



Greenfield Mayor Michael Neitzke, Chair & Secretary, 7325 West Forest Home Avenue, Greenfield, WI 53220; (414) 329-5208  
West Allis Mayor Dan Devine, Vice-Chair, 7525 West Greenfield Avenue, West Allis, WI 53214; (414) 302-8290  
Glendale Mayor Bryan Kennedy, Treasurer, 5909 N. Milwaukee River Parkway, Glendale, WI 53209; (414) 228-1700

**ICC Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday, October 8, 2018; 1:17 p.m.**  
West Allis City Hall  
Art Gallery  
7525 W. Greenfield Ave  
West Allis, WI 53214

**Members Present:**

Andy Pederson, Village of Bayside  
Carl Krueger, Village of Brown Deer  
John Hohenfeldt, City of Cudahy  
Scott Botcher, Village of Fox Point  
Steve Olson, City of Franklin  
Bryan Kennedy, City of Glendale  
Todd Michaels, Village of Greendale  
Michael Neitzke, City of Greenfield  
Dan Besson, Village of Hales Corners  
Mayor Barrett, City of Milwaukee  
Chris Abele, Milwaukee County  
Daniel Bukiewicz, City of Oak Creek  
Tammy LaBorde, Village of River Hills  
Rebecca Ewald, Village of Shorewood  
Erik Brooks, City of South Milwaukee  
Kathy Ehley, City of Wauwatosa  
Dan Devine, City of West Allis  
John Stalewski, Village of West Milwaukee  
Julie Siegel, Village of Whitefish Bay

**Excused:**

Sam Dickman, Village of Bayside  
Jim Birmingham, Village of Greendale  
J. Stephen Anderson, Village of River Hills  
Ken Tutaj, City of St. Francis  
Allison Rozek, Village of Shorewood

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**Guests Present:** (per sign-in sheet)

Rick Oliva, MCLEEA  
Rob Henken, Wisconsin Policy Forum  
Cheryl Berdan, State of WI  
Adam Schlicht, Port of Milwaukee  
Scott Jansen, Employ Milwaukee  
David DeAngelis, Village of Elm Grove  
Kimberly Montgomery, City of Milwaukee  
Matt McGovern, Milwaukee County  
Christine Westrich, Milwaukee County OEM

Mayor Neitzke called the Intergovernmental Cooperation Council of Milwaukee County (ICC) meeting to order at 1:17 p.m. A quorum was present.

**I. Welcome to West Allis**  
Mayor Devine welcomed the members to West Allis.

**II. Approval of the September 10, 2018 minutes**

It was moved by Mayor Barrett seconded by Mayor Hohenfeldt to approve the minutes.

The motion carried unanimously.

**III. Presentation on the County's parks and cultural infrastructure needs (Rob Henken)**

Mr. Henken presented a report called "Delay of Game" and the report was distributed. The purpose of the report was attempting to answer the question of "are our region's largest local governments effectively addressing the infrastructure needs". To date, local transportation, water and sewer, buildings, parks and culture have been looked at. The 5<sup>th</sup> report will provide a summary and explore policy options and solutions. Mr. Henken explained in detail the distributed report on Milwaukee County's parks, recreational facilities and cultural institutions.

County Executive Abele stated this would be about the worst in the seven years he has been in office. In the seven years, the cumulative gaps that had to be cut is

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INTERGOVERNMENTAL  
COOPERATION COUNCIL

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\$245 million. Functionally now, he is working with approximately 1/4 billion dollars less now than seven years ago. They have pulled most levers they can. MPM, Bango, cannot be given capital for their project. The Domes, the same thing has been said to be given to a non-profit. The biggest issue that they will have is while they are getting the cut, in 2009 to 2015 Milwaukee County sent to the State about \$400 million a year more. They are getting significantly less back from the State. Milwaukee County has been parsing off as fast as they can. They used to have 800 people and are down to 200. There is not a way to ensure return from the State when new jobs are created and state income tax is paid.

Mayor Ehley stated that there is an agenda item for tonight's plan commission the public is going to ask to create more county parks and if she can share this information with them. County Executive Abele stated the information should be shared. Mr. Henken stated that one option is to look at the State of Wisconsin for more money. He stated there are mechanisms in place to go to voters and have them decide whether they want to have temporary sales taxes in place to pay for major projects. Another option would be to look to the private sector, such as what extent could the private sector offer more for museums and cultural attractions which would free up more dollars for basic fundamental parks needs. Another adjunct in terms of looking to the private sector is to what extent could public/private partnership play in rebuilding and replacing some of these facilities. One of the drawbacks is you need to seize substantial control over the operations of that facility to the private sector. The third option is to do without some of these assets. One point is you may not need or cannot afford all the cultural amenities. The second point is through greater consolidation services. One benefit through either public safety dispatch or fire and rescue consolidation, one of the number one benefits is the opportunity to save substantially on equipment costs.

Mayor Neitzke stated the goal is to preserve and improve the county parks and everything should flow backwards from that. Or is the goal to preserve the parks under existing controls and governance and if that is the goal, then that is different. There may be a fourth or fifth way to solve this problem. Basically if things continue as is in 10 years, there would be no levy for the parks. What if there was a park board with a different governance structure and different costs that went in to it, took the existing levy, froze it at that amount and put it in to that park board. Then put every revenue stream that was generated by the parks and kept it within the parks system as opposed to the parking meters which may offset

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levy. Then the liabilities associated with the pension and retirees were taken along to gradually decrease that liability. This would create a lower cost model and functions. County Executive Abele stated the problem is that unless you have a new revenue source, things continue to get more expensive and they look at how to do more for less every day. Mayor Neitzke stated this could be a workable idea since the state is not providing more money; the private sector is not providing more money for cultural assets; consolidating with other entities when they have a hard enough time paying for their own.

Mayor Barrett asked if other counties have these problems. County Executive Abele stated they do all have the same issue of what is being sent to the state is going up and what is coming back is flat or in some cases down. The state budget just the general fund is what they have control over. They have on average 3.2% over the past 10 years which is way ahead of inflation. Mayor Neitzke stated that the goal is to preserve and improve the parks before they completely collapse; however, next year there will be probably no money for capital, what are we going to do. Mr. Henken stated that without question there are counties with the similar problem. The reason Milwaukee County's problems are so much more severe is first of all Milwaukee County has its own pension system, right now more than \$100 million of the County's \$275 million levy is going to the employer contribution; second of all, this County does so much more on discretionary basis than other counties. Milwaukee County is trying to run a transit system that is using \$24 million of levy and vehicle registration revenue in 2019. The cultural assets on the operating side are \$9 or \$10 million per year. The need to subsidize the mandated services with levy has crowded out the discretionary services. The tension between parks and transit is a pretty unique tension in Milwaukee County and a tension for decades.

Mayor Neitzke stated that if those two things are discretionary, why not take the reduced levy that they are already spending on them and segregate them and work on rebuilding them elsewhere outside of county government. It will not solve the issues of state funding, but both of these two issues will not be solved under the county umbrella. Mayor Barrett stated to confirm that Mayor Neitzke's argument is to have a separate parks district. Mayor Neitzke stated yes and the thought would be to freeze what the levy commitment is right now to the parks and take the liabilities along with it and then the same with transit. Mayor Barrett stated that in this version the new parks district is created and it works fine. The problem is that in order for it to work fine, we have to stick County Executive

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Abele with this pension liability or the other stuff that isn't going to make this version work. In the private sector when someone buys a company out of bankruptcy and the costs are \$10 and they are selling the items for \$5, they figure out a way to sell the items under \$5 because if they don't, they are not going to be in business. Someone is going to have to take the loss, assets have to be transferred and you come up with a number, but someone has to be left holding the bag. Mayor Neitzke stated that the pension liability from the former parks employees would flow to the new district and then it could be addressed from the revenue streams that would likely be increased because of the district. County Executive Abele asked where the revenue is coming from. Mayor Brooks stated he would like the ICC to be a driving force in figuring this out as we all have a vested interest in parks and it is an easy case to make of why this should be important to all of them and why they should be the ones to come up with a joint solution that they can lock arms around and support collectively. It would be a very good use of this groups' energy and power and resources and time. Mayor Barrett asked if this could be added for a future agenda and move on. It was stated that none of them there individually or collectively have the resource to have someone look at creative ideas, create a computer-drive scenario, run the numbers and see what works and what doesn't work. They will have to partner with someone who has that capability to actually run those numbers to see what scenarios and variables are going to be workable. Otherwise they are going to just keep having the same discussion they had last time. Mr. Henken stated that they did that analysis eight years ago in 2010, they identified what are the legacy costs associated with parks employees, what would happen if they created a separate district, laid out pros/cons, there is something to get you started and Mr. Henken can provide the link to it. Mayor Neitzke suggested for Mayor Hohenfeldt to have an item on the next agenda, for the Public Policy Forum to put together the numbers that they put together in 2010, and an analysis of this year's budget to show what kind of levy support there is, what dollars are there as though it was an enterprise fund.

#### **IV. Introduction and update from new Director of Port Milwaukee (Adam Schlicht)**

Mr. Adam Schlicht introduced himself as the new Director of Port Milwaukee, appointed by Mayor Barrett and started on August 6<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Schlicht graduated from Oak Creek High School, went to Madison, lived in Washington DC and Cleveland, Ohio as a federal employee working on great lake shipping issues.

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This was a great opportunity after 15 years to come back to Milwaukee. Mr. Schlicht distributed several handouts, the presentation that he is providing today and the other is the 2017 annual report. Also distributed is a graphic of the great lakes and ports that are similar to the Port of Milwaukee in how they do our activities. The Port of Milwaukee is a landlord port which means on behalf of the City of Milwaukee and its residents there are over 470 acres of waterfront property on Lake Michigan and it is parceled out to over 20 different tenants. Those tenants are able to use the services that are offered at the Port, including 14 miles of rail, 5 miles of doc wall and connections to both the UP and CP lines. This Port is the northern most inland port in the United States offering connectivity to both the east coast and the gulf. Mr. Schlicht explained the piers are unique in the Port of Milwaukee compared to other Greatlakes Ports. There are 15 deep draft docks piers, which is maximum use on the Greatlakes. The Foreign Trade Zone (FTZ) is a U.S. Department of Commerce that the Port of Milwaukee administers within the region. This allows for area manufacturers to have temporary relief from duties, tariffs or other international trade restrictions. Once a company is granted FTZ status, they could bring in goods from destinations worldwide and those commodities are turned in to a product within the FTZ if their supply chain is whole and takes place within that FTZ space, they could export from the Port of Milwaukee or elsewhere free of duty. Mayor Barrett asked how companies can be helped avoid that tariff. Mr. Schlicht stated the Port can do a good job with the ICC's partnership to make sure that area companies know the challenge with FTZ status is the US Department of Commerce and the US Customs and Border Patrol put a number of operational requirements on the manufacturer. If you are going to assume a customs free zone in your manufacturing process, then the US government will require your process to include specific stipulations. The number one thing that can be done is to expand use. This is not a major revenue source for the Port through the administration of the FTZ program. The Port only collects \$40,000 that is returned to the City each year.

Mr. Schlicht stated there was a new study that was released called the economic impact of Port Milwaukee, which is available on their website. This study looked at the overall importance of the Port, not just the amount of money returned to the City each year. Generally each year, there is \$750,000 and \$1.2 million is returned to the City of Milwaukee general fund. In addition to that general fund, the Port overall trade and business supports \$100 million in business revenue.

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Mr. Schlicht showed a slide on all the tenants that the Port has. Currently Summerfest, Federal Marine Terminals, Kinder Morgan are a few of the tenants. The Port of Milwaukee is the only Port that has connection to the Mississippi River. There is a long standing relationship with the US Coast Guard that allows tugs and barges that may have come from the Port of Houston, Port of New Orleans. Some of the Port commodities are European steel, breakbulk, brewery tanks, mining equipment, agribusiness, salt and cement and further explanation was provided on each commodity.

The Port of Milwaukee takes very seriously its ability to give back to the citizens of Milwaukee and the general fund each year. The last time the Port was not operating in an efficient way and not able to give back to the City was during the early 2000 rounds of tariffs under the Bush administration. The reason they are having a typical 2018 from Mr. Schlicht's view is because much of these trade deals were signed in 2016 and 2017. The nervousness for what the Port's trade season is going to look like is 2019. Mr. Schlicht will be working with their customers and tenants to make sure that even if tariffs begin to significantly affect world trade markets that the Port stays robust international.

The Great Lakes Governors & Premiers which is an organization and based in Chicago, represents the regulatory lobbying and other interests of all the executives in the Great Lake states as well as Ontario and Quebec, invited the Port of Milwaukee and only one other Port in the Great Lakes region to join them at an international trade mission. As part of that meeting, Mr. Schlicht will be meeting with at least 20 different customers to remind them of the work they have done and thank them for their business at the Port. Another highlight, through the Governors, the Port of Milwaukee is negotiating an MOU with the Port of Duisburg in Germany. This would be mostly about information sharing, ways the Ports can collaborate. Mr. Schlicht explained the 2019 goals as outlined on the slide.

**V. Update regarding improving communication, outreach and advocacy of ICC positions and issues including, but not limited to, retention of outside vendor(s) to assist with same (recurring item)**

Mayor Ehley stated she recommends they continue to work closely with the League as they have been doing, especially as the League continues to get stronger in their ability to bring a coalition to the state so they are consistent in

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our messaging. Mayor Ehley wanted to remind everyone that the League's annual meeting is October 24-26.

**VI. Review the contracts of shared services between Milwaukee County and the municipalities (recurring item)**

None.

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

None.

**VIII. Updates from the members of the ICC regarding subjects listed below:**

**1. MADACC**

Mayor Hohenfeldt stated the full board meeting on October 16<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm which is to approve the annual budget. Please make sure a representative from your community is there. Congratulations to Karen, she passed her Humane Officer test to be WI Certified Humane Officer.

**2. EMS (Mayor Hohenfeldt, Mayor Olson).**

Mayor Hohenfeldt stated last week there was an EMS council meeting. One of the major things discussed was the OEM budget and how it relates to the paramedic program and the EMS council recommended that the county board pass the budget that was drafted by the OEM Manager and Director Westrich and presented to County Executive. They talked in short about a lot of the information that is being provided with statistics regarding patients in the paramedic program. Lots of data has been assembled through June 30<sup>th</sup> of this year. The hospitals are doing well with treating patients; the paramedics are doing a great job. The system is working extremely well; the system is very data driven and they look at the results in getting people in quicker when the paramedics take them in, getting them up to an operating table, etc and the results are showing what the paramedics and system is doing is still working extremely well. They talked about the Pulsara mobile app, this is a project that had been worked on with paramedics and hospitals and it appears that is not going to be

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working out. That project is going to be ending and something different is going to be looked at.

**3. Lakefront Development Commission** (President Krueger, Mayor Bukiewicz).

No report.

**4. Community Development Block Grant** (Ms. Toliver)

Ms. Toliver stated they received the 2018 funding a few weeks ago; agreements are being sent for signature. Notes from Washington DC indicate that the 2019 funding is to be comparable to 2018.

**5. Land Information Council** (Doug Seymour)

No report.

**6. County Emergency Management & Communications** (Director Westrich)

Director Westrich provided a demonstration regarding online information, specifically the County's website. Her department is 4800 in public safety. The OEM website has different navigation tools to help assist using their website. The link to the website is:

<https://county.milwaukee.gov/EN/Office-of-Emergency-Management>.

**7. Metro Go/Regional Transit Leadership Council** (Kerry Thomas/Mayor Ehley)

Mayor Ehley stated there is a meeting in a few weeks. They have been going through the hiring process for a new director who will work off the next steps from the March meeting. Mayor Ehley will report of this next meeting.

**8. Heroin Task Force** (Mayor Bukiewicz)

Mayor Bukiewicz stated the county concluded their plan meetings. From there, they are going to compile it and come to ICC to present. One interesting item out of Oak Creek, there was a group of Juniors from the High School which formed a DASA – Dance Against Drug Abuse, it is a 501© and they are non-profit and they are holding dances and they are going to donate it to things that fight addiction.

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## **9. Employ Milwaukee (City of Milwaukee)**

Mr. Jansen stated the bylaws of the ICC, Mayor Barrett served as interim CEO. There is a tremendous amount of workforce activity going on in southeastern Wisconsin. Three major regional strategies that are hiring right now. The first one is called "The higher Ed Resource Alliance" and the higher eds in the region have come together building programming connecting to the K12 school systems, shortening times to degrees, more about credential obtainment. The second is this region is a technology hub, this is playing out on a national basis. The second annual tech summit takes place on October 31<sup>st</sup>, Northwestern Mutual and Aurora are the two major corporate contributors putting this together. The third is the regional workforce alliance has used manpower group, there is going to be a workforce analysis tool/portal that is available to the region and state that they can do flow modeling in terms of identifying by skillsets, occupations, what type of needs are going to be required going forward, what should be fueled in terms of talent attraction around the country. If the ICC would like more information Mr. Jansen can provide it; these can be split over three meetings.

Mayor Barrett asked where they are at in terms of board positions. Mr. Jansen stated there are four open board positions, three will be filled through other types of agencies. If there are any recommendations, they can be forwarded through to Mayor Barrett. There are also non-board positions on the committees. There are eight openings for the non-board positions.

## **10. Legislative.**

October 5, 2018

Dear Governor Walker and Superintendent Evers:

We, the Mayors and Village Presidents of the cities and villages of Milwaukee County, ask you to commit to closing the Dark Store and Walgreens Loopholes as a part of the next state budget. This is the only way to avoid having even more of the property tax burden shifted from commercial and manufacturing properties to homeowners and small businesses.

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For the last ten years growing numbers of commercial and manufacturing properties have been using property tax avoidance strategies known as the Dark Store and Walgreens loopholes to push their fair share of paying for the cost of critical local services onto homeowners and small businesses.

Local governments across the state have fought to defend their assessments against the Dark Store and Walgreens Loopholes strategies, but the fight is expensive. For example, the City of Wauwatosa expects to spend more money defending against these tax avoidance efforts than it will receive in state shared revenue. This is a waste of public resources.

Like all cities and villages statewide, we are in the midst of preparing our 2019 municipal budgets and are deeply focused on the need to fairly share the cost of municipal services among all property owners. We know you both can agree that homeowners should not and cannot bear more of the tax burden than they already do, which is nearly 70% of the total state levy.

Well drafted legislation closing the Dark Store and Walgreens Loopholes already exists. That legislation has broad bipartisan support and would pass both houses of the legislature easily if put to a vote. We need your leadership to make that vote happen. Please include both of the Dark Store and Walgreens Loophole bills in your biennial state budget. Thank you for considering our request.

## **11. Roundtable Discussion**

Mayor Bukiewicz stated they started their budget, should be status quo, had some growth, looking to add some positions with firefighters, police, library. The development remains strong, they have a fall fest, hay rides, cure the preserve, pumpkin bowling on October 20<sup>th</sup>.

Mayor Devine stated no matter what way they are facing, you will see purple ribbons on the trees and and railings. The West Allis Women's Club puts these out every year for Domestic Violence Awareness month and they have been doing this for years.

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Mayor Olson stated that it is the Milkmen for the minor league unaffiliated baseball team in Franklin and the stadium is now being called Routine Field. The budget was submitted, 1.72% increase in the levy and they are about to do tiff 6 which is a business park who already has tenants.

Mayor Kennedy stated they are about to demolish the historic city hall and build a brand new city hall. The cost of maintenance was astronomical, \$12 million to renovate, but \$8 million to build. It will be leak certified and solar ready, they have been applying for grants, the usage will be cut in half.

Mr. Botcher stated Fox Point looks forward to welcoming everybody on November 12<sup>th</sup>.

#### **IX. Items for Future Meetings**

Employ Milwaukee, Mr. Jansen to arrange one of the meetings.

Creation of the committee to start addressing the parks issue.

#### **X. Schedule Future Meeting**

The November 12, 2018 ICC meeting will be held in the Village of Fox Point.

#### **XI. Adjournment**

It was moved by Mayor Olson, seconded by Mayor Kennedy, to adjourn the ICC meeting of October 8, 2018 at 3:02 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.*

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