

Observer Report

City Council **March 28, 2011**

Observer: Jessica Feldman

Aldermen Present/Absent: All present

Staff Present: Greene, Marino, Gaynor, D'Agostino, Lyons, Farrar, Flax, Poole, Saul, Thomas, Schneider, Griffin, (Klaiber and several other firefighters who all left after introduction of Life Safety Services Division Chief Hohl and induction of Division Chief of Training and Administrative Services Geoff Block.), Possibly some others unidentified.

Media Present: Evanston Patch, EvanstonNow, RoundTable, Evanston Local, reporter and photographer from Evanston Review.

Citizen Comment: Nine speakers: One specifically about saving Kendall property; two in support of elm injection program Option 1; four about the NPS2 contracting; and Kevin O'Conner and Junad Rizki critiquing the March 22 Budget presentation.

Meeting began: 7:20 pm

Meeting Ended: 9:15 pm.

Mayor Proclamations: National Fair Housing Month April; National Public Health Week April 7-13; and Shore Community Services 60th Anniversary April 9, 2011.

City Manager Public Announcements and Presentations: William Geiger spoke about the new and continuing direction of McGaw YMCA (which will call itself the McGaw YMCA rather than the Y to differentiate it from the YWCA).

The Mayor accepted the Environmental Hall of Fame Award (for the City's sustainability and recycling efforts and too many other environmental efforts to mention.)

Special Order of Business: A presentation by Sarah Flax, Jolene Saul and Mary Anne Poole provided an update of the various aspects of Affordable Housing.

Discussion, Action: In addition to the minutes and the bills, action items approved 9-0 in the Consent Agenda included:

- Approval of 2011 Special Events Calendar;
- Approval of contract for 2011 MFT street resurfacing program;
- Approval of annual user charge for 2011 with the MWRD of greater Chicago for disposal of sludge generated as part of the water treatment process;
- Resolution 16-R-11 authorizing the City Manager to execute the easement agreement with Sunesys L.L.C for installation of Darks Fiber Optic Cable;
- Ordinance 19-O-11: special assessment for paving alley north of Main east of Grey;

- Ordinance 20-11 special assessment for paving alley north of Brummel, east of Callan Avenue; Ordinance 21-O-11 Amendment to City Code Section 3-5-6-(Y) Class Y Liquor Licenses to regulate wine tastings and permit sales of warm beer;
- Ordinance 5-O-11 amending Title 7, “Public Ways” Chapter 9 “Trees and Shrubs” to add Section 8 “Tree Preservation”;
- Resolution 22-R-11 Mayor Pro Tem Schedule for Remainder of 78th City Council;
- Resolution 21-R-11 approving release of certain closed session meetings, for 2000-02; 2007-08, 2009 and 2010;
- Appointment: Margaret Lurie to Library Board and reappointment of Susan Felts to Sign Review and Appeals Board.

Action items approved by 9-0 votes included:

- Approval of a contracts for Crown Park Phase I and Phase II;
- Environmental Site Assessment and Preliminary Geotechnical Engineering Services and Market Validation and Financial Feasibility Study;
- Approval of purchase of recycling containers (over objections by Alderman Rainey about the color of the top; therefore, the color will be decided later);
- Resolution 13-R-11 approving the subdivision of the former Kendall property and Ordinance 11-O-11 accepting the dedication of public alleys on former Kendall property (saving the old oak tree).

By a 7-2 vote Council approved Option 1 of 4 options provided for adding 840 elm trees above 10” I diameter in the Public Elm Tree Injection Program. Option 1 would include the trees for injection early in the three-year cycle.