CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING
CITY OF EVANSTON, ILLINOIS
LORRAINE H. MORTON CIVIC CENTER
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
Monday, September 29, 2014
7:00 p.m.

Roll Call: Alderman Grover Alderman Wynne
Alderman Rainey Alderman Wilson
Alderman Burrus Alderman Holmes
Alderman Fiske Alderman Tendam
Alderman Braithwaite

Presiding: Mayor Elizabeth B. Tisdahl
Mayor Tisdahl called the Special City Council Meeting to order at 7:07 PM after a quorum was confirmed.

Mayor Public Announcements and Proclamations
Mayor Tisdahl presented a framed proclamation to the owner of Williams Shoes - The Walking Spirit celebrating their 60th Anniversary, and called September 29, 2014 a day of recognition. She also announced October 2014 as National Community Planning Month, as well as October 5-11, 2014 as National Fire Prevention Week

City Manager Public Announcements
Catherine Hurley, Sustainable Programs Coordinator announced the grant Evanston received from the state of Illinois for expansion of the DIVVY Program. Evanston and Oak Park share in $200,000.00.

Communications: City Clerk
Clerk Greene had no communications to share with the audience.

Citizen Comment
The following spoke on SP2 (the bike routing):
Dan Joseph passed out two documents speaking against the proposed bike path to Sheridan Road.
Natalie Watson stated she read all of the citizen comments, and that we should read people and not signs along the streets. Bicyclists, pedestrians, and motorist should learn to work together and share the road spaces.
Nancy Sreenan stated she is a real around bicyclist and she is supportive of the bike plan, and she wanted to know are we encouraging or discouraging bicycling.
Junad Rizki stated the Council and City are not following procedures, and asked where are the monies coming from.
Stuart Kipnis asked why such a large number of people come out only for “Bike The Ridge” and not at other times. He is asking for a safer path for families to bike and to make biking a priority.

Betty Ester stated green park areas should not be destroyed in placing a bike path through our parks.

Tom Witt stated he would like improvement of the roads for both bicyclists and motorists.

Steven Sidell

Jes Sherbourne, stated he like the way the Council uses data before committing to a project.

Jeanne Lindwall, spoke of how the plan effect pedestrians

Dan Fajerstein, thought the bike plan is great.

Hugh Burtling, a member of the advisory bike committee and thanked the Council for its working on the plan.

Nancy Wagni, representing Active Transportation Alliance asked the Council to proceed with the plan in a speedy manner.

Charles Pint, thanked the Council for allowing the Cub Scouts racing their boxcars.

Rosemary O’Neil, stated only 5% of the bikers follow the rules of the road. She asked to have SP1 deferred until a later date.

Sue Carlson, asked if there is a single Transportation document, and asked for the effect businesses economic interests.

Mitra Hartmann, stated that bicycling in Evanston is extremely unsafe and is not a bicycle friendly community.

Mayor Tisdahl announced the recent passing of former Corporation Counsel Jack Siegel. Mr. Siegel was 88 at the time of his death.

**SPECIAL ORDERS OF BUSINESS**

(SP1) Sheridan Road/Chicago Avenue Improvement Project

Staff requests approval to defer resurfacing, streetscape and bike improvements along Sheridan Road/Chicago Avenue Corridor from Grove Street to Isabella Street until 2017, and authorization to complete the required utility improvements along corridor in 2015.

For Action

This item was approved by a Voice Vote. No Roll Call was taken.

(SP2) Dodge Avenue Biking Improvements (Howard Street to Church Street)

Staff requests approval for submission of revised biking improvements on Dodge Avenue to the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning and Illinois Department of Transportation.

For Action

Amendment to change the proposal to buffered lanes fails 4-5

Protected bike lanes Passes 6-3

(SP3) Biking Improvements at Mason Park and Evanston Township High School

Staff requests approval of proposed biking improvements at Mason Park and Evanston Township High School (ETHS) between Dodge Avenue and Pitner Avenue.
For Action
The City Manager stated staff will come back October 13, 2014 with better maps and clarification.

(SP4) Bike Policy Issues: Next Steps and 2015 Initiatives
Staff requests City Council consider the presentation on Bike Policy next steps and 2015 initiatives.

For Discussion

Call of the Wards:
Ward 7, Alderman Grover had no report.

Ward 8, Alderman Rainey had no report.

Ward 9, Alderman Burrus had no report.

Ward 1, Alderman Fiske had no report.

Ward 2, Alderman Braithwaite reported on the “Black Male Summit” that occurred at ETHS and thanked all the participants who made it such a success.

Ward 3, Alderman Wynne made a reference to have the City of Evanston look into sourcing their uniforms like Chicago has done.

Ward 4, Alderman Wilson had no report.

Ward 5, Alderman Holmes had no report.

Ward 6, Alderman Tendam had no report.

Since there was no further business to discuss the Mayor asked for a motion to adjourn it was seconded and by a Voice Vote the meeting ended at 9:40 PM.

Submitted by,

Hon. Rodney Greene, MMC/City Clerk