

**Observer:** Betty Hayford

**Aldermen present:** All

**Meeting started:** 6:05pm

**Meeting ended:** 8:20pm

Alderman Wilson moved to suspend the rules to allow the meeting to be held remotely. The motion was seconded and passed 9-0.

**Announcements.** Mayor Hagerty expressed appreciation to the snow removal team for its hard work over the past week to deal with 18 inches of snow. He noted the national total of Covid fatalities reaching 500,000 and outlined Evanston ceremonies planned for Monday, March 1, a national Day of Mourning. The ceremonies in the two hospitals will recognize those who have died and those who mourn them. He reported that cases in Evanston are declining.

The City Manager thanked residents who have done a good job of clearing snow, and the City Clerk announced the municipal election on Tuesday. Aldermen asked questions about polling places and drop boxes.

**Public comment.** 9 comments. 3 supported the proposal to allow efficiency houses (“tiny homes”); 2 supported the appeal of the Preservation Committee denial at 2402 Ridge (including the owner); others expressed concern about poor snow removal in alleys, Steve Hagerty’s voting recommendation email, and the Civic Center. Toby Sachs provided a detailed statement on the effort of the Arts Council to increase grant applications from minority organizations and the subsequent significant increase in grants to minority organizations.

**Special orders of business. (SB1) Application for appeal of the Preservation Commission denial at 2404 Ridge Avenue.** Alderman Rainey said this raises interesting questions and asked the views of her colleagues. Other aldermen had little to say. Rainey moved to accept the appeal. The motion was seconded and failed 9-0. The denial was upheld.

**(SB2) Racial Equity Update.** Deputy City Manager Kimberly Richardson reviewed the work of the City to operationalize a Racial Equity Framework. She outlined legislative actions taken by Council and Community and City Staff training. Guidelines have been developed for Language access for City services. The City has developed partnerships with other organizations for training and programs. Jane Grover, chair, reported on the work of the Equity and Empowerment Commission. Mayor Hagerty reported that he has been meeting with Dave Davis, of Northwestern, to shape the \$1 million grant that Northwestern is committing to advance racial equity in the city. The program will be announced next week. Alderman Wynne agreed that it is absolutely necessary that city staff and boards and commissions receive equity training. It was moved and seconded to accept the Report and place it on file. The motion passed 9-0.

**(SB3) Climate Action and Resilience Plan (CARP) Update.** Kumar Jensen, CARP administrator, reported on the goals of the CARP program, 2020 activities, and 2021 priorities and implementation strategy. The 2021 focus will be on building decarbonization. Aldermen praised his efforts and suggested that he needed more resources for the City to make progress. It was moved and seconded to accept the report and place it on file. The motion passed 9-0.

**Consent agenda.** The Mayor asked aldermen to remove items from the consent agenda to be discussed. No items were removed from the consent agenda, although it was noted that (A10) Relating to the Installation and Maintenance of Service Pipe was removed from the agenda in Committee to allow staff to do further work on it. The consent agenda was moved and seconded and passed 9-0.

Several announcements were made during Call of the Wards.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20. There was no executive session.