

Observer: Betty Hayford

Aldermen present: Seven, Braithwaite absent (he was expected to come late)

Media present: Two, Evanston Roundtable, NU Daily. (Mary Gavin may have been in audience)

Meeting started: 7:30pm

Meeting ended: 9:05pm

Announcements. The Mayor expressed appreciation for all the hard work that made the 4th of July events successful. The City Manager introduced Police Chief Eddington who announced his intention to retire on December 31, and expressed thanks to all who provided support for the police department. The City Manager introduced a new Local Government Management Fellow, a recent recipient of a Master's Degree from Mills College in California. He announced the re-opening of the Lincoln Street Beach.

The City Clerk announced he has received three citizen comments which he will distribute to aldermen. Next week he will sponsor a meeting on Boards and Commissions, with the assistance of Kim Richardson.

Public comment. Nine comments. Two concerned about bond issue and impact on taxes. One seeking to buy Evanston GO bonds. One opposed to process allowing appeal on building at 917 Edgemere Court. One with multiple concerns including allowing non-profit entity to operate in Recycling Center. One expressing passion for many good causes, including preservation of Harley Clark mansion. One concerned about city communication on noise. One explaining protest at parade and view that arrest was not appropriate. One criticizing Council and City staff for incompetence and waste.

Special Orders of Business. (SP1) Authorizing 2018 General Obligation Bond Issues. Alderman Fleming and others expressed concern about level of debt and impact on property tax rates. Hitash Desai, CFO, explained that the bond issue will probably be split over two years and issued only as needed. Staff is looking for possible revenue increases. The motion passed 8-0.

(SP2) Real Estate Transfer Tax Increases Options. Staff provided information on imposing a progressive tax increase on property transfers (higher rate for sales over \$1.25 million), the process to pursue a referendum and a survey of transfer taxes in other municipalities. Rainey urged a higher rate for more expensive properties and general support for "progressive" taxation. Counsel Masoncup reported that no Illinois community has a progressive transfer tax rate, but San Francisco does. Revelle warned against this step which likely would result in expensive law suits. Wynne asked for more information and the City Manager agreed to provide more information.

(SP3) Application for Appeal to City Council of Preservation Commission Denying Certificate of Appropriateness for 917 Edgemere Court. A rather confused discussion took place on whether appeal could come to Council or should go to Planning and Development. A motion to table until July 23 passed, 7-1, with Fiske voting no.

Consent agenda. Fleming introduced the consent agenda from **Administration and Public Works**. Minutes. Payroll. Bills. Accepting and Placing on File the 2017 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report; Approval of Contract for Civic Center HVAC engineering services; Approval of Contract for Citywide Arc Flash Program to evaluate potential hazard for all major electric al equipment; Approval of 2018 Pay Station expenses; Approval of Construction Management Services for Robert Crown Center; Approval of Amendment #2 for Bidding, Negotiations, Construction Administration and LEED Commissioning Services for Robert Crown Center; Approval of Memorandum of Understanding with CTA for Modernization of Purple Line Service with a focus on Davis Street Station; Approval of Amending City Code to Add a Loading Zone at 1007 Church Street (Introduction); Approval of Amending City Code to add a Loading Zone at 609 South Boulevard (Introduction).

Alderman Fiske introduced the consent agenda from **Planning and Development**. She explained that approval of a vacation rental license for 2001 Orrington Avenue is being held in committee. Approval of Resubdivision for 2020 Greenwood Street; Granting Special Use for a type 2 restaurant, Gotta B Crepes at 2901 Central Street (Introduction, Suspension of Rules, Action); Amending Zoning Ordinance definitions and Minor Preservations Commission Review Procedures.

From **Rules Committee**, Alderman Wynne introduced Amending City Code to change Membership requirements for Housing and Community Development Act Committee including reducing size of committee to facilitate quorum. From the **Economic Development Committee**, Alderman Wilson introduced Approval of Financial Assistance totaling \$5000 for Entrepreneurship Support Program Applicants to Hair Science and Aerospace Careers Network Resource; and Approval of Storefront Modernization Program applications from 10Q Chicken at 816 Church Street, 1030 Davis Street, and Connections Health at 1854 Sherman Avenue.

The consent agenda passed 7-0 (Wynne temporarily out of the room).

From **Administration and Public Works**, Alderman Fleming presented a resolution to terminate the lease agreement with Smylie Brothers for 2222 Oakton Street. The resolution included three months rent, utility bills and potential sales tax. Alderman Fleming said they should pay more and Suffredin agreed. The motion passed 6 – 2, with Fleming and Suffredin voting no. The next item authorized the City Manager to initiate a request for qualifications/request for proposals for 2222 Oakton Street. Apparently this is limited to tax paying entities. Alderman

Revelle said it is premature to make this restriction and she thought the request should include non-profit tax-exempt organizations. Rainey asserted that the whole goal was to have a tax paying entity. The motion passed 6-2, with Revelle and Suffredin voting no.

From **Human Services**, Alderman Revelle presented a recommendation from the Committee to no longer post arrest records on the city web site, although daily crime bulletins will be maintained and arrest records will be available by request. The motion passed 8-0 as amended to include administrative adjudication records.

Mayor announced that he wanted to withdraw proposed appointments to have further consideration.

Alderman Wilson moved to adjourn to Executive Session. The meeting adjourned at 9:05.