

**Observer:** Betty Hayford

**Aldermen present:** Seven. Wynne and Suffredin were absent.

**Media present:** I don't know. I watched on line.

**Meeting started:** 6:10 pm

**Meeting ended:** 7:50 pm

**Public comment.** Nine comments. Two spoke in favor of tax abatement for proposed Howard Street development; 3 opposed. 2 opposed NU event expansion. 1 supported affordable housing and work of Connections. 1 urged hiring local residents.

**(SP1) Endorsing the Application of 619 H, LLC to the Cook County Assessor for Class 7a status (tax abatement).** The Economic Development Committee recommended supporting the request for Class 7a status from a developer planning to renovate a vacant building at 611-621 Howard Street to be leased as an event space to Peckish Pig. The cost of the renovation is projected as \$1 million. Alderman Rainey urged approval. The building has been vacant since 2001 and this project will continue and extend the rehabilitation of Howard Street as vibrant, revenue producing neighborhood. The proposed event space will be a great resource for Evanston.

The motion passed 5-2, with Fleming and Fiske voting no.

Council then moved into Executive Session for racial equity training provided pro bono by a Northwestern professor. Rainey asked why it will be an executive session. Hagerty explained that it is meeting for self-evaluation of Council and state law allows it to be in executive session. A representative of a state body is present as required.

The meeting adjourned to executive session at 7:50.