



City of Racine Meeting Minutes

City Hall
730 Washington Ave.
Racine, WI 53403
www.cityofracine.org

Transit and Parking Commission

Wednesday, January 25, 2006

4:30 PM

Room 301

Call To Order

PRESENT: 5 - Chairman Ganaway, Kowbel, Alderman Sollman, Vice Chair Craft and Kell

Approval of Minutes for the November 30, 2005, Meeting

to Approve the Minutes

TRANSIT RELATED BUSINESS

1. [05-1346](#) **Subject:** Item 15 of 12-20-05, being a communication from the Alderman of the 15th District, on behalf of Transitional Living Services, requesting an increase in bus service on Douglas Avenue north of South Street to Three Mile Road.

Recommendation: The communication be received and filed.

Attachments: DOC051220-004

Ms. Bright explained that Transitional Living Services (TLS) serves over 900 consumers in 9 programs in the Racine Area. They have offices at 534 Main Street and 3710 Douglas Avenue. TLS has made a decision to relocate the Main Street offices to Douglas Avenue which will increase client traffic at the Douglas Avenue site. The change is expected to be made in late April/early May. Since most of their clients use public transportation, they envision an increase in the use of bus route 1 and 5, and are requesting an increase in bus service. Ms. Bright indicated that the current hour and half hour service during the morning and early afternoon is confusing to many of their clients. She asked if it would be possible to go back to the half hour all day service, and also if there were any changes proposed along Douglas Avenue that TLS should be aware of.

Mr. Glasheen reviewed the reasons for the gaps in service, referring back to budget cuts made in 2004. He indicated that the service along Douglas Avenue is consistent with that in other parts of the City, but is actually slightly better because of the offset southbound schedules of two bus routes on Douglas Avenue. He indicated that bus route 5 north of Three Mile Road is funded by the Village of Caledonia, and while there is no expectation that there will be any changes, he would be remiss if he did not point out that if Caledonia stopped paying for transit service, the City would have no choice but to restructure that route 5 service. He noted that there are no funds in the budget to increase bus service, and that changes could only be made through a restructuring of the current service.

In response to a question from Mr. Craft, Ms. Bright said that the TLS hours of service are from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Ms. Bright stated that on Monday many clients come in to get their medication checks, sometimes as many as 100, and that throughout the week, clients come in for advance reserved appointments, which are usually about one hour or less.

Ms. Bright also expressed concern about the clients having to cross Douglas Avenue after getting off the northbound bus. She stated that there is no crosswalk across Douglas Avenue at Carlton Drive. Mr. Eeg indicated that he would look into this.

2. [05-1357](#)

Subject: Communication from the President of Hafiz Trans, Inc., wishing to discuss the purchase of the City-owned Taxi service for the amount of \$15,000. This would include 3 vehicles currently used as taxis, access to currently used telephone numbers being used for cab service, equipment currently used in the vehicles (minus the radios), existing accounts, and the name and usage right of the current City-run Taxi service.

Finance & Personnel Committee's recommendation: That the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized and directed to enter into an agreement with Hafiz Trans Inc. for the sale of the city-owned taxicab service. Further recommends that the item be referred to the Transit and Parking Commission for informational purposes.

Fiscal Note: The sale of the taxicab service is in the amount of \$15,000.

Transit and Parking Commission's recommendation: The Communication be received and filed.

All members of the Commission present directed that they be placed on the record as being opposed to the sale of the taxicab system.

Mr. Glasheen paraphrased Mayor Becker's comments from the Finance Committee meeting, indicating that while the cab service had been started, and proved that there was a need for taxi service in the city of Racine, the Mayor was not willing to continue a taxpayer subsidization of the service, and opted to find an operator who would run it privately.

Members expressed concern about the exclusivity clause and the potential for failure.

In response to a question from Mr. Eeg, Mr. Glasheen advised that it was his understanding that the taxicab operator has the right, under the revised ordinances, to adjust the service rates as needed.

In response to a question from Mr. Kowbel, Mr. Power indicated that he had been consulted and involved in the process throughout, and agreed with the change to a private operator. His only concern is with the quality of service that will be provided by the new operator.

Mr. Power was asked about the effect on employees. He indicated that there will be some loss of hours for taxicab employees, but that since all employees are cross-trained on vehicles, there will be more labor freed up to cover bus runs, instead of paying overtime.

Mr. Craft moved that the communication be received and filed. Mr. Kowbel seconded and the motion passed.

3. [06-1416](#) **Subject:** Item 11 of 01-17-06, being a communication from the Transit Planner submitting the contract between the City of Racine and the Village of Mt. Pleasant for transit service in 2006.

Recommendation: The Mayor and City Clerk be authorized and directed to execute the contract on behalf of the City of Racine.

Mr. Glasheen advised members that the agreement would provide about \$157,000 to the City of Racine for bus service run in the Village.

4. [06-1426](#) **Subject:** Item 12 of 01-17-06, being a communication from the Transit Planner submitting the contract between the City of Racine and the Village of Sturtevant for transit service in 2006.

Recommendation: The Mayor and City Clerk be authorized and directed to execute the contract on behalf of the City of Racine.

Mr. Glasheen advised members that the agreement would provide about \$57,400 to the City of Racine for bus service run in the Village.

5. [06-1427](#) **Subject:** Item 13 of 01-17-06, being a communication from the Transit Planner submitting the contract between the City of Racine and the Village of Caledonia for transit service in 2006.

Recommendation: The Mayor and City Clerk be authorized and directed to execute the contract on behalf of the City of Racine.

Mr. Glasheen advised members that the agreement would provide about \$24,500 to the City of Racine for bus service run in the Village.

6. [05-1300](#) **Subject:** Item 16 of 12-20-05, being a communication from the Transit Planner submitting the November 2005 operating and financial report for Wisconsin Coach Lines intercity bus service between Kenosha-Racine-Milwaukee.

Recommendation: The communication be received and filed
Recommended to be Received and Filed

7. [06-1417](#) **Subject:** Item 15 of 01-17-06, being a communication from the Transit Planner submitting the December 2005 Operating and Financial Reports for the Wisconsin Coach Lines, Inc.

Recommendation: The communication be received and filed.

Attachments: Dec Coach Lines report

Recommended to be Received and Filed

8. [05-1259](#) **Subject:** Item 18 of 12-06-05, being a communication from the Transit Planner submitting the October 2005 operating and financial report for the Belle Urban System.

Recommendation: The communication be received and filed.

Recommended to be Received and Filed

9. [06-1429](#) **Subject:** Item 14 of 01-17-06, being a communication from the Transit Planner submitting the November 2005 operating and Financial Reports for the Belle Urban System.

Recommendation: The communication be received and filed.

Recommended to be Received and Filed

10. [06-1454](#) **Subject:** Communication (direct referral) from Racine County Human

Services Department submitting Amendment three (3) for contract for transportation to Afternoon Reporting Center.

Recommendation: The Mayor and City Clerk be authorized and directed to execute the contract amendment on behalf of the City of Racine.

Mr. Glasheen advised members that the amendment would provide an additional \$8,500 for the transportation of at-risk children by the Belle Urban System in calendar year 2005. Mr. Craft moved that the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized and directed to execute the contract on behalf of the City of Racine. Mr. Kowbel seconded and the motion passed.

Meeting dates for 2006.

Adjournment

If you are disabled and have accessibility needs or need information interpreted for you, please contact the Transportation Department at 636-9166 at least 48 hours prior to this meeting.