MEETING MINUTES
Administration & Public Works
Monday, December 12, 2011
5:45 P.M.
Lorraine H. Morton Civic Center, 2100 Ridge Avenue, Evanston
Council Chambers


Members Absent:

Staff Present: Wally Bobkiewicz, Godwin Chen, Dolores Cortez, Paul D’Agostino, Rajeev Dahal, Robert Dorneker, Chief Eddington, Grant Farrar, Doug Gaynor, Louis Gergits, Steve Griffin, Deputy Chief Jamraz, Jewel Jackson, Martin Lyons, Joseph McRae, Jeffrey Murphy, Nancy Radzevich, Dave Stoneback, Suzette Robinson, Rickey Voss, Paul Zalmezak

Others Present: Cheryl Muno – 1729 Oakton Street
John Leineweber – 830 Madison Street

Presiding Member: Colleen Burrus

I. DECLARATION OF QUORUM
With a quorum present, Chairman Burrus called the meeting to order at 6:15 P.M.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING of November 28, 2011.
It was moved by Ald. Grover and seconded by Ald. Braithwaite that the minutes of the November 28, 2011 meeting be approved. A voice vote was taken and the minutes were unanimously approved.

III. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

(A1) City of Evanston Payroll through 11/20/11 $2,653,239.28
It was moved by Ald. Grover and seconded by Ald. Holmes that the payroll be approved. A voice vote was taken and the City of Evanston payroll for November 20, 2011 was unanimously approved.

(A2) City of Evanston Bills FY2011 through 12/13/11 $1,908,511.38
Ald. Braithwaite asked how many mattresses were purchased. Marty Lyons (Assistant City Manager) said that he would supply an answer by the time of the Council meeting. Ald. Rainey voiced concern about the water bills being so high. One problem she sees is that the rate of $6.24 seems relatively low but the bill comes in at $129.81. She feels that since Evanston is lower than other
communities the City needs to show the bigger picture to the residents. Ald. Holmes, referring to the seized fund items, asked why the sum of $8,937 was returned. Chief Eddington (Chief of Police) stated that the City was operating under advice from the Cook County States Attorney. Upon further research, the City discovered that they could not charge him under the seizure laws. These offenses are not subject to the seizure law. In that case Chief, Ald. Rainey asked, who determined that our charge was incorrect. Chief Eddington replied that a judge made the determination.

It was moved by Ald. Holmes and seconded by Ald. Rainey that the bills list be approved. A voice vote was taken and the bills list through December 13, 2011 was unanimously approved.

Credit Card Activity – Period End October 31, 2011 $ 98,772.42
It was moved by Ald. Holmes and seconded by Ald. Braithwaite that the Credit Card Activity be approved. A voice vote was taken and the activity through October 31, 2011 was unanimously approved.

(A3.1) Approval for Purchase of Two (2) License Plate Recognition Systems from Avrio RMS Group, LLC in the Amount of $118,963 (RFP 11-52)
Staff recommends approval for the purchase of two (2) License Plate Recognition (LPR) systems for the Parking Division from Avrio RMS Group, LLC (1359 Barclay Blvd., Buffalo Grove, IL). Funding will be provided by the Parking Fund.
It was moved by Ald. Grover and seconded by Ald. Holmes that A3.1 be approved. A voice vote was taken and A3.1 was unanimously approved.

(A3.2) Approval for Purchase of Field Arrest and Field Interview Software from Sungard Public Sector in the Amount of $54,920
Staff recommends approval of the sole source purchase of Field Reporting software from Sungard Public Sector, Inc. (1000 Business Center Drive, Lake Mary, FL) for the Evanston Police Department. Funding will be provided by Administrative Services Licensing & Support Account 1932.62340.
Ald. Rainey asked why this purchase could not be funded by the 911 account. Deputy Chief Jeffery Jamraz replied that this was suggested by the City Manager but it could be brought before the 911 committee. Ald. Rainey asked if it was not part of the 911 package and Deputy Chief Jamraz said that it was. These are also two additional modules. Ald. Rainey thought it a perfect expenditure from 911. M. Lyons suggested proceeding and that the committee would be met with over this question. Wally Bobkiewicz (City Manager) stated that 911 is over extended as of this date. They are doing a lot of good things and these modules are also good things. Ald. Rainey thought that if the City was running out of money in this area they might consider bonding. W. Bobkiewicz said that they are not running out of funds but at this time 911 cannot afford this purchase.
It was moved by Ald. Grover and seconded by Ald. Braithwaite that A3.2 be approved. A voice vote was taken and A3.2 was unanimously approved.

(A4) Approval for Duncan Solutions, Inc. to Add a Twenty-Five Percent (25%) Collections Fee to the Delinquent Collections Process
Staff recommends City Council approval to permit Duncan Solutions, Inc., (633 W. Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 1600, Milwaukee, WI) to add a twenty-five percent (25%) add-on collections fee to the delinquent collections process. It was moved by Ald. Rainey and seconded by Ald. Grover that A4 be approved. A voice vote was taken and A4 was unanimously approved.

(A5) **Resolution 63-R-11 Authorizing the City Manager to Execute an Easement Agreement with ComEd for Electric Facilities at Fireman’s Park**

Staff recommends that the City Council approve Resolution 63-R-11 authorizing the City Manager to execute an easement agreement with Commonwealth Edison for the installation of an above ground electric switch box with related underground connections at Fireman’s Park.

Ald. Rainey asked if under normal circumstances the City received easement monies. Dave Stoneback (Director of Utilities) said the City is reimbursed with free electricity for existing areas. Ald. Holmes said that she had toured the area this past summer and the above ground box will help to eliminate outages. Ald. Rainey said the normal course of easement is their right and free electricity is the payment. Others pay us for easements. D. Stoneback said that is his understanding. Those companies such as NICOR and ComEd that the City has a franchise agreement with pay us in free electricity or gas. Ald. Grover noted the lease for ninety-nine years is standard for a lease. She felt that this is a bit long. It was moved by Ald. Holmes and seconded by Ald. Braithwaite that A5 be approved. A voice vote was taken and A5 was unanimously approved.

(A6) **Resolution 78-R-11 Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into Renewal Lease Agreements with Resident Artists for Studio Spaces at the Noyes Cultural Arts Center**

It was moved by Ald. Rainey and seconded by Ald. Holmes that A6 be approved. A voice vote was taken and A6 was unanimously approved.

Staff recommends review and adoption of the following ten (10) abatement resolutions by the City Council. The Resolutions will abate (decrease) the amount of the 2011 property tax levy needed to retire the outstanding general obligation debt. Generally, abated debt amounts are funded through sources other than property taxes such as TIF incremental revenue, water/sewer receipts, and parking garage revenues.

(A7.1) **Resolution 69-R-11 General Obligation Debt Property Tax Abatement**

Staff recommends approval of proposed Resolution 69-R-11 abatement for General Obligation Bonds, Series 2002C.

(A7.2) **Resolution 70-R-11 General Obligation Debt Property Tax Abatement**

Staff recommends approval of proposed Resolution 70-R-11 abatement for General Obligation Bonds, Series 2004.

(A7.3) **Resolution 71-R-11 General Obligation Debt Property Tax Abatement**

Staff recommends approval of proposed Resolution 71-R-11 abatement for General Obligation Bonds, Series 2005.
(A7.4) Resolution 72-R-11 General Obligation Debt Property Tax Abatement
Staff recommends approval of proposed Resolution 72-R-11 abatement for General Obligation Bonds, Series 2006.

(A7.5) Resolution 73-R-11 General Obligation Debt Property Tax Abatement
Staff recommends approval of proposed Resolution 73-R-11 abatement for General Obligation Bonds, Series 2007.

(A7.6) Resolution 74-R-11 General Obligation Debt Property Tax Abatement
Staff recommends approval of proposed Resolution 74-R-11 abatement for General Obligation Bonds, Series 2008B.

(A7.7) Resolution 75-R-11 General Obligation Debt Property Tax Abatement
Staff recommends approval of proposed Resolution 75-R-11 abatement for General Obligation Bonds, Series 2008C.

(A7.8) Resolution 76-R-11 General Obligation Debt Property Tax Abatement
Staff recommends approval of proposed Resolution 76-R-11 abatement for General Obligation Bonds, Series 2008D.

(A7.9) Resolution 77-R-11 General Obligation Debt Property Tax Abatement
Staff recommends approval of proposed Resolution 77-R-11 abatement for General Obligation Bonds, Series 2010B.

(A7.10) Resolution 68-R-11 General Obligation Debt Property Tax Abatement
Staff recommends approval of proposed Resolution 68-R-11 abatement for General Obligation Bonds, Series 2011A.

Chair Burrus asked Grant Farrar (Corporation Counsel/City Attorney) if each item in this series had to be voted upon individually or if they could be voted on as a group. G. Farrar said best practice is to have a motion for each item.

Ald. Grover moved that items A7.1, Resolution 69-R-11, A7.2, Resolution 70-R-11, A7.3, Resolution 71-R-11, A7.4, Resolution 72-R-11, A7.5, Resolution 73-R-11, A7.6, Resolution 74-R-11, A7.7, Resolution 75-R-11, A7.8, Resolution 76-R-11, A7.9, Resolution 77-R-11 and A7.10, Resolution 68-R-11 be approved. Ald. Rainey seconded the motion. Ald. Rainey added that these tax abatement documents are in the packets. A voice vote was taken and resolutions A7.1 through A7.10 passed unanimously.

(A8) Resolution 79-R-11 Expressing Official Intent Regarding Expenditures from the Funds of the City of Evanston, Cook County, Illinois, to be Reimbursed from Proceeds of Obligations to be Issued by the City of Evanston, Cook County, Illinois
Staff recommends approval of Resolution 79-R-11 by which City Council would authorize that payments relating to FY 2012 Capital Improvement Plan (C.I.P.) project expenditures up to $13,828,000 be reimbursed by the subsequent 2012 General Obligation (G.O.) bond issuance.
Ald. Rainey pointed out that these are restricted or designated funds and that the revenue derived from them can only be used in these areas. It was moved by Ald. Grover and seconded by Ald. Braithwaite that A8 be approved. A voice vote was taken and A8 was unanimously approved.

(A9) Resolution 80-R-11 Deeming Certain Funds in the Special Tax Allocation Fund for the Howard Hartrey Tax Increment Redevelopment Project Area as “Surplus” Funds and Directing the Payment and Distribution Thereof (2011) by the City of Evanston, Cook County, Illinois

Staff recommends the City Council declare a surplus of $1.3M from the Howard Hartrey TIF District at the end of Fiscal Year 2011, and approve a complete analysis of closing this TIF in Fiscal Year 2012. Ald. Rainey wished for this item to be held until the second meeting in January 2012. She asked that staff investigate the use of transferred surplus dollars before a TIF is closed. Could these dollars be used to cover the cost of school crossing guards. Ald. Holmes noted that the Board of Review is meeting this week and suggested that this could be a question for them. Ald. Rainey said that this is significant dollars and it would be well spent on the crossing guard program. As requested item A9 was held in committee.

(A10) Ordinance 104-O-11 Authorizing the Sale of Surplus Fleet Vehicles

Staff recommends City Council adoption of Ordinance 104-O-11 authorizing the City Manager to sell various vehicles and equipment owned by the City through public auction.

It was moved by Ald. Rainey and seconded by Ald. Grover that A10 be approved. A voice vote was taken and A10 was unanimously approved.

(A11) Ordinance 113-O-11 Amending Portions of Title 10, Chapter 11, “Traffic Schedules,” Relating to Speed Limits on Oakton Street

The 9th ward Alderman has requested the proposed ordinance 113-O-11 by which the City Council would amend Section 10-11-2, Schedule 2 to establish a 20 mph speed limit on Oakton Street between Dodge Avenue and Ridge Avenue.

Ald. Burrus referred the Committee to a Truck Study that’s first page showed the traffic on Oakton at Barton. Suzette Robinson (Director of Public Works) went over the statistics. Four different locations were observed at different times of the day. Since adopting the truck ordinance with the maximum allowable weight of 8000 pounds in May, the truck traffic is now down by one-half. Ald. Rainey asked if a UPS truck was below or over 8000 pounds. S. Robinson said that only the larger trucks exceed that weight. Ald. Rainey asked if the average was under 8000 pounds. Ald. Grover stated the ordinance allows a specific destination of a truck to be allowable over 8000 pounds. Ald. Rainey asked how many trucks on Oakton on a weekly basis are legal. A. Robinson replied that it is safe to say all are. For example, the trailer trucks going to Evanston Lumber would be legal. Ald. Burrus noted that the committee had never discussed the turning spots as being part of the ordinance. She asked that that point be reviewed and the committee be gotten back to. Chief Eddington said that there are some trucks that can be in violation due to their extra weight. Some trucks are legal on one day and illegal the next, depending on the delivery location. It does depend on
where they are making a delivery. The Evanston Police Department issued 25 citations between November 16 and 21 and 24 warnings. As to studying the situation, sometimes a camera is used to record movement. Resident Cheryl Muno, 1729 Oakton Street, spoke on behalf of others in the chamber. In May of this year, Chicago got a new traffic czar. In October the papers talked about Skokie. Again, in October, Chicago wanted to add cameras. These are three examples of cities already in the mode of traffic control. We residents were told that an all day limit would be passed and a speed time machine would be in place. By October, nothing had been accomplished. Only one 30MPH sign had been changed to 20MPH. I have brought a signed petition from those of us who live on Oakton and are qualified to say what is needed. I have also talked with residents on side streets and the first five I spoke with signed the petition. There are numerous accidents including cars on two separate occasions running up on my lawn. Our car was totaled and a tree was damaged. A twenty-four hour speed limit needs to be implemented. The area is used by students in the evening and on the weekends. There are no traffic guards during those hours or in the summer when school is closed. A child can survive a 20MPH accident but is less likely to survive a 40MPH accident. Evanston should strive to be pedestrian friendly in places other than downtown. There is also the continued paving problem and the vibrations of the trucks that cause damage to our homes. We have been told that it will be several years before the street is repaved and yet it will only be worse and harder to resurface. Ald. Grover noted that not all challenges are on Oakton. There are many factors from road rage to cell phone distractions, to speeding etc. everywhere in the City. There is a special study being conducted around the high school. The Police Department and ETHS Safety Department will analyze distracted driving in a school zone. I agree, I do not know how to control drivers. Traffic Department engineers are trying to find traffic calming devices. They are looking into alternate routes to use before using Oakton. I would like to see data on speeding and accidents etc. before we change the speed limits. The data will tell a story worth looking at. Ald. Holmes relayed that a few weeks ago she pulled over to take a call from Ald. Grover in a 20MPH zone on Church and drivers kept flying by her. Ald. Grover thought Aldermen should be deputized. Ald. Holmes said that she has seen this in other places that are posted. People do not respect the signs. Of course, not all work here or live here. It is very difficult in school areas. We understand it she said, and we see it, I am not sure 20MPH will help. Ald. Rainey related that when the City first began the effort of traffic calming, there was a lot of traffic enforcement. We did studies. The violators were citizens. I believe Ms. Muno touched on that the school standards are out of date. Schools now have longer days and weekend activities. As to truck traffic, there are too many trucks making too many trips going too fast. The studies show that few trucks are illegal. Some trucks need to get through to residents. This ordinance to limit MPH will not help. Ald. Burrus said that she has been working on this for two years. She has brought it up before at A & P W. Big trucks need to be taken off and speeds lowered. Public Works has done something but they need to do more. And, it needs to happen very quickly. When I drive down Oakton she continued her car rattles due to the condition of the road. But, financially we cannot repave Oakton, Dodge to Ridge, for the cost is estimated at 1.8 million. I am asking for some relief for Oakton she said. Not money from other wards but
a vote to reduce the speed limits. That will reduce the rattling of cars and vibration of the homes. If it is on the books, the Police need to be out there to enforce it. Trucks that speed need to be ticketed and talked with. Ald. Rainey said she would like to give something from her Ward. Howard Hartrey TIF has a surplus of funds. Let’s give some to the area with two school districts. We can give them the money needed to pave Oakton and cover the cost of the Crossing Guards. There is a commitment to redo the street in five years but to wait will make it a more severe and costly project. Ald. Braithwaite asked Ms. Robinson when the street is scheduled to be repaired. S. Robinson said Public Works has contractors coming in to create a five year plan. Chief, Ald. Braithwaite asked, do you have stats on accidents. Chief Eddington noted that Oakton is on the list of the top ten intersection for accidents. He also said that studies show that 85% of people will respect signs, the other 15% will not and they will get tickets. More signs he thought will probably not improve the percentages. He said he advocates waiting for Engineering to offer a solution. Police cannot be there all the time. Rigorous enforcement will not be any better. The Judges in Skokie will see it as a revenue program not a safety issue. Ald. Holmes asked if the part of the sign that says “when children present” can be removed. A. Robinson said the signs are covered by State law. However, she stated, “when children present” literally means whenever children are present. Ald. Grover asked if State funds for the Safe Routes to School have been received and S. Robinson said the awards have not been announced. Ald. Grover said that she would like to see the statistics on tickets issued and accidents. Ald. Rainey noted that the City of Evanston makes no money in the Skokie Courts. She reminded all that Oakton and Asbury was the number one location of accidents until a no-turn on red was put in place. What is this locations place on the list now she asked. Ald. Burrus asked S. Robinson about the bullet points she had proposed. She wondered if an exact date for each could be obtained. S. Robinson replied that it would be done. Signs we do so it is easy. Speed bumps are based on State funds being received so any date would be a guess. Ald. Burrus said then let me know what funds are currently available. Ald. Grover asked that this item be held in committee for the receipt of more information.

As requested, item A11 was held in committee.

(A12) Ordinance 114-O-11 Amending Title 10, Motor Vehicles and Traffic, Chapter 11, Traffic Schedules, Section 12: Schedule XII; Parking Meter Zones
Staff recommends approval of Ordinance 114-O-11 amending Title 10, Motor Vehicles and Traffic, Chapter 11, Traffic Schedules, Section 12: Schedule XII; Parking Meter Zones. These changes will impact all meter zones including 20 minute, 30 minute, 2 hour, 3 hour, 4 hour, 12 hour and 15 hour zones. It is recommended that the amendment take effect on February 1, 2012.
It was moved by Ald. Grover and seconded by Ald. Rainey that A12 be approved. A voice vote was taken and A12 was unanimously approved.

(A13) Ordinance 115-O-11 Amending Title 10, Schedule XVII, of the Evanston City Code, “Parking Violation Penalties,” Section 10-11-17, Increasing the Penalty for Various Fines
Staff recommends approval of Ordinance 115-O-11 amending Title 10, Motor Vehicles and Traffic, Chapter 11, Traffic Schedules, Section 17: Schedule XVII; Parking Violation Fines. It is recommended that the changes in the initial fines take effect on April 1, 2012.
Ald. Rainey pointed out that this ordinance will not impact the $10.00 expired meter fine or late penalty fee.
It was moved by Ald. Grover and seconded by Ald. Holmes that A13 be approved. A voice vote was taken and A13 was unanimously approved.

(A14) Ordinance 117-O-11 Amending Various Sections of Chapter 11 of Title 9 of the Evanston City Code Regulating False Alarm Systems
Staff recommends City Council approval of Ordinance 117-O-11, which would increase City of Evanston Police and Fire-related false alarm fees. This increase was included as a revenue enhancement item for the FY 2012 Budget and will take effect January 1, 2012.
Ald. Rainey asked how it could be in effect January 1, 2012 if we do not suspend the rules for action tonight. G. Farrar said the City is not asking for a suspension of rules as Legal will be making a text change to an effective date of February 1, 2012.
It was moved by Ald. Rainey and seconded by Ald. Braithwaite that A14 be approved. A voice vote was taken and A14 was unanimously approved.

(A15.1) Approval to Reimburse the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for Fair Market Value of Property Located at 1817 Church Street
Staff recommends that the City Council authorize the City Manager to reimburse HUD $220,000 from the West Evanston TIF for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) investment in 1817 Church Street per HUD regulations.
Ald. Holmes said that she has questions for staff. She thinks it is a great program but she needs her questions answered first. Ald. Rainey agreed to more discussions. She also asked staff to tell the committee how they are going to maintain the property. Ald. Burrus asked for a figure of how much it will cost to maintain the property. John Leineweber – 830 Madison Street – one of ten present from the Evanston Northshore Contractors group said they will continue to be organized and ready to participate but they did not need to speak this evening. Ald. Rainey wondered if answers could be obtained this evening to which Ald. Holmes said it could not happen, she had only this day sent questions to staff.
Ald. Holmes moved to table until a January meeting. Ald. Grover seconded. A voice vote was taken and A15.1 and 15.2 were held in committee.

(A15.2) Resolution 64-R-11 Authorizing the City Manager to Execute a TIF Construction Loan Agreement for the Renovation of 1817 Church Street
Staff requests adoption of Resolution 64-R-11, which authorizes the City Manager to lend $200,000 from the West Evanston Tax Increment Finance District fund to the Evanston North Shore Contractors Cooperative for the renovation of the 1817 Church Street property.
IV. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

V. COMMUNICATIONS

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Ald. Holmes motioned and Ald. Grover seconded for adjourned. Chair Burrus adjourned the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Phillip Baugher
Administrative Assistant, Administrative Services