

Observer Report
City Council
May 11, 2009

Observer: Sue Brenner

Aldermen Absent/Present: All Present

Staff Present: Staff representatives from most departments

Media Present: Evanston Review, Evanston Roundtable, EvanstonNow.com

Citizens Present: There was a full room to see the last meeting of the 77th Council and the first meeting of the 78th Council

Meeting Began: 7:14

Meeting Ended: 9:02 PM

Announcements, Proclamations and Public Comment:

The City received two awards:

1. For Distinguished Budgeting (we have received this award for 24 straight years)
2. for Excellent Financial Operations (we have received this award for a long time as well)

Suzette: No recycling or trash on Memorial Day

Chief Eddington: 5/20 3PM celebration of all police officers and those who were injured or died in the line of duty

National Public Works Week proclaimed and National Preservation Month proclaimed

All winners in the April election were certified by Orr's office.

There were several speakers: One to remind us about the Memorial Day March and several to thank our alderman for their service; One to encourage new alderman to serve well.

Significant Discussion, Action Taken:

This was the last meeting of the 77th Council and the last for Steve Bernstein, EbMoran, Anjana Hansen and Cheryl Wollin. It was also the last meeting for Liz Tisdale as an alderman.

Alderman Moran presented the consent agenda. The minutes were approved as were the payroll and bills.

A&PW Consent Agenda Approvals:

Approval of Acceptance of Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity Grant

Recommend approval of acceptance of a grant from the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (IDCEO) in the amount of \$60,000 to fund conversion of one collection day from recycling bins to larger capacity wheeled recycling carts.

(A3.2)* Approval of Lowest Responsible and Responsive bid (10-12) for the Summer Food Service Program

Recommend approval of lowest responsible and responsive bid (10-12) from the Open Kitchen, Inc. (1161 West 21st Street, Chicago, IL) for the 2009 Summer Food Service Program in the not-to-exceed amount of \$2.185 per lunch.

(A3.3)* Approval of Lowest Responsible and Responsive Bid (10-17) for Green Bay Road Landscaping Maintenance

Recommend approval of lowest responsible and responsive bid (10-17) from KGI Landscaping Company (P.O. Box 265, Skokie, IL) for the landscape maintenance of the Green Bay Road railroad Embankment in the amount of \$59,113. (A3.4)*

Acceptance of the City's Proposed Project List for Inclusion in the Federal Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Application

No Planning and Development Meeting

Human Services Approvals

(H1)* Township of Evanston Monthly Bills

Consideration of approval the Township of Evanston April 2009 bills totaling \$248,060.97. Legal fees totaling \$75,305.89 were held in Human Services Committee March 2, 2009 and in City Council April 14, 2009. Committee recommends approval of new total of \$44,145.26 to settle all legal fees. For Action

(H2)* Resolution 32-R-09 Authorizing the Interim City Manager to Submit the Substantial Amendment to the *City of Evanston Consolidated Plan 2008 Action Plan* to Effect the Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program

Consideration of Resolution 32-R-09 authorizing the Interim City Manager to Submit the Substantial Amendment to the *City of Evanston Consolidated Plan 2008 Action Plan* to Effect the Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program. Evanston has been allocated \$801,460 from the Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP) funds on a formula basis. Funds are to be used to help Evanston residents at high risk of homelessness stay in their existing housing, and to help Evanston's homeless population secure stable housing. For Action

(H3)* FY2009-2010 Emergency Shelter Grant Funding Recommendations City

Consideration of FY2009-2010 Emergency Shelter Grant Funding Recommendations. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development has informed the City of Evanston that our Emergency Shelter Grant allocation for the 2009-2010 fiscal year is estimated to be \$85,920.00. The federal funding entitled to the City of Evanston is part of the Stewart McKinney Homeless Assistant Act. For Action

Next was a very touching announcement announcing the renaming of the civic center in honor of the mayor.

(SP1)* Resolution 36-R-09 Designating 2100 Ridge Avenue, Evanston, Illinois, the "Lorraine H. Morton Civic Center"

Consideration of resolution 36-R-09 designating 2100 Ridge Avenue Evanston, IL, the "Lorraine H. Morton Civic Center".

This was followed by resolutions honoring Dennis Drummer and commending Alderman Moran, Bernstein, Tisdahl, Wollin and Hansen for their years of service as a member of the council.

Then a beautiful picture of an opera house staircase in Paris was given to the Mayor. The artist whose name I missed is an Evanston resident and part of the art community that has helped pick artwork for public art as well as providing art work for the civic center. It was a great moment!!!!

Finally, there was a call of the wards where everyone said nice things about each other and thanked one another. No one was brief, but it was all heartfelt. I could not capture the sentiments in my notes.

Adjournment and pictures followed.

Meanwhile, the families of the new council members were waiting for the swearing in.

First meeting of the 78th Council.

Invocation by Father Oldershaw.

Administration of Athenian Oaths of Citizenship followed by the Oaths of Office.

The new council was sworn in.