Administration and Public Works Committee Meeting  
Minutes of April 28, 2014  
Council Chambers – 6:00 p.m.  
Lorraine H. Morton Civic Center

MEMBERS PRESENT: D. Holmes, A. Rainey, C. Burrus, P. Braithwaite, J. Grover


STAFF ABSENT: P. D’Agostino, S. Flax, J. Williams-Kinsel, A. Porta, J. Murphy, J. Calderon, E. Thomas-Smith, Chief Eddington, L. Jeschke

PRESIDING OFFICIAL: Ald. Holmes

I. DECLARATION OF QUORUM

A quorum being present, Ald. Holmes called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF APRIL 8, 2014.

Ald. Burrus moved to approve the minutes of the APRIL 8, 2014 A&PW meeting as submitted, seconded by Ald. Braithwaite.

The minutes of the April 8, 2014 meeting were approved unanimously 5-0.

III. NATIONAL DRINKING WATER WEEK: PROCLAMATION AND AWARDS

Lara Biggs, Superintendent of Construction and Field Services, announced that National Drinking Water Week (NDWW) is May 4 – May 10, 2014. The purpose of NDWW is to celebrate water by recognizing the essential role it plays in our daily lives. For the last several years, the City has organized public outreach activities to draw awareness to our drinking water source – Lake Michigan – during this celebration.

Evanston has chosen the theme “100 Years of Water” in recognition of our happy anniversary of providing clean, reliable, safe FILTERED drinking water to Evanston residents. The City has many activities planned for National Drinking Water Week, and encourages residents to visit the City website for more information.

This year we held two art contests in honor of National Drinking Water Week. All participants will receive a reusable water bottle and the top artwork will be displayed at the Evanston Public Library during National Drinking Water Week. In addition, ALL of the submitted artwork will be displayed at a reception at the Library on Sunday, May 11, 2014 from 3-4:30pm, where there will be a short talk on the 100-
year history of filtered drinking water in Evanston, and our art contest participants will be recognized.

Superintendent Biggs presented the winners of the contests:

There were 137 entries for the third grade art contest. The best 15 entries were selected for online voting. Each of the top three awards winners will receive a prize of four beach tokens and the remaining 12 Honorable Mentions will receive an award certificate.

The People’s Choice Award was determined by online voting. The winner of this award is Olivia Pitman from Lincoln Elementary School.

The Mayor also selected a winner. The winner of the Mayor’s Choice Award were two students who collaborated – Sophia Glantz and Amelie Koecher from Orrington Elementary School.

The artwork that most embodied the spirit of water was also selected for an award. The Water Spirit Award was a collaboration of two students – Ella Ng and Amelie Tran from Orrington Elementary School.

There was also a middle school photography contest. Each of these awards has a prize of two beach tokens:

The winner of the People’s Choice Award determined by online voting is Emma Johnston, a 6th grader from Nichols Middle School.

The winner of the Mayor’s Choice Award was Bella Hubbard, also a 6th grader from Nichols Middle School.

Please join us at the May 11th reception to view all of the artwork and help celebrate 100 years of water!

IV. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

(A1) City of Evanston Payroll through April 6, 2014 $2,624,609.88
(A2) City of Evanston Bills -- April 29, 2014 $3,637,765.55

For Action

Ald. Burrus moved to approve the City of Evanston Payroll (A1) through April 6, 2014 seconded by Ald. Braithwaite. The Committee voted unanimously 5-0 to approve the payroll.

Ald. Grover moved to approve the City of Evanston Bills through April 29, 2014, seconded by Ald. Burrus. The Committee voted unanimously 5-0 to approve the bills.
**A3.1 Approval of Renewal Agreement with Open Kitchens Inc. for the 2014 Summer Food Service Program (Bid 11-01)**

Staff recommends authorization for renewal of the 2014 Summer Food Service Program with Open Kitchens Inc. (1161 West 21st Street, Chicago, IL) in the not-to-exceed amount of $2.498 per lunch, for an estimated total of $86,200. This is a reimbursement program in which the amount of reimbursement the City will receive is dependent upon the number of lunches served. Funding is provided by Recreation Outreach Program Account 3050.65025, with anticipated reimbursement of $94,500.

**For Action**

Ald. Braithwaite moved to recommend authorization for renewal of the 2014 Summer Food Service Program with Open Kitchens Inc. (1161 West 21st Street, Chicago, IL) in the not-to-exceed amount of $2.498 per lunch, for an estimated total of $86,200, seconded by Ald. Grover.

Ald. Braithwaite hopes that down the road an opportunity will be available for a local Evanston business to bid on this project and provide the food. Ald. Holmes explained that there is more to this project than just a simple menu, especially in terms of the refrigeration requirements.

Joe McRae, Deputy City Manager/Director of Parks and Recreation and Community Services, explained that this is the last year of this project before it goes out to bid. Open Kitchens, Inc. supplied the lunches for the program last year without any problems.

Ald. Rainey noted that the program guidelines are extremely stringent and difficult to meet. She doubted any Evanston vendor would like to take on the obligation and responsibilities of this program by the federal government.

The Committee voted unanimously 5-0 to recommend renewal of the program.

**A3.2 Approval of Northeastern Illinois Public Safety Training Academy (NIPSTA) 2014 Membership Dues**

Staff recommends approval of payment of the 2014 Fire and Public Works Departments membership fees in the amount of $23,545. Funding for this membership is budgeted under the Fire Department Account 2305.62360 for both the Fire and Public Works Departments.

**For Action**

Ald. Burrus moved to recommend approval of payment of the 2014 Fire and Public Works Departments membership fees in the amount of $23,545, seconded by Ald. Holmes.

At Ald. Holmes’ inquiry, Fire Chief Klaiber stated that the NIPSTA agreement is separate from the agreement the City has with the Village of Skokie. The City’s agreement with NIPSTA began in 2006. We have used many of the training opportunities and services they offer.

There are joint twice-a-year Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS) training in the spring and a three-week fire department training in October. NIPSTA also provides classroom facilities for nationally certified weekly classes including National Incident
Management System (NIMS) and Office of State Fire Marshall Training at reduced prices. Staff currently attends weekly training at the Skokie training tower and our own City facilities. Public Works employees also attend classes through NIPSTA as well.

**After discussion, the Committee voted unanimously 5-0 to recommend approval of the payment.**

**(A3.3) Approval of 2014 Crack Sealing Contract Extension**

Staff recommends City Council authorize the City Manager to execute a contract extension for the 2014 Crack Sealing Contract to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, Denler Inc. (19148 S 104th Ave. Mokena, IL) in the amount of $70,000. Last year the City participated as a member of the Municipal Partnership Initiative to collectively bid this work. This is the first of two possible contract extensions. Funding is provided by the General Fund Street Maintenance Account (2670.62509).

**For Action**

Ald. Rainey moved to recommend that City Council authorize the City Manager to execute a contract extension for the 2014 Crack Sealing Contract to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, Denler Inc. in the amount of $70,000, seconded by Alderman Grover.

Ald. Rainey requested that staff explore other methods of resurfacing or reconstructing the City streets even if the costs associated are more expensive. She has not seen any research by our staff on this issue in the past.

Suzette Robinson, Director of Public Works, confirmed that she has asked staff to look at other solutions. Adjustments are being made to the specs of the current grind and resurfacing process. The depths could be deeper in terms of the binder course that is laid and the top surface. There is also the possibility of using concrete for heavier used roads such as Sheridan Road, which is more costly but lasts much longer. She added that the grind and resurface process does not identify problems with the base, which can break up the surface sooner.

Ald. Rainey asked for comparisons between the most commonly used process in snowy areas around the United States versus other areas of the world. Director Robinson confirmed that the Public Works Department will provide a comparison report at a future meeting.

At Ald. Rainey’s inquiry, Director Robinson noted that sometimes the issue is preparing the sub-surface. The vast majority of the work performed is grind and repave, not reconstruction. The pavement failure observed in a high stress area on Church Street, which was newly paved within 2 years was a grind and resurface process. The base was an issue and was not identified as a result of simply grinding and resurfacing the area.

Director Robinson added that for state and federally funded projects we must use the material mix identified by the agency. We can explore different mixes for projects funded by CIP dollars. The City also utilizes an onsite independent material testing
firm to test the temperature, quality and how the material is laid from a quality improvement/assurance perspective.

Ald. Burrus asked a two-part question: 1) Provide further detail on the quality of the specific mix mandated by the state or federal government; 2) During the construction of roads, precipitation can cause air pockets. Does staff monitor the contractors to ensure this is not happening? She is concerned with change orders and other problems as a result of the quality of construction of the roads and buildings in Evanston compared to other entities.

Director Robinson explained that the City has a resident engineer assigned to every project in addition to the material testing firm. The engineer is present at key points in the project. She also confirmed that the City has shut down operations due to the weather.

At Ald. Burrus’ inquiry, Sat Nagar, Senior Project Manager, explained that the City uses Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) approved mix designs for both the concrete and asphalt each year. There are five to six IDOT certified asphalt plants as well as concrete plants in Chicagoland Area.

Once a contractor is selected, they are asked to submit a mix design for both asphalt and concrete. The material testing firm, hired directly by the City of Evanston, reviews the design for approval. The firm is also present on site when the concrete is poured and asphalt is paved. The cylinders are made and the strength is tested. The density of the asphalt is checked when it is laid and similarly for concrete. Compaction is achieved at 95% and is closely monitored on a day-to-day basis.

Senior Project Manager Nagar felt that paving an inch of level binder and an inch and a half of surface is not enough. Most of the Evanston streets have concrete bases that are laid in slabs. Due to the temperature variations these slabs move and the cracks will come through the asphalt surface.

On a normal cycle, most municipalities do crack sealing every 3-4 years to make sure that water does not penetrate and break up the concrete bonding and separate the joints. Senior Project Manager Nagar felt that the asphalt paving needs to be deeper in order to be effective. The parkways on many streets are narrow and it is difficult to match elevation for reconstruction. Ald. Rainey thanked him for the information provided.

Ald. Grover requested a cost benefit analysis for any CIP concrete versus asphalt project. She is interested in the life span of each material. Director Robinson confirmed that an analysis will be presented for the Sheridan Road project because a decision needs to be made on what material to use.

After discussion, the Committee voted unanimously 5-0 to recommend approval of the contract extension.

(A3.4) Approval of Contract with Landscape Concepts Management, Inc. for Sherman Plaza Rodent Abatement
Staff recommends City Council authorize the City Manager to execute a single source contract with Landscape Concepts Management, Inc. (3200 S. Kolin Ave, Chicago, IL) to install rodent abatement and replacement plantings for the 14 planter beds in the City’s right of way adjacent to Sherman Plaza in the amount of $40,377. Funding is provided by the Washington National TIF.

**For Action**

Ald. Grover moved to recommend City Council authorize the City Manager to execute a single source contract with Landscape Concepts Management, Inc. to install rodent abatement and replacement plantings for the 14 planter beds in the City’s right of way adjacent to Sherman Plaza in the amount of $40,377, seconded by Ald. Burrus.

Ald. Grover reported that an e-mail from Deputy City Manager Erika Storlie confirmed there were 19311 rodent calls since January 2013 was 4 since January 2014.

Ald. Rainey also received an e-mail regarding a possible influx of rodents around the Optima Towers, which they have noticed. She inquired as to why the downtown Special Service District is not involved in the funding of this project. She feels that everyone needs to share the cost of the solution.

Director Robinson explained that the Church Street landscape contractor reported the presence of the rodents in planters. A pilot program was developed with the planters on Church Street, mostly in the Orrington area adjacent to the sidewalk cafes. A newer system was developed for the planters along Sherman Plaza that were paid for by Downtown Evanston.

Director Robinson explained that this is just one element of rodent abatement. Public Works has been working with the Health Department to bait different downtown areas. The Health Department recently completed a survey and assessment of downtown Evanston. A report will be presented at a future meeting, which will incorporate some public education to prevent people from throwing food into the planters. The landscape contractor will review the streetscape amenities. The Health Department will look at the dumpsters and refuse from the restaurants.

Ald. Rainey explained that every Type 2 restaurant approved is required to have a litter and cleanup program. She is concerned with the enforcement of that condition. She felt that the staff and landscape contractors are doing a wonderful job. Director Robinson confirmed that all issues raised will be addressed.

**After discussion, the Committee voted unanimously 5-0 to recommend approval of the contract.**

**(A3.5) Approval of Contract with Christopher B. Burke Engineering, Ltd. for Sheridan Road Design (RFQ 14-16)**

Staff recommends City Council authorize the City Manager to execute an agreement for engineering services for the Sheridan Road-Chicago Ave Alternative Analysis in the amount of $265,099.84 with Christopher B. Burke Engineering, Ltd. (9575 W.
Higgins Road, Suite 600, Rosemont, IL. Funding is provided by Washington National TIF and FY2014 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP).

For Action
Ald. Holmes moved to recommend City Council authorize the City Manager to execute an agreement for engineering services for the Sheridan Road-Chicago Ave Alternative Analysis in the amount of $265,099.84 with Christopher B. Burke Engineering, Ltd., seconded by Ald. Grover.

Ald. Rainey asked why the comparison chart with the point system was not available for review as it has been in past bids. There were 11 bidders and the only information to review was their name and location. She would like to know how Christopher B. Burke scored compared to other bidders.

Director Robinson explained that this is a federally funded project and we are only allowed to award based on qualifications. The cost is to be opened at the end. A criteria was used to determine the top 4 firms.

Ald. Grover thanks Director Robinson for an earlier e-mail regarding community meetings to get the maximum community input. She would also like to include Northwestern in the planning process for improvements along Sheridan Road because it affects so much of their operations. Director Robinson confirmed there is City and university advisory team who will be included during the alternative analysis process. As part of public outreach, these items can be included as ward agenda items. Staff will attend every ward meeting to talk about the project and get feedback on what residents would like to see. There will also be an online opportunity for input.

The Committee voted unanimously 5-0 to recommend approval of the agreement.

(A3.6) Approval of Contract with Steiner Electric for Arrington Lagoon Lighting
Staff recommends City Council authorize the purchase of lighting materials for the Arrington Lakefront Lagoon Renovation Project in the amount of $26,358.04 from Steiner Electric located (1250 Touhy Avenue, Elk Grove Village, IL). Funding is provided by the FY2014 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP), Arrington Lagoon Project.

For Action
Ald. Braithwaite moved to recommend City Council authorize the purchase of lighting materials for the Arrington Lakefront Lagoon Renovation Project in the amount of $26,358.04 from Steiner Electric, seconded by Ald. Grover.

At Ald. Rainey’s inquiry, Stefanie Levine, Assistant Superintendent of Public Works, explained that North Shore Lighting does not represent this particular project and therefore declined to provide a quote for this project.

The Committee voted unanimously 5-0 to approve the purchase.

(A3.7) Approval of Contract with A. Lamp Concrete Contractors Inc. for 2014 Water Main Replacement & Street Resurfacing CIP 1 Project (Bid 14-21)
Staff recommends that City Council authorize the City Manager to execute a contract for the 2014 Water Main Replacement & Street Resurfacing CIP 1 Project
with A. Lamp Concrete Contractors Inc. (1900 Wright Blvd., Schaumburg, IL) in the amount of $2,129,128.10. Funding is provided by the Water Fund, Sewer Fund, Business District Improvement Fund, Parking Fund, and FY2014 CIP Street Resurfacing Account.

**For Action**
Ald. Burrus moved to recommend City Council authorize the City Manager to execute a contract for the 2014 Water Main Replacement & Street Resurfacing CIP 1 Project with A. Lamp Concrete Contractors Inc. in the amount of $2,129,128.10, seconded by Ald. Grover.

The Committee voted unanimously 5-0 to recommend approval of the contract.

**(A4) Approval of 2014 Community Choice Electricity Aggregation Supplier Agreement (RFP 14-26)**

Staff recommends that City Council authorize the City Manager to execute a Master Agreement to Provide Services to an Aggregated Group with Illinois Power Marketing Company d/b/a Homefield Energy (1500 Eastport Plaza Dr., Collinsville, IL) for a 36-month term with a 100% renewable energy mix for the fixed prices of $0.07644 per kilowatt hour for the first 24 months of agreement and $0.06923 per kilowatt hour for the last 12 months of the agreement.

**For Action**
Ald. Rainey moved to recommend City Council authorize the City Manager to execute a Master Agreement to Provide Services to an Aggregated Group with Illinois Power Marketing Company d/b/a Homefield Energy for a 36-month term with a 100% renewable energy mix for the fixed prices of $0.07644 per kilowatt hour for the first 24 months of agreement and $0.06923 per kilowatt hour for the last 12 months of the agreement, seconded by Ald. Grover.

Catherine Hurley, Sustainable Programs Coordinator, explained that Illinois Power Marketing Company d/b/a Homefield Energy is a new name in Evanston, which is why the proposed agreement has a longer term. Each year toward the end of the contract there is an influx of companies competing for business. By signing a longer term agreement there would be more time to perform outreach. The agreement would run from August 2014 through July 2017.

The Committee voted unanimously 5-0 to recommend approval of the agreement.

**(A5) Resolution 23-R-14, Amending the Plan of Operation and Governance for the City of Evanston Electricity Aggregation Program**

Staff recommends adoption of Resolution 23-R-14 amending the Plan of Operation and Governance for the City of Evanston Electricity Aggregation Program.

**For Action**
Ald. Grover moved to recommend City Council approve Resolution 23-R-14 amending the Plan of Operation and Governance for the City of Evanston Electricity Aggregation Program, seconded by Ald. Burrus.
The Committee voted unanimously 5-0 to recommend approval of the resolution.

(A6) Resolution 24-R-14, Authorizing the City of Evanston to Enter Into An Agreement with the Cook County Assessor’s Office for Access to a Geographic Information System
Staff recommends adoption of Resolution 24-R-14 authorizing the City Manager to sign an agreement with the Cook County Assessor’s Office for access to Geographic Information System (GIS) data.

For Action
Ald. Holmes moved to recommend approval of Resolution 24-R-14 to authorize the City Manager to sign an agreement with the Cook County Assessor’s Office for access to Geographic Information System (GIS) data, seconded by Ald. Burrus.

Assistant City Manager Marty Lyons explained that we do this periodically, although it was done in the past couple of years. This is a direct relationship between the City and the County Assessor and it is time to update the resolution.

Ald. Rainey expressed concern with the reliability of the information on the City’s website. She was told that we had no power to update this information because it is provided by the County. Assistant City Manager Lyons confirmed that the City will make the attempt to reach out to the County to update and correct the information provided.

Ald. Rainey stated that if people do not know about other sources to search and use the information provided to us by the County, it can lead to bad decision-making. Assistant City Manager Lyons explained that the rate of information has changed rapidly over the past five years. The GIS system is being updated because it was not comparable to Google Maps. If we have corrections, we will move forward with pushing the information back to the County. He also suggested using 311 as a way to track this issue.

The Committee voted unanimously 5-0 to recommend approval of the resolution.

(A7) Ordinance 60-O-14, Amending the Minority, Women and Evanston Based Employer (MWEBE), and Local Employment Programs (LEP)
The MWEBE Committee and staff recommend consideration of an amendment to the MWEBE/LEP revising the penalty section from a $100/per day to a 3.0% of total project value penalty.

For Introduction
Ald. Braithwaite moved to recommend adoption of Ordinance 60-O-14 amending the MWEBE/LEP penalty section from a $100/per day to a 3.0% of total project value penalty, seconded by Ald. Burrus.

Ald. Grover asked Ald. Braithwaite how to incentivize local employment for all of the contracts that the City engages in. She also asked if the committee deliberated on
other penalty percentage amounts. The 1% penalty would triple the revenue of the current $100 per day fee.

Ald. Braithwaite explained that the goal is not to create additional revenue, but to drive compliancy. Staff looked at like municipalities/cities with similar LEP/MWEBE programs to determine what kind of sanctions were used for their contractors.

Assistant City Manager Lyons explained that although this issue has been discussed the past year, only within the last few months has an enforcement individual collected data using certified payrolls and how companies were or were not complying. The committee’s discussion was driven by the that a large contract was potentially receiving an under assessed penalty compared to a smaller contract. A $2 million contractor may not feel the need to comply with the $100 per day penalty as opposed to a $300,000 contractor.

He explained that no communities in the state of our size have a program like this. Chicago has a similar program, but also has the resources and the size to draw from contractors.

Ald. Grover felt more comfortable with a progressive fee rather than a flat fee. There is a definite leap from $100 per day to 3%. She is concerned that the higher fee will be a deterrent for contractors to do business with the City. The focus is employing Evanston residents, even if it means the job is in Skokie, Chicago or Wilmette. Ald. Holmes responded that Evanston must continue to set the goals high. She commended the committee for stepping up in this process. She does not think this will run businesses away.

Ald. Braithwaite expressed his concern with the 42.8% compliancy rate for 2013 construction projects. He explained that the reporting requirements and monitoring are the same. He discussed the efforts made by staff and the committee to improve compliance.

Ald. Grover suggested that over the next few years, as the contractors get in the habit of compliance, revisiting the 3% penalty. Ald. Rainey stated there is no reason that a qualified contractor considered by the City cannot comply with the rules. The only thing that has changed is the penalty. Any contractor that bid on Evanston projects accepts the conditions.

City of Evanston contractors receive a 5% advantage over others in the bidding process. Non-Evanston contractors have dropped out of the bidding for certain projects because they felt they could not compete with the 5% local preference. Ald. Rainey felt that the conditions are not disincentives, but the incentives we offer are disincentives. The penalty is graduated and not punitive in her opinion.

City Manager Bobkiewicz provided a memorandum expressing some concern from the staff perspective regarding the proposal. A lot of progress was made to improve this program. He asked the committee for additional time to investigate some issues that staff is concerned about before the second reading. Staff concerns include additional costs that may be passed on because contractors may choose not to
participate in the program, agree to pay the penalty and subsequently increase their bid amount. He asked for the opportunity to research and compile any evidence of that happening in other communities. He requested the committee consider introduction of the ordinance tonight, but bring the item back to the May 27, 2014 meeting for final action.

Ald. Rainey would like to see an escrow created on the contracts where the contractor would have to place an approximate amount of salary to be paid to the local resident. She felt that would eliminate the opportunity to not comply.

Ald. Braithwaite’s concern is entering construction season with a failing grade of compliancy. He requested that this item be sent to Council for debate on the floor. Ald. Rainey requested a list of all contractors that did not comply with the ordinance over the past 2-3 years.

After discussion, the Committee voted unanimously 5-0 to recommend holding this item until the May 27, 2014 meeting.

(A8) Ordinance 37-O-14, Amending Parking Schedules for Howard Street and Custer Avenue
The Transportation/Parking Committee and staff recommend that the City Council consider Ordinance 37-O-14, which amends Title 10, Motor Vehicles and Traffic, Chapter 11, Traffic Schedules, Section 12, to include two hour and four hour parking limits on Howard Street and Custer Avenue.

For Introduction
Ald. Burrus moved to recommend adoption of Ordinance 37-O-14, which amends Title 10, Motor Vehicles and Traffic, Chapter 11, Traffic Schedules, Section 12, to include two hour and four hour parking limits on Howard Street and Custer Avenue, seconded by Ald. Rainey.

After discussion, the Committee voted unanimously 5-0 to recommend approval of the ordinance.

(A9) Ordinance 38-O-14, Amending Residential Parking Schedules for Greenwood Street, Hinman Avenue to Forest Avenue
The Transportation/Parking Committee and staff recommend that the City Council consider Ordinance 38-O-14, which amends Title 10, Motor Vehicles and Traffic, Chapter 11, Traffic Schedules, Section 12, Schedule X (F) 1. The amendment corrects an error and codifies the original intent to include in the Residential Exemption Parking District B, Greenwood Street, Hinman Avenue to Forest Avenue, on the north side.

For Introduction
Ald. Rainey moved to recommend adoption of Ordinance 38-O-14, which amends Title 10, Motor Vehicles and Traffic, Chapter 11, Traffic Schedules, Section 12, Schedule X (F) 1. The amendment corrects an error and codifies the original intent to include in the Residential Exemption Parking District B, Greenwood Street, Hinman Avenue to Forest Avenue, on the north side, seconded by Ald. Grover.
The Committee voted unanimously 5-0 to recommend the adoption of the ordinance.

V. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

APW1 Newspaper Boxes

Director Robinson presented a map of 2014 newspaper box locations and names of publications. There are a total of 223 newspaper boxes at 46 locations throughout the City, a 25% decrease from 2012.

Director Robinson proposed consolidating the existing 46 location to 17. The consolidation benefits are uniformity, reduced clutter, aesthetically pleasing, easy maintenance and increased walkability/accessibility to pedestrians. The cost for each set of 4 box units (2 coin-operated and 2 free or all free) is $1,400 or $1,500 for the sloped roof corrals. At Ald. Holmes’ inquiry, Director Robinson explained that the sloped roof would prevent water from pooling on the top of the boxes.

At Ald. Rainey's inquiry, City Attorney Grant Farrar does not believe there will be a freedom of speech concern by removing boxes because this relates to right-of-way issues, which is a proper application of City power to regulate for safety, health and welfare of citizens. The voluminous history and staff reports support the reasonable basis for this approach. Also at Ald. Rainey’s inquiry, City Attorney Farrar confirmed that the clothing box issue will come back to the next Council meeting.

Director Robinson briefly discussed the placement criteria for the new box locations, including right-of-way regulations. She will bring purchase recommendations to a future meeting upon approval.

The right-of-way permit process has not been followed in the past. Once consolidated, a no-fee application will be required to put papers in the boxes. The City would not regulate the papers displayed.

Following concern from Alds. Holmes and Braithwaite, City Manager Bobkiewicz confirmed that more boxes can be added in different districts. He explained that other areas will be identified and the City will reach out to the paper vendors for applications.

Ald. Rainey expressed concern over the permit process not currently being followed. She asked about the outreach process for unapproved boxes. Director Robinson stated that businesses with unapproved boxes in the right-of-way will be contacted to remove it within 48 hours or the City will remove it and incur a fine.

At Ald. Rainey’s inquiry, Director Robinson explained that to determine the placement of the publications, the number of boxes available at the location as well as the maximum types of publications at each intersection were reviewed. Ald. Rainey supports the consolidation, but thinks there is the possibility of crossing into censorship. Ald. Holmes stated that it seems free publications would be determined on a first come, first serve basis.

VI. COMMUNICATIONS
VII. ADJOURNMENT
   Ald. Grover moved to adjourn, seconded by Ald. Braithwaite.

   The Committee voted unanimously 5-0 to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 7:30p.m.

   Respectfully submitted,
   Janella Hardin