ADMINISTRATION & PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
MINUTES

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2006
5:44PM – 6:45PM
CIVIC CENTER, 2100 RIDGE AVENUE, ROOM 2404


Members Absent: none

Staff Present: Judy Aiello, John Burke, Pat Casey, Dolores Y. Cortez, Bob Dornecker, Herb Hill, David Jennings, Vincent Jones, Elke Tober-Purze, Tracey Roberts, Mary Rodino Max Rubin, Bill Stafford, Bobbie Tolston, Judy Witt, Jim Wolinski, Brad Yatabe, Allison Zelms, Debbie (human resources)


Presiding: Ald. Jean-Baptiste, Chair

I. DECLARATION OF QUORUM
With quorum present, Alderman Jean-Baptiste called the meeting to order at 5:44pm and asked for a consent agenda.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING of February 13, 2006
Unanimous approval of the minutes.

III. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION ON COUNCIL AGENDA*
Alderman Jean-Baptiste asked for consent agenda.

(A1) * City of Evanston Payroll through 02/23/06 $2,185,776.40
Item A1 approved by consent.

(A2) * City of Evanston Bills through 02/28/06 $1,595,094.64
Alderman Rainey requested item be removed from the consent agenda. She expressed a need to review written/faxed response from COE staff. Ald. Rainey asked what HUD property do we have at 1933 Church? Why is HUD paying water at a location? There was some confusion about whether the address was valid. Ald. Rainey requested information on the house tonight. Ald. Jean-Baptiste asked that Gavin Morgan, Assistant to the City Manager, (author of the Bills List Inquiry Response memo) to verbally review and explain responses. Gavin Morgan read memo down to specific agenda item responses to Council. (Each committee member has a copy of memo) Ald. Jean-Baptiste requested that the memo responses be reviewed as the committee progressed through the agenda.

Item A2 was discussed and approved.
(A3.1) * Approval of the purchase of property insurance from various insurance companies for the City of Evanston valued at $400,000,000, at a cost of $310,272 (including terrorism), excess general liability insurance coverage ($10,000,000 coverage in excess of $2,000,000) at a cost of $209,294, excess general liability insurance, $5,000,000 coverage in excess of $10,000,000, at a cost of $66,000, professional liability insurance at a cost of $13,997, inland marine (fine arts) coverage at a cost $13,496, crime and fidelity coverage at a cost of $12,849, excess worker’s compensation at a cost of $86,226. Total cost is $712,134. Funding provided by the Insurance Fund.

Alderman Rainey requested item be removed from the consent agenda. She asked Judy Aiello, Assistant City Manager, for a clearer understanding. She attempted to compare last year’s budget but failed to gain clarity. Judy Aiello responded in detail explaining premiums and assessment process. Ald. Rainey asked if we combine all of these into one package would there be some savings. Aiello responded there is a 6.3% savings. The only thing that went up was the property; everything else went down and gave examples, confirming decreases in several areas. Judy confirmed that the bottom line will not change. Ald. Jean-Baptiste noted that there has been a major allegation that MARSH was charging us higher rate and asked for an update. Judy explained that was out of the New York office. Herb Hill, First Asst. Corp Counsel, explained the payout was less than 2,000 per year. They met last year with MARSH’s CEOs to gain clarity of allegations regarding MARSH. Ald. Jean-Baptiste asked what other options do we have other than MARSH, do we explore other brokers? Herb replied yes we do explore other brokers. The top ten broker companies have all experienced the same claim as MARSH. Herb went on to explain supporting MARSH as a viable entity. Ald. Jean-Baptiste asked about coverage for employee theft, what’s been our experience? Hill responded it is a yearly coverage, it is financial operations, we handle millions of dollars, we’ve been successful in not having problems of that nature. Stafford, Finance Director, added that this insurance provides bonding. Since his tenure, there were some small incidents less than two or three thousand dollars.

Item A3.1 was discussed and approved.

(A3.2) * Approval of proposal from Flood Brothers (17 W 697 Butterfield Road Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181) for condominium refuse services for a four (4) year period in the annual amount of $418,800.00. Funding provided by the General Fund. Item was held in Committee on February 13, 2006.

Alderman Rainey requested item be removed from the consent agenda. Ald. Rainey said she read the Contract and didn’t quite understand the scheduling program. Ald. Rainey voiced that everybody should be picked up same day. She mentioned contract and city holiday Calendar conflicts. She wants to ensure that their pick up and our pick up is the same. David Jennings explained that the schedules cannot be the same. We are going to put a pick up schedule. Ald. Rainey asked what the deal with switching out the dumpsters? Jennings, Director of Public Works, will work out timely removal, ONIX gave word to completely cooperate. Ald. Rainey would like to see a team of people dedicated to accomplish goal. Jennings promised to spearhead the effort which should be completed by April 2nd. Ald. Jean-Baptiste would like an update every three months. Ald. Jean-Baptiste will look for a report two weeks after efforts begin. Ald. Rainey asked what about the dumpsters people own? Steve Stronach, Flood Brothers, the people will be asked if they want new ones, we’ll have plenty in stock. Council was told only one of the new high rises is eligible for a pick up contract. Is this condo being fully assessed? She does not want to pay for garbage collection at a tax exempt property. Ald. Hansen asked a financial question. Ald. Rainey asked is there going to be communication between Flood Brothers and the Condo owners? Ald. Jean-Baptiste: stressed communication between contractor and condo owners.

Item A3.2 was discussed and approved.
(A3.3)  * Approval of contract with Gewalt Hamilton & Associates Inc. (850 Forest Edge Drive Vernon Hills, IL) in the amount of $192,162.12 for 2006 additional sewer repair & street resurfacing for design and construction engineering services. Funding provided by CIP Funds.

Item A3.3 approved by consent.

(A5)  * Ordinance 28-O-06 Special Assessment 1480

Consideration of proposed Ordinance 28-O-06 by which the City Council would authorize the paving of the alley North of CTA, East of Wesley Avenue, South of Mulford Street.
Alderman Rainey requested item be removed from the consent agenda. Alderman Rainey noted that the petition had one name on it and asked how can one person developing a condo unit sign for everyone? David Jennings (Director of Public Works) replied that at the time the petition was submitted, the owner owned 34 of the 39 units. Stafford stated full disclosure is up front. The buyer is made aware of contract stipulations. Ald. Jean-Baptiste asked about disclosure, Bill Stafford informed the Alderman, there no existing proof of disclosure, even without proof, ownership still stands. Jennings explained the new buyers were aware of and basically signed a blank check. Ald. Jean-Baptiste: would like to see the disclosure for the sake of clarity in the process.

Item A5 was discussed, introduced.

(A6)  * Ordinance 29-O-06 Special Assessment 1482

Consideration of proposed Ordinance 29-O-06 by which the City Council would authorize the paving of the alley North of Foster Street, East of Sherman Avenue.
Alderman Wollin requested item be removed from the consent agenda. Ald. Wollin needed to disclose the fact that the alley is behind her house and wanted to confirm her voting rights due to the rumor that she wasn’t allowed to vote on it.

Item A6 was considered and approved.

(A7)  * Ordinance 30-O-06 Special Assessment 1483

Consideration of proposed Ordinance 30-O-06 by which the City Council would authorize the paving of the alley North of Cleveland Street, East of Pitner Avenue.

Item A7 approved by consent.

(A8)  * Ordinance 21-O-06 - Increasing the Recycling Collection Service Charge

Consideration of proposed Ordinance 21-O-06 amending Section 8-5-13 of the Evanston City Code, 1979, Increasing the Recycling Collection Service Charge from $2.86 to $3.72 per unit per month. This item was held in Committee on February 13, 2006.
Alderman Rainey requested item be removed from the consent agenda. Rainey asked staff to remind the committee of the annual revenue increase. Pat Casey, Director of Management & Budget, double checked in the budget book and confirmed 200k annually. Ald.Rainey: how many customers/units are there? Stafford responded there are approximately 20 and. Ald. Jean-Baptiste , “For the record, the increase is to pay for the service we’re providing.” Casey reminded the committee the City Manager is going to re-evaluate process. Ald. Jean-Baptiste reinforced that this is not the most attractive method due to the disparity of recycling citizens. Casey shared ideas on the to-do list. Ald. Holmes feels strongly about educating the public. Jennings reinforced education and more. Ald. Wollin shared her ideas about educating the public. Ald. Hansen asked if the city has tracked any recycling activity? David Jennings feels we should do our own studies on that. Ald.

Hansen asks the City of Evanston to request that GROOT does not allow their vehicles to run unattended and parked on citizen property.

Item A8 was considered and approved. 4 I’s , 1 Ney (Ald.Rainey opposed).
(A20) * Ordinance 39-O-06 – Processing and Handling Charge for Exempt Transactions
Consideration of proposed Ordinance 39-O-06 amending Section 3-29-8-1 of the Evanston City Code, increasing the processing and handling charge for exempt transactions. For Introduction and Action
*Item A20 approved by consent.*

(A21) * Ordinance 40-O-06 Amending the Building Permit Fee Ordinance
Consideration of proposed Ordinance 40-O-06, amending Ordinance 46-O-99, Sec. IB, to modify the base building permit fee from $12/$1,000 worth of construction value to $15/$1,000 worth of construction value for projects over $1,000,000 in construction value. For Introduction and Action
*Item A21 approved by consent.*

IV. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

V. COMMUNICATIONS
(APW1) Report on Taxicab Advisory Board
Committee agreed to discuss at the next scheduled A & P W meeting.

VI. ADJOURNMENT