

Present: Mayor Biss, CM Revelle, CM Suffredin

Staff: Interim City Manager Kelley Gandurski; Policy Coordinator, Alison Leipsiger

Meeting called to order by the Mayor at 8:30 a.m. Alison mentioned that there were some changes to the spreadsheet, with new referrals added. Mayor asked if new member Suffredin was comfortable with the criteria used in evaluating referrals. He responded yes, and the Mayor indicated that these were useful but not “clinging”.

The first referral had to do with a restructuring of the economic development committee, and was supported by staff, but would require a change in the code. It was referred to the Rules Committee for their next meeting.

The next group of referrals (#78-87) were referred by CM Reid and would require code changes as well. Alison had discussions with Police Chief Eddington since many included police action. The reimaging public safety committee had met but did not have a quorum, so no decisions could be made. Some of these referrals were simple, non-controversial ones, but others would require extensive discussion. The one concerning disallowing arrests after park closure hours (11:00 p.m.), was perhaps going to be sent to Parks Comm. but Police Chief had concerns about that. Some of the more non-controversial ones could go to Human Services, with a time frame of now until Sept. Alison was asked to put them in a priority order. #78 which refers to pets was sent to Animal Control Board (which only meets quarterly).

#72 was a referral from CM Burns to allocate \$15,000 to each council member to facilitate “communication”. Alison said in her conversation with Burns that it might include hiring a CM assistant, developing newsletter, etc. Several questions from CM Suffredin concerning monitoring this spending, timing as to the budget (2023?), and what is covered. CM Revelle questioned the same things, as well as does this violate the compensation rules in state law.

Gandurski said she thought so, but would ask Law Dept. The Mayor also questioned hiring an employee; he originally thought it just meant working with Patrick (city employee in charge of public relations). But if allowed, it would definitely go to Budget and Finance Comm.

#73 was CM Burns asking for a “public discussion” of fireworks in neighborhoods. It was sent to Human Services Comm to be put on June agenda.

#74 was made by CM Suffredin to increase the accountability of Human Resource Dept to the City Manager's office. They then discussed whether it was wise to wait until the new City Manager was hired and get his/her input. It would need to go to Rules eventually, but maybe they don't need to decide that "right now". It could be the second meeting in June? Suffredin agreed that they could wait. Gandurski said she supported the proposal, but agreed to wait for the new manager's appointment.

*(*my tracker didn't go beyond this #, so the following don't have #s)*

The next one dealt with an Evanston Refugees Fund, but it was out of the budget cycle. It could go to Budget and Finance Comm. by the end of the year. CM Revelle agreed and said we don't even know when Ukrainian refugees will start to arrive in U.S,

Next referral would require the city to pay all employees a minimum wage. Someone questioned whether that included summer youth employment program. Gandurski said that "regular" city employees all make over the minimum wage already. More information needed.

The last one dealt with had to do with changing the pre-screening policy for employment. (A 19 yr old failed due to marijuana.) Although there was not disagreement, Gandurski said that the staff could not prepare a memo in time for Monday's Council meeting. All HR staff were at a conference. It was sent to A&PW for second meeting in April.

Adjournment at 9:33 a.m.