

**MINUTES**  
**May 23, 2011**  
**Government Services Committee**  
**City of Batavia**

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.

Chairman Dietz called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

**1. Roll Call**

**Members Present:** Aldermen Chanzit, Dietz, Liva, Sparks, Stark, Tenuta, and Thelin Atac

**Also Present:** Aldermen O'Brien and Volk; Jeff Albertson, Building Commissioner; William McGrath, City Administrator; and Connie Rizo, Recording Secretary

**2. Items /Removed/Added/Changed**

None.

**3. Public Comment**

None.

**4. Approve Minutes for April 11 and April 25, 2011**

**Motion:** To recommend approval of the 4/11/11 and 4/25/11 Government Services Committee meeting minutes.

**Maker:** Sparks

**Second:** Stark

**Voice vote:** 7 Ayes, 0 Nays, Motion Carried.

**5. Approval: Windmill City Festival Carnival Permit (Jeff Albertson 5/18/11)**

**Motion:** To recommend to City Council approval the Windmill City Festival Carnival Permit.

**Maker:** Thelin Atac

**Second:** Tenuta

**Voice vote:** 7 Ayes, 0 Nay, Motion Carried.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**6. Approval: Waive Fees to Batavia Park District for Windmill City Carnival Permit  
(Jeff Albertson 5/18/11)**

**Motion:** To recommend to City Council approval of waiving the fee for the Windmill City Festival Carnival Permit.  
**Maker:** Stark  
**Second:** Tenuta  
**Voice vote:** 7 Ayes, 0 Nay, Motion Carried.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Chairman Dietz stated since the City of Batavia has \$1M coverage as a named insured on the permit itself for individual incidents with a \$10M aggregate and pondered whether the \$1M was sufficient. Chairman Dietz opined that for future festivals and events perhaps the \$1M coverage/\$10M aggregate amounts should be researched by staff and possibly increased.

**7. Resolution 11-45-R: Micro Loan Agreement with Confident Aire, Inc.  
(Meredith Hannah 5/12/11)**

Bill McGrath explained that the City Council approved the micro loan program to assist businesses who were having problems obtaining loans through traditional financial institutions during the current difficult economic times.

McGrath explained that Tom Wangler from Confident Aire, Inc. has located a new "green store" on East Wilson Street that allows his enterprise to have a retail face to provide the public with education on water conservation as well as obtaining inventory to sell products to customers to conserve water. McGrath advised that Wangler has been very active on the Environmental Commission. McGrath stated that this request by Wangler for a micro loan fits well within the intended program. McGrath added there is a personal guarantee from Wangler to pay back the loan funds.

Wangler commented he has had a good experience thus far with the micro loan program and commended the City for the administration of the program. Wangler explained how the retail location would provide access to information on water conservation and help the public to understand the issue and products needed more clearly. Wangler added another goal of opening this exhibit in his store is to generate business in Batavia and providing revenue in the form of sales tax to Batavia.

Ald. Thelin Atac, Ald. Sparks, Ald. Volk spoke in favor of this new venture by Wangler. Ald. Stark inquired if Wangler still had business on McKee Street in addition to the store on Wilson Street. Wangler advised both locations would continue since there are loading/parking challenges for the business at one of the locations.

Ald. Chanzit stated he supported Wangler's project, but inquired why he could not obtain funds through a traditional bank. Wangler replied that the banks he approached were Harris and that their new owners are the conservative Bank of Montreal as well as Castle Bank. Wangler pointed out he was able to secure a SBA-backed loan just to term out Confident Aire's unsecured liabilities, but the recession made the request for the capital needed for the new location unsuccessful at those banks.

Ald. O'Brien applauded Wangler's commitment to the sustainable building concept.

Ald. Liva inquired how many Batavians Wangler employed. Wangler replied 4 of 10 of his employees are from Batavia. Wangler stated through employee training his goal is to have one new employee a year as the business grows.

Ald. Tenuta spoke in favor of the micro loan program and stated it was great for local businesses. Ald. Tenuta stated she promotes the sustainable movement and supported what Wangler was doing with the showroom/exhibit on water conversation. Wangler advised he would also be working with retail parts wholesalers, namely one on Raddant Road, to get access to parts to sell to the public. Wangler added the Wilson Street location has museum-type exhibits and the goal is to have monthly classes to teach the public about different facets of green education.

Chairman Dietz stated he was curious about the overall size of the community education/outreach project in terms of the dollars and how the \$20,000 fit into the overall project. Wangler replied that he wanted everything to be operating and explained that the first investment to be made would be a working tankless water heater as well as a recirculation pump. Wangler added that low flow shower heads would also be demonstrated. Wangler stated the parts to put together the exhibits would be around \$4,000 and would keep the price down by using internal labor of about \$2,000 to build the exhibits with the remaining \$14,000 being used for the inventory that he plans to sell. Wangler relayed that a rep from Waubensee Community College's BPI courses perhaps would hold one of her classes at Wangler's location so that students could have a hands on experience.

McGrath concluded commenting that the loan was for \$20,000 and had an interest rate of 3.25% and payable over three years.

**Motion:** To recommend to City Council approval of Resolution 11-45-R.  
**Maker:** Sparks  
**Second:** Thelin Atac  
**Voice vote:** 7 Ayes, 0 Nay, Motion Carried.

**8. Ordinance 11-19: Amendment to Municipal Code Regarding Liquor License Application Fees (Bill McGrath 5/20/11)**

Bill McGrath advised that the Mayor has received numerous calls relative to potential parties wanting to open a business at the Stop Lite Inn location. McGrath explained that staff and the Mayor have expended a great deal of time to handle these requests without any of it resulting in an actual new business. Due to this and situations like this, the City is now recommending increasing the application fee for liquor licenses. McGrath pointed out a group would be reviewing the entire liquor code, but felt that the current \$25 fee and \$40 for fingerprinting does not cover the cost of the staff handling these license requests. McGrath stated it is a privilege for someone to obtain a liquor license and go into business and that the City should at a minimum recover all of its costs because the same amount of work is performed whether the applicant is successful or unsuccessful in obtaining their liquor license. McGrath advised research was conducted on what neighboring cities charge for liquor license application processing fees.

Ald. Liva asked for clarification of the type of financial vehicle the City preferred for payment of the liquor license fees. McGrath replied it would be best to have a traceable instrument that can be recorded in their system. Ald. Liva suggested removing the word cash from the code wording.

The aldermen weighed in on increasing the fees and the consensus was these measures were needed to help the City recover its costs in the processing of liquor licenses and also to entertain only serious applicants.

McGrath advised as soon as the City Council passes Ordinance 11-19 the increase in liquor license processing fees would go into effect.

**Motion:** To recommend to City Council approval of Ordinance 11-19 for amendment to municipal code regarding liquor license application fees.  
**Maker:** Tenuta  
**Second:** Liva  
**Voice vote:** 7 Ayes, 0 Nay, Motion Carried.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

### **9. Project and Status Update**

#### **A. Lincoln Mural**

Bill McGrath conveyed that the contact for the Illinois Lincoln Highway Coalition apologized for the delay in ironing out details of the mural to be placed in Batavia. McGrath explained to that contact that the City favored having the trolley car in the mural for Batavia despite the fact that another town in Illinois also has a trolley car in their mural. McGrath pointed out to the contact that the trolley was representative of the Lincoln Highway in Batavia and that he tried to tie in the electric lines and other elements. The contact was not in favor of that idea. McGrath encouraged the contact

to have the mural artist come to Batavia. The contact advised there was no money to fund the artist to make a trip to Batavia. As a result, a conference call is scheduled with the artist. McGrath spoke in favor of having a pre-meeting with those aldermen who are interested prior to the conference call with the artist. McGrath pointed out the Committee providing ideas for the mural had suggested a scene of Main Street including renderings of the older buildings, the trolley, with people included, but now since the trolley apparently is not an option another idea should be discussed with the artist.

Ald. Chanzit, Ald. Liva, and Chairman Dietz still spoke in favor of including the history of Mrs. Lincoln to be part of the mural. McGrath pointed out the Coalition was more interested in tie ins to the history of the highway itself and not the Lincoln family. Chairman Dietz reminded the group that previously the Batavia Historical Society provided several pictures and the Committee selected a picture of the floral shop building the mural would be placed on, a picture of a woman in a white dress, and a picture of rails in the road with the streetcar on it. Ald. Thelin Atac and Tenuta stated when they viewed other murals they were focused on only one or two things.

Ald. Thelin Atac suggested focusing on the architecture in Batavia for the mural along with pictures of individuals depicted in the right period clothes. Ald. Stark suggested reviewing old postcards that were tied to the opening of the Lincoln Highway and perhaps recreating that on the mural. Chairman Dietz stated in the items provided by the BHS there were postcards. Ald. Tenuta and Chairman Dietz pointed out the Coalition did not want collages as the murals. Ald. Stark asked for clarification of the time period of the Lincoln Highway that the mural should depict. Ald. Tenuta stated it was approximately 1912.

Chairman Dietz mentioned that Colonel Eisenhower was involved in a cross-country march that also happened on the Lincoln Highway in Batavia and also visited the Civil War monument, but there are no pictures to evidence that. Ald. Tenuta commented she had some reservation in using that march as a mural subject because it did not represent Batavia in the mural and opined the mural expectation of the City and the expectation of the Coalition might be different. Chairman Dietz spoke to one item being the focus in the mural and perhaps Batavia could have a windmill in front and have the other components of the mural surrounding that. Chairman Dietz encouraged anyone interested in discussing potential mural components to attend the pre-meeting prior to the conference call with the artist.

## **10. Governance**

### **A. Strategic Planning - Update on Dr. Gabris contract**

Bill McGrath advised he spoke with Dr. Gabris last week and that Dr. Gabris would use the summer to interview the aldermen and department heads. Dr. Gabris was in agreement with a meeting/retreat in September. Chairman Dietz asked if the contract

would be proforma. McGrath commented some items would be added to the original letter and the process would be built from there.

## **B. Visioning**

Ald. O'Brien stated he was unable to make the last two Government Services meetings, but wanted to have clarification of what happened with visioning. McGrath stated that the strategic planning follows the vision statement the City has and that along with previous strategic planning sessions would be reviewed. Chairman Dietz advised that the strategic planning sub-committee chaired by Ald. Wolff recommended engaging Dr. Gabris to lead the aldermen through the strategic planning process, which was agreed on at the last meeting with September being the time for the retreat.

Ald. Thelin Atac shared that the aldermen should start with the vision statement and mission statement since Dr. Gabris would not be helping in developing those and the Council should revise them. . Ald. Thelin Atac stressed that the vision statement should be updated to contain wording in it that was unique to Batavia. Ald. Thelin Atac opined that the vision statement should also have wording to evoke emotional appeal of Batavia being a place to call home as well as being a more goal focused Batavia stating what Batavia is aspiring to be. Chairman Dietz asked the Committee members to review and make edits to the vision and mission statements and be prepared to discuss them at the next Government Services meeting.

Chairman Dietz agreed and asked that the IGNITE information be incorporated into the next meeting's discussion.

Ald. Tenuta opined that having Governance topics continuously on the agenda would keep the Committee moving forward, focused, and. Chairman Dietz shared his hope was that Dr. Gabris would conduct the interviews this summer and prepare for the retreat in September.

## **C. Code Review (McGrath 5/19/11)**

Discussion on recommended reorganization and changes to Title 1 took place. There was extended discussion regarding the Mayor Pro Tem and determination that City Services should retain review of Building and Fire Codes. Amounts of fines for various general City offenses will be taken up at discussion of individual offenses. Draft generally accepted, but official approval to take place at a later date.

## **11. Closed Session: Land Acquisition (McGrath 5/20/11)**

**Motion:** To adjourn to Closed Session for the purposes of discussion of land acquisition.  
**Maker:** Sparks  
**Second:** Liva

**Voice vote:** 7 Ayes, 0 Nays, Motion Carried.

The meeting was adjourned to Closed Session at 9:37 p.m. and when Regular Session resumed at 10:11 p.m. all the same committee members were present.

## **12. Other**

Chairman Dietz gave tribute to John Noble, the previous City Attorney.

## **13. Adjournment**

A motion was made by Ald. Sparks and seconded by Ald. Thelin Atac to adjourn the meeting at 10:12 p.m. All were in favor and the motion was carried.

Minutes prepared by  
Connie Rizo