

Observer: Sue Calder

Aldermen Present/Absent: All present. Wilson was chair.

Staff Present: Bobkiewicz, Francello, Reid, Farrar, Lyons, Thomas-Smith and others.

Media Present: Evanston Now, RoundTable, and Daily.

No. Of Citizens in Attendance: About 50.

Meeting Began: 6:10 pm

Meeting Ended: 8:50 p.m.

Public Comment: Two pages of names, all but three were "Reid supporters." Comments included Reid had FOIA as part of his campaign message for gov't. transparency; by taking tasks from the Clerk's office and attacking Reid, Council is discouraging young people from being politically active; need for openness; should be an elected official; Reid needed job training. **And lots of clapping and shouting.**

Agenda:

* Staff will separate the Amazon bills in the report so that Suffredin can vote on the main bills and only recuse himself from Amazon bills.

* There is no policy on appointing citizens to Boards and Commissions. Generally someone should only serve on one at a time (currently there is one person on Ethics and another board). There are a few others who "represent" a Board on another, but Wynne pointed out that helps with communication between those boards so that they are all on the same page. Rainey stated that Tisdahl often allowed vacancies on Boards while she sought to appoint someone who would bring diversity to that Board. Staff will provide - perhaps quarterly - a list of upcoming vacancies and aldermen will seek applicants for those to bring a more diverse pool.

* Rainey had questioned the Ethics Policy that states that if one is on a Board, that individual cannot *personally* gain from that position. The Economic Committee has a requirement that there be a small business person on the Committee, but why would anyone want to do that as then that individual would not be eligible to secure a small business loan. The Law Dep't. also determined that the individual would not be eligible for some time even if he/she resigned. The issue was referred to the Ethics Committee as it is drafting a new "best practices" code."

* Much discussion about FOIA. Reid made a statement that the FOIA officer is, by code, the Clerk. He does not think that the Law Dep't should do redactions. Next Request, the program used for FOIA requests, has some flexibilities in application: requests can be listed by name, or just by request; responses can go just to the requester or be posted for all to see; it can be connected to Google so that any request or response would be available on a Google search (if someone was in pre-foreclosure and someone requested that information it would be on Google forever. If that individual later got back on track and paid off his debts, but there was no

request for the update, the only information would be the pre-foreclosure information). There were four votes: 1) The Clerk would be the FOIA officer, 2) the Law Dep't. would provide a check list to be followed for the handling of FOIA requests, 3) the draft policy will be updated by Reid using the input from this meeting and one he had with the Mayor and Manager on Friday and presented to Council for adoption on 11/13/17, and 4) Next Request should be reacted immediately with replies only going to the requester until the policy is adopted in November. Wilson also suggested that Reid meet with every department to update them on FOIA.