

Observer: Sue Calder

Aldermen Present: Rainey, Chr; Simmons, and Suffredin.

Staff Present: King (Budget Director) was the staff, Farrar, Flax, Clement, Stonebach, Storlie

Media Present: EvanstonNow, Evanston Daily, Evanston Roundtable

Meeting Began: 6:20pm

Meeting Ended: 6:55pm

No. Of Citizens in Attendance: 12

Approved for Action:

- Payroll: Feb. 4, 2018 (\$3,079,462.01); bills (\$1,520,935.04).
- Purchase 8 vehicles, one with lights and sirens for \$238,418.89
- One-year renewal for purchase of emergency lighting and sirens for \$80,960.
- Policy for hiring people with criminal records was updated and placed on file. Citizen comment: one in favor of helping ex-felons reenter society by reducing barriers for people with criminal records; one stated that the policy calls for the criminal background checks to be placed in the individual's personnel file which would be open to many - which may be illegal. Notice given to Farrar.
- Policy for a reimbursement and payment policy (started with water bills and extra trash can charges), which extends time to apply for reimbursement to two years and follows IL Administrative Code was accepted and placed on file.
- One-year contracts with G&L Contractors for 2018 debris hauling (\$81,000) and the other for purchase of granular materials for \$37,000.
- Execute a contract to repair the Service Center Parking Deck for \$526,074.
- Execute a contract to rehabilitate the Lovelace Park pond for \$107,000.
- Rehabilitate the Lovelace tennis courts for \$450,000 from GO Bonds. This was not budgeted for 2018, but the courts cannot be used.
- Approve a contract with Designs 4 Dignity for \$35,000 to redesign the interior of Fleetwood-Jourdain. Money will come from the Good Neighbor Fund (NU funding). Citizen Comment: Chair of the Parks Board: Pleased to see this happen as Fleetwood -Jourdain is the 2nd most used building in Evanston.
- Hire a pre-construction manager for the Robert Crown renovation and expansion for \$41,510. This will come from GO bonds, not the Crown Fund.

For Introduction:

- Authorize the City to borrow up to \$25,000,000 from the IL EPA public water supply loan program for the construction of the Clearwell 9 Replacement project. Dept service will be paid from the Water Fund.
- Adopt an ordinance to amend Title 1, Chapter 8 of the City Code to reflect current City operations in the Finance Dept.
- Create a new Class X liquor license to allow arts and crafts studios to sell beer and wine for on-site consumption (if a knife is involved in shaping a piece of wood for instance, the sale is only after the project is complete.) (The painting party type studios are BYO.)

For Introduction and Action:

- Drop the liquor license for Kabul House on Dempster, as the restaurant is not renewing it.

Held:

- Create a new Class F-2 liquor license for retail liquor dealer /gourmet food and amenity store (Binny's). Rainey would like to raise the 1st year license by \$5000 to \$45,000 and renewals to \$15,000 from \$13,000, as this is quite different from the Whole Foods Store on Greenbay. Evidently Binny's asked Wynne to hold it, she called the Manager, but no one told Rainey.
- Pilot landlord rehabilitation assistance program since Braithwaite never arrived at the meeting.

Discussion on steps toward homeownership: Housing Resources and small lot housing

- Need to update the City's web site to reflect what help is now available for first time home purchasers. Staff stated that it is difficult for lower income people to obtain loans either thru IHDA or federal mortgage program, BBC.
- Exploring 2120-2122 for possible smaller homes.
- Concern that the proposed town homes on Central were rejected as they were "too small." Rainey would like to see some affordable homes on Central.
- Rue-Simmons stated that we should further explore City-owned lots that are under utilized and could be used for affordable housing.
- No referrals or actions taken.