I. DECLARATION OF QUORUM
With a quorum present, Alderman Wollin called the meeting to order at 5:42 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING of June 25, 2007
Minutes were unanimously approved 5 – 0.

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

(A1) *City of Evanston Payroll through 6/28/07 $2,418,817.66
Item A1 was unanimously approved, 5-0.

(A2) *City of Evanston Bills through 7/10/07 $3,107,086.77
Ald. Holmes questioned the $32,120.17 item on page 18. David Jennings (Director Public Works) stated that it is payment for the engineering and design work for the three signal light process and resurfacing of area.
Item A2 was unanimously approved, 5-0.

(A3.1)*Approval of lowest responsive and responsible bid (RFP # 08-29) for the Noah’s Playground for Everyone Project from Clauss Brothers, Inc. (360 West Schaumburg Road, Streamwood, IL.) in the amount of $836,255. Funding provided by Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Funds, CIP Fund reallocations, CIP Fund transfers from completed projects with unspent balances ($449,623) and private donations ($386,623).
Ald. Holmes asked if it was normal to have a transfer of funds from completed projects. David Jennings said these are unspent balances. She wondered why there are unspent balances from Leahy Park. When it was under construction, $2500 could not be found to produce a historical program. Paul D’Agostino (Superintendent of Forestry) said that these monies will be returned to the fund
from a request for Capital Improvement Program Funds in 2008. Ald. Jean-Baptiste asked if there was a policy concerning contingency funds. Judy Aiello (Assistant City Manager) said the policy is that unspent funds go into a contingency fund and the City Manager requests its use. She will supply a copy of the policy to the Aldermen. If there are no projects needing the money it is reprogrammed to the Bond issue with only a small amount left in the contingency fund. It is accessible during the year. Matthew A. Grady, III (Finance Director) said that he is taking up the reins of CIP in September and will develop a way for the Aldermen to know what monies are available. Ald. Jean-Baptiste requested an update be sent to the Committee every two weeks. Judy Aiello said that new initiatives are few this year since contingencies might be needed for current jobs. Ald. Rainey asked why some of the contingency monies listed are from parks that have been completed for several years. Judy Aiello said that the software program has a flaw in it that has slowed down the accounting for the various funds. Ald. Rainey also asked since several of the parks listed as having contingency funds are in bad repair now, why isn’t the money used for them? Judy Aiello will look into it. Ald. Jean-Baptiste wondered how the software does not work. Judy Aiello said the flaw is that now only some accounts are being reconciled. Ald. Jean-Baptiste said that Penny Park is in bad repair and he was told it would not be renovated until 2011. He asked why can’t contingency money be used? Staff will respond to committee’s inquiry.

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

(A3.2)*Approval of extension of professional services contract (RFP # 07-22) with Hi-Liter Graphics (700 Blackhawk Drive, Burlington, WI) into Year Two of the contract for the printing and mail preparation of four issues of Arts and Recreation magazine in the amount not-to-exceed $63,000. Funding provided by the Parks/Forestry and Recreation Department’s Communications and Marketing Services fund.

Ald. Rainey that the City requires another year of research on this paper being used, if it can be or cannot be recycled. Ald. Wollin having asked before, starting in 1989, asks again, “When can the City change? Why hasn’t this been resolved?” Ald. Holmes stated that if no printers can be found in Evanston, a preferred arrangement, can we at least stay within the state. Robert Dorneker (Superintendent of Recreation) said that to date no Illinois printer has bid on any jobs. He is working with Purchasing on next year’s bid. Ald. Holmes asked that new research be done on possible businesses that meet our requirements in the community or in the state. Ald. Rainey suggests calling the local graphic designers. She feels the City needs to develop contacts in the community.

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

(A4) * Special Event FitzGibbons ALS Fun Run in Lovelace Park, 8am until noon on September 9, 2007
Consideration of approval for the Special Event Permit application submitted by Julie Stafford, to hold a walk-a-thon in Lovelace Park, 8am until noon on September 9, 2007. There are no additional city costs associated with this activity.

Ald. Wollin voiced concern over available parking. She was told that two places have been arranged for, a third is under consideration and shuttle service will be provided. It was noted that the permit is contingent on adequate parking. Robert Dorneker stated that the rest rooms in the park will be accessible and in working order. Ald. Rainey mentioned that Tom FitzGibbons was a local resident and that this is a most worthy cause.

Item A4 was unanimously approved, 5-0.

(A5) * Resolution 36-R-07 Lease Agreement with Bob and Marcy Brower for Lease of Noyes Studio #109
Consideration of resolution 36-R-07 authorizing the City Manager to execute a lease agreement for Studio #109 to Bob and Marcy Brower from August 1, 2007 ending February 29, 2008. Mr. Brower performs stone sculpture work while Mrs. Brower offers acrylic painting.

Ald. Holmes asked where they were going to perform their community service. Robert Dorneker said at a school but the site has yet to be determined.

Item A5 was unanimously approved, 5-0.
(A6) * Resolution 37-R-07 Authorizing the City Manager to Execute an Implementation Agreement

Consideration of resolution 37-R-07 authorizing the City Manager to execute an Implementation Agreement with EVMARK for consideration of renewing Special Service Area #4 (Ordinance 67-O-07).

Ald. Rainey cannot find a course of action in the document. Judy Aiello stated that the Council gets a request in February for supplemental services. Specific jobs go to the Economic Development Committee to review and a tax levy then goes to Council. The tax levy and the budget are linked.

*Item A6 was unanimously approved, 5-0.*

(A7) * Ordinance 64-O-07 City of Evanston Solid Waste Franchise

Consideration of ordinance 64-O-07 amending Section 8-5 and 8-5 ½ of the City Code to establish a City of Evanston Solid Waste Franchise. This franchise would require all businesses, commercial and larger residential properties to use the hauler selected and licensed by the City to remove and dispose of their solid waste.

David Jennings gave a powerpoint presentation based on a recent survey. Ald. Rainey asked for a copy of the survey and the responses. Public Works wants to license one waste hauler to handle all solid waste. Currently there are ten haulers, prices vary per hauler. With no incentive, recycling is not being practiced, multiple trucks use the same alleys and streets causing excess wear, pollution is higher, and many businesses pay more than they should. Ald. Rainey asked why business cannot continue to negotiate their own prices. David Jennings said that this proposed system would help all businesses to pay the same price and by that, a lower price. In Chicago, 24 communities participate in this type of program and so does Skokie. A similar proposal was submitted to Council in October 2006. SWANCC (Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County) did a survey and only 17% returned answers. What they found matched resident concerns in other communities. It is suggested that an RFP be presented this year for implementation in February 2008 allowing six months for transition. The City would get a fee based on the size of the container which will generate a revenue stream which could be used to purchase new garbage carts and bins. Ald. Rainey asked who would administrate the program. It would be done by SWANCC and the Sanitation Department. The City is not hiring additional staff. The consultant is SWANCC. C. Brooke Beal (Executive Director, SWANCC) stated that this program has been in place in Skokie since 1998, in Wheeling since 2005 and in Barrington for 25 years. Ald. Rainey questioned the item in the document referring to turning off the resident’s water if they do not pay their bill. C. Brooke Beal said that that does not happen since everyone usually pays their bills on time. It was mentioned that some businesses do not have waste pick-up and place their items in city containers. Some small businesses do not have enough clout to get a fair price. Ald. Jean-Baptiste asked where the Department of Sanitation will find staff to monitor this contract and what is the expected revenue. Suzette Eggleston (Superintendent Streets & Sanitation) expects little work required after the transition period. The contractor will send out the bills and receive the payments. Her department will oversee the receipt of the service fee and audit the program. Revenue is expected to be two-hundred thousand dollars a year. John Burke (Transportation Director) confirmed that the cost to the City is zero. C. Brooke Beal agreed with Suzette Eggleston, the amount of work done initially is soon over and there will be little for the City to do. He also mentioned that if a pick-up is missed, there is always a truck in town somewhere that will be sent over. Ald. Rainey says that with private haulers, the calls and complaints go to them, not the City. Judy Aiello said that the City frequently gets calls. Ald. Hansen asked who would be covered. She was told that everyone who has service now will be covered. Those with national franchise for waste pick-up would be exempt. Asked about businesses that have contracted for lower rates, she was told that in those cases, the lower rate would be honored for three years. The Executive Director of SWANCC felt that many would not fall into the category as the industry is now going through an add on to rates of 12 to 15 percent due to fuel costs and environmental concerns. This franchise does not do that. Ald. Hansen asked would some of the buildings that were not surveyed, would their lower fees be affected. She was told that they would be grandfathered for
the three years. In response to Ald. Rainey, the City will not be obligated to make up the difference. Peter Lobin (Evanston resident) asked about missed pick-ups at high risk areas like hospitals and was told a call would get a truck over there that day. Ald. Jean-Baptiste noted if hospitals and others that need specific waste removal plans due to the nature of the waste they would need to negotiate separately and suggested that they can apply directly to the hauler for an exemption. Peter Lobin maintained that if a pick-up is missed from a critical area, the problem would fall back on the City. Ald. Hansen stated that the agreement covers missed pick-ups. Ald. Rainey pointed out that the City just made a change with condos and it caused a lot of headaches. There is no relationship between SWANCC and the individual haulers, nor does SWANCC “get anything out of the deal”. The haulers decide where the waste is taken. Ald. Rainey asked how can the City get recycling accomplished? The answer was that this franchise can help develop recycling and help contain prices. Ald. Rainey felt that before the City does anything, all those not contacted must be. She feels that their input is necessary. Ald. Jean-Baptiste asked Elke Purze (Assistant Corporation Counsel) if the City intended to create their own contract or accept the proposed one. Elke Purze said that since this is so specialized, she’d prefer to not use a standardized contract. Alderman Moran spoke up about the Director of SWANCC stating that all his recommendations were made after a lot of thought. Ald. Rainey thought it was a radical change with no input from a lot of sources but recognized that the staff had worked hard on the preparation. Ald. Wollin suggested that though introduced tonight, this ordinance should be held in committee.

*Item A7 was held in committee, the vote was unanimous, 5-0.*

IV. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

V. COMMUNICATIONS

VI. ADJOURNMENT: 6:58 p.m.

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