

CITY COUNCIL

May 11, 1998

ROLL CALL - PRESENT:

Aldermen Drummer
Alderman Wynne
Alderman Bernstein
Alderman Kent

Alderman Moran
Alderman Engelman
Alderman Rainey
Alderman Newman

A quorum being present.

ABSENT: Alderman Feldman

PRESIDING: Mayor Lorraine H. Morton

The OFFICIAL REGULAR MEETING of the City Council was called to order on Monday, May 11, 1998, at 9:04 p.m. in the City Council Chamber by Mayor Morton.

Announcements:

City Manager Roger Crum announced that refuse pick-ups would be one day later the week of Memorial Day observed May 25.

The next City Council meeting will occur on Tuesday, May 26.

The Police Department was recognized last week by Cook County Crime Stoppers for its efforts in solving the Ronald Walker homicide.

Wednesday, May 13, the Evanston M/W/EBE Committee will make a special presentation of the Disparity Study at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber. This study analyzed the disparity in contractor awards throughout the City over the past few years. Based on that study, the City will look at what preference policies they may initiate in the future.

The Evanston Police Department advises citizens that over the Memorial Day weekend there will be roadside safety checks. They are being conducted to promote the safety and well being of the motoring public and to provide a deterrent to those who might violate Illinois vehicle laws and/or City ordinances such as operating a vehicle with defective equipment, without proof of insurance, a valid driver's license or permit, not in compliance with occupant protection laws or while under the influence of alcohol or other drugs.

National Public Works Week

Mayor Morton proclaimed May 17-23 National Public Works Week in Evanston; invited those present to partake of cake compliments of the Public Works Department.

A videotape recording of this meeting has been made part of the permanent record and is available in the City Clerk's office.

National Preservation Week 1998

Mayor Morton proclaimed May 10-16 National Preservation Week with the theme 'preservation begins at home'. The event is co-sponsored by the National Trust for Historic Preservation and the City of Evanston.

Technopolis Evanston

Alderman Moran stated about a year ago an informal group started meeting to talk about Technopolis Evanston. Several U.S. cities, Blacksburg, VA and Palo Alto, CA have become wired or connected cities. They have undertaken initiatives to provide high-speed Internet connections for everyone in their community. The informal group contained representatives from the City, both school districts, Evmark, Inventure, Northwestern University and numerous technical companies in the Research Park. After a year, the group has started to develop Technopolis Evanston. He introduced Brian Nielsen, Ph.D., NU Information Technology Group; Patricia Widmayer, Ph.D., with NU and Ron Kysiak, Director, Evanston Inventure and noted Mr. Kysiak was instrumental in bringing forth this initiative.

Mr. Kysiak said in Europe there are a number of cities that are technipoles. Evanston seems to have many of the same attributes as these cities. How does Evanston compete in the next 20-30 years? How does Evanston differentiate itself from other suburbs, other parts of Illinois and other areas of the country? What does it have that nobody else has that can be marketed and used to keep the local economy strong with jobs in Evanston while furthering the social welfare of the entire population. From those questions came the concepts they were presenting, though not complete and is still a plan. He thought Evanston has the best chance of becoming a Technopolis. It already is, but does not know it. He stated that NU had been unstinting in its support and cited Mort Rahimi, NU Vice President of Information Technology. He thanked Brian Nielson and Pat Widmayer for the great job they have done.

Ms. Widmayer said this presentation is available at www.technopolisevanston.org; referred to copies of a recent article in the *Evanston Review* given to Council that evening. She stated that NU joined with Evanston Inventure and others to think this through as a City project and are deeply committed to making all pieces come together to provide an advantage to the community. They want to build on Evanston's assets and use technology to bring all together.

What can they do if a Technopolis is created? They can build community; bring people together; attract and retain information-based companies; strengthen education and open doors to the world from homes; create a unique and competitive edge for existing businesses.

She stated the discussion group originally included Evanston Inventure, the Chamber of Commerce and Evmark plus Paul Giddings, Aldermen Feldman and Moran, both school districts, National Louis University, Northwestern University, the Evanston Public Library and small businesses in the Incubator.

What is a Technopolis? The principal thing is the partnership, the formation of knowledge, skills and partnerships to give a community a competitive edge using technology. Models exist that can be used. There are few other cities that can meet the criteria to be a Technopolis. First is having a leading research university to draw upon the technological experience of the faculty, engineering and students; a high quality of life; an existing cluster of technology-based businesses (nearly 100 in Evanston); an educated workforce; a fiber optic telecommunications infrastructure which is already started. NU was recognized last year as the second most wired campus in the United States. It is part of the competitive edge for NU to stay at the leading edge in information technology and infrastructure. She noted there is a high-speed network that goes to Evanston Hospital and other high-speed wires that go to other parts of the City, so there is something to build upon. Evanston also has good schools and access to venture capital.

Why Evanston? There is a need to make the existing tax base more valuable; there are high rents in many areas and a need to draw people who will pay high rent. Many are looking for high-speed connection at an affordable cost. It is a matter of the cost to install. They want to draw more who would be non-controversial as well as coordinate with the arts, tourism, entertainment and history strategies to bring more advantages to Evanston.

What do citizens get from this? In terms of building community, they can create an "agora" for discussion of issues or what some call a "digital democracy"; organizations and the City could share far more information. They could create a community bulletin board, an electronic calendar and have access to local government information and services. For

example, people won't have to call to get a photocopy of an ordinance, but could get it from the Internet. Technology-based businesses want to be wired to others in the central business district to attract more businesses and build on the Research Park's infrastructure. In terms of office space, the Research Park is full. As companies grow, they are unable to find space in the Research Park and leave. For both school districts it will bring the school and home together; a homework bulletin board would make it possible for parents to know about homework assignments. Ms. Widmayer said the community has a stake in making sure that students who graduate from Evanston schools are technologically literate. In opening doors, much can be gained at home such as job placement; the world is brought to the elderly and disabled. She referred to a current *Time* magazine section called "Generation Link" a discussion of how senior citizens are creatively using the Internet as access to families and travel information. In terms of commerce, this will help local businesses take advantage of the capacity of technology to expand their customer base and get better information for themselves. Many of galleries, drug stores, food and catering businesses, through electronic commerce, can move quickly in a new direction if they wish.

There are five principals of design they believe are critical: to provide equal access for every citizen and business; reasonably priced so everyone can use it; build on existing infrastructure to permit future growth and that community service and support are integral to the project.

What do they have to do to make this concrete? First is the physical network, a fiber optic network, which involves either the telephone company or cable company. Through Evanston Inventure they plan to put out a request for information this summer. She said there are options from several companies and the City might have two systems. She noted they need to think about partnerships for education and training. They have started to think about what it means in reaching churches, homes, businesses, community organizations -- how do they train people to use this well. If one does not know how to use it, it is not worth having. They will talk with schools about training needs. They are trying to design a website that would be the community information network, an electronic village. She thought that critical to the whole project. They need to build something that is expansive for people to connect into and link people as a community through an interactive mode. They need a marketing strategy to tell everybody what this is about.

The first committee, chaired by NU, has two City staff, Research Park representatives and Research Park companies and Evanston Inventure working on the request for information (RFI) from service providers. The education and training committee, led by Alderman Moran, has a representative from National Louis University and Districts 65 and 202 working on a collaborative project at NU funded by Ameritech to help schools and non-profits learn how to use the web. They have the community network, led by the Library, because they have a start with Digital City Evanston in collaboration with the *Chicago Tribune*. The marketing strategy is being led by Evanston Inventure and the Chamber of Commerce. Each is putting together blueprints for what is needed to pull it all together for Evanston Technopolis. They want to see it rolled out by January 2000. The project needs to be done quickly because, if Evanston does not do it, somebody else will and it may not be in Illinois. They do not need money. They believe they can fashion partnerships and may return for help with rights of way or franchise negotiations. They believe this can be self-funded and asked for support for the project.

Communications:

None

CITIZEN COMMENT:

Drusilla Ausmer, 2401 Church Street, stated she was denied her right to park on a public street because of a 'No Parking' sign erected at the direction of Alderman Kent; moved there in November 1994 and has been harassed verbally and physically by Rosa Fischer, a neighbor across the street. Ms. Fischer vandalized Ms. Ausmer's car a number of times and the last time was recorded on videotape which resulted in Ms. Fischer being convicted in Court, fined and put on probation for one year. Last October a 'No Parking Tow Away' sign was put up at Alderman Kent's direction at the request of Rosa Fischer. Alderman Kent acknowledged jumping the gun in the situation. There was a neighborhood meeting at the City to try to reach a compromise; Alderman Kent told them a compromise would be made on behalf of all parties. She cannot park across the street; has to park where told to or behind her property where she cannot see her vehicle which has been vandalized seven times. She alleged this has been done on behalf of one person. She asked what are the rules wherein a sign is put up on behalf of one person and not the whole neighborhood?

Other residents are also concerned. She feels she is being victimized and was never given any consideration for her point of view; has to park at a friend's house to keep her car from being damaged.

CONSENT AGENDA (Any Docket Item Marked with an Asterisk*)

Alderman Drummer moved Council approval of the Consent Agenda with the following exceptions: Approval of proposal from Stanley Consultants to evaluate the Evanston electric distribution system; Fourth of July Association - Waiver of Fees; Ordinance 50-O-98 - Special Use & Variations - 2650 Ridge Ave.; Proposal for Funding - Evanston Township; Resolution 31-R-98 - Consideration of Necessary Actions for Development of Research Park. Seconded by Alderman Engelman. Roll call. Voting aye - Drummer, Wynne, Bernstein, Kent, Moran, Engelman, Rainey, Newman. Voting nay - none. Motion carried. (8-0)

ITEMS APPROVED ON CONSENT AGENDA:

MINUTES:

* Approval of the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of April 27, 1998. * APPROVED - CONSENT AGENDA MOTION AND ROLL CALL (8-0)

ADMINISTRATION & PUBLIC WORKS:

* Approval, as recommended, of City of Evanston payroll for the period ending April 30, 1998; and for City of Evanston bills for the period ending May 12, 1998; and that they be authorized and charged to the proper accounts, summarized as follows:

City of Evanston payroll (4/30/98)	\$1,591,516.54
City of Evanston bills (5/12/98)	\$1,360,010.96

* APPROVED - CONSENT AGENDA MOTION AND ROLL CALL (8-0)

PURCHASES:

* Approval of low bid from Home Towne Electric for traffic signal installation for the Engineering Division at a cost of \$136,649.50. * APPROVED - CONSENT AGENDA MOTION AND ROLL CALL (8-0)

* Approval of low bid from National Power Rodding for the 1998 sewer maintenance contract for the Water and Sewer Division at a cost of \$169,212.50. * APPROVED - CONSENT AGENDA MOTION AND ROLL CALL (8-0)



* Special Event - Street Closure - Consideration of a request from the First Church of God Christian Life Center to close a portion of Ashland Avenue at Simpson Street on July 5 for an annual picnic. * APPROVED - CONSENT AGENDA MOTION AND ROLL CALL (8-0)

* Resolution 28-R-98 - Agreement with Dominicks for Temporary Traffic Signals - Consideration of proposed Resolution 28-R-98, which authorizes the City Manager to sign an agreement with Dominicks Finer Foods to allow Dominicks to let a contract for the installation of temporary traffic signals. * ADOPTED - CONSENT AGENDA MOTION AND ROLL CALL (8-0)

* Resolution 29-R-98 - Change in Calculation of Municipal Utility Tax - Consideration of proposed Resolution 29-R-98, which authorizes the City Manager to request that the Illinois Commerce Commission allow the City to adopt an alternate method of calculating the municipal utility tax. *

ADOPTED - CONSENT AGENDA MOTION AND ROLL CALL (8-0)

* Resolution 30-R-98 - 1998 Motor Fuel Tax Resurfacing Program - Consideration of proposed Resolution 30-R-98, by which City Council authorizes the use of \$900,000 of Motor Fuel Tax Funds for resurfacing various streets. * ADOPTED - CONSENT AGENDA MOTION AND ROLL CALL (8-0)

* Ordinance 54-O-98 - Three Way Stop, Crain and Florence - Consideration of proposed Ordinance 54-O-98, introduced April 27, 1998, by which City Council would amend Section 10-11-5, Schedule V© to establish a three-way stop at the intersection of Crain and Florence. * ADOPTED - CONSENT AGENDA MOTION AND ROLL CALL (8-0)

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT:

* Ordinance 59-O-98 - Special Use for 2289 Howard Street - Consideration of proposed Ordinance 59-O-98, by which City Council would approve a recommendation of the Zoning Board of Appeals to grant a special use for a bank drive-through facility to the World Savings Bank, 2289 Howard Street. * MARKED INTRODUCED - CONSENT AGENDA

* Ordinance 56-O-98 - Amendment to Zoning Ordinance - Consideration of proposed Ordinance 56-O-98, by which City Council would approve the recommendation of the Plan Commission to list "office" as a special use within the R4, R5 and R6 districts under specific conditions. * MARKED INTRODUCED - CONSENT AGENDA

* Ordinance 57-O-98 - Amendment to Zoning Ordinance - Consideration of proposed Ordinance 57-O-98, which approves the recommendation of the Plan Commission for an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance which would create a rounding rule. * MARKED INTRODUCED - CONSENT AGENDA

HUMAN SERVICES:

* Approval of Township Bills - Approval of a recommendation that City Council approve the Township bills, payroll and medical payments for the month of April 1998 in the amount of \$75,532.75. * APPROVED - CONSENT AGENDA MOTION AND ROLL CALL (8-0)

* Ordinance 58-O-98 - Proposed 1998-99 Township Budget - Consideration of proposed Ordinance 58-O-98, whereby City Council acting as Township Trustees would approve the proposed FY 1998-99 annual Evanston Township budget. * MARKED INTRODUCED - CONSENT AGENDA

OTHER COMMITTEES:

* Proposals for Funding/Neighborhood Business District Improvement Program - Consideration of a recommendation to fund seven proposals submitted to the Neighborhood Business District Improvement Program totaling \$72,639. (Economic Development Committee). * APPROVED - CONSENT AGENDA MOTION AND ROLL CALL (8-0)

*** APPOINTMENTS:**

Mayor Morton asked Council for appointment introduction of the following names:

James Walker
139 Clyde Ave.

Electrical Commission

* INTRODUCED - CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Morton asked Council for reappointment introduction of the following name:

David C. Hart 2311 Lawndale Ave.	Plan Commission
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* INTRODUCED - CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Morton asked Council appointment confirmation of the following names:

Lloyd McBell 1908 Asbury Ave. for term ending May 15, 2001	Human Relations Commission
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Carol Fortson-Smith 2423 Lyons St. for term ending May 15, 2001	Taxicab Advisory Board
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Marti Ross Bjornson 1807 Grant St. for term ending May 15, 2001	Ladd Arboretum Committee
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Charlotte Becker 2240 Central St. for term ending May 15, 2001	Commission on Aging
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Jessica Deis 1808 Greenleaf St. for term ending May 15, 2001	Preservation Commission
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* APPROVED - CONSENT AGENDA**REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEES**

The Administration & Public Works Committee and Planning & Development Committee met preceding the City Council meeting.

ADMINISTRATION & PUBLIC WORKS:**Agenda addendum:**

Approval of proposal from Stanley Consultants to evaluate the Evanston electric distribution system at a cost of \$49,800.

Alderman Drummer moved approval of services from Stanley Consultants. Seconded by Alderman Wynne.

Alderman Bernstein expressed concern whether ComEd will provide sufficient data to allow an appropriate analysis of that data. He recalled the meeting with Com Ed who were to come back with answers to questions. Before expending funds, he wanted to be sure they have sufficient data.

City Manager Crum said this issue was discussed in committee; the City will control the expenditures to make sure

the money will not be spent unless the City is getting correct information and are able to continue the contract as specified. The City believes that Com Ed in the current environment is likely to provide better information than a few years ago.

Alderman Drummer said Mr. Nesvig brought information that evening that they had difficulty getting in the past. Alderman Moran was also concerned about this along with what work the ICC is doing and how that affects reliability. The proposal is in two parts. They have agreed to this arrangement so it can come back to committee to see if they have the information necessary to proceed.

Roll call. Voting aye - Drummer, Wynne, Bernstein, Kent, Moran, Engelman, Rainey, Newman. No nays. Motion carried (8-0)

Fourth of July Association - Waiver of Fees - Consideration of a request from the Trustees of the Evanston Fourth of July Association to waive fees for City services related to the 77th annual July Fourth celebration and fireworks.

Alderman Drummer moved Waiver of Fees to the Fourth of July Association. Seconded by Alderman Engelman.

Alderman Newman had no problem with the request but wanted to understand what is the cost the City is waiving. He assumes no difference with last year. He thought aldermen should know what they are voting for.

Alderman Bernstein asked this be removed from the Consent Agenda because he is a member of the Board of Trustees of the Fourth of July Association and will abstain from voting.

Voice vote motion carried. No nays.

Alderman Drummer stated this was his last meeting as A&PW Chair. He noted they have taken up a number of issues: ComEd, the alleys, administrative adjudication, recycling and hopefully will have resolution on those shortly.

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT:

Alderman Kent stated that Ordinance 59-O-98 was introduced and he moved to refer it back to the committee. Seconded by Alderman Drummer.

Alderman Kent stated that Ordinance 56-O-98 was introduced and he moved to refer it back to committee. Seconded by Alderman Engelman.

Ordinance 50-O-98 - Special Use & Variations - 2650 Ridge Avenue - Consideration of proposed Ordinance 50-O-98, introduced April 27, 1998, by which City Council would approve the recommendation of the Zoning Board of Appeals to grant two special uses and two variances to allow expansion of a hospital building and construction of a commercial parking garage.

Alderman Kent stated progress had been made on this issue and it was held over for the May 26, 1998 meeting. The committee will start at 7:00 p.m. and they ask that the City Council meeting start at 9:00 p.m.

Alderman Newman thought this item would generate considerable discussion and they will need a lot of Council time.

HUMAN SERVICES:

Proposal for Funding - Consideration of a proposal whereby \$200,000 in Evanston Township reserve funds shall be allocated to the City of Evanston for the support of City housing programs.

Alderman Moran moved that City Council convene as the Township Trustees to consider a proposal for funding.

Seconded by Alderman Engelman. Motion carried. No nays

Trustee Moran moved approval of the proposal for funding. There was unanimous support for this from the Human Services Committee. Seconded by Trustee Engelman.

Roll call. Voting aye - Trustees Drummer, Wynne, Bernstein, Kent, Moran, Engelman, Rainey, Newman. Voting nay - none. Motion carried. (8-0)

Trustee Moran moved that they reconvene as the City Council. Seconded by Trustee Engelman. Motion carried. No nays.

OTHER COMMITTEES:

Resolution 31-R-98 - Consideration of Necessary Actions for Development of Research Park - Consideration of proposed Resolution 31-R-98, by which City Council would approve necessary actions for the development of the Northwestern University/Evanston Research Park and the entertainment complex.

Alderman Engelman asked that Resolution 31-R-98 be held until the next Council meeting to give an opportunity for the community, Council, and the Parking Committee to comment on the resolution. He stated that Northwestern University/Research Park is negotiating with two developers for construction of two and possibly three new office buildings within the park. The park has had no new office building since 1991. There have been proposals to put up buildings since 1991, but each required some form of subsidy or guarantee. These developers are interested in building office buildings in the park for technology-related companies and to enhance the community and take advantage of amenities the park offers; have asked for one concession from the City, that they be treated in the same manner as the other developer in the park was treated under the Interim Parking Agreement. To do that the City must address the long-term parking needs for all buildings in the Research Park. What happens when the surface parking is gone if the urban entertainment complex proposal goes forward? He asked that the resolution be held until the next meeting so the Parking Committee can craft a long-term solution. The NUERP Board does not want to preempt the discussion of the Parking Committee. Between now and the next meeting, he hoped to have specific requirements from both developers as to whether they want to lease space in a City-built garage at market rates or something else. Seconded by Alderman Moran.

Alderman Engelman withdrew his motion so that Alderman Newman could speak.

Alderman Newman was troubled by how the resolution was presented. Section 4, "that the interim parking agreement be addressed by the City and the developers for the three buildings proposed in the northern section and that said parking agreement in the new developments be consistent with the terms and conditions set forth in the interim parking agreement." He said the interim parking agreement was not in their packet and a staff analysis is needed to educate Council as to what is in that agreement so they can consider their options, considering the fact that the purpose of that agreement was to get them through to the end of the park. The end of the park, in terms of the leasing agreement which is on the table now, is October 1999. They need to analyze what the City's obligations are in that agreement and how they feel about moving forward in terms of the financial obligation. That is not to say this cannot be done quickly. They have a piece of paper and it presumes Council understands what the interim parking agreement is; he did not think all aldermen understand it. He asked staff to provide Council some backup on what this resolution means as far as financial obligations and funding sources to meet those obligations. When the interim parking agreement was made there was at least 20 years to go on the TIF district. There are currently eight or nine years on the TIF, so that changes what the financing obligations are through the TIF district. They are partially finding that out as they try to finance the Hill project. He noted there will be a meeting of the Parking Sub-Committee Wednesday evening.

Alderman Engelman agreed that all Council members need information in order to address this issue. What was interim, was not the length of time, but the availability of surface parking. One point not addressed in this agreement,

which he hoped staff would address in a memo to Council, is what is the responsibility of the various entities when surface parking available is no longer. Then it will be for the Parking Committee and Council to decide the long-term solution. He appreciated the Chair of the Parking Committee and Sub-Committee comments on the speed with which they would address this. One of the proposals has a short time frame and they may not have this in place at the next meeting, but probably at the meeting after that. If there is any additional information Council members need to discuss and make a decision on who is going to build structured parking (if that is the solution) who will pay for it and how much it will cost? He asked Council members to request that information of the City Manager's office so they don't get hung up waiting for information.

Alderman Engelman restated his motion to hold this resolution. Seconded by Alderman Moran.

CALL OF THE WARDS:

Alderman Drummer wanted to clear up the date the Council needs to decide on the ComEd franchise. He thought it was 180 days prior to expiration of the franchise. First Corporation Counsel Hill noted that was in the opinion drafted about a month ago. He thought it was 180-day window; will review and call Alderman Drummer. City Manager Crum stated a memo on that would be issued to everybody.

Alderman Bernstein congratulated Todd Israelite and the YMCA Youth in Government Program.

Alderman Kent responded to Ms. Ausmer; said it is correct she cannot park where she would like and that parking is being denied to anyone who wants to park there. He stated this is a longstanding neighborhood issue. He reported that he and Traffic Engineer Dave Jennings had visited this site. After the first visit, parking was eliminated on one side of the street for 1/2 block, four parking spaces. Parking was eliminated because all had parking space or a garage. He noted Ms. Fischer is a constituent. He thought they were dealing with the perception that Ms. Ausmer would not be happy unless she could park in the space so that she can see her car. After that was done he heard from residents about snow plowing, street sweeping and guest parking. They had a neighborhood meeting and made some progress but not in this troubled area. He made a decision and two parking spaces were stripped away, so there is parking now for two cars. He will meet with all parties affected by this decision.

Alderman Kent announced the last weekend of May, Family Focus, many child care providers and Fleetwood-Jourdain will have a gathering 'Stand for Children' at Twigg's Park. He invited all to come and see park improvements.

Alderman Kent said the Preservation League honored the Evanston Black Historic Sculpture Garden at Fleetwood-Jourdain Community Center on Friday evening. It was the first opportunity to talk about PITCH, Preserving Integrity through Culture and History, that is establishing a conservation district within the 5th Ward. Knowing there are homes that should have landmark status was enlightening to many. Every home in the 5th Ward will be surveyed.

Alderman Moran announced there will be a meeting Tuesday, May 19 at 7:30 p.m. in the auditorium of Willard School about the last two components of the long range sewer project that will take place in the 6th Ward, beginning at two different times during the summer. Notices should be out now and he hoped many residents would attend.

Alderman Moran said he was encouraged by the two proposals for the Research Park and excited about adding a potential of 190,000 square feet of new office and laboratory space in the Research Park. He noted the small Incubator has done excellent work. Many famous organizations started in the Incubator such as Peapod, Illinois Super Conductor, companies related to Casey Cowell, CEO of U.S. Robotics, a company that was sold last year for \$3.5 billion. Without more space the Research Park has not been able to capture those companies that need to grow. With these buildings they can do that. There are already 85 companies in the Park that employ up to 800 persons. With the additional buildings, the volume of offices and labs will be doubled and they have the potential for 500-600 jobs.

The Evanston Garden Fair will take place this weekend at two locations, Raymond Park and Independence Park on Central Street. Hours are 9-6 p.m on Friday and 9-4 p.m. on Saturday.

Alderman Moran thanked presenters on the Technopolis Committee; special thanks to Ron Kysiak and particularly

NU's Information Technology Group, Pat Widmayer and Brian Nielsen who have committed a lot of time to the project and Mort Rahimi, the University's technology guru who made them available.

Alderman Engelman noted the sewer project Alderman Moran mentioned affects people in the western part of the 7th Ward and those affected are urged to attend the information meeting at Willard School. The 7th Ward looks forward to having part of the Evanston Garden Fair in Independence Park this year. Alderman Engelman thanked the YMCA for their leader's core effort last weekend as hundreds of young people did capital projects throughout the City. They did some clean-up at Lighthouse Park, painted a fence at the Chandler-Newberger Center, were at Fleetwood-Jourdain and other areas.

Alderman Rainey reported the first post-traffic circle studies have been done on Dobson and Brummel. One goal was to diminish through traffic and they have done that. The temporary circles are ugly and cumbersome so people avoid them. However, speed has not diminished except at intersections. Between circles, speed has increased to a small degree. They will have meetings to determine if people want to have permanent circles which are attractive with a determination to be made by postcard survey.

Alderman Rainey noted an increase in speeds all over and that people are driving without any sense of what speed can do. She reported that Chief Kaminski has put together a speed awareness program where neighbors will stand at the curb and take down license plate numbers of vehicles they believe are speeding through their neighborhood. This will be done in teams. Once this information is presented to the Police Department and the Traffic Engineer and it appears there is a problem in a neighborhood, volunteer neighbors will be trained to use radar guns and actually time people who are speeding. Letters will be sent by Chief Kaminski to people who have been tracked to make them aware that neighbors are watching and that people care about safety in their neighborhood. She will encourage every block to participate in this program and still believes speed bumps in the streets are the only answer.

Alderman Rainey also encouraged senior citizens to participate in the Senior Volunteer Program to monitor disabled parking space violators. Seniors will be trained to write tickets for disabled parking violations. She suggested calling the Police Department for information. She reported the P&D Committee heard information from the ZBA regarding the special use for the Howard/Hartrey shopping center for the World's Savings Bank which neighbors support. Being in the shopping center, this is coming at a time when many people who use the shopping center are aware of how dangerous the parking lot is. The P&D Committee and staff have agreed to interact with the shopping center management to see if some kind of safety construction can be done in conjunction with the special use for the bank.

Alderman Newman related how a neighbor in the 1st Ward tried to get license numbers of two cars dragging through an alley who were driving about 40 mph. The drivers went around the block and started running down garbage cans.

Alderman Newman said the proposals for the new buildings in the Research Park are for 190,000 square feet and what the developers want is the same as the Hill development, somebody to build parking.

Alderman Newman made a reference to the Plan Commission to consider amending the Zoning Ordinance, Section 6.16-3-5 table 16-d and other appropriate sections to allow for the following uses: cinema, conference, performing arts, and civic as a shared parking use in determining parking calculations. Seconded by Alderman Engelman. Voice vote motion carried. No nays.

Alderman Newman made a reference to the A&PW Committee concerning water rates. Public discussion on water rates indicates the community is entitled to an explanation as to how Evanston compares to other communities in its water rates; is entitled to full explanation of the contracts with the Village of Skokie and Northwest Water Commission and why the rates may be different for those communities. The community is entitled to know how the revenues from water sales are used to pay for the water system and other areas of government. Once that information is disseminated, they can have a discussion as to where rates ought to be and what the City needs to do in budgeting. He noted that in the last budget, there was a recommendation to raise water rates 39% and it was cut to 8%. This is an issue people have a right to have explained and to understand that their water rate is combined with the sewer rate

and how that combination compares with other communities. He suggested that after such a discussion, the Council will be better able to make long range plans on what should be done with the water rate. He thought that when general services are funded through water revenues, that is a back door tax increase. People are registering their concern over water rates and it needs to be looked at fully. He suggested a special meeting of A&PW be called for this purpose.

Alderman Newman attended the recent A&PW Committee meeting on recycling and praised the work done by Director of Management & Budget Pat Casey and Management Intern Stephanie Steen as outstanding. This issue was originally raised two years ago in the budget process and it is the democratic process working. It is how a service is being delivered and looking at a way to better provide the service at a lesser cost. There will be recommendations coming to Council on how they deal with recycling.

Alderman Engelman moved that Council convene into Executive Session to consider litigation and real estate matters. Seconded by Alderman Moran. Roll call. Voting aye - Drummer, Wynne, Bernstein, Kent, Moran, Engelman, Rainey, Newman. Voting nay - none. Motion carried. (8-0) The Council so convened at 10:55 p.m.

At 12:17 a.m. Alderman Wynne moved to reconvene into Open Session. Seconded by Alderman Drummer . Motion carried. No nays.

There being no further business to come before Council, Mayor Morton adjourned the meeting at 12:18 a.m.

Mary P. Morris,
City Clerk