ADMINISTRATION & PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
MINUTES
MONDAY, January 22, 2007
5: 50pm – 6:25pm
CIVIC CENTER, 2100 RIDGE AVENUE, ROOM 2404


Members Absent:  Ald. Holmes, Ald. Jean-Baptiste,

Staff Present:  Judy Aiello, Alan Berkowsky, John Burke, Pat Casey, Ken Cox, Rajeev Dahl, Suzette Eggleston, Sally Flax, Doug Gaynor, Matthew Grady III, Herb Hill, David Jennings, Vincent Jones, Gavin Morgan, Elke Purze, Max Rubin, Carlos Ruiz, Roland Russell, David Stoneback, Brad Yatube,

Others Present:  Alderman Bernstein

Presiding:  Alderman Wollin

I. DECLARATION OF QUORUM
With quorum present, Alderman Wollin called the meeting to order at 5:50 pm

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING of January 22, 2007
Minutes were unanimously approved, 3-0 vote.

III. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION ON COUNCIL AGENDA
Items were individually considered.

(A1)  * City of Evanston Payroll through 01/11/07 $2,174,498.57
Item A1 was unanimously approved 3-0.

(A2)  * City of Evanston Bills through 01/23/07 $3,086,621.19
Item A2 was unanimously approved 3-0.

(A3)  *Approval of Change Order No. 3 (final) to the 2006 Water Main Improvements Contract A with Bolder Contractors, Inc. (440 Lake Cook Road, Unit 3B, Deerfield, IL). The change order decreases the contract amount by $343,747.50, from $3,873,048.09 to $3,529,300.60.
Item A3 was unanimously approved 3-0.

(A4)  *Consideration of a payment of $245,000 to DiPaolo Company (4350 DiPaolo Center, Glenview, IL) for costs related to the termination of the Phase VI Contract B Relief Sewer Project. Funding provided by the Sewer Reserve Account.
Item A4 was unanimously approved 3-0.

Chairman Ald. Wollin explained that the next four ordinances were contingent upon an approved budget by the first meeting of February. In the meantime they would at least be Introduced and moved that they be taken all together. Ald. Rainey objected.
**Ordinance 4-O-07  Increasing Ambulance Transportation Fees**

Consideration of proposed ordinance 4-O-07 which would restructure and increase ambulance transportation fees.

Ald. Rainey asked for a public relations information dissemination explaining the new fees because of the sharp increase. Ald. Wollin expressed concern about the steep increase in fees also as it relates to the different life support systems. Chief Alan Berkowsky responded to aldermanic inquiries.

*Item was unanimously moved for Introduction.*

**Ordinance 5-O-07  Yard Waste Sticker Program**

Consideration of proposed ordinance 5-O-07 amending Section 8-5-3(E) of the City Code to establish a charge for the collection and disposal of yard waste.

Ald. Rainey recounted the old process in which yard waste was collected. Ald. Rainey would like to see the service discontinued and doesn’t fully understand why the City provides such services. Ald. Rainey stated she will not support the sanitation ordinance because no one can explain to her how a fee can motivate her to recycle more. The Chairman opened the floor for response to the Alderman’s inquiries about whether or not the yard waste bags would be picked up. Alderman Hansen is getting complaints from residents in her ward regarding composting. She acknowledges Streets & Sanitation will update Council in February regarding composting which she feels ties in with the yard waste. She needs to see more global thinking and would like to see what it would mean for collecting/not collecting yard waste and would like to hear other ideas for composting. Ald. Rainey said one of the interesting things about abolishing the yard waste program is that she believes the city wouldn’t lose not one employee. Those resources could be reallocated to keeping our parks clean. It would also provide the incentive for several small businesses to provide yard waste pick up services. The city is trying to raise $500,000, this saves $500,000. The Chairman asked to move it into Introduction to be able to discuss it on the council floor. Matthew Grady III (Finance Director) stated to Council that his department has two budget memos from Saturday’s Budget meeting that will offer further clarification and address Ald. Hansen’s concerns in Thursday’s packet. Ald. Wollin motioned, Hansen seconded.

*Item was moved for Introduction: 2 (Ald. Hansen, Ald. Wollin) -1 (Ald. Rainey)*

**Ordinance 6-O-07  Sanitation Service Charge**

Consideration of proposed ordinance 6-O-07 amending Section 8-5 of the City Code to eliminate the recycling fee and replace it with a monthly sanitation service charge of $5.00 per household.

Ald. Wollin moved to Introduce this ordinance applying the same logic as stated earlier. Ald Hansen seconded it, but expressed reservations and that it is for the purpose of discussion. Ald. Wollin referred to the Saturday Budget discussions and there would be a full debate. Ald. Rainey would like to re-route the $5 for Evanstonians to see some tax relief. The explanation for the service charge is so lacking. Create legislation that forces people to recycle to get those that don’t recycle. Land fill reduction costs was supposed to be a good reason to recycle and offset the costs of the Solid Waste Program. David Jennings (Director of Public Works) addressed the alderman’s questions. David also addressed Ald. Rainey’s question about pick-up for condos 4-6 units. Ald. Rainey feels the service is not going to be increased the additional $5 charge. She is really considering private contracting. She sees a future of small incremental increases. Ald. Wollin noted the last sanitation fee increase.

*Item was moved for Introduction: 2 (Ald. Hansen, Ald. Wollin) -1 (Ald. Rainey)*
(A8)  *Ordinance 10-O-07 Increasing Public Way Obstruction Fees
Consideration of ordinance 10-O-07 by which the City Council would amend Sections 7-2-5-3 of the Evanston City Code to increase the fees for obstructing the public way.
Item A8 was unanimously approved 3-0.

IV.  ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

V.  COMMUNICATIONS

(APW1) Evanston / Wilmette Water Distribution System Interconnection
Ald. Rainey wanted to know if the cost is being shared if not why. David Stoneback (Water & Sewer Superintendent) responded. Ald. Wollin mentioned talking to Skokie’s mayor.

(APW2) AT&T Video Service
Ald. Rainey wants to make her community available to open and fair competition for cable services. Right now there is nothing in place to allow for competition. Ald. Rainey would like to have Comcast come and talk to the City in a public meeting format. Ald. Rainey asked Comcast personnel to attend a public A&PW meeting to answer questions. Herb Hill is scheduling the meeting.

VI.  ADJOURNMENT  6:25pm

These items will be considered by Council concurrent with approval of the Fiscal Year 2007/2008 Operating Budget.

Respectfully submitted,
Dolores Y. Cortez, Executive Assistant