I. DECLARATION OF QUORUM

With quorum present, Alderman Jean-Baptiste called the meeting to order at 5:10 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING of November 14, 2005

Ald. Jean-Baptiste motioned for approval of the minutes. Minutes were unanimously approved.

III. Citizen Comment: Mary Friedl spoke about disabled parking fines and penalties. She shared episodes of when Evanston police would only verbally warn violators.

V. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION ON COUNCIL AGENDA

(A1) * City of Evanston Payroll through 11/24/05 $2,549,366.85

Item A1 was considered and unanimously approved.

(A2) * City of Evanston Bills through 11/29/05 $3,472,876.07

Ald. Rainey asked for a written refresher on the rebate property taxes for the hotel. William Stafford, Director of Finance, explained that was part of the economic incentive to get the hotel in town. One the hotel’s concerns was the real estate taxes at that level. TIF laws allow for tax reimbursement as an incentive. A schedule was established to enact reimbursement once their taxes exceeded a certain level per room. Stafford gave some numbers, this transaction will be in effect for the next nine years. Ald. Rainey asked about the other hotels and what did we do for them. Stafford responded that we didn’t do anything for them relative to economic development. This is merely part of the arrangement for the hotel. What we did was a 7.5% hotel tax and 2.5% is rebated. Ald. Jean-Baptist asked if Council could get the minutes from the discussion to fill request and asked if there was any other items for discussion. Ald. Rainey addressed Bobbie Tolston-Brown about an 11k check written to Exquisite Landscape. Ald. Rainey expressed her concern because staff returned a memo saying the total bill was $23,627, there aren’t any requirements because its Federal money and the City has no local control because its Federal
money. The alderman’s issue is nobody controls it. Ald. Rainey also checked their business background. They are not registered as a business with the State of Illinois. Stafford explained that the agency pays the dollars, then the agency pays the dollars and then the City reimburses the agency. **Item A2 was considered and unanimously approved.**

(A3.1) * Approval of lowest responsive and responsible bid from Clauss Brothers (360 West Schaumburg Rd., Streamwood, IL 60107) in the amount of $99,626 for James Park East Baseball Fields Renovation project. Funded by FY 2005-06 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) funds. Ald. Jean-Baptiste did not understand Continental Construction’s violation. Bobbie Tolston-Brown explained the initial bid submission as a joint venture. The rules state that the responsibilities must be clearly stated. Continental Construction did not do so. Ald. Jean-Baptiste would like to see City staff follow up with a letter regarding Evanston based businesses not getting the bid for an Evanston project. Tolston-Brown responded she had done so for Continental Construction. The alderman asked on behalf of the committee to be kept abreast of their response. Tolston-Brown explained if Continental Construction had submitted as an Evanston based business, they would have gotten the bid. **Item A3.1 was considered and unanimously approved.**

(A3.2) * Approval of proposed policy establishing minimum street widths for City streets to provide for emergency vehicle access. Jennings explained that this is a policy recommendation. Ald. Rainey had questions about the distribution of information, is everyone on the same page. Jennings (Director of Public Works), explained that this is not about one street. Julia Carroll, City Manager, reiterated that it is a policy. She reassured the Committee that the streets listed were discussed with neighbors and aldermen. Ald. Jean-Baptiste is concerned about the dissemination of information about the street closings. David Jennings stated that the recommendations are submitted annually. Dave Jennings stated the amendment to the policy to the Committee for clarity: No street is to be widened without consulting the ward alderman. Ald. Rainey confirmed Jennings’ statement. Ald. Jean-Baptiste called for a motion with the amendment. **Item A3.2 was considered with amendment and unanimously approved.**

(A4.1) * Approval of the Lovelace Park Renovation contract extension (13 calendar days for electrical work and 51 calendar days for equipment installation) for the completion of the Lovelace Park Renovation Project by Clauss Brothers, Inc. **Item A4.1 was considered with amendment and unanimously approved.**

(A5) * Resolution 76-R-05 – Temporary Closing of Sheridan Road Consideration of proposed Resolution 76-R-05 assuming responsibility for temporarily closing Sheridan Road for the First Night Evanston fireworks display. Item A1 was considered and unanimously approved. **Item A5 was considered with amendment and unanimously approved.**

(A6) * Ordinance 126-O-05 - 2005 City of Evanston Tax Levy Consideration of proposed Ordinance 126-O-05, which legally imposes the Cit of Evanston property tax levy of $24,508,043.00 for FY 2005-06. William Stafford, Director of Finance, gave a short presentation providing the departmental breakdown, tax dates and time frames. Ald. Rainey asked specific questions and William responded with exact monetary amounts to satisfy the alderman’s inquiry. Ald. Rainey wanted to know what percentage of the property tax bill based on the amount it costs to run the city. **Item A6 was considered with amendment and unanimously approved.**

(A7) * Ordinance 128-O-05 – Exceptions to the limitations of the Presence of Minors at Certain Licensed Establishments Consideration of proposed Ordinance 128-O-05 amending Section 3.5-11 (F) of
the Evanston City Code, which provides exceptions to the limitations of the presence of minors at certain liquor license establishments. This Item was Held in Committee on 11/14/05. Ald. Wollin explained the documentation she distributed to Committee spelling out a strengthening of the ordinance language and defining a fundraiser. She read through the amendment, wanted to suspend the rules to approve it immediately. Ald. Jean-Baptist reviewed the terms under which the amendment was being presented and restated her motion. The chairman then turned the floor over to Ald. Rainey. Ald. Rainey does not agree with Ald. Wollin’s approach to amend the ordinance. This path omits Evanston citizens that have a right to input. Rainey feels the City has lost its focus. Julia explained why the item reappeared on the agenda. She took responsibility for the absence of Ald. Wollin’s memo. Julia made clear what the Committee’s choices were about the current issue. Kathy Brenniman, Corporate Counsel, quoted the Council Rule Book: any item can be held over, but only once. The item can only be tabled. Ald. Jean-Baptiste reviewed the present situation and related options. Item A7 was considered and tabled on 11/28/05.

(A8) * Ordinance 129-O-05 - Township Tax Levy
Consideration of proposed Ordinance 129-O-05 by which the City Council, would enact the Township tax levy of $1,312,427.00 for FY 2005-06. Ald. Rainey made note of the recommendation about adding to the levy to capture more of the tax base but why would we do that when they have a surplus, what are we trying to do? William explained Cook County went from giving us our money in September until October. Ald. Rainey noted that no one from the Township was present to talk about budget. Item A8 was considered and unanimously approved.

(A9) * Ordinance 130-O-05 – Special Service Area #4 Tax Levy
Consideration of proposed Ordinance 130-O-05 which legally imposes the Annual property tax levy of $255,000.00 for Special Service Area #4 FY 2005-06 budget. Item A9 was considered and unanimously approved.

(A10) * Ordinance 131-O-05 - Increase in Parking Fines for Violations of Disabled Parking
Consideration of proposed Ordinance 131-O-05 which increases the fines from $100 to $250 for violation of disabled parking provisions. Ald. Rainey is concerned about the issuance of stickers and how often are we doing inventory to follow up on the state of the applicant (i.e. still disabled, moved). The alderman shared stories of witnessing people using the handicapped parking permit without being handicapped. Ald. Rainey included following up on the special street parking space permits. Ald. Hansen asked if the Parking Committee discussed changing the signs. Jennings responded yes and gave details about an implementation date. Item A10 was considered and unanimously approved.

(A11) * Ordinance 132-O-05 – Easement Agreement with Metropolitan Water Reclamation District for the Colfax/Bryant Sewer Project
Consideration of proposed Ordinance 132-O-05 authorizing the City Manager to execute an Easement Agreement with Metropolitan Water Reclamation District for a storm sewer at Colfax Street & Bryant Avenue on the southeast bank of the North Shore Channel.

(A12) * Ordinance 134-O-05 - Increase in the number of Class D Liquor Licenses
Consideration of proposed Ordinance 134-O-05 amending Section 3-5-6 (D) of the City Code increasing the number of Class D Liquor Licenses from twenty-three to twenty-four for New Day Café located at 2916 Central Street. Ald. Rainey asked Pat Casey (Director of Management & Budget) what type of restaurant is New Day. Casey informed the Committee that the restaurant is a Type 1. The alderman also asked what type is the restaurant at Dempster and Dodge. Casey responded “Type 1.” Item A12 was considered and unanimously approved.
(A13) Ordinance 138-O-05 -Parking Restrictions on Hartzell, Grant, and Garrison
Consideration of proposed Ordinance 138-O-05 amending Section 10-11-8,
Schedule VIII prohibiting parking at all times on parts of Hartzell, Grant, and
Garrison. Item A13 was considered and unanimously approved.

V. COMMUNICATIONS

(APW1) Snow Report Ald. Rainey inquired why there is no siren during a snow storm.
Jennings replied that the Federal Gov’t said we shouldn’t because of confusion with
terrorism warning. Ald. Jean-Baptiste recommended we keep the Snow Report on the
agenda.

VI. ADJOURNMENT
Motioned to adjourn at 6:55pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Dolores Y. Cortez
City Manager’s Office