

Observer: Sue Brenner

Aldermen present: All present. Suffredin, Chair.

Meeting began: 6:45pm

Meeting ended: 7:36pm

Public Comment (6 Speakers)

4 speakers spoke to P3, Item for Discussion about Deconversion of Condos. Speakers want city to change % of owners needed to approve conversion from 75% to 85%, they wanted city to add provision to stop payment to officers of condo board to help convince owners. Very interesting. It took three votes over several months for the deconversion people to get the votes they needed and it sounded like they gave some more money to change their votes, there was also mention of lowering the price offered to the condo owners by 1.5 million to cover the cost of affordable housing requirement in new ordinance. This was a little confusing to me. Perhaps someone can shed light on this part.

2 speakers spoke in favor of item P4 Tree Preservation discussion.

Consent Agenda:

For Introduction:

P1: Ordinance for Major Zoning Relief to locate required parking more than 1000 feet for Multi Family Residence at 1570 Oak Ave.

P2: Ordinance Amending the Municipal Use Exemption in Section 6-7-4.

This provides for more public notice mailed to residents nearby in municipal projects. (Prompted by Rue-Simmons after pumping station project).

Items for Discussion:

Discussion of Aldermanic Reference Regarding Condominium Deconversions - Alderman voted for a moratorium on deconversions and for a committee to look at this topic. Rainey referenced a similar action when rentals were being converted to condos years ago. It is a complicated issue. 85% of a 6 unit condo would mean 100% would have to agree. Also, condos can pass rules in their By Laws requiring a certain % as well as laws about board members not receiving money from the buyers.

Tree Preservation Ordinance Discussion

There was a presentation, which suggested the city change the current ordinance regarding cutting down of trees for construction or remodeling so that larger circumference trees would

not be able to be cut or would have to be replaced with new trees. If this is of interest to you look at the link on the agenda. It was interesting and very supportive of trees in Evanston.

Public Comment:

26 Speakers: 6 spoke about reinstating Kevin Brown. 6 spoke in favor of workof Reparations Committee and using the tax from sale of cannabis; 2 spoke in favor of reinstating Kevin Brown and supporting reparations committee and fund; 5 spoke against item A 30 or wanting additional amendments to define when sales of alcohol begin and end, how much, containers etc.; 1 spoke wanting a balanced budget with no obligation bonds; Misty Wittenberg spoke about ethics ordinance, reinstatement of kevin Brown and several other topics; 1 spoke against encryption of radio messaging of police and fire radios; Betty Ester apologized for something she got wrong at last meeting; Elliot Richardson from Reclaim Evanston spoke about using real estate transfer tax to fund affordable housing; Albert Gibbs spoke about his belief that budget hurts minorities and wealthy and NWU should be taxed higher, one person spoke against Robert Crown and the amount of money being spent there; one spoke in favor of reversal of Preservation Committee judgement to not allow for soar panels on a house in historic district. Each had 1 minute 45 seconds.