

Observer: Betty Hayford

Aldermen present: All

Media present: Four: Evanston Now, Roundtable, Review, NU Daily

Meeting started: 8:00 pm

Meeting ended: 10:20 pm

Announcements: The Mayor announced National Fair Housing Month in April and National Library Week, April 8-14. The City Manager introduced Paul D'Agostino to describe events for Clean Up Day on April 21. The City Clerk provided an overview of Election Day, emphasizing a high Evanston turnout.

Public comment. 22 comments. 13 expressed support for Harley Clarke Lease proposal, including urging large numbers of supports to stand, and 6 opposed lease. 2 praised openness at Mayor's Town Hall meeting and 1 urged approval of flood plain ordinance.

Special Order of Business (SP1) Lease of Harley Clark Mansion, 2603 Sheridan Road with Evanston Lake House and Gardens (ELHG). The lease is proposed for 40 years and ELHG will be required to raise \$5 million over 10 years and make code-related improvements to the mansion and open the property for public use by May 2023. Deputy City Manager Erica Storlie explained the work to develop the lease, and Tom Hodge outlined the team of capable people committed to the project, and the \$12,000 in the bank with an additional \$90,000 in pledges. Alderman Revelle outlined the history of the mansion leading up to the lease and her belief that any objections to the proposal could be met.

Alderman Wilson explained his serious objections to the proposal: 1) the risk of liability or loss to the city is unacceptable, and 2) the proposal for raising funds is inadequate and reduced from initial proposal. Alderman Fiske agreed the fundraising plan is not responsible and she will vote no. Alderman Fleming said the lease doesn't provide adequate protection to the City in the event of disaster. Braithwaite said the financial plan is inadequate and more important city projects are trying to raise money. Wynne commended the group for commitment and good ideas, but she has concerns about fund raising plan, which is too long. Risk and liability are too great, cannot support. Rue Simmons agreed there is too much risk and more important city projects. Several aldermen expressed appreciation for the hard work to develop the proposal.

Revelle said she understands two major problems, the degree of risk and the fundraising schedule. She moved to hold the vote for two weeks to respond to the concerns. Rainey says Special Business can not be held over, and Wynne moves to table. Move to table until April 23

failed, 5-4. Wilson called the question on the lease, which failed, 2-7. Revelle and Suffredin voted in favor.

Consent agenda. Alderman Fleming presented the consent agenda from **Administration and Public Works**. Minutes. Payroll. Bills. Approval of renewal option with Express Press to supply Clothing for the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Summer Programs; Agreement with ETHS to Supply Lunch Meals for the 2018 Summer Food Program; Approval for a sidewalk cafe permit for French Kiss Cafe, 517 Dempster Street; Approval for a sidewalk cafe permit for Rock N’Ravioli, 1012 Church Street; Approval of Contract for Street Condition Evaluation; Approval of Contract Extension for 2018 Crack Sealing Services; Approval of Contract Extension for 2018 pavement markings; Approval of purchase order for a Toro Groundsmaster Riding Mower; Approval of purchase of a Ford SUV with Lights, Siren and other Equipment for EPD; Approval of 3 Vehicles for operations for Public Works Agency; Approval of purchase of automotive parts and services for City vehicles; Approval of Agreement for Watercraft Maintenance and Repair Services; Approval of 3 year contract for chemical treatment of water HVAC systems in City facilities; Approval of paving the alley north of Payne Street and east of McDaniel Avenue(Introduction); Approval to decrease the number of Class C liquor licenses from 26 to 25 because Lao Sze Chuan, 1633 Orrington is not renewing its license (Introduction, Suspension of Rules, Action); Approval of Decreasing the number of Class D Liquor Licenses from 50 to 49 because Las Palmas Restaurant, 817 University Place, is closed (Introduction, Suspension of Rules, Action); Approval of Decreasing the Number of Class C-1 Liquor Licenses from 1 to 0 because La Macchina Café, 1620 Orrington, is changing its liquor license; Approval of Increasing the number of Class C Liquor Licenses from 25 to 26 because La Macchina Café, 1620 Orrington Avenue, is changing its license; Approval of a 3 year renewal of a lease agreement between League of Women Voters and the City from June 1, 2018 to May 31, 2021; Approval of City Code to codify a procedure to Debar or Suspend Contractors for just cause.

Alderman Fiske presented the consent agenda from **Planning & Development Committee**: Approval of renewal grant for the Homeless Management Information System to the Alliance to End Homelessness in Suburban Cook County; Approval of Amending City Code Floodplain Regulations to strengthen regulations addressing permit review and construction concerns on lakefront restoration.

The consent agenda passed 9-0.

Alderman Fleming then presented from **Administration and Public Works**, the purchase of a new Fire Department Ambulance. The proposed purchase price was amended in committee. The motion passed as amended, 9-0. She then presented for Introduction, Suspension of the Rules and Action an amendment to the City Code regarding Senior Citizen/Persons with

Disabilities Taxicab Program to increase the participant share and change the boundaries. The motion passed, 7 to 2 with Rue Simmons and Suffredin voting no.

Alderman Fiske presented from the **Planning and Development Committee** for Introduction granting a special use approval for a Type 2 Restaurant, Frio Gelato at 1301 Chicago Avenue. It had been operating out of compliance, but the problem has been resolved. The motion passed 9-0. An ordinance to amend the Zoning Ordinance to modify the definition of a Coach House was returned to committee on a motion presented by Alderman Wilson and passed by Council. Another item related to front porches was referred back to Plan Commission.

Alderman Wilson presented from **Economic Development** a grant totaling \$25,000 to Mudlark Theater to hire additional administrative staff to build capacity and diversity. A representative from City staff explained that the goal was to help stimulate diversity in arts management as outlined in an approved grant program. Alderman Fleming asked why the money was not given to minority organizations and Alderman Suffredin asked why city funds were available to private organizations. The motion passed 7-2 with Suffredin and Fleming voting no.

At 10:20 the Council adjourned into Executive Session.