

Observer: Betty Hayford

Aldermen present: Seven. Wynne and Fleming absent.

Media present: Three. Evanston Now, Roundtable, NU Daily.

Meeting started: 8:05

Meeting ended: 10:50

Announcements. The Mayor announced National Parks and Recreation Month in July and said the program for the 4th of July was being announced. The City Manager reported on a study of the 3-1-1 program conducted by the Maxwell School of Public Policy at Syracuse University. The two researchers explained their survey on a Skype transmission on the screen. They analyzed patterns of usage by census tracts and correlations of usage with income, education and race. Lawrence Hemingway showed a video about the Evanston Parks and Recreation activities submitted to the national organization recognizing outstanding programs.

The City Manager announced three police promotions and the appointment of Michelle Masoncup as new City Attorney.

The City Clerk announced that he is instituting a new system of signing in for citizen comment and making comments available on the city web site. The system will keep comments electronically. This announcement was met by silence, until Alderman Fiske expressed some surprise that a system for comments to Council was being developed without consulting Council. Alderman Rainey agreed and said if he had a plan for Council meetings he should come to the Rules Committee to present the plan. She said that Council determined its rules of operation and it was not the Clerk's job to propose changes. The Mayor agreed that the proposal should go to the Rules Committee. The Clerk cited a state ordinance he believed gave him authority for this. He asked if he was being told to stop what he is doing. The Mayor answered "yes."

Council opened a **Public Hearing** under the **Tax Equity and Fiscal Responsibility Act of 1982 – TEFRA**. This is a required public hearing on a proposal to sell General Operations Bonds primarily for the Robert Crown Center. Alderman Fleming had sent a message commenting on this proposal and expressing concern about the level of bonding. She urges Council to look for new sources of revenue. Braithwaite asked for an explanation of how the proposed cost for the Robert Crown Center had grown substantially. Erica Storlie, Deputy City Manager, explained that the proposed uses for the building had expanded and generated higher cost. Problems with soil quality were another cost factor. She believed that the plans for expanded usage stimulated donations to the project. Hemingway explained that the new facility would support much greater activity which would also generate revenue. Wilson pointed out that the construction cost also included designated funds for maintenance. Other aldermen expressed support for the strong programming in the new building.

Six public comments on the bond offering were made, including one that had been sent in. The leader of the fund raising effort presented the value of the project, the new uses for the new facility, and the potential for increased use. He said the fund raising effort would continue. One other comment praised the project, and four comments expressed concern about the high debt.

It was moved to adjourn the public hearing. The motion passed 7-0.

The regular Council meeting reopened for **Public comment**. Seven comments. Three expressed concerns about the budget (one accused the City Manager of lying about it). One asked for safer city street, one praised the work of community groups and partnerships with the city, and one, a school social worker, supported the Evanston Resolution condemning the Trump administration policy separating families.

Special Order of Business. (SP1) Resolution Declaring Evanston City Council's Opposition to the Trump Administration "Zero Tolerance" Policy, opposition to the detention of children and urging the reunification of all detained families. The motion passed 7-0.

(SP2) Authorizing of one or more series of General Obligation Bonds not to exceed \$50,000,000. The bonds will fund the Robert Crown Center and other redevelopment projects. (For Introduction) Hagerty pointed out that the City has to be careful to manage this debt which will require additional expenses for interest payments. Council needs to develop a plan to repay the debt. The motion passed 7-0.

(SP3) Amending the City of Evanston Budget Policy. The amendment will increase the City's debt limit to \$150 million to accommodate the new debt issue. A financial advisor says she believes this will not hurt the city's bond rating. The bond proposal is prudent. The motion passed 7-0.

Consent agenda. Alderman Rainy introduced the consent agenda from **Administration and Public Works**. Minutes, as corrected. Payroll. Bills. Approval of one-year Contract Renewal for Handyman Services; Approval of contract to Survey 18 survey monuments and install an additional 20 monuments around the city; Approval of contract for Water Treatment Plant Door Renovations; Approval of contract to repair 93 Tallmadge lighting units and 58 Induction Davit fixtures; Approval of contract for the Fire Station 2 Roof Replacement; Approval of contract for Mason Park Fieldhouse roof and exterior improvements; Approval of contract for the South Standpipe Pump Station Motor Control Center and Building Renovation; Amending the City Code to remove one-way alley restriction between Harrison Street and Colfax Place east of Crawford Avenue; Approval of sale of Surplus Fleet Vehicles; Approval of Local Agency Agreement with the Illinois Department of Transportation for the Central Street Bridge Phase II Engineering committing Evanston to 20% of engineering cost; Approval of Engineering Services Agreement for Federal Participation with the Illinois Department of Transportation for the Central Street Bridge Phase II Engineering; Approval of Amended Mutual Aid Agreement with the Northern Illinois Police Alarm System; Approval of City Manager entering into an agreement for a six month lease for a vacant studio at the Noyes Cultural Arts Center; Approval to amend the five year lease agreement with the Hip Circle Empowerment Center at city-owned property

at 727 Howard Street; Updating Authorized Signatories and Financial Institutions for City Funds; Increasing the Onsite Beer Sample Sale Size Limit from 24 to 32 ounces for the Class K license(Introduction, Suspension of the Rules, Action) ; Approval to Amend Sunday Service Houses to begin at 10 am for Restaurant Liquor Licenses (Introduction, Suspension of Rules, Action); Decreasing the Number of Class C Liquor License from 25 to 24 because Cheesie's Pub and Grub at 622 Davis Street has closed (Introduction, Suspension of Rules, Action).

Alderman Fiske introduced from **Planning and Development** Adding to City Code "Examination of Records by United Owners to prohibit the unauthorized access to condominium unit owners email addresses and telephone numbers. Two other items were held in committee.

Alderman Wilson presented from the **Rules Committee** Amending sections of the City Council Rules to clarify voting results during Council standing committees; Amending the Purpose and Composition of the Membership of the Transportation/Parking Committee to decrease the numbers from 9 to 7, extend committee jurisdiction to various modes of transportation and update the purpose for individuals to consider when making recommendations; Amend the membership of the Housing and Community Development Act Committee to reduce the membership and delete the requirement that one member be from the Plan Commission (Introduction).

The consent agenda passed 7-0.

From **Administration and Public Works** Alderman Rainey presented a proposal to terminate the lease at 2222 Oakton Avenue with Smylie Brothers and request guidance from Council on request for qualifications and proposals for reuse. The committee felt that the process is too long and would like to combine qualifications and proposals. They are concerned about the activity of any tenant adjacent to James Park. Some prefer a tax-paying tenant. Revelle thinks it is premature to rule out a tax-exempt entity. Wilson wants to allow the possibility for the purchase of property. Staff will bring a proposal framework to the committee. No vote was taken.

At 10:50 Council adjourned to Executive Session.