

**LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 13, 2005**

Honorable Mayor and Common Council
City of West Allis, Wisconsin

The Legislative Committee met on Tuesday, September 13, 2005, to discuss proposed bills pending before the Wisconsin Legislature.

PRESENT: Mayor Jeannette Bell
Paul Ziehler, City Administrative Officer, City Clerk/Treasurer
Scott Post, City Attorney

EXCUSED: Jim Sengstock, Common Council President
Gary Schmid, Manager of Finance

LEAGUE: 30-31

1. REVIEW OF NEW LEGISLATION

**AB601 REVOKING, MODIFYING OR IMPOSING CONDITIONS ON
CERTAIN APPROVALS**

Refer to Scott Post.

**AB620 REQUIRING NOTICE TO PERSONS AFFECTED BY ZONING
ACTIONS**

OPPOSE, because the bill is not needed in that the City already notifies those affected of the proposed change and, further, that the bill would create unnecessary paperwork.

AB645 REPEALING SMART GROWTH

Refer to John Stibal.

**SB296/
AB627 ELECTRONIC VOTING SYSTEM STANDARDS**

Refer to Paul Ziehler.

**AB619 RETAIL SALES OF WINE BY THE BOTTLE IN RESTAURANTS
FOR CONSUMPTION ON AND OFF THE PREMISES**

Refer to Scott Post.

2. REVIEW OF REFERRED LEGISLATION

- AB558/
SB283** **LIMITING THE REASONS FOR WHICH A MUNICIPALITY MAY
WITHHOLD A PERMIT**
OPPOSE, because the bill interferes with local control.
- SB258** **PUBLIC LIBRARY LOANING TO MINORS OF “R” RATED MOVIES**
OPPOSE, because the bill is unnecessary in that local libraries are already able to develop such policies as they locally determine to be what they want; further, the bill creates some constitutional law issues that could potentially cause significant legal costs.
- AB561** **CARRYING OF CONCEALED WEAPONS BY OUT-OF-STATE AND
RETIRED LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS**
OPPOSE, because the bill requires additional training which would be very time consuming and costly; further, the bill would open up the City to potential large liability and legal costs for some retired officers’ actions.
- AB573** **NARROWING OF BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION TAX EXEMPTION**
FAVOR, because the bill would narrow the scope of eligibility for benevolent associations’ tax exemptions related to residential housing, thus limiting the further loss of tax base to the City.
- AB580** **EXPANDING THE PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION FOR PROPERTY
HELD IN TRUST FOR THE PUBLIC INTERESTS**
OPPOSE, because the bill would expand the tax exemptions of certain property, thus reducing the City’s tax base.
- AB590/
SB267** **PAYMENT OF ANNUITIES UNDER THE WIS. RETIREMENT SYSTEM**
OPPOSE, because the bill would increase benefits and thus would increase pension contribution costs for the City.
- AB593** **VARIOUS MODIFICATIONS TO HOUSING LOAN PROGRAMS AND
LOAN GUARANTEE PROGRAMS, INCREASING THE BONDING
AUTHORITY OF WHEDA, AND REMOVING LIMITATIONS ON
WHEDA’S AUTHORITY TO ACQUIRE PROPERTY**
FAVOR, because the bill would make the housing loan programs easier to use.
- AB597** **REMEDIES IN CERTAIN ACTIONS CONCERNING BUILDING CODE
OR ZONING ORDINANCE VIOLATIONS**
OPPOSE, because the bill would make it difficult for the City to raze structures that need to be removed; further, the bill would increase City legal costs; finally, it interferes with local control.

2. REVIEW OF REFERRED LEGISLATION Cont'd.

AB598 DEATH BENEFITS PROVIDED UNDER THE WIS. RETIREMENT SYSTEM AND MAKING AN APPROPRIATION

No position.

AB602 EXEMPTING AN ASSESSOR AND AN ASSESSOR'S STAFF FROM LIABILITY FOR TRESPASSING

FAVOR, because the bill would allow the Assessor's Office to perform its duties on property without worrying about trespassing, thus allowing for fair and equitable assessments overall.

SB254 RETIREMENT BENEFITS PROVIDED TO EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT PERSONNEL UNDER THE WIS. RETIREMENT SYSTEM

OPPOSE, because the bill would increase benefits and thus would increase pension contribution costs to the City.

SB272 ORGANIZATION AND FUNDING OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES AND PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEMS AND GRANTING RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY

FAVOR, because the bill would allow for the improvement of several aspects of library operations.

SB273 VARIOUS CHANGES TO THE STATUTES GOVERNING PUBLIC LIBRARIES

FAVOR, because the bill would allow for the improvement of several aspects of library operations.

3. OTHER

a.) Outstanding Referrals.

AB543	Dean Puschnig (7/12/05)
AB527	Terry Brandenburg (8/23/05)
AB588	Mike Lewis (8/23/05)
AB610/SB276	Steve Hook (8/23/05)

Jeannette Bell, Mayor