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

Members Present: Ald. Grover, Tendam, Braithwaite, Holmes, Fiske

Members Absent:

Staff Present: Joseph McRae, Douglas Gaynor, Sergeant Angela Hearts-Glass, Commander Aretha Hartley, Chief Richard Eddington, Henry Ford, Nicola Whyte, Karen Danzack-Lyons, Godwin Chen

Presiding Member: Ald. Holmes

Declaration of Quorum
With a quorum present, Chairman Holmes called the meeting to order at 7:37 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES SEPTEMBER 5, 2012

It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the September 5, 2012 meeting be approved. A voice vote was taken and the minutes were approved 4-0.

Citizen Comments
Betty Ester 2031 Church Street felt the movement of the podium to the front of the council chambers prevents the speaker from being seen by the viewing audience. It is her opinion viewing the back of the speakers head is not only disrespectful to her but also the viewing audience. She feels it deters residents from coming to the meeting to speak.

Carl Sutton has serious concerns regarding the Greenwell family incident. He was racially profiled 30 years ago and it has left a negative impact on his life. His immediate reaction when he sees flashing lights is to be fearful. It is his opinion better communication would have spared Diwani Greenwell the lasting effects of his interaction with the police. Racial profiling is not just an Evanston issue; however, he is upset that this is happening in a community that claims to be diverse. He suggested retraining the police force so there is a better line of communication with each other and interaction with the community. Citizens’ network protection is a great place for residents to go to be heard, he stated.

Ava Greenwell highlighted the fact the Police Department has yet to capture the alleged suspect of the burglary. The ordeal her family experienced showcased the Police Department ineffective lines of communication. If a detailed broadcast was issued initially, her son would not have been a suspect. She hopes the analyses and number crunching Ald. Braithwaite suggested in September is being done.
In Madelyn Ducre opinion

- There’s a high population of African American men in prison in comparison to Caucasian men due to drugs entrapment,
- The laws needs to be changed to be fair to all,
- Training in the academy should be revised,
- Some officers must learn how to respect and behave when they come in contact with the community,
- Need to teach the police how to police in the black community and underprivileged areas,
- Detective George has disrespected Ms. Ducre and she will not tolerate his behavior,
- The community should stand up for their rights.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Review of Police Complaints
The report was accepted by the committee 5-0.

Sergeant Hearts-Glass PowerPoint presentation of investigation CR12-21; the complainant alleged that on August 30th the accused officer racially profiled her son (13 YOA) detaining him without cause outside their residence.

The presentation showed the subsequent events which led up to Mr. Diwani Greenwell being handcuffed while entering his residence. The victim called 911 and stated an African American male, teen, wearing dark khaki cargo shorts and a dark t-shirt had burglarized her residence. 11:13(24)am; Two minutes after the dispatcher broadcast an officer observed a black male riding a bicycle matching the description.

Three minutes later another officer indicated he had a subject on a bicycle also matching the same description. A “show up” a (visual observance made by a victim/witness of a crime in an effort to determine if the person the police stopped is the actual offender) exonerated that subject.

One minute prior to that broadcast another officer observed Diwani on his bicycle heading south. The officer followed Diwani without requesting him to stop him. Diwani noticed the officer following and continued his ride home by crossing through Chute School’s park. The officer stopped the car and ran after Diwani in the efforts of stopping him.

11:20(17)a.m. the officer ended foot pursuit and announced she could not catch up with Diwani and asked another unit to pursue. The officer Buell observed the officer running back to her car and he and his partner continued driving in the area eastbound on Kirk Street. The officers observed Diwani heading westbound and headed through the yards.

11:20(49)a.m. the officer who was with the victim sent out a broadcast of a more detailed description of the subject being sought, this transmission was not acknowledged by the officers detaining Diwani.

Officer Buell observed Diwani stopping abruptly, throwing down his bike and heading to a fenced area. Officer Buell pulled up beside him and told him to stop then immediately handcuffed Diwani. Officer Buell was under the impression Diwani had evaded the female officer who was running after him due to her breathlessness over the radio.

Chief Eddington thanked Sergeant Heart-Glass and Commander Hartley on a thorough investigation. He stated the Police Department has been transparent and has given the
Greenwell the information prior to this evening and it is also on the City’s website for viewing. Due to pending litigations, a component involving Facebook is still under investigation therefore further discussion is limited.

In reaction to this event and regardless of the outcome a portion of the training budget has been allocated for training with Professor Aaron Thompson of Eastern Kentucky University. The City has been in negotiations with Mr. Thompson to bring additional training to the department. Mr. Thompson will do the initial training and evaluate the department. His findings will dictate if the training should be done annually or every 18 months and/or if his colleagues should conduct the training.

The use of digital sound recording system will also be implemented.

Ald Braithwaite stated he hears what the community is saying regarding the treatment of residents by the Evanston police officers.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

Township of Evanston October 2012 Monthly Bills

_It was moved and seconded to approve the Township of Evanston October 2012 monthly bills. A voice vote was taken and the motion was passed 5-0._

**Assessor Bonnie Wilson report**

Since the last Human Services Meeting in August the Township Assessor’s office has helped 28 taxpayers with property tax bill corrections; the total for September and October returned to residents was $33,083.48.

For the first seven months into the fiscal year $331,638.50 has been returned for missed property tax exemptions.

**Township of Evanston Annual Financial Report**

_It was moved and seconded to approve the Township of Evanston Annual Financial Report. A voice vote was taken and the motion was passed 5-0._

Ald Grover asked about the significant deficiencies found by the audit. Township Executive Director Rosemary John Paul stated the Segregation of Duties has appeared on the audit in the past and due to the lack of staff there will continue to be overlapping of duties. Due to the outcome of the audit new vendors will now have to be approved by the Township Supervisor or Executive Director.

**111-O-12 ORDINANCE Establishing the Americans with Disabilities Act Advisory Board**

_It was moved and seconded to approve Ordinance 111-O-12 Establishing the Americans with Disabilities Act Advisory Board. A voice vote was taken and the motion was passed 5-0._

**117-O-12 ORDINANCE Amending the Evanston City Code to Make Certain Changes to the City of Evanston Public Library Board’s Authority**

_It was moved and seconded to approve Ordinance 117-O-12 Amending the Evanston City Code to Make Certain Changes to the City of Evanston Public Library Board’s Authority. A voice vote was taken and the motion was passed 4-0 (Ald. Braithwaite was not available to vote)_
77-R-12 RESOLUTION Expressing the City of Evanston’s Desire to Keep Asian Carp Out of the Great Lakes
It was moved and seconded to approve Resolution 77-R-12 Expressing the City of Evanston’s Desire to Keep Asian Carp Out of the Great Lakes. A voice vote was taken and the motion was passed 4-0.

COMMUNICATIONS
Due to a significant number of complaints regarding unacceptable uses of the basketball courts the Ridgeville Park District took down their basketball hoops. However, Ridgeville Park District Director conveyed that soon after the first of the year, the Ridgeville Park District may reconsider their position and with recommendations from the Director, develop a pilot program which will eliminate the unacceptable activities and restore the basketball hoops.

ADJOURNMENT
It was moved and seconded to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Nicola Whyte
Executive Secretary, Health Department