I. DECLARATION OF QUORUM

With a quorum present, Chairman Jean-Baptiste called the meeting to order at 5:55 p.m.

Mayor Tisdahl took a moment to present awards to the winning artists from Evanston schools that competed in the “Paint the Snowplow” contest this year. This contest is sponsored by the Public Works Department every year. This year’s theme was “Be Alert, Accidents Hurt.” Members of Streets and Sanitation attended to assist in making the presentations. Certificates of appreciation were given to Dewey Elementary, Haven Middle and Willard Elementary schools. The Mayor presented the Evanstonian Choice Award (received the most votes on-line and by phone) to Lincolnwood Elementary; the Best Theme Award (selected by Streets and Sanitation employees) to Chute Middle School and the Mayor’s Choice Award (two were selected this year) to Kingsley Elementary and Nichols Middle School. All present congratulated the young artists.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING of November 8, 2010

Minutes were approved unanimously 5 - 0.

III. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

(A1) City of Evanston Payroll through 11/7/10 $2,268,448.88

A1 was unanimously approved 5 – 0

(A2) City of Evanston Bills through 11/23/10 $3,938,089.79

City of Evanston Credit Card Bills through 09/30/10 $ 87,844.00

Ald. Fiske asked about the locations chosen for bike racks. She mentioned that she has been asking for one at 500 Davis for a long time. Suzette Robinson (Director Public Works) said the current list of installations is from last year’s requests. Ald. Fiske request she said will be considered for next year’s work. Ald. Jean-Baptiste asked how the selections were decided upon. S. Robinson said requests/suggestions come from
Aldermen, citizens and from city departments and staff. The areas where bikes out number the racks are looked for. Ald. Fiske asked if next years request will also be listed in November. S. Robinson stated that she hoped it would be sooner. The order is placed in early summer and the racks are installed in the fall. Marty Lyons (Assistant City Manager) noted that the CIP funding was adopted very late this year so approval of the invoice was also late. Ald. Fiske asked when the dates might be next year and S. Robinson responded that installation will probably be the same time, August/September due to workloads in Public Works. Ald. Jean-Baptiste asked if Aldermen can submit requests for locations. S. Robinson said that a memo would be sent out asking for site suggestions and will also list what residents have asked for.

A2 was unanimously approved 5 – 0

(A3.1) Approval of Field Reporting Software Purchase for Evanston Police Department
Staff recommends approval of the sole source purchase of Field Reporting software in the amount of $92,568.00 from SunGard Public Sector, Inc., (1000 Business Center Drive, Lake Mary, FL). Funding provided by the Emergency Telephone System budget, account 5150.65625 Service Agreements/Contracts (CIP Project #415735).

Ald. Rainey, noting that Chief Eddington was in the chambers asked him if this software would relieve officers from the task of handwriting police reports. It is a fact that some of them cannot be read. Chief Eddington (Police Chief) said yes, it will be the first visible result of installing this software.

A3.1 was unanimously approved 5 – 0

(A3.2) Approval of Contract Extension to Purchase Furniture for FY2011 from OEC Business Interiors
Staff recommends approval of a one year contract extension to OEC Business Interiors Inc. (900 N. Church Road, Elmhurst, IL), to purchase furniture. Funding for this purchase will be provided by CIP account 415726 and/or a business unit of a requesting department. OEC will hold to their 2007 pricing discount schedules.

A3.2 was unanimously approved 5 – 0

(A3.3) Approval of Illinois Green Infrastructure Grant Program Application for Civic Center Parking Lot Improvements
Staff recommends authorization for the City Manager to sign the organization certification for the Illinois Green Infrastructure Program Grant Application for the Civic Center Parking Lot Project. The estimated total cost of improvements is $415,000, including Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) Grant funding of $225,000 and Capital Improvement Program (CIP) funding of $190,000.

Ald. Rainey asked what would happen if the item is not approved. S. Robinson replied the City would not do the project.

A3.3 was unanimously approved 5 – 0

(A3.4) Approval of Authorization to Access Line Of Credit of $10 Million
Staff recommends that City Council authorize the City Manager to sign an agreement with Chase Bank to have access to a Line Of Credit up to an amount of $10M. The State of Illinois and the County of Cook are projected to be delinquent in revenue distributions by up to three months more than in previous years. This

Approved
will have a negative impact on cash flow needed for daily operations. This line of credit will only be drawn upon in the event of these intergovernmental revenues being late as described above.

Ald. Rainey acknowledged that the City of Evanston is not the only municipality in this financial position. She wondered though what some of the legislative groups the City belongs to are doing about this situation. What action are they taking about the State keeping our money. M. Lyons replied that the State is having an overall budget crisis and is holding on to funds hoping the tax structure will change. The County is a very much more difficult situation. Not all counties in the State are holding monies. Tax bills come out in November and the first payments are due in December. The veto session in the State may have to be carried over until January. Ald. Rainey interjected that the State Representative and Senator are sent by us, the citizens. M. Lyons noted that as changes have arisen, the City of Evanston has stepped up its efforts. Mayor Tisdahl and the City Manager have just returned from Springfield. Ald. Rainey asked if the Council would get any feedback. M. Lyons said that yes they will but that he would ask Matt Swentkofske (COE Intergovernmental Relations) to summarize the meetings and get a note to them. Ald. Rainey suggested asking him to speak to the full Council. Ald. Jean-Baptiste felt that if Mr. Swentkofske had specifics to share he would be at the next meeting. Wally Bobkiewicz (City Manager) stated that our representatives in Springfield do understand the issues but not how to fix them. If they wait until January, it will be a lame duck session. There is a suggestion to allow more gaming establishments which will generate more income tax. This item, A3.4, is for expedience, for emergencies. Ald. Jean-Baptist asked if it was mentioned while in Springfield. W. Bobkiewicz said they talked about macro issues and cash flow. Ald. Rainey claimed that she knows how hard the Mayor and City Manager are working. But, what is the feedback from our state representative and senator, are they hearing us. W. Bobkiewicz said he believed they did. But, he understands that they want us to prioritize our needs. Ald. Rainey asked if the City of Evanston has ever taken out a line of credit before. M. Lyons said that yes, in the early 90’s a tax anticipation warrant was set up.

A3.4 was unanimously approved 5 – 0

(A4) Approval of Agreement with Northwestern University Regarding the Sheridan Road Traffic Signal at Northwestern University Entrance, South of Garrett Place

Staff recommends City Council authorize the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Northwestern University for the design, construction and funding of the proposed Sheridan Road traffic signal at the Northwestern University entrance south of Garrett Place. All costs associated with the design and construction of the proposed traffic signal will be reimbursed by Northwestern University. This item was held in Committee on November 8, 2010.

Rosemary O’Neil, a resident on Sheridan Road, spoke concerning the placement and necessity of the traffic signal just south of Garrett Place. She opened by acknowledging that she has attended these meetings several times. She stated that she, neighbors, city staff and Police stood at this site with a poem flashing light in place. Bike riders and jaywalkers ignored it. Paul Schneider, the City Engineer, showed them the spot where the traffic signal would be installed. It will not be hung over Sheridan Road and will require only minimum pruning of the foliage in the area. He and Ms. Eggleston, the Director of Public Works, suggested a trip wire on the property. Recent reports say the high traffic time is only in the afternoon, the nighttime is desolate. She thanked the committee and the City staff for all their efforts to come up with the best solution.

Approved
Ald. Fiske thought it was a good meeting, forty-five minutes with traffic engineering, city planning and neighbors. Sometimes the traffic became dense but the main concern was the pedestrians. She did note three that crossed Sheridan from west to east and then proceeded to walk up to Foster to go on to campus grounds, a crosswalk with a traffic light. Students are the biggest concern she continued, there are lots of walkers and bikers. The parking lot entrance needs to be reconfigured she said for safety reasons. This is not a regular crossing, reminders will be needed. A light will help. However, she stated, this is a far more complicated problem than was anticipated. Northwestern plans on a larger parking plan which will affect Sheridan Road. She related that she had asked that when the new business school was designed if traffic was looked at. She does not believe so. She stated that her point is that along with Northwestern building projects a larger parking/traffic analysis should be made. Their vision plan calls for a lot of building that will impact Sheridan Road traffic. She continued by suggesting the City and the university work together to see what can be done to direct traffic to other places than the Garrett traffic signal. Ald. Rainey suggested that the committee should focus on the current item on the agenda. She asked if anyone was satisfied with the recent on-site study. Paul Schneider (City Engineer) stated that the previous Wednesday, the use of a poem light was observed such as the one Ms. O’Neil had seen in Waukegan. They have a median where officers could stand in relative safety. Poem lights flash a warning telling you that there is an officer near by. It is not a traffic signal. The Evanston Police did a good job of directing traffic but they had to park their patrol cars on the street narrowing Sheridan Road to two lanes, which made the study less than accurate. The number of students is a more difficult challenge. I do not believe he said that a poem light will help. Ald. Rainey asked if a resident had requested a traffic signal and the City had to pay, would he recommend it. P. Schneider said yes. A complete study was done when the City took over Sheridan Road. W. Bobkiewicz noted that the exercise illuminated other issues with traffic signals and will help as the City moves forward as it is designed.

A4 was approved 4 – 0  Ald. Burrus recused herself.

(A5) Resolution 60-R-10 Regarding Northwestern University Utility Easement on Sheridan Road

Staff recommends that City Council adopt the Resolution 60-R-10 to grant a utility easement to Northwestern University in order to cross Sheridan Road approximately two hundred and fifty (250’) feet east of Chicago Avenue to accommodate future Northwestern University utilities. The easement will be granted for a 25-year period. No City funding is required for these utility crossings. Northwestern University will fund the project and will be assessed an initial annual utility easement fee of $1,102.50 which equals $.50 per square foot for 2205 square feet. This fee will escalate by 2.5% per year for the 25-year period.

Ald. Fiske asked for a more detailed explanation. M. Lyons said that while the City was working on Sheridan Road, there was an opportunity to place utility sleeves in the ground at little extra cost. Sleeves that can hold underground communication cables. The university approved the City placing the sleeves for future use. Ald. Fiske asked if they can be used for other purposes. M. Lyons said that indeed they could be used for steam or chilled water, various utilities. Ald. Rainey wondered at this resolution since there is an easement ordinance on the agenda tonight. M. Lyons said that this is content related for future use. The later agenda item will be a right-of-way, access issue with a fee. Northwestern will have to rent land to use this. Ald. Rainey asked if this fee is
comparable to what Comcast pays, for what Northwestern pays for fiber optics. M. Lyons said that other agencies and what they billed were looked at. The Regional Metro Water Reclamation District charges 50 cents a square foot. A5 was unanimously approved 5 – 0

(A6) Resolution 59-R-10 Authorizing the City Manager to execute Amendment 2 to the City’s Natural Gas Supply Agreement with CenterPoint Energy Services, Inc.
Staff recommends adoption of Resolution 59-R-10 authorizing the City Manager to execute Amendment 2 to the City’s Natural Gas Supply Agreement with CenterPoint Energy Services, Inc. The NGI index price changes hourly, but currently the price is generally around or under $0.40 per therm. To ensure that the City is protected in the event that the index price begins to escalate, we are recommending that the City Manager be authorized to lock into a fixed price per therm when the index price is in the range of $0.50 to $0.52 per therm, which will also require locking into a fixed monthly quantity. A6 was unanimously approved 5 – 0

(A7) Resolution 61-R-10: Approval of the FY2011 Budget of the City of Evanston
RESOLUTION WILL BE PRESENTED AT THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2010.

(A8) Resolution 62-R-10 Support for Safe Routes to School Program
Staff recommends the approval of proposed Resolution 62-R-10 by which the City Council supports the joint initiative of the City and School District 65’s Safe Routes to School program for a grant application to the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT). Up to $250,000 is available from IDOT’s Safe Route to School Program, which is reimbursable to the City for infrastructure improvements in the public way. A8 was unanimously approved 5 – 0

(A9) Resolution 63-R-10 Authorizing Service Center Apartment Lease Agreement
Staff recommends City Council approve Resolution 63-R-10 authorizing the lease of the one bedroom apartment on the second floor of the Service Center, 2020 Asbury Avenue, to Mr. Stephen Griffin, Community and Economic Development Director, from November 28, 2010 through November 28, 2011. A9 was unanimously approved 5 – 0

(A10) Resolution 64-R-10: Authorizing the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute a Contract for the Purchase of Real Property Located at 727-29 Howard Street, Evanston, Illinois
Staff recommends approval of Resolution 64-R-10 authorizing the City Manager to negotiate and execute a contract for the purchase of real property located at 727-729 Howard Street in Evanston, Illinois for an amount not to exceed $325,000. The source of funding for this acquisition is the Howard-Ridge Tax Increment Financing (TIF) District. For fiscal year 2011, a balance of approximately $1.2 million is estimated for this TIF district. A10 was unanimously approved 5 – 0
(A11) Resolution 65-R-10: Authorizing the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute a Contract for the Purchase of Real Property Located at 629-31 Howard Street, Evanston, Illinois

Staff recommends approval of Resolution 65-R-10 authorizing the City Manager to negotiate and execute a contract for the purchase of real property located at 629-631 Howard Street in Evanston, Illinois for an amount not to exceed $237,650. The source of funding for this acquisition is the Howard-Ridge Tax Increment Financing (TIF) District. For fiscal year 2011, a balance of approximately $1.2 million is estimated for this TIF district.

A11 was unanimously approved 5 – 0

(A12) Ordinance 59-O-10, Amending Portions of Section 3-5-8 of the City Code to Permit Certain Changes in Liquor License Classifications

On October 28, 2010, the Liquor Control Review Board convened a hearing to consider Ordinance 59-O-10, which would permit liquor licensees for hotels and restaurants to request changes in license type without submitting entirely new license applications, thereby avoiding time-consuming fingerprint checks and redundant paperwork. Local Liquor Commissioner recommends that the City Council introduce and suspend the rules in order to adopt Ordinance 59-O-10 on November 22, 2010.

Ald. Rainey said that she would introduce this item so it can be addressed for action. Grant Farrar (Corporation Counsel/City Attorney) noted this is a change to code to expedite procedures for existing license renewals wishing to change their classifications.

A12 was unanimously approved 5 – 0

(A13) Ordinance 88-O-10 Amending City Code Subsection 4-12-6-(S) to Remove Time Restrictions on Political or Campaign Signs

The Illinois General Assembly adopted HB 3785, which, effective January 1, 2011, will amend 65 ILCS 11-13-1-(12) to prohibit municipalities, including home rule entities such as the City of Evanston, from placing time restrictions on outdoor political campaign signs on residential property. Ordinance 88-O-10 will ensure the City Code complies with the new statute.

A13 was unanimously approved 5 – 0

(A14) Ordinance 94-O-10: 2010 City of Evanston Tax Levy

Staff requests consideration of Tax Levy Ordinance 94-O-10, which levies the annual property tax for General Fund Operations, Police and Fire Pensions.

A14 was unanimously approved 5 – 0

(A15) Ordinance 93-O-10: 2010 Special Service Area #4 Tax Levy

Staff requests consideration of Tax Levy Ordinance 93-O-10 which levies the annual property tax for Special Service Area #4.

A15 was unanimously approved 5 – 0

(A16) Ordinance 95-O-10: 2010 Evanston Township Tax Levy

Staff requests consideration of Tax Levy Ordinance 95-O-10 which levies the annual property tax for the Evanston Township.

A16 was approved 4 – 1 with Ald. Burrus voting no.
IV. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

V. COMMUNICATIONS
Ald. Rainey thanked the committee for the Howard Street purchases with TIF monies.

VI. ADJOURNMENT
The meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Phillip Baugher
Administrative Secretary, Administrative Services