AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER / DECLARATION OF QUORUM

2. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 19, 2017

3. NEW BUSINESS

4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

   (1) The University’s proposed demolition of existing structures on, and/or new construction plans for, the University’s current T1 and T2 District properties and the University’s current U1 District properties (if any).

   (2) Any other issues relating to planning, land use, building and zoning pertaining to the University’s current T1 and T2 District Properties and the University’s current U1 District Properties.

5. COMMUNICATIONS

6. ADJOURNMENT

Upcoming Meeting Dates: TBA
1. **CALL TO ORDER / DECLARATION OF QUORUM**
With a quorum present Alderman Judy Fiske calls the meeting to order at 7:34 PM.

2. **APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**
Meeting minutes from March 28, 2017 are approved.

3. **NEW BUSINESS**
Alderman Fiske asks the committee to hear the concerns of the citizens that are present first.

Long Field (not listed on the Agenda)
Kierra Kelly Madder requests information about Long Field and whether or not there are pipes present under the field. Erika Storlie, Deputy City Manager, says that the City will investigate. Nim Chinniah, Vice President of Northwestern University (NU), says that the
University does not have any plans under his administration to change the field. Alderman Fiske notes that NU will not be able to make a long term commitment as it is hard for anyone to say what the plans in the future may be. Ms. Madder says that she is concerned because of her close proximity to the field. Mr. Chinniah repeats Northwestern doesn’t have any current plans, but that it doesn’t know what needs Northwestern may have in the future.

Alderman Fiske informs the committee that the City Council is going to have a Special Meeting on October 2nd at 5:30 p.m. to discuss the Downtown Plan. Northwestern has a Vision Plan, but that is only to be used as a guide. It is not the same as the City’s Zoning Ordinance which is a firm document to be followed.

Basketball Court on 1900 block of Orrington (item 3 (2) on the Agenda)
Julie Johnson and Bob Hercules, residents across from the basketball courts on Orrington, are present. The residents say that they have lived there for 25 years and were happy to find basketball courts nearby when they moved in. Their family and neighborhood children used those courts over the years. Northwestern recently put in a new, high-tech, full court. This new court has attracted older basketball players to have a full game, which discourages younger children to go over and enjoy playing there. The noise level has also increased. The neighbors also state they were never consulted, and would have been happy to provide suggestions. They understand the basketball court can’t go back to how it was, but they would like to know if something can be done about the lighting and landscaping. Mr. Chinniah said he will have Northwestern look into the landscaping. John D’Angelo, Vice President of Facilities Management at Northwestern, says that they do not currently have any plans for lighting in that area. He said the lights on the updated Foster-Walker dorm do have a slightly different color that appear brighter.

No-Parking on Emerson (not on the Agenda)
Bruce Grenbach, a resident on Emerson between Sherman and Orrington, states that when something occurs on Northwestern campus, the firetrucks/response team goes down Emerson. Also, Northwestern recently put “No Parking” signs on the north side of Emerson which caused problems. The resident further states that with trucks going down and parking on the street, it makes it difficult to live there. Northwestern states they worked hard this year for the safety of their students returning to school with good routes for trucks and limiting parking in other areas. Northwestern had Police present to help direct traffic down appropriate paths. Alderman Fiske says Northwestern has to ask the City for No Parking signs, and the City has been notified not to allow those signs in that area. Alderman Fiske also mentions that she will always listen to the concerns of her residents, and that residents should enjoy living where they live.

Construction trucks at Orrington and Lincoln (item 3 (1) on the Agenda)
Evanston Police Department has been ticketing construction trucks parked in that area at 4:30 a.m. recently, and a few have been for Northwestern work. Ms. Storlie says that the City is working on better compliance but will never be able to reach 100% compliance as there are always different construction companies and subcontractors
that don’t know the area and the rules. The City and Northwestern are talking with the truck drivers to request that they not park/idle in that area again. The City’s discussions with the drivers have been helpful, as they are able to find out why the truck is there/what project they are working on. Alderman Fiske says residents are having a hard time sleeping from the sound of the trucks idling. She also mentions that the weight limit signs are not being followed. She requests the City and NU put their heads together and come up with ideas such as stop signs or speed bumps.

Alan Anderson, Executive Director of Neighborhood and Community Relations at Northwestern, mentions that NU has a list of their projects on the NU website and they will share that link. Alderman Fiske will add this to her Ward website. Mr. Chinniah states that NU will continue to be aggressive. Mr. D'Angelo mentions that they received two calls for trucks in the area, and confirms both drivers were talked to. One was a confused driver, and one was for food delivery. Mr. D'Angelo asked the drivers that they not park and idle in the area again. Alderman Fiske appreciates the information, but asks that NU provide this as soon as they find out. Bruce Lewis, NU Police Chief says that he has been working with Chief Eddington at the City on enforcement. Mr. Chinniah asks that the two Chiefs continue to meet and find alternatives for that intersection/area.

1915 Orrington- Discussion of ownership (Item 3 (3) on the Agenda)
Mr. D'Angelo states that NU owns the land at 1915 Orrington but not the structure. There was a 100 year land use agreement. The family has passed away and the trustee does not want to continue the lease. NU will do a fair market purchase of the home. Alderman Fiske asks what plans NU has for the property. Mr. D'Angelo states that NU hasn’t made any plans, and will not be able to do so until they are able to do a walk through. NU wasn’t looking to purchase the property. Alderman Fiske asks NU if they know what other land NU owns but doesn’t own the building, and what the lease terms there may be for those situations. Mr. D'Angelo says that he will look into this request. He said they should close on this particular property by the end of the month. Currently the building pays $2,500 in property taxes a year. Alderman Fiske informs the Committee that NU has a commitment to pay in lieu of taxes. Mr. Chinniah says that Wally Bobkiewicz, City Manager, has a copy of a letter stating the same. Ms. Storlie states that an Ordinance was passed that ensures these funds be distributed to District 65 and District 202; it is an ongoing commitment.

Tom Gemmell, Committee member/Resident, mentions that the work NU did on renovating a recent home in the area was great, but that NU could have saved some money on the renovations and provided some money to help the community. David Schoenfeld, Committee member/Resident, asks who is going to live in the new home that is being renovated by NU. Mr. D'Angelo says the homes are always for NU Professors and their families. Mr. Gemmell asks that NU advise the City and the Committee of when they are going to purchase a property. The City and the residents should know when something is going to be taken off the tax roll and may be developed into something new. Alderman Fiske says that she found out about this property at the Neighborhood Meeting, and should have been informed prior. Mr. Chinniah states that people may say they are in discussion with NU to sell a property, but that doesn’t mean
it is really being considered. Mr. Gemmell mentions that this property is different from others, but states NU had more time to mention the sale to the City. It should have been mentioned as soon as NU knew of the sale. Mr. Gemmell says that he is disappointed because he thought the communication had been better between NU and the City/residents. Mr. Schoenfeld reminds the committee how the communication is much better, but asks that if NU is considering buying property that they immediately make it public.

Resident, Bob Hercules asks if any building that NU buys get immediately taken off the property tax. Mr. Chinniah responds that NU pays property tax payment estimates to the City directly and the City then distributes the funds. Alderman Fiske asks when that decision to pay in lieu of taxes could change, and Mr. Chinniah states his commitment to keep through his administration with President Schapiro. The letter Mr. Chinniah wrote to City Manager Bobkiewicz states the same. Mr. Schoenfeld states that this can’t be written as an Ordinance as similar situations have gone all the way to the Supreme Court. Mr. Anderson confirms that only NU staff will be placed in the subject property.

Other:
Alderman Fiske asks about the move of ZS Associates to Rotary, and Mr. Chinniah states that NU paid $750,000 to help get ZS out of their lease and assist with the move.

Alderman Fiske asks what is happening at the old Roycemore building. Mr. Chinniah says he has heard Alderman Fiske and the committee’s concerns and they will not use it as a student residence. It will be for administrative or academic use. Mr. Chinniah confirms they will retain and restore the building. A resident questions how NU could do other work as it is a historic landmark; Alderman Fiske confirms it is a landmark but NU could request approval to still do construction.

A resident asks if NU is still moving ahead with the proposed dorm at Hinman and Sheridan. He is concerned because of its size next to the Welcome Center that he says is also large. Alderman Fiske states that the dorm is no longer in development. When the resident mentions it is on the City’s website as proposed planned developments, Ms. Storlie says the City will have it taken down.

4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
None.

5. COMMUNICATIONS
None.

6. ADJOURNMENT
The meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm.

Submitted by:
Susie Hall, Executive Assistant