

Observer: Betty Hayford

Aldermen present: All. Clerk Reid was represented by his Deputy Clerk.

Media present: Evanston Now, Roundtable, Review, NU Daily (several reporters)

Meeting started: 7:50 pm

Meeting ended: 10:40 pm

Announcements. The Mayor offered comments on the accomplishments of City Manager Bobkiewicz and presented him with a citation. Aldermen offered comments on their work with and appreciation of Bobkiewicz.

Public comment. 22 speakers. Significant opposition to allowing additional events at NU. Opposition to proposed agreements on ice rinks, although criticism seemed unrelated to actual proposals. One detailed criticism of Mayor's decision to call on Sheriff to investigate leaks of Executive Session.

Special orders of business. (SP1) Appeal to City Council of Preservation Commission Denial of Certificate of Appropriateness for 2404 Ridge Avenue. The owner of the property is out of the country and unable to appear. Counsel Masoncup urged deferring the discussion until the next meeting. Wilson moved to hold until the next meeting on October 14. The motion to hold passed on voice vote.

(SP2) Approval of contract with City Manager Search Firm. Staff recommended a contract with GovHR USA to recruit a new city manager. Questions were raised about diversity issues. It was agreed to have several proposals available for discussion at the Rules Committee meeting on October 7 with more information.

Consent agenda. Alderman Braithwaite introduced the consent agenda from **Administration and Public Works.** Minutes. Payroll. Bills. Sole Source Purchase of Parking Business Analytics and Garage Capacity Signs. Sole Source Renewal of G Suite License Agreement for hosted email and support. Approval of Purchase of Replacement Fire Engine. Approval of Change Order for Central Street SSA Feasibility Study. Authorization for employment contract with Erica Storlie to serve as Interim City Manager. Authorization of three year lease with North Shore Senior Center for Room G205 in Civic Center. Authorization of three month lease with new tenant in Noyes Cultural Arts Center. Authorization for agreement for Senior Meal Food Programs at Levy Center and Fleetwood-Jourdain Center. Adoption of ordinances establishing two Special Service Areas for commercial properties along Central Street, based on community feedback (Introduction, Suspension of the Rules, Action). Extension of Special Service Area #4 in Downtown Evanston (Introduction, Suspension of the Rules, Action). Amending Cody Code, "Parking Meter Zones" adding north side of 600 Madison Street from Chicago Avenue to Custer Avenue. Amending City Code "Two Hour Limited Parking" on the west side of Dodge Avenue from Church Street to the first alley north. Amendment of City Code "Two Hour Limited Parking" on east side of Maple Avenue from Garnett Place to Foster Street. Amending City Code "Residential Parking District G" adding 3 spaces west of Maple on the north side of Foster Street. Amending City Code to remove 13 meters from Parking Lot 32 (825 Hinman) and converting to permit only, and adding lot 68 on 717-719 Howard Street. Proposing scheduling dates for Joint Review Board meeting and a Public Hearing to consider an amendment to the Howard and Ridge TIF District Redevelopment Plan.

Alderman Rue Simmons introduced the consent agenda from **Planning and Development.** Approval of renewal contract with Metropolitan Tenants Organization and Lawyers' Committee for Better Housing for landlord-tenant services. Approval of Special Use permit for YWCA for a Community Center and a Recreational Center, demolishing two single family residences, and construction of a two story entrance addition to the south façade of the existing YWCA building, and a four story domestic violence shelter abutting the north façade, with specific site allowances (Introduction). Granting major zoning relief for construction expanding Automobile Repair Service at 3101 Central Street (Introduction, Suspension of Rules, Action). Granting special use permit for Daycare Center, Domestic Animal, and Kennel at 1245 Hartrey Avenue (Introduction). Approval of Special Use permit for a Planned Development at 1012-1018 Church Street for a three story Cultural Facility, Northlight Theater.

The consent agenda passed, 9-0.

From **Administration and Public Works**, Alderman Braithwaite presented (A8) a resolution to approve outside counsel litigation procedures and billing guidelines. Suffredin asked for more information about procedures and timing considerations. It was agreed that he will meet with Masoncup to discuss details. The issue was held for the next meeting. Braithwaite then presented (A9) Authorizing the City Manager to execute a gift agreement and a use agreement with Chicago Young Americans (CYA). Alderman Fleming asked for more information about the schedule and wanted assurance that the public would have access to the rinks, especially on weekends. Erica Storlie pointed out that the total amount of ice will be greater than the current arrangement and Director Hemingway is giving high priority to public access. After further clarification, the proposal was approved 9-0. Next was (A10), authorizing the execution of a gift agreement and a use agreement with Evanston Youth Hockey Association (EYHA) for the rinks at the Robert Crown Center. Alderman Fleming said her concerns were relieved in the previous discussion. The motion passed 9-0.

For (A14), adding three homes on Clark Street and Sheridan Road to Residential Exemption Parking District B, it was moved and seconded to suspend the rules for Introduction and Action. The motion to suspend passed 9-0. The motion passed 9-0.

(A17) Amending the Municipal Retailers Occupation Tax to increase the rate from 1.0% to 1.25%. Several aldermen said they disliked raising the sales tax because it hurt Evanston businesses. Wilson asserted that the city needs additional revenue and the sales tax is less disliked than raising the property tax. Fiske spoke at length on the new for new revenue and development projects, and regretted the decision not to allow an office building on the library parking lot. The motion passed 5-4, with Fiske, Suffredin, Fleming and Rainey voting no.

From **Economic Development**, Alderman Rue Simmons introduced a grant agreement recommended by the Economic Development Committee to Mudlark Theater to provide funding for the Equity in the Arts Hiring Program for a second and final year. The motion passed 7-2 with Suffredin and Fleming voting no.

Alderman Wilson proposed adjournment and reconvening in executive session at 10:40.