

Observer: Sue Calder

Aldermen Present: Haggerty, chair, and all aldermen except Rue-Simmons

Staff Present: city attorneys

Meeting Began: 6:09 pm

Meeting Ended: 6:36 pm

Public Comment Six: Basically all said the search should continue; have citizens involved in all discussions; city should seek out participants and not wait for people to volunteer; question how the candidates deal with racial issues and equity. One thought: there should be discussion on having a strong mayor form of government. Need to improve the website so meeting times are on the initial page.

City Manager Search: Two representatives* from Gov HR outlined the plan/timing they have prepared: would start next week and end by mid-Sept. Plan includes interviews with aldermen, reach out to organizations, general open meetings, survey (English and Spanish),; they also will have a dedicated email, provide their phone #, use social media, have position statements and a brochure. Comments from aldermen included: talk with staff, some pro and con on having two reps from each ward perhaps just have ward meetings, whether or not to include non-profits since some have heads who are not Evanstonians as well as NU (also pointed out that these people work with the city). Another question was how many searches have they done via Zoom and it sounded like perhaps only one from start to now for a smaller town in WI. Reid said the clerk should be involved.

Next election: Staff recommends that /Evanston follow state law which states that all petitions be handed in 92 -99 days prior to the election. Then there was some confusion if three or more file for any position would there be a primary followed by the general for the top two vote getters or if one gets 50% does there need to be a runoff in the general. Second option would be similar but would need a referendum. Staff will get back with answers. Reid provided some other information and stated that any change could not be in place for 2021 but for 2025. Haggerty recommended that legal and Reid work together.

FOIA report: Filed accepted and placed on file.

* The lead person on this would be from the area; the other was based in Atlanta and was a woman of color.