MEETING MINUTES
HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE
Monday, March 5, 2012
7:30 p.m.
Lorraine H. Morton Civic Center, 2100 Ridge Avenue, Council Chambers


Members Absent:

Staff Present: Nicola Whyte, Katherine Agonis, Douglas Gaynor, Chief Richard Eddington, Wally Bobkiewicz, and Sergeant Thomas Moore

Presiding Member: Ald. Grover

Declaration of Quorum
With a quorum present, Chairman Grover called the meeting to order at 7:34 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES of FEBRUARY 6, 2012
It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the February 6, 2012 meeting be approved. A voice vote was taken and the minutes were approved 5-0.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

Township of Evanston August Monthly Bills
A representative from the Township was not present to answer the committee’s questions; however, it was moved and seconded that the Township of Evanston February 2012 monthly bills be forwarded to City Council. A voice vote was taken and the motion was approved 5-0.

27-O-12 An Ordinance Amending Section 10-3-13 of the Evanston City Code, “Use of Mobile Telephone While Operating a Motor Vehicle”

David Teater of the National Safety Council in Itasca presented a PowerPoint on cell phone use and driving. Attachment 1 and 2

Timothy Schoolmaster, 1454 Elmwood, is a crash investigator who supports the ordinance to ban the use of a cellular phone while operating a motor vehicle. He stated “hands free” is a myth because it tells the public it is okay to use their phone while driving; however, many studies has shown that is not the case.
Barbara Cornew of the Active Transportation Alliance supports the proposed ordinance to ban the use of cellular telephones while operating a motorized vehicle.

Ben Shapiro, 150 Dewey, is a member of Evanston Bicycle Club and he encouraged the committee to pass the proposed ordinance because “it will make the community safer”.

Carl Bova, 1322 Rosalie Street, read a statement which supports the proposed ordinance. Attachment 3

David Boyce, 2149 Grey Ave, is on the Board of the Evanston Bicycle Club and he strongly supports the proposed ordinance.

Al White, 320 Lake Street, President of the Evanston Running Club supports the proposed ordinance.

Kevin O’Conner, 1227½ Isabella, believes first responders should be the exception to this ordinance; he suggested the committee should also ban the practice of wearing earphones while driving. He supports the proposed ordinance.

Richard Katz, 408 Barton, felt the penalty should be severe enough that it would help enforce the law and/or deter offender. He also suggested adding a stipulation on residents’ annual city sticker purchase of attending an educational session.

Cheryl Muno, 1729 Oakton, supports the proposed ordinance.

Junad Rizid asked the Committee what is being done to ensure the safety of the lagoon pit and the garbage truck drivers and questioned the science behind the reports presented on driving while using hands-free cell phones.

Tom Fischl, 2519 Ashland Ave, was exiting the bike path on the south side of McCormick where a woman driving while talking on her cell phone hit him (he was not injured); he is grateful this is being discussed.

Ald. Tendam asked about enforcement with vehicles equipped with On Star. Sergeant Moore who is in-charge of Traffic stated in the summer officers can listen in on drivers’ conversations because they will be riding the motorcycles.

Ald Fiske does not support the ordinance. She would like to watch the State legislature before making any changes especially due to the north shore communities’ laws not aligning.

Ald. Holmes is concerned about enforcement but will vote to move it on to the City Council.
Ald. Grover requested inclusion to the minutes the letter from Deborah A.P. Hersman of the National Transportation Safety Board and the Evanston Police Department 2011 Traffic Crash Data Report. *Attachments 4 and 5*

It was moved and seconded to forward to the City Council for approval. A voice vote was taken and the motion was passed 4-1.

**ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

Review of Police Complaints—The Committee had no questions and Chief Eddington had nothing further to add to the report; no discussion was held.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

City Manager Bobkiewicz stated the Evanston-Wilmette Golf Association is operating in a more business like manner. A resolution was passed December 31 2011 to waive the past due water fees; however, water charges are still accruing and he requested guidance as to the next steps. The City Manager is in favor of another resolution which would continue to hold the fees in abeyance through 2012.

**Tom Fischl,** 2519 Ashland, does not understand why the Golf Association can raise a golf purse of $30,000 but cannot pay the water bill. He stated he offered his time and services to help raise money; however, he has not heard back from anyone at the Golf Association. Mr. Fischl asked that all discussion on the Golf Association be transparent because the demise of the golf course has gone viral.

- Ald. Holmes would like to see comparison in water usage with the all the other parks and implied
- Ald. Grover requested operating expenses

Ald. Fiske supports waiving the fees

**Sharon Eckersall** asked who pays for the ice at Robert Crown; City Manager Bobkiewicz replied the City pays for the ice at Robert Crown.

**Betty Sue Ester,** 2031 Church St, announced the Continuation of the Special Township Meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m. on March 7th at the Civic Center; she requested the meeting be televised for those unable to attend.

**ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved and seconded to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Nicola Whyte
Executive Secretary, Health Department