

Observer Report: Human Services

Date: January 7, 2019

Observer: Eileen Lowery (reviewed video)

Meeting began: 6:05 p.m.

Meeting Ended: 7:48 p.m.

Committee Members: Alderpersons Fleming (chair), Braithwaite, Rue Simmons & Revelle. Fiske (absent)

Staff Present: N. Whyte, L. Hemingway, I. Perkins, S. Flax, D. Cook, J. Hart, E. Storlie, J. Lin, J. Hyink, A. Thorpe, city attorney

Media Present: EvanstonNow, Roundtable

Citizen Comment: One citizen comments included a question why minutes from the last meeting did not include full transcripts from Chief Eddington's discussion and one general comment about police complaint process and form.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

(HH1) **Mental Health Board allocations for 2019 programs** The Mental Health Board (MHB) and staff recommend approval of the proposed allocation of \$763,373 in 2019 to 19 non-profit agencies to provide needed social services to Evanston residents. *Approved unanimously.*

For Action

IV. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

(HH2) **Interfaith Action of Evanston Update on Homelessness** Susan Murphy, Director of Interfaith Action of Evanston, provided a presentation on the comprehensive programs, activities and collaboration among Evanston community and volunteer groups serving Evanston's homeless population. *Since 2014 the population served has nearly doubled.*

(HH3) **General and Emergence Assistance 2018 Report** I. Perkins and S. Flax answered questions about the Nov 29, 2018 update provided in packet, reviewed the application process and rental assistance and SNAP benefits. *Alderpersons asked them to return in Feb to update SNAP and WIC benefits will be impacted by the federal shutdown.*

(HH4) **Review of Police Complaints** Four complaints reviewed by the Citizens Police Advisory Committee. New Police Chief D. Cook introduced himself to committee. Sgt. J. Hart discussed informal vs formal complaints and that citizens are able to view body cam tapes. *Alderpersons will review specific conversation for complaints DI# 18-09 and DI# 18-10 and shared they have been hearing complaints about respect and tone of officers.*

(HH5) **Human Resources employee discipline/termination policy** Alderperson Fleming had requested the policy for review with the committee. J. Lin, HR Division Manager, reviewed the policies included in the packet answered questions regarding the Discipline/Termination Policies.

(HH6) **Accessible Transportation Options in the City Report** J. Hyink, Transportation & Mobility Coordinator, reviewed the report and answered questions. A mix of public and private accessible transportation providers currently serves the City of Evanston (City). Public transportation providers with accessible vehicles and stations in the City include Metra, Pace, and the Chicago Transit Authority (CTA).

(HH7) **City Fees and Fines** Report was requested by Ald. Fleming to review fine structure and collection procedures. A. Thorpe, Revenue Mgr., reviewed packet. There are only 27 fines that have a

set schedule amount. The fine amount or penalty for most citations is determined at the Adjudication level by a judge. Liquor license fees vary depending on the class type of requestor. The initial fee amount and renewal fees vary for each classification.

(HH8) **ADA Update – City Facilities and Parks** Staff recommends that the in-house review of architectural barriers to mobility in City facilities and parks be updated by City staff. This review will take place in 2019, and is proposed to be available in January 2020. *Report accepted.*

(HH9) **Spanish Language Translation Update** Ald. Fleming asked for this report, there is currently no policy. There is currently a very limited budget for translation and no budget for interpretation services. Current practice is to deal with each request on a case by case basis. *L. Hemingway asked that Dr. Efron be available to discuss questions regarding this update at the next meeting*

Alderson Rue Simmons will serve as Chair beginning with February meeting.

V. ITEMS FOR COMMUNICATION