ADMINISTRATION & PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
MINUTES
Monday, March 10, 2008
CIVIC CENTER, 2100 RIDGE AVENUE, ROOM 2404


Members Absent: Ald. Wollin

Staff Present: Judy Aiello, Chief Berkowsky, John Burke, David Cook, Paul D’Agostino, Joellen Daley, Steven Drazner, Doug Gaynor, Robert Gustafson, Beth Howlett, Jewel Jackson, Shanee Jackson, Lonnie Jeschke, Anil Khakhate, Pat Keegan, Dennis Marino, Mike Madden, Angela McCray, Gavin Morgan, Sat Nagar, Elke Purze, Rolanda Russell, David Stoneback, Evonda Thomas, Ricky Voss

Others Present: Peter Andrews, Pinel Andrews Contracting Corporation Officer Anthony Correa, Evanston Police Department Pat Dillon, President, Firefighter’s Pension Board Timothy Schoolmaster, President, Police Pension Board

Presiding: Ald. Jean-Baptiste

I. DECLARATION OF QUORUM
With a quorum present, Alderman Jean-Baptiste called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m. Ald. Jean-Baptiste, referring to item A9, stated that the cartoon in the attachment was definitely not a reflection of the feelings of the Administration & Public Works Committee.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING of February 25, 2008
Minutes were unanimously approved, 4-0.

III. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION ON COUNCIL AGENDA

(A1)* City of Evanston Payroll through 03/06/08 $2,290,307.74
Item A1 was unanimously approved, 4-0

(A2)* City of Evanston Bills through 03/11/08 FY 07/08 $1,794,309.45
FY 08/09 $ 781,908.62
Ald. Rainey asked about the charges for equipment inspection and repairs. The dollars seem high for routine inspections and maintenance. Lonnie Jeschke (Manager Fleet Operations) said that the supervisor assessed the four sweepers in the fleet for in-house maintenance and repairs. These two units are getting older and the major overhauls had costs overruns because of their age and condition. Ald. Rainey asked if this was routine. L. Jeschke said it was an annual inspection and repairs as needed. Ald. Rainey asked what the cost of a unit and the projected life span was. The answer was 144 to 150 thousand dollars and a 10 - 12 years life cycle expectancy. L. Jeschke noted that one unit is ten years old and the other thirteen but that the mileage of each is low. Ald. Rainey said that the bill only said routine work where as the additional information shared tonight
should have been included. L. Jeschke will send out an explanation to the Aldermen.

Ald. Rainey hoped that everyone had read the explanation of the seized funds and the refund. This is very upsetting. Officer Anthony Correa (Evanston Police Department) reported that this domestic arrest seized both weapons and money. The mother of one of the defendants showed that eight thousand dollars was hers. The states attorney agreed and instructed the City of Evanston to return the money. Both parties had their felony charges reduced to a misdemeanor. Ald. Hansen asked why the staff sought a professional appraisal for the purchase at 829 Case. Shouldn’t that be accomplished by the owners? Dennis Marino (Assistant Director Community Development) said that yes an appraisal is normally submitted to the City but this was a very complicated case and staff felt that having an independent appraisal produced was very important. It also sped up the process in hopes of preventing a foreclosure. Ald. Rainey wondered why the City was trying to stop the foreclosure, the City had already subsidized the developer in the past.

Item A2 was unanimously approved, 4-0

(A3.1)* Approval of Lowest Responsible and Responsive Bid (08-81) for 2008 MFT Street Resurfacing Program
Recommend approval of contract for 2008 MFT Street Resurfacing Program to J. A. Johnson Company (1025 East Addison Court, Arlington Heights, Il.) in the amount of $1,177,777.70. Funding provided by Motor Fuel Tax Fund.

Ald. Holmes pointed out that in A3.3 who the developer is was delineated. She thought this could have been a better presentation concerning the developer DNB.

Item A3.1 was unanimously approved, 4-0

(A3.2)* Approval of Lowest Responsible and Responsive Bid (08-83) for 2008 Water Main, Sewer and Street Improvement Project
Recommend approval of contract for 2008 Water Main, Sewer and Street Improvement project to Joel Kennedy Construction Corporation (40 Noll Street, Waukegan, Il.) in the amount of $2,545,347. Funding provided from three sources; $1,944,812 from the Water Fund, $124,877.50 from the Sewer Funds and $475,657.50 from the CIP Fund for street resurfacing.

Ald. Rainey asked for more M/W/EBE clarification in future documents.

Item A3.2 was unanimously approved, 4-0

(A3.3)* Approval of Successful Bid (08-78) for Fountain Square Rehabilitation
Recommend approval of contract for Fountain Square Rehabilitation to Pinel Andrews Contracting Group (1919 Greenwood Street, Evanston, Il.) in the amount of $384,925 and an increase to the project budget by $208,835. Funding provided by Downtown TIF $224,000 and Washington National TIF $208,835.

Ald. Hansen asked if Pinel Andrews Contracting Corporation can do the work. The documents mention various park projects but not fountains. David Cook (Superintendent of Facilities) said that he had the same questions. The subcontractors have all worked on pools. Ald. Rainey noted that no subcontractors are listed. Ald. Jean-Baptiste said more clarification is needed. Peter Andrews (Pinel Andrews Contracting Corp.) stated that all his subcontractors are specialists in pools and electric construction and he will be coordinating the project. Ald. Rainey said that there is no information in the summary about the subcontractors used or how the bids broke out. D. Cook said that the City did not get that information. The City hired Pinel and is confident that they can do the job and meet the deadline. Ald. Rainey said that she wants to know more. P. Andrews said that his firm will be doing the foundation work and paving. Ald. Hansen
said that it sounded like Mr. Andrews could provide more information on the subcontractors. D. Cook said that normally the City does not ask for a breakdown of subcontractors in the beginning. Ald. Jean-Baptiste asked if a contractor would have subcontractors lined up before a contract is signed. D. Cook said the City does not know until the subcontractors list is submitted to the City at the time of the signing of the contract. Ald. Jean-Baptiste asked if names are available. P. Andrews stated that he had no subcontractors lined up but have received quotes from them for this job. The firms he has used in the past never were a problem. Ald. Jean-Baptiste asked what subcontractors are lined up. P. Andrews said they cover fountains, tank linings and some are qualified in both areas. Attorney Steve Engleman noted that Pinel gets quotes from subcontractors to help in developing his quote to the City. Ald. Rainey stated that a more complete summary is needed. D. Cook said that he will get it before the Council Meeting. Before the meeting ended, D. Cook supplied the requested information. D. Cook said that he has talked with some of these subcontractors. Ald. Jean-Baptiste advised that they understand that the City will be watching.

Item A3.3 was approved, 3 aye / 1 nay.

(A3.4)* Approval of Lowest Responsible and Responsive Bid (07-11) for Green Bay Road Landscaping Maintenance
Recommend approval of contract for Green Bay Road landscape maintenance with KGI Landscaping Company (PO Box 265, Skokie, IL.) in the amount of $56,256. Funding provided by 2008-09 General Fund.
Item A3.4 was unanimously approved, 4-0

(A3.5)* Approval of Lowest Responsible and Responsive Bid (08-75) for the Valve Exercising Program
Recommend approval of the Valve Exercising contract to Wachs Valve and Hydrant Services LLC (600 Knightsbridge Parkway, Lincolnshire, Il.) in the amount of $36,075. Contract term is two years with an option for two one-year extensions. Funding provided by the Water Fund.
Item A3.5 was unanimously approved, 4-0

(A3.6)* Approval of Lowest Responsible and Responsive Bid (RFQ 08-07) for 2008 Water Main Sewer & Street Improvement Project
Recommend approval of pre-qualifying consulting engineering firms to provide engineering design services and engineering services during construction of water main, sewer and street improvements. Funding provided by the Water Fund, Depreciation, Improvement and Extension Funds.
Item A3.6 was unanimously approved, 4-0

(A4.1)* Change Order No. 1 Downtown Planning Consulting Services
Recommend approval of change order No. 1 to the Downtown Plan and Zoning Recommendations contract with Duncan Associates (117 North Jefferson, Chicago, IL.) for additional services related to the process of consideration and review by the Plan Commission and Planning & Development of the Public Review Draft submitted on October 19, 2007. This change order will increase the contract price from $236,324 to $272,000, an increase of $36,000. Funding provided by the Economic Development Fund, the Washington National TIF and the Downtown II TIF.
Ald. Holmes asked if this was the item a member of the Plan Commission volunteered to complete. D. Marino said that this item has been under going public review at the
Plan Commission since November. What is needed now is to keep the consultants on board to complete the review with the Plan Commission and Planning and Development Committee, and then to complete Zoning revisions at the Zoning Committee. Duncan Associates were very important in creating the document that was given to P & D and the Plan Commission. The additional work that needs to be done includes document changes, Plan Commission and P & D review, the development of zoning text in the Zoning Committee of the Plan Commission and staff training. Ald. Holmes said that she understood that but it was her impression the committee wanted the consultants available but not kept on a daily basis. Ald. Jean-Baptiste asked what had been contemplated in the original contract. Was the process for days and for many tasks? D. Marino said the consultants performed their tasks. Ald. Jean-Baptiste asked if they completed their job. D. Marino said that they need to continue. Ald. Jean-Baptiste asked if this project had been under-budgeted. D. Marino said it had not. But, there have been more meetings than anticipated and the Plan Commission staff encouraged public commentary to continue and now is going over the plan page by page. With the loss of the City Zoning Planner, the consultant will be a major help. Ald. Rainey asked if this was for time going forward. D. Marino said yes. Ald. Holmes asked what happens at the next meeting if they go over. She stated that she would not vote for more money. Ald. Hansen asked if the contractual obligation should have gone through Planning and Development. She also asked what has been paid of the contract for the number and duration of meetings. D. Marino said that 85 to 88 percent of the contract has been paid. Ald. Hansen noted that this consultant firm has worked in the City of Evanston before and should have known that the Downtown planning would take longer. There was also to be a public workshop that did not take place and now the Plan Commission is conducting it. D. Marino indicated that the number of public meetings substantially exceeded the contract. As a Council and a City we are criticized on how much we rely on consultants. They should not be holding the Plan Commission’s hands. Ald. Jean-Baptiste asked to see the original contract. It should have taken the project from A to Z. D. Marino said that the costs incurred in January and February has put the costs close to the amount in the contract and there is more work to accomplish. Ald. Jean-Baptiste asked if the City was billed by hours. D. Marino said yes. Due to the additional number of meetings and the duration of some meetings, the costs have increased. In addition, meetings at the zoning committee had not been included.

Item A4.1 was held in committee.

(A5)* Resolution 13-R-08 Authorizing Access to Cook County Assessor’s Geographic Information System
Consideration of resolution 13-R-08 authorizing the City of Evanston to sign an agreement with Cook County Assessor’s Office for access to the Assessor’s Geographic Information System (GIS)
Ald. Rainey noted that the information supplied was good but that the information on owners of properties was not. It is not current. Pat Keegan (GIS Manager) said the information is for taxpayers in the GIS maps.
Item A5 was unanimously approved, 4-0

(A6)* Resolution 16-R-08 Provide Funding for Asbury Avenue Brick Street Project
Consideration of resolution 16-R-08 by which the City Council would appropriate $200,000 of Motor Fuel Tax Funds for the Asbury Avenue brick street project.
Ald. Holmes asked how many brick streets there are. John Burke (Transportation Director) said the City is down to two. Ald. Rainey noted that it is actually two and a quarter because of the Mulford spur. Ald. Jean-Baptiste thought bricks were unsafe. J.
Burke stated that Wilmette has had a successful program and Evanston is using their specs.
Item A6 was unanimously approved, 4-0

(A7)* **Resolution 17-R-08 Authorizing IMRF to Allow Service Credit Benefit Protection For the City of Evanston Employees**
Consideration of resolution 17-R-08 authorizing IMRF in cooperation with the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund to authorize employees service credit benefit protection in the event of worker’s compensation and or leave of absence benefits.
Joellen Daley (Director of Human Resources) stated that if an employee is on an unpaid leave of absence, they can purchase service credit. Ald. Holmes asked what cost would there be to the employer. J. Daley said that it would be a minor expense to the pension plan only after the employee retired from the City of Evanston.
Item A7 was unanimously approved, 4-0

(A8)* **Resolution 18-R-08 Lease Agreement with the U. S. Postal Service for Parking in the Maple Avenue Parking Garage**
Consideration of resolution 18-R-08 authorizing the City Manager to execute a lease agreement with the U. S. Postal Service (USPS) for parking 44 USPS vehicle in the Maple Avenue Parking Garage.
Item A8 was unanimously approved, 4-0

(A9)* **Resolution 21-R-08 Pension Benefit Improvements and Pension Reform**
Consideration of resolution 21-R-08 urging the General Assembly to 1) stop making costly benefit improvements and 2) adopt reforms that protect police and fire pensions.
Timothy Schoolmaster (President, Police Pension Board) thanked Ald. Jean-Baptiste for his comments on behalf of the Council concerning the cartoon in the attachments. He further stated that the numbers were not correct. The GRS figures are different. He stated that the fund administers the pensions that are in existence and no new funds are approved without City input. Almost everything mentioned is part of the existing pension code. He mentioned that A & P W is liaison with the Pension Board but he has never been invited to a meeting. Information is available, the Finance Director signs off on all funds. He thinks you cannot compare pension funds to IMRF funds, they run on two different systems. T. Schoolmaster recommends that this item be passed over. Pat Dillon (President, Firefighter’s Pension Board) seconded the comments that the document is very poor. Page 6 refers to regular workers, he wondered if this meant Firefighters and Policemen are not regular. Page 7 iners that the benefit awards as well as the pension amount is decided by the Board. That is not so. P. Dillon went on to say that the City Finance Director sits on the Board and as such, there are no secrets from the City. He then gave the committee members a copy of the 2007 performance report. Ald. Jean-Baptiste thanked P. Dillon and T. Schoolmaster for their input and asked that it be put in writing that they agree with the essence of the resolution but not the attached facts. Ald. Rainey said it seems like a war document. She said that she is not prepared to vote. She felt that sending the resolution would be a helpful message to the
General Assembly. She said it should be referred to the Rules Committee and discussed on the Council floor. Ald. Holmes said to send the resolution. Ald. Jean-Baptiste suggested that the essence is correct and should be separated from the attachment. Ald. Rainey continued, when this goes to Springfield the attached paper will be presented by the Northwest Municipal Conference (NWMC). Ald. Jean-Baptiste said that that might be so, but the City should pass the resolution. Ald. Hansen believed that T. Schoolmaster’s comment that this item be passed over only meant tabled until the next meeting and that should be the action tonight. Ald. Jean-Baptiste asked if there was any urgency to this issue. Elke Purze (Assistant Corporation Counsel) was not aware of a time frame. Ald. Jean-Baptiste recommended that this resolution go back to Finance and Legal to be re-worked and re-presented to committee. Ald. Rainey asked that the word “disclosure” in Section 3 of the resolution be re-written to read “continued disclosure.

Item A9 was held in committee.

(A10)* Ordinance 18-O-08 Proposed Paving of the Alley North of Thayer/East of Lincolnwood Drive – Special Assessment 1495
Consideration of ordinance 18-O-08 by which the City Council would authorize paving of the alley north of Thayer Street and east of Lincolnwood Avenue through the Special Assessment Process.
Item A10 was unanimously approved, 4-0

(A11)* Ordinance 37-O-08 Increase Number of Class B Liquor Licenses
Consideration of ordinance 37-O-08 whereby the Evanston City Council would amend the City Code to increase the number of Class B Liquor Licenses from fifteen to sixteen because of a change of ownership for Chili’s Grill and Bar (1765 Maple Avenue, Evanston, IL.)
Item A11 was unanimously approved, 4-0

(A12)* Ordinance 40-O-08 Sheridan Road Jurisdictional Transfer Agreement
Consideration of ordinance 40-O-08 authorizing the City Manager to sign a Jurisdictional Transfer Agreement with the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) for Sheridan Road from South Boulevard to the intersection of Ridge Avenue and Isabella Street.
Item A12 was unanimously approved, 4-0

(A13)* Ordinance 41-O-08 Special One-Day Liquor Licenses
Consideration of ordinance 41-O-08 whereby the Evanston City Council would amend the City Code to remove language that identifies specific zoning districts where special one-day licenses may be permitted.
Ald. Rainey saw no problem with the ordinance except she feels strongly that no organization should be exempt. She recommended that all who want a one day license should be charged. Ald. Holmes asked for clarification on number of events per person or per location. Gavin Morgan (Assistant to the City Manager) said it is a maximum for four events at a location and a limit of two events per applicant per year. G. Morgan will bring an amended version to Council for introduction and action.
Item A13 was unanimously approved as amended, 4-0

(A14)* Ordinance 44-O-08 Reduce Number of Class C Liquor Licenses
Consideration of ordinance 44-O-08 whereby the Evanston City Council would amend the City Code to reduce the number of Class C liquor licenses from twenty-four to twenty-three due to the expiration of the license held by Café Luciano & Pizzeria (2676 Green Bay Road, Evanston, IL.)
Item A14 was unanimously approved, 4-0

V. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

(APW1) Recycling Center
This item will go onto the April 8, 2008 agenda.

VI. COMMUNICATIONS

(APW2) Fire Department Recruitment/Hiring Report
This item will go onto the April 8, 2008 agenda.

VII. ADJOURNMENT: 7:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:
Phillip Baugher
Administrative Assistant, Finance Department