

Observer: Betty Hayford

Aldermen present: All

Media present: Five. Evanston Now, Evanston Review, Roundtable, NU Daily, other.

Meeting started: 7:50 pm

Meeting ended: 11:30 pm

Announcements. The Mayor thanked many people – Aldermen, city staff, residents – for hard work throughout the year. The City Manager called on Chief Eddington who introduced three officers who have been promoted. The City Manager recognized and expressed appreciation to Martha Logan, Director of Community Engagement, on her retirement. He praised the excellent contribution of Chief Eddington on his retirement. Aldermen expressed appreciation for both retirees.

The City Clerk announced he will hold an event on January 16 hosting Governor Pat Quinn who will discuss the process of referenda. He read a letter from the law firm Jenner and Block addressed to the Mayor asserting that the City has no grounds to overturn the decision of the Preservation Commission and should not demolish Harley Clarke.

Public comment. Each speaker given 45 seconds. 65 speakers. Most spoke on Harley Clarke. 11 spoke in favor of appealing Preservation Commission prohibition on demolition, 40 supported Preservation Commission and preservation of Harley Clarke. Harley Clarke supporters mentioned the positive referendum and increased funding, citing totals of \$300,000 or \$900,000 and a commitment of \$15,000 for two years for moth-balling. 4 supported the Climate Action Plan; 4 opposed extension of time for developer of 1714 Chicago Avenue lot. Several others.

Special orders of business. (SP1) 2019 City Council Goals. Alderman Wilson stated that setting goals is an important process, but the late hour and long agenda call for postponing this discussion until January 14.

(SP2) Application for Appeal to City Council of Preservation Commission Decision Denying Demolition of the Harley Clarke Mansion and Coach House. This was quite a long and thoughtful discussion. Fiske started by reminding colleagues that this is an application to appeal which should be approved to allow opportunities for discussion. She presented a history of historic preservation in Evanston and the different options for H-C. The City Clerk interrupted her comments to cite Robert's Rules that limited comments to 10 minutes. The Mayor and Fiske ignored the interruption. At Fiske's request, Erika Storlie reported that the City regularly received inquiries with proposals for H-C which were ignored as long as the demolition was pending. Wilson noted the complexity of the decision in a long statement. Revelle spoke to emphasize that the Preservation Commission had not found any major problems with the building and urged Council to take demolition off the table and spend time discussing other options. Wynne agreed there was no reason to overturn the Commission conclusion. Fleming decried ugliness of the discussion and the importance of avoiding any tax payer cost. Rue Simmons emphasized the value of

preserving the Foster School building which houses valuable programs, compared to the H-C with no concrete value. Opposed any cost to tax payers.

It was moved and seconded to accept the appeal. The motion failed 9-0. The Mayor summarized the long history of proposals for Harley Clarke which had been rejected by Council, and urged the community to come together and find a solution.

Consent agenda. Rue Simmons introduced the consent agenda from **Administration and Public Works**. Minutes October 29, November 5, November 12, November 19. Payroll. Bills. Purchase of Insurance/Renewals. Recommendation to accept and place on file the 2018 Post Bond Issuance Report. Approval of Contract for Chandler-Newberger Center HVAC Improvements. Approval of Contract for Sherman Avenue Improvements. Approval of Three Year Contract for AFSCME Uniforms. Approval of Contract for Emergency Purchase and Installation of Equipment and Services for a Fire Suppression System at Service Center- Data Center. Approval of Sole Source Purchase of Equipment for Data Center Operations Infrastructure Upgrade. Approval of Three Year Service Agreement for HVAC Systems in 16 City Buildings and Properties. Approval of Second One Year Extension for the Maintenance and Operations of Three Self Park Facilities. Approval of One Year Lease Agreement for office space on the third floor of the Civic Center with Evanston Development Cooperative. Approval of 8 Month Lease Renewal with Mudlark Theater at the Noyes Cultural Center. Approval of 9 Month Renewal of lease with the Evanston Children's Choir at the Noyes Cultural Arts Center. Approval of 22 renewal agreements for 12 month lease agreements for studios at the Noyes Cultural Arts Center. Authorization to execute an easement agreement for a sidewalk at 324 Dempster Street. Approval to donate a surplus ambulance to the North Regional Major Crimes Task Force (Introduction). Approval to allow the sale for Liquor greater than 6.76 fluid ounces and wine greater than 6.32 fluid ounces (Introduction and Action). Approval to Increase Class D liquor licenses from 51 to 52 to Lao Sze Chuan, 1633 Orrington Street(Introduction and Action). Approval to increase Class H liquor licenses from 1 to 2 for Colectivo Coffee Roasters, 716 Church Street(Introduction and Action).

From Planning and Development Alderman Wilson presented: Approval of Vacation Rental License for 1516 Crain Street. Extending the Time for Applicant to Obtain a Building Permit to Construct the Planned Development at 1815 Oak Avenue (Introduction and Action). Granting Landmark Status to Building and Lot at 1225 Asbury Avenue (Introduction). An ordinance to grant major zoning relief at 2626 Reese Avenue was held in Committee.

Alderman Fleming presented the consent agenda from the **Human Services Committee**. Ordinance Amending the City Code on Food Service and Food Service Sanitation to align the City Code of State amendments(Introduction). Alderman Fiske introduced from **Human Services Committee** Amendments to the City Code reducing members of the Animal Welfare Board from 7 to 6.

A motion to approve the consent agenda passed 9 to 0.

From **Administration and Public Works** Alderman Rue Simmons presented a resolution authorizing the City Manager to amend the Purchase Agreement for 1714-1729 Chicago to extend the time to complete the sale. The proposed buyer is submitting a proposal to the Design Review Committee this week.

Alderman Fiske moved to amend the resolution to remove the requirement for a \$50,000 non-refundable deposit . The motion to amend was approved 6 – 3, with Suffredin, Revelle and Wynne voting no. The amended motion was approved 7 – 2, with Revelle and Wynne voting no.

Rue Simmons then presented a resolution to Authorize the City Manager to Negotiate a Redevelopment Agreement and Sale of the City Property at 2222 Oakton. The ordinance was proposed for Introduction and Action, but aldermen requested the rules be maintained to vote on Introduction only. The motion for Introduction passed with no dissent. She then presented an Ordinance to amend City Code on Resident Only Parking Districts, for Introduction. This passed 8 – 0, when Alderman Wynne was out of the room. A motion to Increase Fire Department Transportation Fees, including possible negotiation of reduced fees, was passed 9 – 0. Rue Simmons presented an ordinance to grant a Class D liquor license to Tuko Cantina on 817 University Place. At the request of Alderman Fiske, consideration was postponed until the next meeting, January 14.

From **Planning and Development**, Wilson presented an ordinance to Grant major Zoning variations at 1943 Sherman Avenue. It was approved 8 – 0, with Alderman Rue Simmons abstaining. Alderman Fleming presented from **Human Services** Designation of Emerson Street between Wesley Avenue and Asbury Avenue with the Honorary Street Name Sign “Nathan Haliburton, Jr. Way.” This was approved 9-0. She then presented Adoption of the Climate Action and Resilience Plan. Alderman Fiske said she thought the plan was important but Council needed to know what it would cost. Revelle explained that it is not possible to state costs because technology will bring costs down and some grants will be sought to cover part of the costs. After further discussion, Erika Storlie said City staff will develop an implementation plan with anticipated costs by March. The Plan was adopted 9-0.

Council adjourned to Executive Session at 11:30.