

MINUTES OF THE RULES COMMITTEE  
Monday, May 4, 2015  
6:00 p.m.  
Lorraine H. Morton Civic Center  
Council Chambers

Present: Mayor Elizabeth Tisdahl, Ald. Judy Fiske, Peter Braithwaite, Melissa Wynne, Donald Wilson, Delores Holmes, Mark Tendam, Jane Grover, Ann Rainey and Brian Miller

Presiding: Ald. Delores Holmes

Staff Present: Marty Lyons, Assistant City Manager/CFO, Ylda Capriccioso, Asst. to City Manager/Intergovernmental Affairs

**CALL TO ORDER/DECLARATION OF QUORUM:**

Ald. Holmes declared a quorum and called the meeting to order at 6:24p.m.

**CITIZEN COMMENT:**

Ken Edwards congratulated the new Alderman and spoke against Resolution 46-R-15.

Junad Riski spoke about the bid submitted for Harley Clarke. He also stated that all issues discussed at Rules Committee meetings should be discussed by the full City Council. He also requested that packets be posted earlier on the City website.

Monty Adams spoke against Resolution 46-R-15. He shared a personal story about his experience with Unions and talked about his decision to become a teacher at Evanston Township High School, working with at-risk youth. He experienced unemployment as a teacher and discussed his struggles bringing a Union to the school. He stated that unions ensure safe work environments and anything that hurt unions hurt families.

Jason Hays stated he was a member of Evanston Fire Fighters Union 742 and spoke against Resolution 46-R-15. He noted that a strong middle class supports the economy and that unions supported the middle class. He also criticized the empowerment zones. He asked that the Committee reject the resolution.

Christopher Kruger spoke against Resolution 46-R-15. He cited Mit Romney's comments about the middle class and the anti-tax message. He talked about the manufacturing plants that no longer exist in Evanston and stated that the Turnaround Agenda attacks the public sector. He asked that the Committee condemn the resolution.

Bridget Early, Political Director for the Chicago Federation of Labor stated her organization represented over 500 unions. She spoke against Resolution 46-R-15. She cited a report produced by the Illinois Economic Policy Institute and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, School of Labor and Employment Relations, and titled the Impact of Local Right to Work Zones which predicted the outcomes for workers, the economy and tax revenues in Illinois. She reviewed the findings of the report. She stated that right-to-work laws would hurt the economy and erode wages. She further cited data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics and stated that Illinois needed more oversight of the insurance industry.

Scott Spangle, member of the Plumber's Union spoke against Resolution 46-R-15. He talked about the

extensive training unions provide at no cost to governments and urged the Committee to reject the agenda.

Patrick Keenan-Devlin spoke against Resolution 46-R-15 and requested that the Committee vote against the resolution.

Benito Rivera, Labor Locals 1 spoke against Resolution 46-R-15 and shared his personal experience with his union. He described the support he receives as a union member and the benefits of unions. He asked that the Committee reject the resolution.

**RESOLUTION 46-R-15 ADDRESSING GOVERNOR RAUNER'S ILLINOIS TURNAROUND AGENDA:**

Ald. Rainey moved to amend the agenda to have the first item of business be Resolution 46-R-15. She further moved that the Committee not adopt Resolution 46-R-15 and requested that a transcript of the meeting be sent to Governor Rauner. Ald Wilson seconded. The Committee voted unanimously to not adopt the motion.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF DECEMBER 1, 2014:**

Ald. Braithwaite moved approval of the December 1, 2014 minutes. Ald. Tendam seconded. Minutes approved.

**REVISE ALDERMANIC COMMITTEE MEMBER/CHAIR SCHEDULE – 2013-2017:**

Ald. Rainey asked for clarification of the revisions. Marty Lyons stated that at the time the document was produced former Ald. Burrus was listed. The purpose is to discuss any requested changes and decide who would be assigned to the different committees.

Ald. Holmes asked if the procedure was to substitute the new person into committees that were already assigned to the previous Alderman. Ald. Rainey stated that assignments were made based on seniority; therefore Ald. Miller couldn't assume Ald. Burrus' committees. She stated that the list was in tenure order and suggested that they discuss replacements. She requested a review of seniority. Ald. Holmes suggested that the alphabetical order system be reviewed as well as a way of determining committee chairs.

Ald. Grover suggested that the schedule be sent back to staff for revisions.

Ald. Braithwaite suggested Ald. Miller speak with Mayor Tisdahl about the various chair positions. He suggested that the issue be held in committee until that conversation takes place.

Ald. Holmes pointed out that certain committees need Aldermen as members and chairs. She clarified that it was the chair positions that required resolution also. Ald. Rainey agreed stating that it is the job of the Rules Committee to place people. She confirmed that the issue be discussed at the next Rules Committee meeting especially with the vacant positions left by Ald. Burrus.

Ald. Braithwaite restated the importance of having a conversation with the Mayor and requested Ald. Miller's input. Ald. Rainey noted that there may be Aldermen who want to replace Ald. Burrus on committees.

Ald. Miller agreed with the rules of seniority and stated his willingness to serve on the Human Services Committee.

Ald. Holmes reviewed the committees with openings and reviewed the motion to send the item back to

staff and have staff incorporate Ald. Miller and review at the next Rules Committee meeting. Also appoint Ald. Miller to the Human Services Committee.

Ald. Grover made the motion and Ald. Rainey seconded. Motion passed.

**ADD AN ADDITIONAL ALDERMAN TO THE TRANSPORTATION/PARKING COMMITTEE:**

Ald. Holmes pointed out that the Transportation/Parking Committee now required another Alderman as a member. She called for volunteers or self-nominations. Ald. Tendam volunteered.

Ald. Wynne pointed out that the Committee was about multi-modal forms of transportation.

Ald. Miller stated that he would defer to seniority, but would also volunteer to serve.

Ald. Wynne moved to appoint Ald. Tendam to the Transportation/Parking Committee. Ald. Rainey seconded. Motion passed.

**DISCUSSION ON LIBRARY DISTRICT REFERENDUM REFERRAL TO RULES:**

Ald. Grover moved to accept the memo and place it on file, seconded by Ald. Braithwaite. The Committee agreed unanimously to accept the memo and place on file.

**RESOLUTION 23-R-15 REQUESTING THE PRESIDENT AND CONGRESS TO MEMORIALIZE CARL SANDBURG NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL IN ILLINOIS:**

Ald. Rainey moved approval of Resolution 23-R-15. Ald. Braithwaite seconded. Motion passed.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

None

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Meeting adjourned 7:06p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Darlene Francellno

A video of this meeting is available at [www.cityofevanston.org/government/agendas-minutes/agendas-minutes--rules-committee](http://www.cityofevanston.org/government/agendas-minutes/agendas-minutes--rules-committee).