and also provide reflections on his experience from the first time he applied for the aldermanic position. Chanzit explained he works for a bank and deals with individuals all day who are in serious financial peril. Chanzit stated he was licensed by the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA) to sell and advise clients on bonds and stocks as well as maintaining a license with the State of Illinois to broker life and health insurance policies. Chanzit stated he has the support of his employer to serve the City as alderman.

Chanzit relayed that after graduating from Batavia High School he attended the University of Illinois and graduated with a degree in Journalism and got a scholarship from the Chicago Sun Times and freelanced for the Aurora Beacon News between his studies. Chanzit stated he previously was employed by the Kane County Chronicle and won some awards during his career in journalism. Chanzit added that he has also helped his condo association board fight FEMA over the flood plain map that placed the townhomes in the flood zone of the Braeburn marsh.

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Chanzit stated he would bring a new voice to the City Council would be a part of the next generation who would see the vision of Batavia. Chanzit expressed that he takes the opportunity to be an alderman seriously.

Chanzit stated his ideas for a better Batavia include: downtown development, affordable housing, supporting private investment and building public/private partnerships to encourage revitalization efforts, filling the empty stores on Randall Road's tax powerhouse, attracting/approaching strong companies to lure sustainable businesses to Batavia, and studying the successes of our neighboring communities. Chanzit made favorable comments on Fox's Restaurant and shared how he felt businesses like this were a mustard seed for Batavia. Chanzit encouraged building on successes and admitting failures and starting over.

Chanzit stated there needs to be an end to the second bridge debate whether there should be a bypass, circulator or both for traffic to get to and from and past the downtown area, as well as a third bridge. Chanzit opined that without the additional bridges there would be no meaningful downtown development and no serious investment by the private sector in downtown Batavia.

Chanzit thanked the Committee for his chance to be heard and wished the members luck in the selection process for a new alderman.

Jan Magree stated she lived on Van Nortwick Avenue and explained the reason she was seeking the aldermanic position was because she was a concerned citizen, mother of four children ranging from elementary school students to college students. Magree advised she is a Batavia business owner for Image Pro Services. Magree relayed she was representing all the different areas of the third ward.

Magree explained that her background is in being a paralegal, which she has been for 13 years for different insurance defense firms. Magree went on to say her career led her to handle bodily injury insurance claims for several large companies where she has been challenged by individuals calling her offensive language. Magree stated this job has shown she has thick skin and that she does not take criticism to heart.

Magree advised that she graduated from DePaul University with a degree in business and recently received her Master's Degree from the University of Illinois in Adult Education. Magree stated her family moved to Batavia for her children to attend schools in the Batavia school system. Magree conveyed that she enjoys the history of Batavia and wants to keep a focus on that history.

Magree expressed that the major focus of her being a Third Ward alderman would be to represent the Third Ward accurately, listen and share what others have to say, and work with residents to keep Batavia on track to be one of the best cities to live in.

Mayor Schielke thanked the candidates for speaking and explained to them that on

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May 17, 2010, at the City Council meeting during an Executive Session a straw vote would be taken to select one of the two candidates. Mayor Schielke advised that once the aldermen make the selection he would make the appointment and then the alderman would vote for the confirmation of the new alderman. Mayor Schielke opened up for the floor for questions by the Committee.

Ald. Volk inquired whether the candidates had the time to invest in the preparatory reading and participation in the potential 160 meetings that take place during the year for alderman.

Chanzit advised that he works a 9 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. job and has Wednesdays and Sundays off with plenty of time to read. Chanzit pointed out since most of the meetings are 7:00 p.m. or later he had the time to commit to the alderman duties.

Magree stated having been an adult student and completed studying for a Master's Degree for two years and also studying at DePaul University she now has free time that she could focus on aldermanic duties. Magree commented she attends a lot of the city functions and enjoys them.

Ald. Dietz stated that a local developer would soon be requesting funds for a building and he was hoping the next new alderman could assist him at looking at a matrix to understand that application and challenges of a commercial credit/financial requests.

Chanzit stated that FINRA is specific on the issue raised by Ald. Dietz and explained that he would have to abstain from any vote involving J. P. Morgan Chase and could only give general advice on general principles. Chanzit added it would be inappropriate for him to lead business to a specific bank and is barred from giving direct advice to the City on finances. Chanzit stated having the City being the lender would be entirely different because it is inside financing.

Magree advised she just finished some time as a teaching assistant at DePaul University along a Professor who taught finance, accounting, and business. Magree explained that her Master's Degree is in Adult Education where she has developed training programs and implemented a few at Image Pro Services. Therefore, Magree relayed she is adept at teaching adults so they can understand topics and added she has a background in adult learning theories.

Ald. O'Brien stated that the future holds sustainable building design and asked the candidates what their thoughts were in looking to develop the City of Batavia with that in mind.

Chanzit stated he recently attended a meeting relative to the Tanglewood subdivision and spoke in favor of the idea to try and promote that type of development. Chanzit conveyed it was wasteful to build a building that would leave a negative mark on the soil and that there should be ways to deal with wastewater and ways to move traffic without

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increasing the carbon footprint. Chanzit opined that there should be a balance between commerce and the environment and the impact it would have on downtown Batavia's development or the Randall corridor between Batavia and North Aurora.

Magree agreed with Chanzit's comments on going green and added that her whole interest is in what would be in Batavia for her children and grandchildren. Magree commented that it is becoming less costly to go green so the City should examine any possibility to go green.

Mayor Schielke stated there is a general consensus among alderman that downtown Batavia is the heart and soul of the Batavia community and good place to enhance the quality of life in the community. Mayor Schielke stated with the Fox River there are positive attributes to downtown Batavia. Mayor Schielke encouraged the candidates to give their thoughts/ideas on the future of downtown Batavia.

Magree stated when she attended the Loyalty Day parade this past Sunday she and her husband noticed when walking down the Wilson Street bridge that downtown is void of things like a candy store, insurance agents, and other merchants that use to occupy space in downtown. Magree expressed that she was saddened by the lack of those components to downtown Batavia and that she desperately wants to see business come back to downtown that maintain a family concept/small town charm. Magree encouraged using Laurelwood Park for fairs and activities. Magree stated that the area near the Government Center building and Wilson Street have the greatest potential of all if it is developed appropriately and that it could bring back the old time charm to draw the businesses/consumers into downtown Batavia.

Chanzit stated that a lot has changed since he was a boy growing up in Batavia. Chanzit advised Batavia used to have a candy store, newspaper office, pharmacy, and barber shop in downtown Batavia and that they have all closed except the barber shop. Chanzit relayed that as time has passed there seems to be less and less reason to go to downtown Batavia and that the way the City has developed and grown the choice to frequent Randall Road merchants rather than downtown Batavia has been more appealing. Chanzit reflected on how Randall Road had nothing on it but a farm and farmland when he was growing up and he remembered as a kid asking Mayor Schielke when Batavia would get a movie theater and how Mayor Schielke at the time replied there wasn't enough traffic to support a movie theater in Batavia. Chanzit conveyed about four years after that encounter Batavia did get a movie theater on Randall Road. Chanzit expressed that all around his neighborhood out near Randall Road he has all the businesses he frequents close by and no real reason to come to downtown Batavia. Chanzit opined that public/private investment would be the key to changing downtown Batavia because those investments might bring businesses that draw consumers to downtown Batavia. Chanzit ended by stating the next 10 years should see development in downtown Batavia and he shared that he wanted to be a part of that process.

Ald. Volk expressed that both candidates were very qualified and that it would be a difficult choice to make between the two candidates, but encouraged whoever was not selected to involve themselves in other Commissions and opportunities to participate in Batavia. Ald. Volk stated the fundamental driving force/philosophy of the aldermen is to help residents of Batavia, but also pointed out there are negative situations that also come with the duties of being an alderman and Ald. Volk asked the candidates how they might deal with those negative situations.

Chanzit stated he has been attacked by the press in the past and commented that even though words are sometimes not of a positive nature he still shared the opinion that those voices needed to be heard.

Magree stated that being in insurance claims has helped her develop a tough skin and that she welcomes conflict/disagreement. Magree stated hopefully in being the voice of the third ward she could work toward the common goal of doing what is best for Batavia.

Chairman Schmitz thanked the candidates for appearing and advised them the aldermen would meet on May 17, 2010, to decide who the next alderman would be for the third ward.

7. Other

Ald. Dietz inquired whether Peggy Colby has a schedule for providing a budget update to the Government Services Committee. Bill McGrath stated that a presentation on the budget would be in the next few Government Services meetings.

Deleted: .

7A. Executive Session: Personnel

Motion: To adjourn to Executive Session for the purposes of Personnel discussion.
Maker: Dietz
Second: Sparks
Roll Call vote: Aye-Dietz, Aye-Liva, Aye-Schmitz, Aye-Sparks, Aye-Tenuta, Aye-Thelin Atac, 0 Nay, Motion Carried.

The meeting was adjourned to Executive Session at 7:45 p.m. and when Regular Session resumed at 8:10 p.m. all the same committee members were present.

8. Adjournment

A motion was made by Ald. Sparks and seconded by Ald. Thelin Atac to adjourn the meeting at 8:11 p.m. All were in favor and the motion was carried.

Minutes prepared by
Connie Rizo