

Observer: Betty Hayford

Aldermen present: Eight aldermen present. Alderman Fiske absent.

Meeting began: 6:30

Meeting ended: 8:15

Alderman Wilson moved to suspend the Rules to allow Remote Participation in the meeting. The motion was seconded and passed 7-0. (Alderman Rue Simmons temporarily away from the meeting.)

Announcements. Mayor Hagerty announced the sad news of the death of Army Staff Sergeant Joseph Edward Howard, Evanston resident and ETHS 2009 graduate. He also announced that the American Red Cross had honored Chef Q Ibrahim for serving over 20,000 meals to needy Chicago families. He designated April as Fair Housing Month and April 16 as National Healthcare Decisions Day, asserting every individual's right to make health care decisions and plan ahead for end of life issues.

The City Manager announced three promotions for City staff: Corporation Counsel Kelley Gandurski has been promoted to Deputy City Manager to focus on the day-to-day management of City operations and some long-term projects; Deputy City Attorney Nicholas Cummings has been promoted to lead the Law Department and serve as Corporation Counsel; Interim Fire Chief Paul Polep, a 24 year veteran of the Fire Department, was named Fire Chief.

The City Clerk announced that approximately 13,000 Evanstonians cast votes in the municipal election, about 25% of registered voters, and fewer than in 2017. The largest turnout was in the 6th ward and the lowest turnout was in the 5th ward.

Public comment. 9 comments. 5 supported honoring of Dorothy Headd with honorary street naming. 3 urged opposition to spending measures and 3 urged opposition to P2 Special Use to a Mixed Business Model.

The Mayor changed the order of the agenda and asked Alderman Revelle to move A18, Resolution Designating Prairie Avenue Between Grant Street and Colfax Street with the Honorary Street Name "Miss Dorothy" Headd Way. She reviewed the comments from the public recognized Dorothy Headd's widely praised work as a crossing guard at Kingsley School, her outstanding work for environmental justice, particularly in the 5th ward, and her active engagement at Second Baptist Church. The motion passed 8-0.

Special orders of Business. (SP1) Approving the City's 2021 Action Plan and Approving the Amended Citizen Participation Plan for the 2021 Community Development Block Grant and HOME Investment Partnerships. Funding for the 2021 Action Plan totals \$2,311,742. Both resolutions passed 8-0.

(SP2) 2020 Budget Amendment. The City Manager introduced the item, with fuller explanation by CFO Hitesh Desai. Desai explained that 2020 revenue was significantly below projections and spending also was below projections. The amendment shows an increase in spending in certain areas, as required by budget procedures. Storlie explained that the first installment of \$45.8 million expected in American Rescue Plan funds is expected in mid-May. Funds can be allocated to lost revenue and public health costs from the pandemic, and will help to stabilize government operations and prevent further lay-offs. Staff is waiting for guidelines on how funds can be used. There may be additional funds for housing and

public health needs. Alderman asked several questions and the motion was moved, seconded and passed 8-0.

Consent agenda. The Mayor asked aldermen to remove items from the consent agenda. A18 had already been voted on and was removed. A17 and P2 were removed. The consent agenda was moved and seconded and passed 8-0.

Alderman Suffredin moved A17, Authorizing Settlement in Johnson, et al, v. City of Evanston. Staff recommends approval of the settlement. Suffredin expressed opposition because no staff member had been held accountable. (The settlement involved the Police Chief inadvertently posting police mug shots on line.) It was moved and seconded, and the motion passed 7-1, Suffredin voting no.

P2, Granting a Special Use for a Mixed-Use Business Model including a Business/Vocational School, Sunshine Enterprises, in the I1 Industrial/Office District. The development will include a laundromat and other businesses. Alderman Rue Simmons explained that public comment that had asserted she had a business interest in the project was wrong. This is not her business. Braithwaite expressed support for the project. The item was moved and seconded and passed 8-0, for Introduction.

Call of the wards. Several meetings were announced, and Alderman Rainey praised Evanston small businesses struggling to survive during the pandemic. She expressed hope that some of the Rescue Act funds could be used to assist them.

At 8:15 Alderman Wilson moved to adjourn to Executive Session. The motion passed 8-0.