ADMINISTRATION & PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
MINUTES

Monday, March 26, 2007
5:33pm – 6:35pm
CIVIC CENTER, 2100 RIDGE AVENUE, ROOM 2404


Members Absent:

Staff Present:  Judith Aiello, Phillip Baugher, John Burke, Pat Casey, David Cook, Dolores Y. Cortez, Paul D’Agostino, Bob Dorneker, Sarah Flax, Doug Gaynor, Herb Hill, Vincent Jones, Pat Keegan, Kevin Lookis, Gavin Moran, Sat Nagar, Elke Purze, Dave Stoneback, Brad Yatabe

Others Present:  

Presiding:  Alderman Wollin

I. DECLARATION OF QUORUM
With a quorum present, Alderman Wollin called the meeting to order at 5:33 pm

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING of March 12, 2007
Correction of the names of two citizens in A7: Padma Rao and Ms. Janes. Page 3  4; names in the minutes, duly noted.
Minutes unanimously approved. 3-0

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

(A1) * City of Evanston Payroll through 03/22/07  $2,452,865.34
Item A1 was unanimously approved. 3-0

(A2) * City of Evanston Bills through FY06/07  $2,705,629.83
      FY07/08  $  951,608.52
Ald. Rainey noted bills from 2004 on page 14, FY06/07. She asked that this be looked into. Ald. Wollin referred to page 13, the Special Rec Program between the City and School District 65 and asked what the District share was. Bob Dorneker (Superintendent of Recreation) said that it was approximately $60,000. On page 18, it was questioned about the next phase for Fleet hardware. Pat Casey (Director of Management, Business, and Information Systems) responded that it is not part of the cost shown. It has not been voted on yet.
Item A2 was unanimously approved. 3-0
(A3.1) * Approval of sole source purchase of aerial photography with Ayres Associates (1802 Pankratz, Madison, WI) in the amount of $30,625. Funding provided by Capital Improvement Plan ($29,000), General Fund, and Geographic Information Systems ($1,625).
Ald. Rainey asked why Evanston is not part of the consortium. Pat Keegan (GIS Manager) said Evanston is not part of the consortium because the city has an in-house GIS Department. These photographs will be available by the end of October and on the web by the end of the year. Ald. Rainey stated that the City needs to inform the public that these are available and can be accessed. She is asking if staff could do some advertising. Pat Casey (Director of Management, Business, and Information Systems) said staff will look into advertising.
* Item A3.1 unanimously approved. 4-0

(A3.2) * Approval of the lowest, responsive and responsible bid for 2007 Water Main, Sewer & Street Improvement project from DiPaolo Company, (4350 Di Paolo Center Glenview, Illinois) in the amount of $2,519,393.70. Funding provided by the Water Fund ($1,490,960.38), the Sewer Fund ($376,227.03), and the Capital Improvement Plan fund ($652,206.30).
* Item A3.2 unanimously approved. 4-0

(A3.3) * Approval of the lowest, responsive and responsible bid for the 2007 CIPP Lining contract from Visu-Sewer Clean & Seal, Inc. of (W230 4855 N Betker Drive, Pewaukee, Wisconsin) in the amount of $150,820.50. Funding provided by the Sewer Fund.
Ald. Holmes asked about scheduling for this program. Dave Stoneback (Water Superintendent) gave a verbal review of the schedule. Ald. Rainey asked if all the sewers are old. Dave Stoneback confirmed that all the sewers are old.
* Item A3.3 unanimously approved. 5-0

(A3.4) * Approval of lowest responsive and responsible bidder for the construction of the Perry Park Renovation Project from Clauss Brothers Inc. (360 West Schaumberg Road, Streamwood, Illinois) in the amount of $450,265. Funding provided by CDBG (FY 07/08) ($100,000), Capital Improvement Plan, ($150,265) and an OSLAD grant, ($200,000) (reimbursable upon project completion).
Ald. Rainey asked what the design costs were for this part. Paul D’Agustino (Superintendent of Forestry) referred to the 2nd page of the memo in the table, pointing to the dollar amount of $36,500. Paul clarified what the expense covered. (Address: 1741 Hovland Court (Perry Park)
* Item A3.4 was unanimously approved. 5-0

(A3.5) * Approval of a joint contract between the City and EVMARK with the Brickman Group (222 East Industrial Lane, Wheeling, IL) for enhanced landscaping and maintenance services of the Central Business District. The City of Evanston’s share is a total of $71,470.80. Funding provided by Downtown and Washington TIF ($67,470.80), and the General fund ($4,000).
Ald. Holmes asked if Brickman would be doing the Green Bay work. Staff responded no because Brickman did not bid on the project.
* Item A3.5 was unanimously approved. 5-0
(A3.6) * Approval of contract renewal for material testing services with Great Lakes Soils & Environmental Consultants, Inc., (333 Shore Drive, Burr Ridge, Illinois) in the amount not-to-exceed $110,000 for 2007 Public Works construction projects. Funding provided by Capital Improvement Plan and Motor Fuel Transfer funds.

Item A3.6 was unanimously approved. 5-0

(A3.7) * Approval of the 2007 Special Event permit applications for events proposed in 2007 contingent upon compliance of all requirements as set forth by the Special Events Policy and Guidelines.

Ald. Jean-Baptiste asked Doug Gaynor (Director of Parks/Recreation & Forestry) if the City has maintained the same number of events at the lake front that the city has had for a number of years. Doug Gaynor explained that the City has a policy in place. Ald. Jean-Baptiste asked if the City received additional requests and how did staff determine what to do. Doug explained it is on a first come first serve basis. He insisted that City staff has never rejected anyone, if a date was unavailable, staff would refer them to other locations. If the patron insisted on a lake front date and could not get one or were unsatisfied, they are encouraged to come to the A&PW Committee meeting or City Council meeting. Ald. Jean-Baptiste asked that they be told to come to the committee meeting. Ald. Rainey needed clarity. Gaynor explained to the committee that several years ago Council put in specific dates for lakefront use. He explained the process and assured council no one to date has been turned away.

Item A3.7 was unanimously approved. 5-0

(A4) * Resolution 10-R-07 Ground and Maintenance Lease with Family Focus Consideration of proposed resolution 10-R-07 authorizing the City Manager to execute a Ground Lease and Maintenance Agreement with Family Focus, Inc. The Ground Lease refers to a parcel of land between the Fleetwood-Jourdain Community Center and the Family Focus Building and the Maintenance Agreement includes maintenance and installation of playground equipment on leased land.

Ald. Rainey commented on the handwriting in the ordinance and conferred with Elke Purze (Insurance/Risk Consultant) to ensure the Legal department knew of the handwriting in the ordinance.

Item A4 was unanimously approved. 5-0

(A5) * Resolution 11-R-07 Playskool “Win a Boundless Playground” Contest Agreement

Consideration of proposed resolution 11-R-07 authorizing the City Manager to sign the Playskool “Win a Boundless Playground” contest agreement as part of the “Noah’s Playground for Everyone” Project.

Ald. Wollin asked “When do we know if we have won?” Paul D’Augstino replied the winner will be determined June 2007. The deadline for entry is April 2007.

Item A5 was unanimously approved. 5-0
(A6) * Resolution 13-R-07 Approval of Changes to the 2007 Street Resurfacing Program and MFT Funding Resolution

Approval of changes to the 2007 Street Resurfacing Program and consideration of proposed resolution 13-R-07 authorizing the appropriation of $1,300,000 in Motor Fuel Tax Funds toward funding the street resurfacing program.

Ald. Jean-Baptiste asked if there was room for changes. John Burke (Director of Traffic Engineering) said the proposal was in place. Ald. Jean-Baptiste mentioned there were other bad streets. Burke knew which ones the Alderman was referring to and stated that he believed those streets were on the 2008 list. John will confirm with the Alderman. Ald. Wollin mentioned a bad street that is getting repaired and another street is under construction where Ald. Rainey resides.

Item A6 was unanimously approved. 5-0

(A7) * Ordinance 15-O-07 Proposing Extension (Years) and Expansion (Area) of Special Service Area #4

Consideration of proposed ordinance 15-O-07 proposing the extension (years) and expansion (area) of Special Service Area #4 for twelve years, four months and eighteen days through December 31, 2019 and providing for a public hearing on April 23, 2007.

There will be an announcement concerning a public hearing April 23rd. A map was available to the citizens in attendance. This ordinance includes businesses, not residences. The tax rate will be going down, from .148 to .1464. Ald. Rainey asked where will the other Council approved funds come from and has this been discussed? Judy Aiello (Assistant City Manager) will get the dollar information from EVMARK for input. Ald. Rainey asked if condos were previously assessed. Judy Aiello said yes, they will not be assessed now.

Item A7 was unanimously approved. 5-0

(A8) * Ordinance 03-O-07 Special Assessment Alley 1489 North of Noyes Street

Consideration of proposed ordinance 03-O-07 authorizing the paving of Special Assessment Alley 1489 North of Noyes Street, East of CTA Tracks (Noyes Court). This item was Held in Committee on 3/12/07.

Citizen speak:
Robert Tollick: Mr. Tollick had two questions: one, why was the agenda item held and two is there anything he can do today to get it moving. Ald. Wollin responded it was held because the alderman of the ward wasn’t present. But the process has almost been completed so we are ready to move on.

Bill Benjamin: In his mind the democratic process has been followed on this and asked what the reason was for the hold. This is the third time this year city council and citizens have met on it.

President of the Board of 2300 Sherman: He drives through that alley everyday. Potholes are very deep. City grates but other utility vehicles create the potholes. He is in support of paving.

Ald. Wollin asked for a show of hands in favor of the paving. The majority of the people in the room minus staff raised their hands.

S. and Anabel Levine: Felt an unpaved alley is dangerous to both vehicles and pedestrians. There is also a liability risk.

Padma Raul: distributed documentation along with pictures to council. As she discussed at the last committee meeting, legal and conflictual activities. She reads from her document. (see attached)
Paul D’Augustino named the tree and declared it disease free. Pictures of the tree were shared amongst committee members.

**Robert Janki:** referred to Padma eloquently expressing what many of residents living on that side are feeling. His concern is where the property line is. He and his wife and Padma witnessed the steak positioning. They live on the north side of the alley, looks like the letter “H”. He mentioned the carelessness in describing the location. Fear is of the alley turning into a street, disregarding any traffic signs. The least council can do if we’re going to pave the alley, include speed bumps.

Ald. Wollin mentioned that speed bumps are a separate issue. Padma feels if it is a separate issue that the city is only concerned with doing part of the job. Padma couldn’t pin down the surveying engineers to get definition on property lines.

**Mary Johnson, 1570 Sherman Condo:** No one was pressured to sign. We didn’t get 100% participation. She disputes allegations that people were forced to sign the city petition. Secondly, she feels everyone benefits if the alley is paved even if you don’t drive a car. She mentioned easy access to the grocery store, ease of difficulty for elders during inclimate weather having to walk all the way around to the front of the building to get to the store. She is against speed bumps. There is an issue with people traveling in the wrong direction. She believes this is not connected to the paving of the alley, just not reading the signs. People may not necessarily be coming from the store. The dump truck does go and backup and that’s one of the reasons for the reoccurring potholes.

Allegations were unfounded by the Evanston Police Department. John Burke explained the stake placement saying that historically people do build things into the city parkway. Ald. Wollin mentioned that a letter was sent to the condo association asking what they wanted to do with the tree and referred to D’Agustino’s report regarding the health of the tree. D’Agustino added that the tree will constantly be cut by ComEd. Ald. Jean-Baptiste clarified to Padma that the current discussion is protection of the tree, not removal. The board of the condo association will make the decision. Padma argued that Council was making the decision. Council’s argument was that it was the job of the condo association board. Ald. Jean-Baptiste asked Sat Nagar (Traffic Engineer) how private property could not abutt the alley. John Burke refers to maps to make sure. Ald. Wollin motioned to move to suspend the rules and pass tonight.

*Item A8 was unanimously approved. 5-0*

**IV. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

**V. COMMUNICATIONS**

**VI. ADJOURNMENT: 6:35pm**

Respectfully submitted,

Phillip Baugher, Administrative Assistant
Dolores Y. Cortez, Executive Assistant