MEETING MINUTES
Administration & Public Works
Monday, October 22, 2012
5:45P.M.
Lorraine H. Morton Civic Center, 2100 Ridge Avenue, Evanston
Council Chambers


Members Absent:

Staff Present:  Paul D’Agostino, Wally Bobkiewicz, Godwin Chen, Cheryl Chukwu, Ken Cox, Bob Dorneker, Doug Gaynor, Stephen Griffin, Robert Gustafson, Jewell Jackson, Deputy Chief Jamraz, Lonnie Jeschke, Fire Chief Klaiber, Martin Lyons, Jim Maiworm, Joe McRae, Sat Nagar, Suzette Robinson, Dave Stoneback, Matt Swentkofske

Others Present:  Junad Rizki - Resident – 2784 Sheridan

Presiding Member:  Alderman Grover

I. DECLARATION OF A QUORUM: ALDERMAN GROVER, CHAIR
With a quorum present, Chair Grover called the meeting to order at 5:50 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF October 8, 2012
A voice vote was taken and the minutes of October 8, 2012 were unanimously approved.

III. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

(A1) City of Evanston Payroll through 10/07/12 $2,619,383.11

(A2) City of Evanston Bills FY2012 10/23/12 $2,686,300.59
A voice vote was taken and the Payroll through 10/07/12 and the Bills through 10/23/12 were unanimously approved.

(A3) Approval of Contract for Insurance Consulting Services with Mesirow Financial Services, Inc. (RFP 12-168)
Staff recommends City Council authorization for the City Manager to sign a contract for Insurance Consulting Services with Mesirow Financial Services, Inc., (353 North Clark Street, Chicago, IL) in the total amount of $49,500. Funding is provided in the Insurance Fund Account 7800.62615. A voice vote was taken and A3 was unanimously approved.

(A4) Approval to Provide Free Holiday Parking in the City’s Three Downtown Self-Park Garages and Lot 60 Located at 1234 Chicago Avenue
The Transportation/Parking Committee and City staff recommend approval to provide free holiday parking in the City’s three Downtown Self-Park
Garages and Lot 60 located at 1234 Chicago Avenue on weekdays between 5 p.m. and 12 midnight and all day on Saturday beginning Thursday, November 22, 2012 through Tuesday, January 1, 2013. 
A voice vote was taken and A4 was unanimously approved.

(A5) Approval of Chicago Transit Authority Intergovernmental Agreement
Staff recommends City Council authorization for the City Manager to sign a three-year intergovernmental agreement between the Chicago Transit Authority (CTA) and Evanston Police Department for uniformed patrols on the CTA purple line and CTA elevated platforms. Funding provided by the CTA is estimated at $200,112 per calendar year with a contract rate of $38 per hour.
A voice vote was taken and A5 was unanimously approved.

(A6) Approval of District 202 Rock Salt Agreement for 2012/2013
Staff recommends City Council authorize the City Manager to sign an agreement with Evanston School District 202 for the sale of rock salt in the amount of $66.67 per ton which includes a 10% administration and handling fee for the period November 15, 2012 through April 15, 2013.
A voice vote was taken and A6 was unanimously approved.

(A7) Approval of District 65 Rock Salt Agreement for 2012/2013
Staff recommends City Council authorize the City Manager to sign an agreement with Evanston School District 65 for the sale of rock salt in the amount of $66.67 per ton which includes a 10% administration and handling fee for the period November 15, 2012 through April 15, 2013.
A voice vote was taken and A7 was unanimously approved.

(A8) Resolution 71-R-12 Authorizing an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Village of Skokie for Use of the Fire Station 17 - Training Facility
Staff recommends that Council authorize the City Manager to enter into an Inter-Governmental Agreement (IGA) with the Village of Skokie. The IGA is for the use and maintenance of the Village of Skokie- Fire Station 17 – Training Tower, located at 8157 Central Park in Skokie, Illinois. The initial participation cost to the City of Evanston will be $286,000. Funding will be provided by the Capital Improvement Program Project Number 415829. Funding after the initial capital improvement for annual maintenance costs will be provided by Fire Department account 2305. 62360.
Resident Junad Rizki claimed that this agreement shows that the City does not recognize the relationship to value. He said that this is most unprofessional. He related that he is not opposed to training but these costs are open-ended, fifteen thousand a year for maintenance, thirty to forty thousand a year for the initial cost, he said he has to wonder if the city is going to provide that much training to the officers. Ald. Grover addressing Chief Klaiber, said you and I discussed earlier today how this affects our Insurance Services Office (ISO) rating. Would you please explain how that works and how better training can affect the rating. Chief Klaiber (Fire Chief) noted that the City’s rating improved from level 3 to level 2 in 2010. We cannot go to level 1 he said. The City lost its training tower after the remodeling and the move to the Police Department headquarters. In 2003 Skokie asked if we were willing to help construct a tower to which we said
“no.” Then a few years later we started training there. It is felt that we can benefit from a permanent agreement. One week will be for us, a second for Skokie, a third for combined training (we do respond to each others emergencies) and the fourth week for maintenance. We will train throughout the year. Ald. Rainey said that on the surface this looked like a good deal for Skokie. Are you confident Chief Klaiber that the financial arrangement is fair. Chief Klaiber said he was very confident. The tower is now at a point that repairs are needed. The $286,000 is to help get the tower to a usable state. Our fifteen thousand and their match will be for annual maintenance. Ald. Rainey asked why the tower was not maintained over the years. Chief Klaiber said that training is very hard on a structure. Or she wondered, did Skokie build something that was inadequate, or are we just propping them up. Chief Klaiber said that he cannot talk to those points but noted that this agreement provides for oversight of the facility. Martin Lyons (Assistant City manager/Treasurer) said that he had the same concerns as Ald. Rainey as he read the documents. A facility of this type has a higher wear and tear profile than other sites. I can envision repairs being needed in ten years he concluded. Chief Klaiber said it is not currently being used for line fire training. There is however many other types of training that are being conducted. Ald. Rainey said that it sounds like a fabulous opportunity, it sounds like a lot of research was done, it sounds like Mr. Rizki did not have all the information and it sounds like we know what we are doing. Ald. Holmes asked about a comparison between this cost and taking the train out to the Glen for training. Chief Klaiber said that the Police Department and the City belong to Northeastern Illinois Public Safety Training Academy (NIPSTA) for 25 thousand a year. Two times a year we have training at their academy. Large joint operations are conducted. But only one company can go at a time to the academy, and be out of Evanston. In Skokie we can go twelve times a year and can get back to Evanston very quickly in an emergency. Ald. Grover asked what the benefits to the residents would be if the City got a higher ISO rating. Chief Klaiber said that insurance rates would decrease, especially in commercial areas.

A voice vote was taken and A8 was unanimously approved.

(A9) Resolution 72-R-12 Authorizing the Transfer of $704,263 of Motor Fuel Tax Funds for General Maintenance of Streets
Staff recommends approval of Resolution 72-R-12 by which City Council would authorize the transfer of $704,263 of Motor Fuel Tax Funds for general maintenance of streets by City forces. The fund transfer was approved as part of 2012 budget.
A voice vote was taken and A9 was unanimously approved.

(A10) Resolution 74-R-12 Approving Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County (SWANCC) as a Listed Entity for Health Insurance
Staff recommends approval of Resolution 74-R-12 authorizing the City Manager to execute an intergovernmental agreement with SWANCC for the provision of health insurance as a component unit of the City within the Intergovernmental Personal Benefits Cooperative (IPBC). SWANCC will be responsible for all insurance premium costs and fees and will also receive increases/decreases in plan costs equal to the City’s plan costs each year. Ald. Rainey said she wonders if this is a case of just being nice or do we get something out of this. M. Lyons stated that they are insured by Blue Cross Blue
Shield as a small group, 2 to 150 employees. The City is self insured. They will be expected to pay their premiums and after a year they can join the HMO plan which is shared across all the communities. There is very little risk involved. The point being, they'll pay their premiums and the way the pool is set up, we have our risk capped. If they have a large claim and it goes above thirty thousand dollars all of IPBC shares in it. This is a regional thing we are doing by trying to control costs at SWANCC. This should over the long haul provide us with lower costs from SWANCC. Ald. Rainey suggested that it would be a good idea to get an analysis of what it is like in the private market for waste disposal. Wally Bobkiewicz (City Manager) said that he is the alternate representative to SWANCC. The full Board is looking at what options are available. Many existing agreements are coming to an end. All committees are looking at their options. Perhaps Mr. Dave Van Vooren, Executive Director of SWANNC should come back to answer questions. The City is very involved in SWANCC. M. Lyons noted that the City has a ninety day out clause at each years end. A voice vote was taken and A10 was unanimously approved.

(A11) Ordinance 62-O-12; Amending the City Code and the Civil Service Commission Rules
Staff requests consideration of Ordinance 62-O-12, which amends Title 2, Chapter 3 of the City Code to address state law amendments to the Fire Department hiring process, expands the number and role of the commissioners in the hiring process for new police officers and firefighters, and addresses changes in the hiring practices within the Division of Human Resources.
A voice vote was taken and A11 was unanimously approved.

(A12) Ordinance 116-O-12, to Add “Drive” as an Available Street Designation
Staff recommends adoption of Ordinance 116-O-12 which amends Section 7-2-3 of the Evanston City Code of 2012, as amended, (the “Code”) to include “drive” as an available street designation.
A voice vote was taken and A12 was unanimously approved.

(A13) Ordinance 126-O-12, Amending Ordinance 28-O-11 Authorizing the City to Borrow Funds from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency Water Pollution Control Loan Program
Staff recommends approval of Ordinance 126-O-12 modifying previously adopted Ordinance 28-O-11 that authorized the City to borrow funds from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency Water Pollution Control Loan Program for the construction of the Large Diameter Sewer Rehabilitation Phase I project. This ordinance modifies Ordinance 28-O-11 authorizing the City to borrow up to $4,000,000. The debt service will be paid from the Sewer Fund.
A voice vote was taken and A13 was unanimously approved.

(A14) Ordinance 113-O-12, Increasing the number of Class B Liquor Licenses Permitting Issuance to 27 Live
Staff recommends adoption of Ordinance 113-O-12, which amends Subsection 3-4-6-(B) of the Evanston City Code of 2012 (“City Code”), as amended, to increase the number of Class B liquor licenses from 16 to 17
to permit issuance of a liquor license to 27 Live, LLC, 1012-14 Church Street.
Ald. Grover said she would like to recommend that the Council waive the holding of this ordinance for two weeks. Ald. Rainey said that if the surety bond, Basset training, fingerprint results, etc. are not evident she cannot vote for this. She was assured that all would be available at Council.
A voice vote was taken and A14 was unanimously approved.

(A15) Ordinance 118-O-12, Decreasing the Number of Class D Liquor Licenses Due to the Closure of Mecafresh
Staff recommends adoption of Ordinance 118-O-12, which amends Subsection 3-4-6-(D) of the Evanston City Code of 2012 (“City Code”), as amended, to decrease the number of Class D liquor licenses from 25 to 24 due to the closure of Mecafresh, 1840 Oak Avenue.
Ald. Rainey suggested that since this place is already closed, the Council should waive the holding of this ordinance for two weeks.
A voice vote was taken and A15 was unanimously approved.

(A16) Ordinance 122-O-12, Increasing the Number of Class Y Liquor Licenses Permitting Issuance to Wine Goddess, LLC
Staff recommends adoption of Ordinance 122-O-12, which amends Subsection 3-4-6-(Y) of the Evanston City Code of 2012 (“City Code”), as amended, to increase the number of Class Y liquor licenses from two to three to permit issuance to Wine Goddess, LLC, 702 Main Street.
A voice vote was taken and A16 was unanimously approved.

(A17) Ordinance 123-O-12, Increasing the Number of Class B1 Liquor Licenses Permitting Issuance to Cheesie’s Evanston, LLC
Staff recommends adoption of Ordinance 123-O-12, which amends Subsection 3-4-6-(B1) of the Evanston City Code of 2012 (“City Code”), as amended, to increase the number of Class B1 liquor licenses from five to six to permit issuance to Cheesie’s Evanston, LLC, d/b/a Cheesie’s Pub & Grub, 622 Davis Street.
A voice vote was taken and A17 was unanimously approved.

(A18) Ordinance 124-O-12, Increasing the Number of Class B1 Liquor Licenses Permitting Issuance to Clarke’s on Orrington, Inc. (d/b/a JT’s Bar and Grill)
Staff recommends adoption of Ordinance 124-O-12, which amends Subsection 3-4-6-(B1) of the Evanston City Code of 2012 (“City Code”), as amended, to increase the number of Class B1 liquor licenses to seven (with adoption of Ordinance 123-O-12) to permit issuance to Clarke’s on Orrington, Inc., d/b/a JT’s Bar and Grill, 1639 Orrington. Suspension of the Rules is requested for Introduction and Action by City Council on October 22, 2012.
Ald. Rainey pointed out that all the information needed is not in the packet.
A voice vote was taken and A18 was unanimously approved.

(A19) Ordinance 128-O-12: Visitors Center Fire Lane Construction Project Agreement and Lease Agreement with Northwestern University
Staff requests consideration of Ordinance 128-O-12, authorizing the City Manager to negotiate and execute a Project Agreement and a Lease Agreement
with Northwestern University for City-owned property located at the northeast corner of Sheridan Road and Campus Drive.
A voice vote was taken and A19 was unanimously approved.

IV. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION
(APW1) Signs on Parkways
Suzette Robinson (Director Public Works) began the discussion by saying that the Mayor had requested research to the possible modification of the applicable section of the City Code concerning advertising on public streets and alleys. S. Robinson said she was going to share the findings tonight. City Code Chapter 4 Advertising speaks to the placement of advertising on all public streets or alleys. The traffic engineers and police can remove these signs as a violation of this section. Some residents have voiced concern about the equity in enforcement. The modifications suggested are: 1) Establish signage contracts within the ordinance, i.e., non-profit events, recreational activities, political activities, memorials, commercial services and sales. 2) Exempt certain categories from removal such as non-profit and recreational events. 3) Require that all signage contain date(s) and 4) Establish time limits on displays i.e. two weeks in advance of an event. Ald. Burrus agreed that currently residents just put up signs. Would exempt category types have to come in and say what they are going to do she asked. I envision this with people putting signs everywhere all the time. Ald. Holmes asked what is needed besides a two week maximum. Ald. Burrus said they can put them up for two weeks, then change the location and have them up for two more weeks. Ald. Holmes suggested that as a non-profit, you would want signs everywhere to serve all of the community. Yard sale signs are usually only in the area of the sale. Ald. Burrus noted that Aldermen get invites to many fund raisers. If they were allowed to put signs all over the parkways, there will be a lot of signs. Ald. Grover stated that this is only concerned with city property. Ald. Rainey said she does not think we need to change existing rules. Ald. Grover suggested putting a sticker on the sign saying it violates City policy. Ald. Holmes suggested that a bill be sent for removal charges. S. Robinson thanked them for their input and comments.

VI. ADJOURNMENT
Ald. Burrus moved and Ald. Holmes seconded that the meeting be adjourned. It was unanimously approved at 6:30.

Respectfully Submitted,
Phillip Baugher
Administrative Assistant, Administrative Services