

CITY OF BRIDGEPORT
MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE

APRIL 25, 2011

6:00 P.M.

ATTENDANCE: Council members: Vizzo-Paniccia; Co-chair, M. Ayala,
Brannelly, Taylor-Moye, *Walsh
Council President: T. McCarthy

*= *arrived late*

OTHER(s): City Attorney Mark Anastasi
A. Kelly-Lenz, Tax Collector

Co-chair Vizzo-Paniccia called the meeting to order at 6:13 pm.

Approval of Committee Minutes of March 28, 2011

** **COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNELLY MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES**
** **COUNCIL MEMBER TAYLOR-MOYE SECONDED**
** **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Co-chair Vizzo-Pannica announced that the agenda would be taken out of order as follows

130-09 Proposed Workers' Compensation Full and Final Stipulation with Michael Bauco

Co-chair Vizzo-Paniccia stated that the city attorney requested this item be tabled.

** **COUNCIL MEMBER McCARTHY MOVED TO TABLE**
** **COUNCIL MEMBER M. AYALA SECONDED**

Council member Taylor-Moye questioned why there have been so many requests to table the item. Attorney Anastasi stated that the representing attorney for the item was working on a trial and he was unable to attend the meeting tonight. He updated that the matter had been presented once or twice before by him; however, the committee wasn't comfortable moving forward without hearing from the representing attorney.

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

57-10 State Reimbursement of Low and Moderate Income Housing Tax

Ms. Lenz stated that the entity had to apply at the state level, where certain criteria applied. There are seven properties and once the state approves it, they will receive reimbursement, but it requires committee approval first. The approximate amount for the actual taxes is \$563k in total and the state reimburses for the amount requested. There are seven locations that are separated into different units and the unit(s) has to qualify for the reimbursement.

Council member Brannelly asked what will happen after the forty years runs out and who will be responsible for the taxes at that time. Ms. Lenz said when that happens; each property will be responsible for the taxes.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNELLY MOVED TO APPROVE**
**** COUNCIL MEMBER McCARTHY SECONDED**
**** MOTION PASSED WITH FOUR VOTES IN FAVOR AND ONE ABSTENTION**
(COUNCIL MEMBER M. AYALA)

****It was noted that Council member Ayala will also abstain from the full city council vote.***

***Consent calendar**

63-10 Resolution by the Bridgeport City Council Supporting the Collective Bargaining rights of Workers in the State of Wisconsin

Council member McCarthy gave the committee an update regarding this item. He said that something was going around the United States to democratic leaning cities and towns to extend their support to the collective bargaining issue in Wisconsin. The idea is to show support, but no real power from the city council is associated. He expressed that he is in support of the item and the Fairfield County Labor Council requested that they put the item on their agenda. He clarified that the matter pertained to standing in solidarity to support the attack on their wages and benefits from a bargaining perspective. He explained that the key to the matter is that Wisconsin's ability is being taken away to bargain for their wages and benefits. He further stated that hundreds of municipalities in the U.S. have voted to support the cause.

Co-chair Vizzo-Paniccia asked if there was any conflict with Bridgeport's labor relations. Council member McCarthy replied that the matter is about whether the men and women have the right to sit down with management and negotiate their benefits.

City Attorney Anastasi clarified that the matter pertained to a policy issue only and it doesn't requiring looking into the legality as far as the Bridgeport City Council is concerned – *the committee members took a few minutes to read the information that was submitted.*

Co-chair Vizzo-Paniccia asked Council member McCarthy if he could send a copy of the letter or e-mail indicating that the other unions support the issue. Council member McCarthy said all that he received was a brief e-mail that read “*Tom, here it is*”.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER McCARTHY MOVED TO APPROVE
** COUNCIL MEMBER TAYLOR-MOYE SECONDED
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY
*Consent calendar**

ADJOURNMENT

**** COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNELLY MOVED TO ADJOURN
** COUNCIL MEMBER TAYLOR-MOYE SECONDED
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Graham
Telesco Secretarial Services