

**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING &
CITY COUNCIL
April 13, 2010**

Observer: Carol Mullins

Trustees/Aldermen Present: All present

Media Present: Evanston Review, Roundtable, Evanston Now, ABC News, Chicago Tribune & probably others of which I am not aware

Meeting Began: 7: 00 pm

Meeting Ended: 10:00 pm approximately

No. of Citizens in Attendance: 35-50

Staff: Representatives from the Law, Forestry, Sustainability, Water, Human Services, police and fire departments.

Annual Town Meeting

Because Evanston township is coterminous with the city, the aldermen are designated as trustees for the annual town meeting. The meeting was moderated by Trustee Colleen Burrus. They decided to form a Communications Committee with Township comprised of township trustees, which will meet with Township more frequently and stay in touch with what is going on. They were most impressed with the way Bonnie Wilson, the Township Assessor, has improved the Assessor's office and complimented her on her efforts to be effective and efficient. (One comment was they knew something was not right, but they did not know until Bonnie came on how "unright" the office was.)

City Council

The regular City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Tisdahl about 8:15PM.

Mayor Public Announcement: The Mayor and Alderman Wynne met with the President of the CTA regarding repairing the Purple Line of the CTA. They were not promised assistance, but President understands the situation.

Mayor Proclamations: Shani Davis Month, Arbor Day (read proclamation). National Library Week, National Fair Housing Month, Youth Employment Month, Healthy Kids Week- 125 years of YMCA, 2 Y youngsters accepted certificates.

City Manager Announcements and Presentations:

Tree City Award – we are one of two cities that have received this award most frequently; Suzette Robinson, new Director of Public Works presented a status report on changes in refuse and recycling. City will give citizens the benefit of the doubt regarding stickers on yard waste bags. If sticker became loose and there's a mark on bag, they will let it go. Friday is last day to downsize garbage containers, but if an extra bag doesn't fit in smaller container, there will be \$25 charge. If this happen frequently, the city will replace the container. Current charge of \$6.95 is going up to \$10.95 per container; the smaller containers remain at \$6.95.

City Clerk: There is new online application for real estate transfers.

Citizen Comment: Six or seven people spoke. Ellen Newcomer spoke for Library week, was the only one not to speak about the proposed wind farm off shore. Many spoke in favor, a couple spoke of concern for both bird migration and habitat since we are in the central flyway for migration.

Consent Agenda: Alderman Rainey presented. Consent agenda passed, but two items were pulled off and voted upon separately: sidewalk café at Jacky's with liquor service; increase from 10 to 12 artists' tents at Farmer's Market.

Standing Committee Report: No reports

Special Order of Business: Climate Action Plan. The discussion was facilitated by Director of Sustainability, Carolyn Collopy. Generally speaking, we are doing an adequate job of recycling and proceeding in a "green" way, HOWEVER, we do not have renewable energy sources. This was a long and very educational presentation. We have received grant money in excess of one million dollars to study climate. We are not meeting our goals of reducing greenhouse gasses at the level we anticipated. The staff recommends that City Council vote to seek approval for RFI, Request for Information, from experts on the wind energy facility at the north end of Evanston. There are many questions that need answered and Alderman Fiske asked excellent questions: does Evanston own the land, do we own the energy that comes to us, 9 wind "turrets" would provide energy for 40,000 residences. Evanston has 30,000 residences. Within the next few months many questions will be answered if Council votes to go ahead on the RFI. The

Council with many questions voted to pursue a Request for Information. Carolyn C. will report back within a couple of months.

Call of the Wards: Fiske-none, Jean-Baptiste- same report as in committee-boy who is charged with public nudity is abhorrent to him, what is definition of public nudity, how do we encourage families to have kids dress so their “butts” don’t show; Wynne, acknowledgement of death of Winifred Farbman, her constituent with fabulous garden, congratulations to her parents on their 60th anniversary and party for them in the middle of her kids’ AP and final exams?; Wilson-none; Holmes-None; Grover-None; Tendam- attended League dinner, so nice to visit in non partisan way, thanks to Leagues for providing observers and kind advice to Council!! Yeah!; Rainey- Ward info, Burrus- thanks to Bonnie Wilson for “being there” in the Assessor’s office.

Meeting adjourned about 10PM.