



**LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES
JANUARY 27, 2009**

Honorable Mayor and Common Council
City of West Allis, Wisconsin

The Legislative Committee met on Tuesday, January 27, 2009, to discuss proposed bills pending before the Wisconsin Legislature.

PRESENT: Mayor Dan Devine
Ald. Richard Narlock
Paul Ziehler, City Administrative Officer, Clerk/Treasurer
Scott Post, City Attorney

EXCUSED: Gary Schmid, Manager of Finance

LEAGUE: 2-4

1. REVIEW OF NEW LEGISLATION

SB1 INCREASING MINIMUM WAGE; ALLOWING MUNICIPALITIES TO ADOPT LIVING WAGE ORDINANCES

No position.

SB3 HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE OF TREATMENT FOR AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS

OPPOSE, because this bill would be a State mandate that takes away the City's ability to make its own local decision on this matter.

AB1 ESTABLISHES A 2% LOCAL PURCHASING GOAL FOR MUNICIPALITIES

No position.

SB2 ALLOWS UNIONS TO FILE WAGE CLAIMS ON BEHALF OF THEIR MEMBERS

Refer to Scott Post and Audrey Key.

1. **REVIEW OF NEW LEGISLATION Cont'd.**

SB11 MAKING VETERANS DAY A PAID HOLIDAY FOR VETERANS

OPPOSE, because this bill would be a State mandate that takes away the City's ability to make its own local decision on this matter.

2. **REVIEW OF REFERRED LEGISLATION**


None.

3. **OTHER**

As a follow up to the Legislative Committee's January 13, 2009 meeting, the Committee reviewed a comprehensive list of legislative ideas suggested by all departments. The Committee arrived at a consensus as to which legislative proposals would be submitted to our three area State Legislators (Sen. Sullivan, Rep. Staskunas, and Rep. Vukmir) for their introduction as new bills in the State Legislature on our behalf. In no order of priority, the consensus list as determined by the Legislative Committee was as follows:

1. Legislation that would make some changes to liquor/tavern licenses including:
 - Allowing for a conditional use license for Class A, Class B, and Class C providing for that specified use of the property, but if the property use changes in the future, the conditional use license would end.
 - Increasing the allowed amount of license fees for Class A, Class B, and Class C to significantly higher amounts to reflect actual costs of providing municipal services (e.g., Police).
 - Creating a new class of license for a combination license for caterers that would specify the conditions under which it would apply.
2. Legislation that would make some changes to State library provisions including:
 - Authorizing the establishment of regional/metropolitan or countywide library districts.
 - Providing for appointments to federated library boards to be made by intergovernmental cooperation organizations where they exist.
 - Authorizing libraries to establish a fee for non-residents within a system service area.

3. Legislation that would deal with municipal liability and legal issues including:
 - Defining mutual aid liability and workers compensation to make each party responsible for the actions of their own agenda.
 - Placing limitations on discovery for contested municipal employee relations claims.
 - Providing for an exemption from liability for community service for a Municipal Court.
4. Legislation that would allow special assessments to be paid under either or both a level payment or a level principal basis.
5. Legislation that would amend the mediation/arbitration laws including:
 - Reducing the number of mandatory subjects of bargaining.
 - Requiring that arbitrators give primary weight to local economic conditions, funding, and spending restrictions and taxing limitations.
6. Legislation that would amend unemployment compensation laws to exempt seasonably and limited time scheduled employees.
7. Legislation providing for a fair and reasonable definition of what a "benevolent" association is for tax-exempt purposes.



Dan Devine, Mayor