

**City Council  
Observer Report  
May 14, 2007**

Observer: Sue Brady

Present: All aldermen except Ann Rainey. Mayor absent. Ald. Jean-Baptiste was Mayor Pro-Tem. City Manager and multiple staff

Media: Evanston Review, RoundTable, Daily Northwestern

Began: 8:45 pm. Ended 9:45 pm

Significant Discussion/Reports/Action:

1. Through Sen. Jeff Schoenberg's efforts, State of Illinois awarded School District 65 a \$100,000 grant for their Capital Fund, in particular, environmental health.
2. Evanston Department of Health is now a depository for unused prescription drugs and syringes.
3. City Manager report on collapse of parking garage roof (30x70 feet) at the Roszak development at 1718 Oak at 9:30 p.m. last Friday night. During Call of the Wards, Ald. Jean-Baptiste elaborated and said the City did a magnificent job and the coordination by staff was excellent. City Manager said much of this was because of training of staff, beginning with one person being the administrator and coordinator.
4. Five citizens spoke, two against the West Side Master Plan, one for a moratorium on downtown construction.
5. Council approved West Side Plan incorporation need to slow gentrification in the area
6. Council approved a consultant to design Downtown Plan and staff will draft a resolution for a moratorium on the downtown to coincide with length of the consultant's project, probably October 2007. Will be discussed at the next meeting.
7. Approved renaming the fund for housing deposits to the "Affordable Housing Fund."
8. Though approved by P&D, staff asked that Guidelines for the Housing Trust Fund be held at the Council level so that they could incorporate changes made by Committee.
9. Ald. Tisdahl asked staff to present at the next Civic Center Committee meeting a way for the residents and the City to begin a dialogue on this matter.

Comments: Good efficient meeting. The trust Fund Guidelines will hopefully pass next meeting, and it is a good document.