

## Observer Report

**Council or Committee:** City Council

**Date:** 10/13/08

**Observer:** Jessica Feldman

**Aldermen Present/Absent:** All present

**Staff Present:**, Most Division and Department Heads

**Media Present:** Bill Smith, Daily Northwestern (3), Evanston Review, and Evanston Roundtable

**Meeting began: Called to order 8:40 pm;** Immediately after roll call, went into Executive Session, reconvening at 9:45pm. **Meeting Ended: 11 pm (public session)** Executive session followed.

**Mayoral Announcement:** Mayor and City Manager attended a meeting in Oak Park of representatives of the 70 suburban communities that signed on to share in “Casino Revenue”. This dormant group has been re-activated with the impending issuance of the 10<sup>th</sup> casino license, which is expected to be issued by the end of the year.

**City Manager Public Announcements:** First day of Early Voting was Monday with 400 votes cast. Mr. Greene stated that, in addition to the early voting, the City Clerk’s office provides customer service, giving an example or a request that was fulfilled during the day

**Citizen Comment:** Although seven residents had signed up, all but two left when the Council went into Executive Session. Junad Rizki addressed several Consent Agenda items and the Budget, which was a non-agenda item,; Mary Friedl addressed Consent Agenda item A5, which authorized a lease renewal with the US Postal Service for parking USPS vehicles in the City’s Maple Avenue parking lot. Her concern was the location of the USPS Parking which has been using the first floor , which she stated should be reserved for handicapped parking per the ADA regulations. In response to the Mayor’s question. John Burke said he would look into changing the location in the garage for the USPS vehicles.

**Items for Consideration:** Of the 16 items on the Consent Agenda, 11 were approved in that vote. The six items taken up individually were:

A3.1. Approval of Contract for Architectural Services for Branch Library Project. Although approved in committee, there was much discussion about potential total costs. The item was held at the Council pending more information.

The following three items were approved 9-0. A3.2; Acceptance of a \$60,000 Il. Dept. of Commerce and Economic Opportunity Grant to convert one recycling day from bins to 65 or 96 gallon wheeled recycling carts. Senior citizens may opt to continue using the bins.

A3.3: Approval of Bike the Ridge Special Event October 26, 2008, from 8 to 10 am. Everyone was encouraged to participation this community event.

A6: Resolution appointing a Director and Alternate Director to SWANCC, the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County. Council approved Alderman Moran as Director and the City Manager as the Alternate Director.

P1: Recommendation of allocation of HOME CHDO Funds was held to October 27<sup>th</sup> City Council Meeting.

**Appointments:** None