

**OBSERVER REPORT**  
**Evanston City Council**  
**May 29, 2007**

**Observer:** Jessica Feldman

**Present:** All aldermen. City Manager and multiple staff

**Media:** Only noticed RoundTable (Evanston Review at P & D.) but Chicago Tribune also there.

**Began:** 9:10 pm

**Ended:** 10:15 pm

**Significant Discussion/ Reports/Action**

No speakers present for Township Public Hearing so hearing was immediately closed  
Two citizens spoke, Tina Paden urged very careful consideration of PD for 1890 Maple because developer has now stated that the previously agreed \$150,000 donation to be applied for affordable housing and assistance toward recommended upgrading of traffic signals etc along Emerson is being reduced to \$50,000 and developer also asking for time extension for construction from one year to two years. Therefore questioned trustworthiness of developer also noted that 1881 Oak has had approval for almost a year and has not started anything yet. Further urged support for developing a real plan for Emerson and not continue having developers decide the plan and enforcing the new weed cutting ordinance on the developer as weeds are becoming a problem on the 1881 site.

Alan Drebin raised concern that since Memorial Day a year ago he has noticed that streetlights continue to remain on during the day along Sheridan Rd. and on other streets. It is waste of money and energy.

After some discussion, request for issuance for liquor license for Nine Fish Restaurant (2426 Main) was referred back to Liquor Commission because required training has not been completed yet. Two other liquor licenses were approved, a class B for Blu 1710 Orrington and Class D for Tacos del Lago (822 Clark St.)

The PD request for 1890 was introduced and referred back to the P & D committee. Committee decided this PD needs more extensive discussion than time allowed this evening.

Ordinance for a 180 day Moratorium on New Building Construction in the downtown area was only introduced. Suspension of rules to act on it met Ald. Ann Rainey's small rally of opposition in the P& D meeting to voting for a suspension of rules so it could also be an action during the Council meeting itself.

Ordinance 40-0-07 renaming and amending "affordable Housing Demolition Tax and Affordable Housing Tax Fund" and transferring Balance of Mayor's Special Housing Tax Fund into newly renamed Affordable Housing Fund passed by an unanimous-sounding voice vote.

Resolution 22-R-07 establishing guidelines for management and use of the fund from the Affordable Housing Fund passed unanimously.

Council acting as Township Trustees discussed reductions in the annual Township budget that were recommended by Alderman Bernstein, seeking some clarifications from the Township Assessor about several expenditures and funding requests. Approval was withheld pending further discussions and clarifications at another meeting.

**Comments:** Efficient meeting.