

OBSERVER REPORT**CITY COUNCIL****OCTOBER 14, 2019****Observer:** Betty Hayford**Aldermen present:** All**Media present:** Four. Evanston Now, Review, Roundtable, NU Daily**Meeting began:** 8:10 pm**Meeting ended:** 10:45 pm

Announcements. The Mayor recognized the 150th anniversary of the First Congregational Church of Evanston. He also announced an award from the Illinois chapter of the American Planning Association for the Fountain Square Project.

Public comment. 19 comments on a wide range of topics. 3 opposed to NU events; 3 supporting budget discussions; 3 asking for oversight of non-compliant landlord; 2 supporting decision of Preservation Commission on 2404 Ridge Avenue; 3 urging oversight of police; others supporting a dog beach at Lincoln Street beach and affordable housing.

Special Orders of Business. (SP1) Application for Appeal of Preservation Commission Denial of Certificate for 2404 Ridge Avenue. Brief discussion on procedure. Moved and seconded to accept appeal. Motion failed, 1-8. Fleming voted aye. The applicant has other ways of pursuing permission.

(SP2) PRESENTATION OF THE Proposed 2020-2021 Budget. Interim City Manager Erica Storlie introduced the budget and noted there were no proposed layoffs or program cuts. There is a proposed 2012-2022 budget that provides a look at future, but it will not be voted on. The goal is to develop a five-year budget plan to identify long-term plans and provide stable planning. The Budget Coordinator went through the budget and pointed out the creation of a Human Services Fund with a separate tax levy to identify and protect human services programs. 3 FTE will be added to Human Service programs. In discussion, Rue Simmons noted there is no reparations program in the budget. She suggested that tax from recreational cannabis be designated for reparations. She proposed making a motion, but did not. She later suggested that contribution to reserves be reduced from proposed \$1.5 million to \$1 million and reserves be used for reparations. Storlie said anticipated recreational cannabis revenue was \$250,000. Rainey asked for disaggregated figures on licenses, permit and fee revenues. Wynne asked for a memo outlining impact of increase of parking fees from \$1.50 an hour to \$2.00 an hour (approved last year). General agreement that staff had done good work in preparing the budget.

Consent budget. Alderman Braithwaite introduced the consent agenda from **Administration and Public Works**. Minutes (as amended in committee). Payroll. Bills. Accept and place on File Single Audit Report for Fiscal Year ending December 31, 2018. Approval of contract with Fambro Management (Chess Scholars) for Evanston Chess Camps at Chandler-Newberger Center for three years. Approval of Special Event, Vintage Garage Chicago-Evanston Edition in Maple Avenue Garage on May 17, July 19, and September 13, 2020. Approval of Replacement Asphalt Truck for \$96,864. Approval of Emergency Repairs to Vactor Truck #954. Approval of Sole-Source Purchase of Dell Server, Storage and Virtualization Software for the Robert Crown Center. Approval of Sole Source contract with Dell to purchase Computer Hardware for the Robert Crown Center. Approval of Purchase of Cisco Network Infrastructure Appliances, Licensing and Support for the Robert Crown Center. Approval of purchase of 169 Trees from the Suburban Tree Consortium. Approval of Contract for Phase I Engineering Services for the Green Bay Road Corridor Improvement Project. Approval of Contract for the Fleetwood Jourdain gym floor investigation project. Approval to purchase furniture, fixtures and equipment for the Robert Crown Center. Approval of Change Order #1 for the Construction Manager Services at the Crown Center; change will not change the price but will increase the contract time to complete the building. Approval of change order # 1 in the Fleetwood Jourdain Interior Renovation project. Approval of change Order # 1 for the 2019 Alley Improvement Contract B and 2019 CDBG Park Improvements. Authorization to Execute an Intergovernmental Agreement with School District No. 65 to Cost Share for a Broadcast Operations Specialist to Broadcast Meetings for both Public bodies. Authorization for City Manager to execute a lease for the apartment at 1223 Simpson Street for 12 months. Authorization for City to

borrow funds from the Illinois EPA Water Pollution Control Loan Program for the construction of the Large Diameter Sewer Rehabilitation – Greenleaf. Three Ordinances related to parking, adding paid parking on Greenwood Street between Chicago Avenue and Sherman Avenue, adding paid parking on South Boulevard east from Chicago Avenue, and adding paid parking on Sherman Avenue from Main Street to Washington Street (Introduction). Four ordinances increased Class D Liquor Licenses for Kokomo Cuisine on 1639 Orrington Avenue, Zentli on 1813 Dempster Street, Hearth Restaurant on 1625 Hinman Avenue, and Sea Ranch Sushi at 518 Dempster Street; for all the rules were suspended to allow Introduction and Action. Approval of amending City Code to Update Gender Neutral Restroom Requirements to reflect updates in state law (Introduction). Approval to amend the city code to correct Hotel, Motel, Bed and Breakfast tax due dates (Introduction and Action).

From **Planning and Development Committee**, Alderman Rue Simmons introduced ordinance to create a definition for a cannabis dispensary business, and establish general provisions including location requirements (Introduction). Adoption of map amendment to rezone the properties at 951-1125 Howard Street from C1 Commercial Zoning to B2 Business. (Introduction). Approval of a Special Use and Planned Development at 1215 Church Street and 1726-1730 Ridge Avenue for the YWCA to demolish two single family residences and construct a two story addition and a four story domestic violence shelter. Granting a Special use Permit for Doggy Daycare Center at 1245 Hartrey Avenue. Granting a Special Use Permit for Planned Development at 1012-1018 Church Street for the Northlight Theater.

From the **Economic Development Committee**, Approval for Funding for the Howard Street Lights Project for tree lights from November to April.

The motion to approve the Consent Agenda passed, 9-0.

From **Administration and Public Works**, Alderman Braithwaite presented the Amazon bill. It passed 8-0, Suffredin abstained. He then presented an ordinance to amend the parking code to allow for businesses in the Main-Dempster business district to receive a small business parking permit to allow parking in a residential district. Alderman Wilson raised several issues including the variation in impact in different neighborhoods. He moved to send the measure back to the Transportation Committee for further study. Braithwaite then presented a measure to amend the city code to permit low speed electric bicycles. This was amended in committee. It passed, for Introduction, as amended, 9-0.

Call of the Wards. Alderman Revelle expressed concern about condominium conversions and asked that the Planning and Development Committee look into the question. Alderman Fiske concurred. Alderman Rainey responded to a citizen who had labeled her comments at a Ridgeville Park District Meeting as “racist.” Rainey explained that she was a long time tax payer to the Ridgeville Park District and had encouraged the Park District commissioners to solve long standing problems. She will not tolerate being labeled over her comments there.

The meeting adjourned to Executive Session at 10:45.