



City of Racine

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

Meeting Minutes - Final Transit and Parking Commission

*Deborah Ganaway
Alderman Raymond DeHahn
John Heckenlively
Mark Kowbel
Kristin Niemiec*

Wednesday, December 7, 2011

4:30 PM

City Hall, Room 301

Call To Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 P.M.

PRESENT: 4 - Deborah Ganaway, John Heckenlively, Mark Kowbel and Kristin Niemiec

EXCUSED: 1 - Raymond DeHahn

Also Present: Al Stanek, Mark Yehlen, Tom Karkow, John Magee, Norman Rockwell, Laura Terry, Michael Mulhern

Approval of Minutes for the November 30, 2011 Meeting

Minutes of the November 30, 2011 meeting were approved as printed. Passed unanimously.

Public Comment on Proposed Bus Fare Increase

Transit System Business

1. [11-7139](#) **Subject:** (Direct Referral) Communication from the Transit and Parking System Manager requesting to officially revise the BUS fare structure for 2012 and provide an opportunity to receive public comments at a 4:30 P.M. Transit and Parking Commission meeting on December 7, 2011.

Recommendation of the Transit and Parking Commission on 12-7-11: Approve.

Fiscal Note: N/A

Four people spoke on the issue of increased fares. Concerns were expressed about possible cuts to the Commuter Bus service connecting Racine to Kenosha and Milwaukee. A petition containing 169 signatures was presented and will be forwarded to the City Finance Committee as requested. The petition is in reaction to the State of Wisconsin 10% cut in transit funding.

Motion made by Heckenlively, seconded by Kowbel to approve. Passed

unanimously.

Recommended For Approval

2. [11-7163](#)

Subject: (Direct Referral) Communication from the Transit and Parking System Manager requesting authorization for a temporary extension of the City of Racine's contractual arrangement with WI Coach Lines for the pass-through of WisDOT State Operating Assistance for the Milwaukee-Racine-Kenosha Commuter bus service for up to three months (no later than April 1, 2012).

Recommendation of the Transit and Parking Commission on 12-7-11: Authorize the temporary extension of the City of Racine's "pass-through" of State of Wisconsin mass transit assistance for the Commuter Bus service linking Racine to Kenosha and Milwaukee. The extension shall last no longer than March 31, 2012 and no changes in fares or service levels will take place in the interim period while competitive bids are being sought for the service.

Fiscal Note: N/A - involves State dollars only.

Motion made by Niemiec, seconded by Heckenlively to authorize the temporary extension of the contract. Passed unanimously.

Recommended For Approval

3. [11-7164](#)

Subject: (Direct Referral) Communication from the Transit and Parking System Manager requesting authorization to apply for 2012 State of Wisconsin Mass Transit operating assistance for both the Belle Urban System and "pass-through" funding for the Milwaukee-Racine-Kenosha Commuter bus service.

Recommendation of the Transit and Parking Commission on 12-7-11: Authorize a combined 2012 State of Wisconsin transit assistance application for Belle Urban System and the SE Commuter bus connecting Racine with Kenosha and Milwaukee with Commuter Bus costs recorded as "purchased transportation".

Fiscal Note: Should increase State and Federal funding.

The requirement that Milwaukee-Racine Commuter bus service be bid competitively has opened up an opportunity to restructure the "pass-through" arrangement of State funds by the City of Racine while maintaining the current policy of no commitment for additional City of Racine funding for the service. Outside legal counsel has been retained to make sure that the City's best interests are protected in future contractual arrangements.

Motion made by Niemiec, seconded by Heckenlively to authorize. Passed unanimously.

Recommended For Approval

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:52 P.M.

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