I. DECLARATION OF QUORUM
With a quorum present, Alderman Rainey called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING of October 22, 2007
Minutes were unanimously approved, 4 – 0.

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

(A1)* City of Evanston Payroll through 11/01/07 $2,263,371.29
Item A1 was unanimously approved, 5-0

(A2)* City of Evanston Bills through 11/13/07 $3,172,025.21
The payment for consulting services for the Pension Funds was explained by Matthew A. Grady, III (Finance Director) as having been authorized as was past practice. These actuarial reports are used to calculate the City’s annual contribution. The two billings represent the cost for the actuarial report and for projections provided to the City. He also stated that there is a need for these reports for presentations to the Council and that they are included in the budget. The reports show the unfunded liability and the payments needed by the end of the year. Both the Fireman’s and Police Pension Boards asked that the charges be reversed as they have their own actuarial service. M. Grady agreed to reverse the charges. Timothy Schoolmaster (President of the Police Pension Board) said that this was not the practice in the past. He mentioned that this happened once before and a reversal was done. After talking with M. Grady, he sees a sharing of the costs as a possibility, if the Police Pension Board has some input. Pat Dillon (President of the Firefighter’s Pension Board) agreed that no authorization was asked for or given to pay the invoices and does not preclude looking at past charges. He too thought a cost share was possible in the future. When questioned about past documentation, M. Grady said that past invoices are available for review.

Ald. Rainey asked why unclaimed bikes go to Africa when there are many in Evanston that could use a bike. Ald. Wollin said that a student from Africa started the program. He rehabs the bikes he gets and then sends them to his home country. Ald.
Rainey said that such goods should be made available to the citizens of Evanston. If he wants items for his home country, he can advertise for donations. The Evanston Police Department should not be a part of this. Ald. Jean-Baptiste noted that the check was valid as the bike was given out by mistake so the request for a refund from Mr. Henke, the bike’s owner, was not appropriate. Ald. Holmes thought that items not sold at auction should go to a not-for-profit. T. Schoolmaster stated that in the past, profits went to the Police Pension Fund and bikes left over from the Police auction were normally given away. Gavin Morgan (Assistant to City Manager) will look into agencies that could use these items. Ald. Jean-Baptist asked how long the bike was in storage. Did the City violate policy by giving it away too soon? And, if procedure was followed, why is Mr. Henke getting a check? G. Morgan will look into policy/procedures. Ald. Rainey asked if the check was cut. It was and it has been given out.

Item A2 was unanimously approved, 5-0

(A3.1)* Recommend award of consulting services contract to Cultural Arts Corporate Sponsorship Representative with Kirby Simmering (849 North Franklin, #702, Chicago, IL.) in the amount of $45,000 plus a 10% commission on new or increased donations. The annual commission is not to exceed $40,000. Funding provided by the General Fund.

Ald. Wollin is pleased that the cost includes attending meetings. Ald. Jean-Baptiste was surprised that the revenue goal is only 85 thousand. Leah Callihan (Arts Council Chairperson) said the Evanston Arts Council had a goal of 85 thousand. Ald. Jean-Baptist asked if that was net or gross. He was told that the 45 thousand will be returned to the city. Ald. Rainey asked that the Committee be informed as sponsors sign up.

Item A3.1 was unanimously approved, 5-0

(A3.2)* Recommend award of maintenance and service agreement with Revcon Technology Group (1715 Cortland Court, Addison, Ill.) for parking access and revenue control equipment at the Sherman Plaza Self Park for the period November 15, 2007 to December 31, 2008 in the amount of $5,925/month or $79,987.50 for the period of the contract. Funding provided by the Sherman Plaza Parking Fund.

John Burke (Transportation Director) said this agreement is to keep the service relatively maintenance free.

Item A3.2 was unanimously approved, 5-0

(A3.3)* Recommend award of professional services contract to Wolff Landscape Architecture (307 North Michigan Avenue, Suite 601, Chicago, Ill.) for the Crown Tennis Court and Lighting Reconstruction Project (RFP 08-48) in the amount of $21,530. Funding provided by Capital Improvement Plan, FY 08/09. Held in Committee 10-22-07.

Douglas Gaynor (Director, Parks/Forestry & Recreation) referred to a survey completed in 2007 that showed Robert Crown was in dire need of 7 million dollars in repairs or 25 million dollars for replacement and expansion. Meetings were held with citizens. Relocation was discussed to offer facilities for special education youth and to add a west side library. All of this was put on hold due to pending liabilities to the City of Evanston. The question remains of how to meet new needs such as increasing the number of gyms and providing an indoor soccer field. A contract is being prepared to be presented for hiring a consultant to perform a survey of the citizens and what they want. This would also involve District 202. There is talk of a field house and new skating rinks. Ald. Rainey asked about the survey costs and if the school was participating. D. Gaynor said the school was a part of the process and so far, no fees have been agreed to. Ald. Rainey asked to see the text of the survey. D. Gaynor said that the steps followed will be in the presentation when it goes to agenda. Will you support a new building and what programs are you looking for will both be asked. Ald. Bernstein said that a programmatic and physical survey was done five years ago. D. Gaynor said that that survey had been completed by Recreation staff and they only questioned users of Robert
Crown. This survey will include the total community. Ald. Bernstein asked about the cost just for the tennis courts. D. Gaynor said that the contractor will include the plans, specifications and contract management. Ald. Bernstein asked why Stefanie Levine (Landscape Architect) cannot do this work. D. Gaynor said that her schedule right now does not allow her the necessary time. Ald. Rainey asked if there would be neighborhood meetings. Douglas Gaynor said probably not since this in an improvement project. Asked about the 134 thousand dollars of funding remaining for this project, D. Gaynor responded that the survey costs, assumed to be 60 thousand, would come out of the balance. Ald. Wollin mentioned that the schools are doing surveys about what the public wants. D. Gaynor will look into getting the information from District 202.

Item A3.3 was unanimously approved, 5-0

(A3.4)* Approval of lowest responsive and responsible bid for the 2007 Large Diameter Sewer Cleaning to American Hydro Services, Inc. (4235 Green bay Road, Suite 213, Kenosha, WI.) in the amount of $22,255.25. Funding provided by Sewer Fund.

Ald. Rainey responded to the statement that this firm has never worked for Evanston by asking, “Have they ever done a big job?” Dave Stoneback (Water Superintendent) said their references are good. Ald. Jean-Baptiste asked what “due to limited funding” meant. D. Stoneback said that the amount of work to be accomplished at this time is predicated on the dollars remaining in the fund. If more money was available now, more work would be contracted for. In all cases, if the City cannot perform the cleaning, a contract is made. The Sewer Division is not short staffed but due to some equipment failure, they are on a tight schedule.

Item A3.4 was unanimously approved, 5-0

(A5)* Resolution 54-R-07 Requesting Assistance from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency.
Consideration of proposed resolution 54-R-07 for approval to request assistance from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) to conduct an environmental investigation at the proposed construction site of the Animal Shelter addition. Funding provided by a grant from IEPA (no cost to the City).

Item A5 was unanimously approved, 5-0

(A6)* Resolution 55-R-07 General Obligation Debt Property Tax Abatements
Consideration of proposed resolution 55-R-07 for abatement of bond issue, Series 1999 in the amount of $3,226,775.

(A7)* Resolution 56-R-07 General Obligation Debt Property Tax Abatements
Consideration of proposed resolution 56-R-07 for abatement of bond issue, Series 2000 in the amount of $2,797,500.

(A8)* Resolution 57-R-07 General Obligation Debt Property Tax Abatements
Consideration of proposed resolution 57-R-07 for abatement of bond issue, Series 2002A/B/C in the amount of $3,260,000.

(A9)* Resolution 58-R-07 General Obligation Debt Property Tax Abatements
Consideration of proposed resolution 58-R-07 for abatement of bond issue, Series 2003 in the amount of $742,631.25.

(A10)* Resolution 59-R-07 General Obligation Debt Property Tax Abatements
Consideration of proposed resolution 59-R-07 for abatement of bond issue, Series 2004 in the amount of $104,900.
Resolution 60-R-07 General Obligation Debt Property Tax Abatements

Resolution 61-R-07 General Obligation Debt Property Tax Abatements
Consideration of proposed resolution 61-R-07 for abatement of bond issue, Series 2005 in the amount of $1,405,200.

Resolution 62-R-07 General Obligation Debt Property Tax Abatements
Consideration of proposed resolution 62-R-07 for abatement of bond issue, Series 2006 in the amount of $68,500.

Resolution 63-R-07 General Obligation Debt Property Tax Abatements
Consideration of proposed resolution 63-R-07 for abatement of bond issue, Series 2007 in the amount of $1,952,524.50.

Items A6 through A14 were unanimously approved by the consent method, 5-0

Ordinance 100-O-07 2007 City of Evanston Tax Levy
Consideration of proposed ordinance 100-O-07 for annual property tax levy for General Fund, Police Pension Fund and Fire Pension Fund.

Ald. Rainey asked if debt service was included since every year we add to the debt fund and it is part of the budget. M. Grady said that debt is not included with the resolutions being introduced tonight since debt payment and levy was already approved by the Council when the bond ordinance was introduced at the time of the issuance of the debt. The amortization on a bond ordinance requires no separate ordinance for debt service. Ald. Bernstein asked when a levy is done for debt service. M. Grady said it is done at the same time as these on the agenda, it just does not require an ordinance of its own. It is part of the bond ordinance.

Item A15 was unanimously approved, 5-0

Ordinance 101-O-07 2007 SSA #4 Tax Levy
Consideration of proposed ordinance 101-O-07 for annual property tax levy for SSA #4. Funding provided by the Special Service Area #4 taxing district in the Central business district.

Item A16 was unanimously approved, 5-0

Ordinance 102-O-07 2007 Township Tax Levy
Consideration of proposed ordinance 102-O-07 for annual property tax levy for Evanston Township.

Item A17 was unanimously approved, 5-0

IV. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

V. COMMUNICATIONS

VI. ADJOURNMENT: 7:05 pm

Respectfully submitted:
Phillip G. Baugher
Administrative Assistant Finance Department