

Observer: Betty Hayford

Aldermen present: All

Media present: Evanston Now, Roundtable, Review, NU Daily (probably)

Meeting began: 8:15

Meeting ended: 10:00

Announcements. The Mayor announced Parks and Recreation Month in July and Lawrence Hemingway outlined events to celebrate the 4th of July. The City Clerk announced a meeting on July 17 at 6:00 pm to consider an ordinance related to ethics, lobbying and whistle blowing. Several speakers will present.

Public comment. 23 speakers, several speaking to multiple issues. 8 criticized the “Homeland Security van” (or “tank”) parked at Custer Street Fair because it generated fear and anxiety among residents (Evanston Now reported it was a Cook County Homeland Security and Emergency Management van). 4 urged Council to restore sole FOIA authority to Clerk Reid. 3 welcome new approach to Library parking lot development. 2 expressed views on B/C/C appointments. 2 expressed concern for Robert Crown costs. 2 praised renaming street for Ernest Jackson. 1 urged better communication. 1 urged more affordable housing.

Consent agenda. Alderman Braithwaite introduced the consent agenda from **Administration and Public Works.** Minutes. Payroll. Bills. Agreement to provide handyman services for the Handyman Program. Agreement for Sales and Utility Tax Revenue Audits. Approval of 10 year contract for Tallmadge Light Poles. Approval of Renewal of Contract for support for critical IT Infrastructure. Approval of Updating Investment Policy. Approval of Settlement agreement in Lindstrom v. City of Evanston. Approval of Settlement in J. J. O’Neil v City of Evanston related to Fountain Square. Approval of amending Building Permit Cancellation Fee Schedule (Introduction). Approval of City Code to allow cancellation fee related to occupation of Public Way permit cancellations (Introduction). Approval to Create a new Class P-5 Liquor License to allow alcohol manufacturers to produce greater amounts. Approval to amend Class J and Class P-2 liquor licenses for brewpub operators and craft brewers to allow off-site production and larger beer bottles.

Alderman Rue Simmons introduced items from **Planning and Development.** Approval of ordinance denying approval of Curb Cut and Driveway at 2650 Sheridan Road (Introduction). Amending Zoning Code to conform to Evanston Inclusionary Housing ordinance to revise density and parking bonuses (Introduction).

The consent agenda passed 9-0.

During public comment, the Mayor adjusted the agenda and asked Council to consider an item from **Human Services** to designate Florence Avenue between Lake Street and Greenwood Street with the Honorary Street Name Sign “Ernest W. Jackson Way.” It was moved and seconded and passed unanimously.

Proposed appointments were approved: 2 to Affordable Housing Plan Steering Committee, 1 to Arts Council, 2 to Environmental Board, 1 to Equity and Empowerment Commission, 2 to Housing and Homeless Commission, 3 to Public Safety Civil Service Commission, and reappointments to the Firefighter's Pension Board and the Library Board.

Then Alderman Braithwaite presented from **Administration and Public Works** an amendment to the Agreement to the Purchase and Sale Agreement for 1714-1720 Chicago Avenue which has expired. Council needs to affirm the expiration and approve the return of the earnest money. It was approved on a voice vote. Then Alderman Fiske said there is other interest in the property and proposed the City establish a 30 day period to receive letters of interest. She said development of the property is likely and important to get information about possible interest. Wynne said 30 days was too limited a period, and more discussion should take place about terms of an RFP. Revelle suggested more time was needed and the city should determine appropriate size and usage for the site. Community input was needed. Wilson said any vote was premature and the issue should be put on a future agenda. There was some discussion about whether the item should be referred to committee. The City Manager said staff would draft guidelines for a request for interest. Staff will try for July 8 meeting, but not sure it could be managed by then.

Braithwaite then introduced a resolution to approve a new Class R-1 Liquor License to allow alcoholic beverages to be sold at Welsh-Ryan arena. Alderman Revelle asked to hold the item to the next meeting to allow community discussion. It was held.

From **Planning and Development**, Alderman Rue Simmons presented an ordinance to extend the time to obtain a building permit to construct the planned development at 100 and 128-132 Chicago Avenue. Construction has been delayed because of changes in the design. She moved to suspend the rules to allow introduction and action. The motion passed 8-1, Suffredin voted no.

Council discussed a proposal from Alderman Fiske for a pilot temporary closure of Elgin Road between Emerson and Orrington Avenues. The purpose would be to increase safety in the area. This issue had generated extensive opposition from residents at 800 Elgin Road at Planning and Development. Staff will investigate approaches to safety improvements but will not close the road.

Call of wards. Alderman Rue Simmons asked for two referrals: to Rules Committee to consider better ways to manage diversity on Boards and Commissions, and to M/W/EBE to review best practices and develop a better mechanism for compliance for minority participation on city contracts.

The meeting adjourned to Executive Session at 10:00.