

Observer: Betty Hayford

Aldermen present: All

Media present: Four; Evanston Now, Evanston Roundtable, Evanston Review, NU Dailey

Meeting began: 8:05 pm

Meeting ended: 9:00 pm

Announcements. The Mayor expressed congratulations to Dave Stonebeck for successful negotiations on water sales to Niles and Morton Grove. This will provide substantial net revenue to Evanston when the water sales begin in 2018. She announced a presentation from the four pastors leading Evanston Own It, representing a group of black churches who have committed to contributing to the community. They sponsor a joint concert and contribute the proceeds to City youth programs. They presented a check for \$7000 to the mayor.

The Mayor then presented a lengthy and detailed report on what the Council and the City have done following the Crosby arrest in fall 2015. She emphasized the support for Diversity and Inclusion Training for EPD, and said that the City released the police video when requested including in a court hearing in March 2016. The Police have developed new guidelines for arrests and have an ongoing discussion of training and tactics, including de-escalation and addressing mental health disturbances. She expressed regret for the Crosby arrest, which was not well handled, and committed the City to making the situation better. The City has asked Crosby's lawyer for their terms of settlement, but has not received a reply. Chief Eddington then announced further details about the planned open house event for the community to ask questions of the police department.

Public comment. Eight speakers. One thanked the community for providing assistance to families suffering the results of a fire in December. One supported the renovation of the Robert Crown Center and asking for consultation with the community, especially the immediate neighbors. Three expressed concern about the Crosby arrest and called for better training and oversight of police. One urged more outreach to encourage community to attend the EPD meeting. One asked to meet with City Manager to discuss city clearing snow from sidewalks as Skokie and Wilmette do. One opposed the declaration of Evanston as a sanctuary city as offensive to residents who have not been treated equally.

Consent agenda. Alderman Rainey introduced the consent agenda. Minutes. From **Administration and Public Works:** Payroll: Bills; Authorization of Change Order No. 1 for the Treated Water Replacement Project to increase total contract; Approval of purchase of one recycling vehicle to replace vehicle damaged in crash; Approval of Payment to cover the fees associated with parking meter and pay by cell operations; Approval of Change Order to Audit contract; Approval of payment of the 2017 Northeastern Illinois Public Safety Training Academy for the Fire Department and the Public Works Agency; Approval of contract to provide architectural/engineering services for the Robert Crown Community Center, Ice Complex and Library to provide schematic concept design services; Approval that FY 2017 Capital Improvement Plan expenditures up to \$14,195,000 be reimbursed by 2017 General Obligation Bond

issuance; Approval to execute a Water Supply Agreement with Morton Grove and Niles for a 40 year term with two 10 year extension provisions (Introduction).

From **Planning and Development**: Granting special use approval for Commercial Indoor Recreation, Staley Martial Arts at 1806-1806 1/2 Church Street (Suspension of Rules for Introduction and Action); Granting of special use for a Type 2 Restaurant, Sushi Burrito, 1565 Sherman Avenue; Granting of Landmark Status to Building and Lot at 2771 Crawford Avenue.

The consent agenda was moved and seconded and passed, 9-0.

Alderman Braithwaite presented two items from **Administration and Public Works**. He explained that a proposal to provide transponders to Sherman Plaza residents for access to the Sherman Plaza Parking Garage is being held to see if additional efforts to resolve the problem of access to the garage can be successful. A proposed contract for rodent control services is being reviewed to ensure the vendor understands City expectations.

Alderman Revelle presented a measure from **Planning and Development**. The committee had amended a special use permit for a Type 2 Restaurant, Insomnia Cookies, 1725 Sherman Avenue, to allow for closing at 3:00 am. The motion was moved and passed for Introduction as amended, 9-0.

Call of the wards. Several Alderman expressed enthusiasm and support for participants in the marches in Washington and Chicago on January 21. Alderman Fiske expressed concern about Northwestern plans to purchase properties on Oak Avenue and Orrington Avenue and asked the City to get a commitment in writing that property taxes will continue to be paid. Alderman Braithwaite expressed support for the new leadership of the NAACP

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.