ADMINISTRATION & PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
MINUTES

Monday, June 25, 2007
5:30 pm – 6:50 p.m.

CIVIC CENTER, 2100 RIDGE AVENUE, ROOM 2404


Members Absent:

Staff Present: John Burke, David Cook, Paul D’Agostino, Rajeey Dahal, Matthew A. Grady III, Jewell Jackson, David Jennings, Vincent Jones, Gavin Morgan, Sat Nagar, Elke Purze, Rolanda Russell, Debbie Sleet, Dave Stoneback, Brad Yatabe

Others Present: S. Brenner, League of Women Voters, Diane Williams, EVMARK M. Leary & J. Zajdel, Matherlifeways

Presiding: Ald. Wollin

I. DECLARATION OF QUORUM
With a quorum present, Alderman Wollin called the meeting to order at 5:40 pm.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING of June 11, 2007
Minutes were unanimously approved 5 – 0.

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

(A1) *City of Evanston Payroll through 6/14/07 $2,281,662.38
Item A1 was unanimously approved, 5-0.

(A2) *City of Evanston Bills through 06/26/07 $4,164,377.60
Ald. Holmes commented how great the lightening prediction and warning system is especially for the parks where there are so many children. Ald. Jean-Baptiste questioned the expenses to Dowling & Pope Advertising. Debbie Sleet (Interim Director of Human Resources) stated that this is a company that had been used in the past. The one she usually used went out of business and a new firm has not been selected at this time. Three firms have responded to the RFQ and interviews will begin. Ald. Rainey asked how many positions these ads represent. Debbi Sleet said ten. Some charges are for more than one advertisement for the same position. The alderman asked why the City uses a service rather than doing it themselves; Debbie Sleet said the service knows many more places to place particular ads and the success rates of those sites. Gavin Morgan (Assistant to City Manager) will respond directly to the alderman’s inquiry with a memo to Council. Debbie Sleet said that openings were posted on campus, all local areas and areas of particular interest. Ald. Rainey asked why the lowest scored respondent of the top three to RFQ 07-04 was selected. Gavin Morgan said that after the scoring process came the interviews and this company had a flexible approach compared to more mechanical ones of the other two companies. There also was an overall compatibility and responsiveness.
Item A2 was unanimously approved, 5-0.

(A3.1) *Approval of contract for Organizational Development, Leadership Training and
Teambuilding services (RFQ 07-47) with AZ Consultants and Alea Associates (708 Leonard Street, Madison, WI) in an amount not-to-exceed $30,000. Funding provided by the Citywide Training Budget.

Ald. Wollin noted that the figures on page 8 do not match others. Gavin Morgan stated that one set was early estimates and after discussion of the scope etc., the estimates changed. The City chose only three modules of Leadership Training. Ald. Wollin asked the team size for Leadership and was told that it is two. Gavin Morgan confirmed that the Train the Trainer portion was to train 19 city staff who will then continue the training in the City. Ald. Rainey asked that there be updates. Ald. Wollin asked about the time frame. Gavin Morgan said that this will start in July and the Legacy Team will give an overview and is forming in early July.

Item A3.1 was unanimously approved, 5-0.

(A3.2)*Approval of contract for Phase II Engineering Services for the Twiggs Park Expansion and Bike Path Reconstruction Project (RFQ 07-57) to URS (100 South Wacker Drive, Suite 500, Chicago, Illinois 60606) in the amount of $73,759.31. Funding provided by Capital Improvement Project funds ($14,751.86) and SAFTEA-LU High Priority funds ($59,007.45).

Item A3.2 was unanimously approved, 5-0.

(A3.3)*Approval of contract for Phase III Engineering Services for the Twiggs Park Expansion and Bike Path Reconstruction Project (RFQ 07-57) to URS (100 South Wacker Drive, Suite 500, Chicago, Illinois 60606) in the amount of $18,457.68. Funding provided by Capital Improvement Project funds ($3,691.54) and SAFTEA-LU High Priority funds ($14,766.11).

Item A3.3 was unanimously approved 5-0.

(A3.4)*Approval of a proposal from Gewalt Hamilton Associates, Inc. (850 Forest Edge Drive, Vernon Hills, IL.) to provide engineering services related to the 2008 Water Main and Sewer Improvement project for the not-to-exceed amount of $305,039.05. Funding provided by the Water Depreciation, Improvement & Extension account.

Item A3.4 was unanimously approved, 5-0.

(A3.5)*Approval of lowest responsive and responsible bid for the 2007 Capital Improvement Program Street Resurfacing Project from A. Lamp Concrete Contractors (800 West Irving Park Road, IL) in the amount of $3,090,783.50. Funding provided by 2007/08 Capital Improvement Program Funds. This item was held in Committee at the June 11th meeting.

Ald. Rainey felt that the minutes did not show her opposition strongly enough. She wants to reiterate how strongly opposed she is to this contract. Ald. Holmes stated that though her ward was not involved in the last two contracts, she had heard enough negative comments about the work. If approved, the City must provide more oversight. Ald. Rainey noted that the Director of Public Works and his staff did take positive actions last year. Ald. Jean-Baptiste feels that a company returning after having made corrections was a stronger company. Since the 8th Ward can be removed, the other Aldermen should consider this point. Ald. Hansen stated that there were minor problems in her ward. She is aware of how well the City staff handled the problems but does not feel that a contract should go to contractors that have given the City such trouble. The City should not have to be overly vigilant of any contractor they hire. Ald. Jean-Baptiste feels that it is up to the staff to decide which contractor is responsive and responsible and if they were not, staff would not present them to this Committee. He believes that the City could be sued if the Committee/Council does not follow the staff recommendation. Ald. Rainey says a committee needs to look at formulating a policy so that contractors can be considered non-acceptable bidders and create a list of acceptable bidders for the future. David Jennings stated that he would be hiring non-city staff to oversee the work. Ald. Hansen agreed that our staff is good but cannot be on site 24/7.

Item A3.5 was passed 3-2. Aldermen Wollin, Holmes and Jean-Baptiste for, Aldermen Rainey and Hansen opposed.
(A3.6)* Approval of staff’s recommendation to provide funding to change the existing fountain basins at Fountain Square into planters.

Ald. Wollin stated that the planters were only a temporary solution. Ald. Rainey said “no fountains?” This is an eligible use of TIF monies, restore the fountain. Ald. Hansen asked about the time frame. Why is the Committee only now finding out about that Fountain Square is inoperable. David Jennings (Director Public Works) said that Public Works knew about it but did not go forward on the repairs. Ald. Jean-Baptiste asked if the fountains could work for less than a quarter millions dollars since other plans are in the pipeline for a total rehab. Dave Cook (Assistant Director Facilities Management) said the electrical system, plumbing and liners of floor all needed to be replaced. The walks could be patched but the fountains cannot be temporarily made to work. There is no middle ground. The Departments of Facilities and Public Works have been trying to find a solution. Ald. Rainey felt that the amount of money estimated for the work is a bargain considering the scope of the job. It is not money wasted because the development will not happen for three or four years. This is exactly the reason for TIF funds, and with the new art work being installed across the street, Fountain Square would look even worse. Ald. Jean-Baptiste asked about the time required to do the work. Dave Cook said probable from now through Labor Day or longer.

Item A3.6 was unanimously approved, 5-0.

(A4)* Resolution 29-R-07 for the Open Space Lands Acquisition and Development (OSLAD) grant application for the Redevelopment of Foster Field.

Consideration of resolution 29-R-07 authorizing the City Manager to sign the 2007 OSLAD grant application through the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. There is $1,000,000 in the 2009-2010 Capital Improvement Program Fund for Foster Field. Transferring $400,000 to the 2008-2009 CIP Foster Field budget will produce a match for the 2007 OSLAD grant.

Item A3.4 was unanimously approved, 5-0.

(A5)* Resolution 31-R-07 Authorizing a Joint Agreement with Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) and T.Y. Lin International for Construction Engineering.

Consideration of resolution 31-R-07 authorizing the City Manager to sign the Joint Agreement with Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) for 20% participation of the implementation cost of the on-street bike plan and construction administration fee with T. Y. Lin International (5960 North Milwaukee Avenue, Chicago, Ill.) in the amount of $335,774. Funding provided by CMAQ (Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality) program ($268,618) and Capital Improvement Program Funds ($67,156).

Item A5 was unanimously approved, 5-0.

(A6)* Resolution 32-R-07 Local Agency Agreement for Federal Participation with the IDOT

Consideration of resolution 32-R-07 authorizing the City Manager to sign a Local Agency Agreement for Federal Participation with Illinois Department of Transportation to jointly initiate the Twiggs Park Expansion and Bike Path Reconstruction Project.

Item A6 was unanimously approved, 5-0.

(A7)* Resolution 33-R-07 Transfer Funds from the General Fund to the Capital Improvement Fund

Consideration of Resolution 33-R-07 requesting a transfer of $2,475,000 from the General Fund balance to the Capital Improvement Program Fund to cover construction costs for the Animal Shelter renovation and construction of Fire Station #5.

Item A7 was unanimously approved, 5-0.

(A8)* Ordinance 65-O-07 Stormwater Control
Consideration of approval of ordinance 65-O-07 by which the City Council would add Chapter 24 to Title 4 of the City Code to establish regulations for the control of stormwater. The current stormwater control regulations have been enforced by policy in the Public Works Department and there is a need to place these regulations in the City Code.

David Jennings presented a power point explanation of the scope of the stormwater controls in place. His department currently meets all requirements and handles all matters concerning stormwater by policy, not by ordinance. An ordinance would codify stormwater controls. Though developers have been complying, as Ald. Rainey noted, David Jennings said it would be easier for the City to enforce with an ordinance. Ideas on how to control stormwater at the Oakton area, was the tenants that anted open retention for the area even though it is a loss of land use. Everyone thanked Brad Yatabe for his work on this project and noted that he would be missed, after he resigns June 29th.

*Item A8 was unanimously approved, 5-0.*

(A9) *Ordinance 67-O-07 Extending for an Additional Twelve Years, Four Months, and Eighteen Days, until December 31, 2019, Expanding the Territory, and Providing Services for Special Service Area #4*

Consideration of ordinance 67-O-07 extending (years) and expanding (area) Special Service Area #4 for an additional twelve years, four months, and eighteen days, until December 31, 2019. Funding Special Service Area #4 includes the Washington National TIF District Special Tax Allocation Fund (STAF), the Downtown II TIF District STAF, the Economic Development Fund, and any other appropriate Council-approved funding source.

Ald. Rainey noted that this requires the difference between levy and budget be paid by Council. She cautioned members after the current Council is gone to be very diligent as this change will go on for a long time.

*Item A9 was unanimously approved, 5-0.*

(A10) *Ordinance 69-O-07 Mather Easements: 1615 Hinman Avenue and 415 & 422 Davis Street*

Consideration of ordinance 69-O-07 by which the City Council would authorize the City Manager to execute an easement agreement with MatherlifeWays and the Georgian for construction of a tunnel and porte-cochere and for temporary construction easements within the public right-of-way off Davis Street.

Ald. Holmes asked if approval meant the work would start and Ald. Wollin said yes and Davis Street will be closed for six months.

*Item A10 was unanimously approved, 5-0.*

IV. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

V. COMMUNICATIONS

VI. ADJOURNMENT: 6:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:
Phillip G. Baugher,
Finance Department Administrative Assistant