

Observer: Betty Hayford

Council members present: Eight (Wynne and Suffredin arrived late; Suffredin left early, at Call of the Wards) Mayor Biss and CM Revelle were absent.

City Staff present: Corporation Counsel Cummings; Water Plant Manager Darrell King; Zoning Administrator Melissa Klotz

Meeting started: 5:35

Meeting ended: 7:10

Announcements: CM Burns announced the Mayor was absent and he was acting as Mayor Pro Tem. City Manager Stowe announced that Corporation Counsel Cummings is leaving the City of Evanston next month to become Counsel for the Chicago Parks District. He congratulated Cummings on his new appointment and thanked him for his many contributions to Evanston. Deputy City Attorney Alex Ruggie will act as Interim City Attorney.

Public comment. 9 comments. 3 (including those who have worked on the Pension Board) supported the move to fully fund public safety pensions. 2 asked for better communication between Council and the public and more public discussion. 2 expressed opposition to NU and Cummings filing motion supportive of NU; 2 concerned about changes to the Land Use Commission.

Consent agenda. Items were removed from the consent agenda: A2, A12, A17, A22, P1, FB1. The consent agenda was moved and seconded and approved unanimously.

A2. Approval of a contract with CDM Smith for FY2023, 2024, and 2025 PFAS Treatment Technique Study Services. Water Plant Manager Darrell King explained the study and testing to determine the best approach. The initial study would last 2 to 4 months and treatments would be tested over 12 months to determine what would work best in Evanston. The Department plans to communicate results to the public. The measure passed on a voice vote.

A12. Approval of contract for Insurance Broker Services. CM Nieuwsma abstained because of his wife's employment. The motion passed on a voice vote 7-0-1.

A17. Authorizing a Short-Term Task Force to Investigate and Report on the Economic Security of Local Families. CM Reid explained the importance of getting comprehensive information about the needs of some low income families. The motion passed on a voice vote.

A22. Amending City Code to prohibit trucks on certain streets in the 8th Ward. It was moved to table and the motion to table passed on voice vote. *(It was not possible to hear who moved.)*

P1. Amending the City Code to Provide Clarifications and Updates to the Zoning Ordinance. This was a complicated and controversial measure. Staff had previously explained that it was important to move forward with most of these changes. But several have generated opposition. CM Wynne explained that she is opposed to changing the option for a public hearing from "shall" to "may." Public comment at council and by email have opposed this change. Nieuwsma agreed there should be an opportunity for objections, and also asked for more information about changes around Transit Oriented Development (TOD). Melissa Klotz, Zoning Administrator, explained that it was important not to delay most of these changes. Suffredin expressed concern about the role of the Land Use Commission and the impact of expanding the size of Transit districts. Reid responded that larger Transit district zoning reduces the

parking requirement which reduces the cost of housing and creates more affordable housing. Kelly asked to delay the measure to allow more time to study the impact. Burns suggested removing the change in TOD dimensions in order to pass the rest of the changes. Suffredin suggested pulling the TOD and Land Use Commission changes out of the measure and passing it. He moved to amend the measure. Reid said it would be OK to pull out the Land Use Commission elements, but Council should keep the expansion of the TOD. He moved to amend Suffredin's amendment. His motion failed for lack of a second.

Suffredin moved to hold the full measure. Kelly seconded. Reid moved to override the motion to hold. Nieuwsma seconded the move to override. There was a roll call vote. The move to override passed 6-2, Kelly and Suffredin voted no.

Reid moved to amend the measure to remove the Land Use Commission change. The motion failed for lack of a second.

Kelly moved to reintroduce the Suffredin amendment to remove the Land Use Commission changes (section 13, 14, 15) and the TOD changes (section 12) from the measure. The motion passed on a roll call vote 7-1. Reid voted no.

The motion as amended passed on a roll call vote 7-1. Reid voted no.

FB1. (From the Finance and Budget Committee) Adopting the Pension Funding Policy for Public Safety Pension Plans. Reid moved to amend to make it an Ordinance, legally enforceable, rather than a Resolution. Council could pass a new Resolution at any time. The motion failed for lack of a second. Cummings agreed that it could be changed as a Resolution, and an Ordinance could be changed too. Reid defended his position and moved the same amendment. Again it failed for lack of a second. Nieuwsma said he supported the Resolution and moved to approve. The motion passed on a roll call vote without dissent, 8-0.

Call of the wards. (It seemed that Suffredin left the meeting.) Reid spoke at some length to describe a homeless encampment under the Howard Street viaduct, reflecting homelessness and substance abuse. He said the City needed to address this situation and a meeting called by Human Services will be convened on August 21.

Geracaris announced a program for rat elimination in his ward.

Kelly referred to a Tribune article outlining a legal move by Counsel Cummings which she said supported Northwestern and not Evanston citizens. She criticized the action and said it was handled improperly. Cummings replied that his actions were an appropriate way to clarify a complex situation.

Council then returned to P1, the Zoning ordinance, in order that Kelly could clarify her amendment. The amendment was passed on a voice vote and the amended measure was passed with no opposition.

Council went into Executive Session at 7:10 to discuss personnel, collective bargaining and litigation.