

# ICC Meeting Minutes Monday, April 11, 2016 City of West Allis City Hall – Lower Level Gallery Room 7525 W. Greenfield Avenue West Allis, WI

#### **Members Present:**

Andy Pederson, Village of Bayside Carl Krueger, Village of Brown Deer John Hohenfeldt, City of Cudahy Michael West, Village of Fox Point Steve Olson, City of Franklin Bryan Kennedy, City of Glendale Michael Neitzke, City of Greenfield Robert Ruesch, Village of Hales Corners Tom Barrett, City of Milwaukee Chris Abele, Milwaukee County Bob Brunner, Village of River Hills CoryAnn St. Marie-Carls, City of St. Francis Guy Johnson, Village of Shorewood Erik Brooks, City of South Milwaukee Dan Devine, City of West Allis Ron Hayward, Village of West Milwaukee Julie Siegel, Village of Whitefish Bay

#### **Excused:**

James Birmingham, Village of Greendale Steve Scaffidi, City of Oak Creek

**Guests Present:** (per sign-in sheet) Christine Westrich, OEM Director John Hermes, MMSD Commission Chairman Steve Hook, Forward 45 Interchange Project JoAnn Shaw, City of Glendale Cheryl Berdan, State of Wisconsin

Bayside - Brown Deer – Cudahy - Fox Point – Franklin – Glendale - Greendale Greenfield - Hales Corners – Milwaukee - Milwaukee County - Oak Creek - River Hills - St. Francis Shorewood - South Milwaukee – Wauwatosa - West Allis - West Milwaukee - Whitefish Bay



Jennifer Gonda, City of Milwaukee Ken Skowronski, State Rep. 82<sup>nd</sup> District Rick Oliva, MCLEEA Karen Sparapani, MADACC John Weishan, County Supervisor Steve Taylor, County Supervisor Robert Whitaker, North Shore Fire/Rescue Steve Bane, West Allis Fire Department

Mayor Neitzke called the Intergovernmental Cooperation Council of Milwaukee County (ICC) meeting to order at 1:13 p.m. A quorum was present.

## I. Welcome to West Allis

Mayor Devine welcomed the members to West Allis, and said City Hall was built in the late 1960's. The Gallery Room was originally set up to be a gallery to showcase tractors produced by Allis Chalmers. Before the tractors could be displayed, Allis Chalmers closed. The area was used for storage until last year. A few community events have been held here, and West Allis is thinking about possibly putting in a Convention & Visitor's Bureau.

He spoke about the challenges that come from traffic on Highway 100 and the Zoo interchange work. Many new restaurants have opened, and Crawdaddy's reopened. The owner of West Allis Cheese & Sausage expanded his store into a deli. He also solicited restaurants to participate in a website called 'eatwestallis.com'. A dine-in-dash scavenger hunt challenge will be held in late May to support local businesses.

#### II. Approval of the March 14, 2016 minutes

It was moved by Mayor Kennedy, seconded by President Krueger, to approve the minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

**III.** Milwaukee County Redistricting Reform Proposal (Supervisor Taylor) Mayor Neitzke said supporting documents were attached to this agenda.



Supervisor Taylor was unsure as to why this item is on the agenda. He said the County Board approved the redistricting reform proposal on March 17<sup>th</sup>, but the County Executive didn't sign it.

County Executive Abele stated he likes the idea of redistricting, and that was not the issue. He wants to keep the process as depoliticized as possible. Supervisor Taylor spoke about the letter that the County Executive sent to the Board of Supervisors on this matter and thought the reform was not politicized. Six retired judges would be on the independent citizen redistricting panel. County Executive Abele said the judges would be appointed by the County Board Chair. If two times their recommendations aren't adopted by the County Board, the Chair can then disregard the judge's positions. He suggested utilizing the Legislative Reference Bureau to draw these maps.

Mayor Neitzke read Item 4(e) of the ordinance, which states "The ICRP's third draft of the map, if any, shall be returned to the County Board within ten (10) days. If the County Board does not adopt the proposed third draft map within five (5) days, the County Board shall proceed to develop and adopt a map directly, without further ICRP consultation".

Supervisor Taylor said the six retired judges are going to work with SEWRPC to draw the maps. There will be four public hearings. If the maps aren't approved by the County Board, it will be public as to why a supervisor has a problem with the way their district is drawn. It could go back and forth from the County Board by at least 10 supervisors to this committee three times. The way it works now is the County Board Chairman appoints supervisors to work with county staff to come up with these maps. The new process will be more transparent.

County Executive Abele again applauded the initiative to further redistricting, but wants the process to be as depoliticized as possible. He would rather have the LRB draw the maps, as SEWRPC is funded by all of us and has appointees.

Mayor Kennedy said in order for any redistricting to be adopted, elected officials ultimately have to approve the map. He has spoken with Supervisor Weishan about other states that use independent panels. If the maps are voted down a certain number of times, eventually it refers back to the legislative body to



> produce a map. The idea here is to give an independent body enough opportunities to create a map that is as impartial as possible. The incentive is to remove the politicization from the process to approve the first map and not have a second map.

Supervisor Taylor agreed. He clarified that the reform has been adopted by the County Board, and he is not planning on bringing anything else forward. However, he is willing to meet with the County Executive, who did not sign the resolution and ordinance change.

Mayor Kennedy thought this was a depoliticized reform. He hoped that when a map is brought forward to the County Board in a few years for redistricting, they will follow the process as it is written and rely upon the judges.

Mayor Brooks asked if there needs to be a significant look at redistricting from the perspective of the County Board and the County Executive. Supervisor Weishan said this reform was a reaction to the redistricting process across the state, and the request for more openness and transparency in the system. Redistricting on the Milwaukee County level is much different than general municipalities in other parts of the state because of minority community issues. He then spoke about influence districts.

President West said discussion today was about the resolution and ordinance that was approved by the County Board but not signed by the County Executive. It was clarified that the resolution and ordinance are in effect.

Mayor Brooks asked if significant redistricting is required. Supervisor Taylor replied that the proper steps will have to be followed to draw district boundaries after the 2020 census. He doesn't know how different the map will look.

Supervisor Weishan said growth areas in Milwaukee County will change the lines because of population shifts. County Executive Abele suggested to further depoliticize the process both in who is doing the appointment and to use the LRB.

Mayor Neitzke said the transparency and openness of this resolution is a vast improvement. He agrees with Mayor Kennedy in that ultimately the County



> Board decides what the map is. The last redistricting created quite a controversy and might have led to Act 14. Some felt there was gerrymandering last time and an attempt to reduce the size and redistrict members off the Board. He hopes this is what the County Board is trying to diminish through this resolution. All voices need to be heard at the County Board. Former Franklin Mayor Taylor and he held significant discussions with the County Board Chair at that time to make sure districts were created fairly. He applauds Supervisor Taylor's efforts and agrees with County Executive Abele that the reform could go further.

Supervisor Taylor said the gerrymandering perception is a problem.

Supervisor Weishan said the County is moving forward with this reform, and the opportunity is there for municipalities to use this service at no cost. Mayor Hohenfeldt asked about the cost to taxpayers. Supervisor Weishan said the cost will be negotiated with SEWRPC, who has done redistricting plans in the past. He estimated the cost between \$20,000-\$50,000 for the entire county, with municipalities done at a reasonable price.

Mayor Neitzke spoke about last week's elections in Milwaukee County with the new voting machines in partnership with the County. While there were still some bugs to be worked out, he applauded Supervisor Weishan's efforts in that regard.

## IV. Discussion and decision regarding reimbursement rate for secretarial/ administrative services (Mayor Scaffidi)

Mayor Scaffidi asked that this item be placed on the agenda. Mayor Neitzke said Joanne Waite is his secretary. She does the ICC agenda and minutes, and corresponds with members to place items on the agenda.

President Ruesch said the current rate of \$62.50 was established years ago. It is his opinion she is very accurate and does quality work. If a 25% increase is approved, the new rate would be \$78.13. A 20% increase would be \$75.

Mayor Neitzke wanted the members to know that he did not solicit a rate increase. The \$62.50 a month rate was one-half of what the previous private contracted person received. Back then, there were issues with agendas and minutes not being done timely. The rate compensates the City of Greenfield for Joanne's



> time. President West clarified that the ICC is compensating Greenfield for her time not working on city business. Mayor Neitzke said it is not an additional stipend being added on to her paycheck.

Discussion took place on the rate. Members agreed on a 25% increase of \$78.00. The question was called by Mayor Hohenfeldt.

It was moved by President Ruesch, seconded by Mayor St. Marie-Carls, to increase the reimbursement to the City of Greenfield 25% to \$78.00 for monthly ICC secretarial/ administrative services. The motion carried unanimously, with Mayor Neitzke abstaining.

Mayor Olson thought the \$78 was fine, but in fairness to the taxpayers in each municipality whose Mayor or Village President happens to be responsible for the minutes, we should get the per hour cost for the individual who is doing the minutes and pay for that per hour cost. He thinks the ICC is getting a bargain for \$78.00 a month. Mayor Neitzke said because this is the Intergovernmental Cooperation Council and in the spirit of cooperation between the communities, Greenfield feels honored to provide this service and to be reimbursed a stipend to cover the cost.

V. Review the contracts of shared services between Milwaukee County and the municipalities (recurring item) None pending.

# VI. Discussion and decision regarding pending legislation which may have an impact on the ICC communities (recurring item)

Mayor Barrett spoke about the 'zombie property' legislation, which has not yet been signed by Governor Walker. Several years ago, a compromise was reached on a bipartisan bill with bankers and community groups on property that has been foreclosed and abandoned. The financial institution brings the foreclosure action against the owner. Most of the time that is settled by a default judgement. That is not the end of the story, because the property title does not legally change hands until after the Sheriff's sale. The reality we face is once you get that notice of foreclosure, or once that default judgement is filed against you, the homeowner



> thinks the home is gone and moves out. The homeowner doesn't realize they are still responsible for keeping up the property. The City comes in, does some cleanup, and bills them. The financial institution can decide that it doesn't want to sell or go through the Sheriff's sale. Legislation that was passed several years ago stated as soon as 5 weeks is a reasonable effort to sell the property.

> An out-of-state financial institution didn't like this and came to the Legislature. They asked for up to a year afterwards to make a decision on what to do with the property. 'After a year' means the year after they have already filed the foreclosure action, and after they have obtained the default judgement. If they decide at the end of the year that they don't want the property, it is still a zombie property. The City of Milwaukee has 341 properties that are in this situation. Almost inevitably, the City has to start their tax foreclosure process against this property. That will take a number of months. Again, the original homeowner is long gone. This new legislation takes that period from 5 weeks to a year. It takes away the ability of the homeowner, if they do know that it is abandoned, to ask to have the property sold more quickly.

Mayor Barrett asked for willing members to contact the Governor's office to veto this legislation. The true losers are local property taxpayers, as they are the ones who will have to bear the cost.

Mayor Hohenfeldt agreed with Mayor Barrett. Cudahy has had some of these properties and calls them squatters. Even under police powers, you cannot take the squatters out of that property. This can cause an extensive drain within the Department of Neighborhood Services and the Police Department in dealing with these properties. This situation can happen in any community.

President West asked if vote counting has been done to see if the Governor's veto would be overridden. Mayor Barrett feels confident they would win, as an override would fail. President West said it makes sense for the members of this group to contact the Governor.

Mayor Devine asked that a letter be sent from the ICC to the Governor asking that he veto this legislation. Mayor Neitzke asked for a consensus and said the letter could be sent tomorrow. Ms. Gonda will forward a letter to Mayor Neitzke



regarding Assembly Bill 720. Mayor Neitzke will sign the letter on behalf of the ICC.

Mayor Hohenfeldt asked if it would be appropriate for the ICC to make a motion asking for the Governor's support to veto the legislation. Mayor Kennedy said it is appropriate, as this matter is being discussed under agenda item VI.

It was moved by Mayor Hohenfeldt, seconded by Mayor Kennedy, to send a letter from the ICC to Governor Walker requesting he veto Assembly Bill 720 relating to foreclosed and abandoned properties. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Brooks suggested in the future that a letter signed individually by 19 people would be more effective. Electronic signatures could be obtained. Mayor Neitzke asked if Mr. Peterson could collect the electronic signatures for purposes of resolution.

#### VII. Updates from the members of the ICC regarding subjects listed below:

1. MADACC (President Hayward). Karen Sparapani reminded members about the full Board meeting to be held at 1PM on April 19<sup>th</sup> at MADACC. Officer elections will take place, and there is an opening on the Operations Committee. She stressed the importance of a representative from each community to attend this meeting. The construction project is going well, with the last 3 kennels and treatment area expected to be done in July. She spoke about receiving 370 new piranda animal beds worth \$15,000 donated for these kennels. They are still working on financing through the County and have had positive feedback from County Board members. President Hayward invited everyone to tour the updated facility.

Ms. Sparapani spoke about upcoming legislation regarding breed banning, which has been successful in other states. She will not be a part of this initiative, but the Wisconsin Humane Society will. She will be happy to help anyone write a better version of their vicious/dangerous/ prohibited dog ordinances in preparation of the proposed legislation passing.



- 2. EMS (President Brunner, Mayor Hohenfeldt). No report.
- **3. Lakefront Development Commission** (President Krueger, Mayor Scaffidi). There has been no report for 18 months. President Krueger said items of the lakefront have been reviewed, and none of them fall within the realm of the Lakefront Development Commission charter. Members will get notice when there are items to review.
- 4. Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) No report.
- **5. Land Information Council** (formerly MCAMLIS) (Doug Seymour) No report.
- 6. County Emergency Management & Communications (Ms. Westrich) Ms. Westrich, County OEM Director, gave an update on the Public Policy study, which should be published in May. It will be presented to the ICC in June. Goals of the study are to enhance emergency response, leverage acquisition of technology, and reduce operational costs. Key findings in the report include consolidation within the County. Wauwatosa volunteered to be a case study on consolidation with County OEM in a PSAP. That in no way indicates they are looking to do that, and the draft report states that very clearly. Governance to manage initiatives is important.

The Medical College of Wisconsin is leading conceptual talks on a Forensic Science Center. Another meeting will take place tomorrow, with about 65 attendees. A Forensic Science Center would benefit the OEM and all things public safety.

Last month, Ms. Westrich was able to negotiate a zero cost with Motorola for 10 years for annual software system upgrades to the radio system. This resulted in a municipal cost savings of \$715,000.

The EMS Communications Center will consolidate with the 9-1-1 Dispatch Center on June 1<sup>st</sup>. The OASIS radio project is on track. They will do coverage testing in May and start switching everyone over to digital throughout the summer.

April 1<sup>st</sup> was the implementation date for the No Diversion Policy. This has been pretty seamless, and hospitals were well prepared.



# 7. Legislative – No report.

#### 8. Roundtable Discussion

Mayor Kennedy said Glendale will hold a public hearing tonight regarding allowing chickens in the City.

Mayor Brooks said tomorrow night is the Oak Creek Watershed Restoration site kick-off meeting. It starts a 2-year process of having a cleaner, more vibrant watershed. South Milwaukee is about to approve their updated comprehensive first-ever downtown plan in early May.

Mayor Devine said the food scavenger hunt Dine-in-Dash event will be held on May 21<sup>st</sup>.

Mayor St. Marie-Carls congratulated everyone who was re-elected.

President Ruesch said the Hales Corners Women's Club will be celebrating their 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary in early May. Membership has been stable over the years, and significant contributions to the Village have been made.

Mayor Neitzke spoke about the annual South 27<sup>th</sup> Street BID (Business Improvement District) meeting. Milwaukee and Greenfield were the first joint BID structure in the state to work cooperatively together to improve South 27 Street. Greenfield entered into an intergovernmental agreement with the Greenfield and Whitnall School Districts on a fiber optic project, where all of the buildings will be connected by fiber. This resulted in a better product, with a cost savings to all. A new amphitheater is under construction in Konkel Park. \$150 million in new construction is going in the ground during the next 3-4 months. Additional economic activity in the City in an amount close to that is expected within the next 2 years.

Mayor Olson said Franklin is working through the Ballpark Commons project. A public hearing was held on zoning issues, which attracted about 350 people. Financials are expected soon, and the County Executive's office is working with them.



Mayor Hohenfeldt spoke and asked if anyone has had a situation where a developer built a condo building and then came back 10 years later looking for City money in the amount of \$2 million to fix the building and a roof. The developer then asked if any state or federal programs were available.

President Hayward announced that Sendik's and Applebee's are coming to Miller Parkway in West Milwaukee. The Village clean-up will be held on April 23<sup>rd</sup>.

County Executive Abele congratulated everyone who was re-elected.

President Ruesch asked Mayor Barrett if panhandling is an increasing problem on South 27<sup>th</sup> Street. Mayor Barrett said Ald. Witkowski got a panhandling ordinance passed at the city level. That is an issue near the expressway ramps downtown. Mayor Neitzke said Greenfield doesn't have a huge problem. Panhandling on 27<sup>th</sup> & Layton seems to be an organized canvassing effort, where people are dropped off by vans and have certain corners. Police reports for 27<sup>th</sup> Street show that it is a low crime area. Mayor Barrett said Milwaukee's Gateway business district crime numbers for South 27<sup>th</sup> Street are very good.

# VIII. Items for Future Meetings

Lead water issues.

# IX. Schedule Future Meeting

Mayor Neitzke said the May 9th meeting will be held in West Milwaukee.

#### X. Adjournment

It was moved by President Krueger, seconded by President West, to adjourn the ICC meeting of April 11, 2016 at 2:20 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by Mayor Neitzke

\*Minutes are not official until formally approved by the ICC at the next scheduled meeting.

Bayside - Brown Deer – Cudahy - Fox Point – Franklin – Glendale - Greendale Greenfield - Hales Corners – Milwaukee - Milwaukee County - Oak Creek - River Hills - St. Francis Shorewood - South Milwaukee – Wauwatosa - West Allis - West Milwaukee - Whitefish Bay