CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

CITY OF EVANSTON, ILLINOIS
LORRAINE H. MORTON CIVIC CENTER
JAMES C. LYTLE COUNCIL CHAMBERS
Monday, April 30th, 2018

Present:

Alderman Fiske
Alderman Braithwaite
Alderman Wynne
Alderman Wilson

Alderman Rue Simmons
Alderman Revelle
Alderman Fleming
Alderman Suffredin

Absent: (1) Alderman Rainey

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Presiding:
Mayor Stephen Hagerty

Devon Reid
City Clerk
Mayor’s Public Announcements

Mayor Hagerty welcomed the Washington school Girl Scout Troops #409-39 who attended City Council for their civics curriculum to better understand how local government works.

City Manager’s Public Announcements

City Manager Wally Bobkiewicz announced STAR Communities Recognition of City of Evanston’s 4-STAR Sustainable Community Recertification. Katherine Hurley, Sustainability Program Manager of the Argonne National Laboratory, presented a Plaque Award to Mayor Steve Hagerty in recognition of the recertification achievement.

City Clerk’s Communications

City Clerk had no announcements.

Public Comment

Dan Joseph
Retired CTA employee who objects to planned bus service cuts for the 205, 208 and 213 buses

Junad Rizki
Shared his disagreements with the mismanagement of city funds. Called the priority based budgeting a “smoke screen” to hide the real problems from the community. Asked City Council to look into the Council rules in regards to speakers giving their time to other speakers

Sue Loellbach
Shared research that showed cities with comprehensive plans that include affordable housing are more likely to increase affordability in their communities and cities with affordable housing plans with strategies are more likely to use funds for affordability

Olympia Baldwin Edwards
ETHS student that wants to see an increase in affordable housing for classmates and residents alike. Wants to see a plan that eliminates zoning that creates barriers to affordability, provides incentive to landlords to increase affordability and includes new strategies for affordability. Explained the benefits of affordable housing include giving people wellbeing, reach their full potential, decrease crime and keeps property values consistent.
Tim Russell  Spoke about the pumping station and how the entire process was handled incorrectly. Asked for more consideration for residents of the 5th Ward who are now trapped between a pumping station and a garbage center.  

Michael Donoroff  Talked about zoning ordinances in Evanston systematically disadvantaged students, immigrants, young people and low-income individuals in the city. The 3 unrelated rule is outdated and out of touch with reality and action must be taken by City Council to better fit the community.  

Sarah Vanderwickin  1st Ward resident asked City Council to look at the plan development and revising it so that the provision of affordable housing is a greater public benefit. Asked that all Wards be considered when discussing affordable housing.  

Virginia Ayers  Member of Interfaith Action of Evanston who is advocating for affordable housing in Evanston. On behalf of the Interfaith group she wants the committee responsible of affordable housing to meet soon to make affordable housing possible in Evanston  

Misty Witenberg  Explained that 2525 Church St was approved for the restoration and preservation of green space as an expanded park. Said the city cannot claim a municipal use exemption if it does not own the structure or water services are not provided to Evanston. Furthermore she spoke about unconfirmed remarks made by some City Council members, including Ald. Rainey and Ald. Simmons on social media. Demanded City Council take these actions seriously.  

Cecelia Wallin  Shared her concerns about the changes of the CTA/PACE buses. These changes will significantly affect constituents, particularly those who have disabilities or impairments and rely on public transit. This will reduce the social opportunities for people with disabilities. Wants City Council to consider all members of the community who rely heavily on public transportation.  

Doug Sharp  Wanted City Council to resume the meetings for the Inclusionary Housing sub-committee to update and approve the Inclusionary Housing Ordinance.  

Patrick Donnelly  Member of the Lakehouse group that shared his commitment to working on saving the Harley Clarke Mansion.
(SP1) **Resolution 25-R-18, Supporting Direct Public Transportation Service to Evanston Township High School**

City Council adopted Resolution 25-R-18, supporting direct public transportation service to Evanston Township High School.

**For Action**
Passed 8-0

(SP2) **Affordable Housing Work Plan Updates**

Staff presents City Council with updates on the Inclusionary Housing Ordinance Subcommittee, coach houses, the Landlord Rehabilitation Assistance Program, and the three-unrelated occupancy rule.

**For Action: Accept and Place on File**
Motion made to have discussion on the three related ordinance in the Planning & Development committee on May 14
Passed 8-0
Motion made to a Accept report and Place it on File
Passed 8-0

(SP3) **Resolution 26-R-18, Execute Intergovernmental Agreement with Evanston Township High School District No. 202**

City Council authorized the City Manager to execute an intergovernmental agreement (IGA) with the Board of Education of the Evanston Township High School District No. 202. The IGA recognizes the mutual benefits to the City, ETHS and the community of the educational and housing program commonly known as Geometry In Construction (GIC) and memorializes the expectations and commitments of both parties to maintain the program going forward.

**For Action**
Passed 8-0
**Expanding Accessory Dwelling Units to Address Housing Needs in Evanston**

Staff requests direction from City council regarding follow-up steps relating to Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) as a strategy to expand housing choices and affordable housing in Evanston. At its meeting on January 29, City Council directed staff to revise current zoning to allow rental of existing coach houses as a first step. An ordinance to permit this was introduced at the April 23, 2018 meeting. Staff proposes undertaking a comprehensive review of how to expand ADUs to further address Evanston’s housing needs. Involving the Age Friendly Taskforce in this evaluation, as well as in community outreach and education, would provide valuable perspective regarding housing needs of seniors, including smaller accessible housing units, the ability to age in place, and avoiding displacement due to rising housing costs.

**For Action**
Motion made to refer to Planning and Development Committee  
Passed 8-0

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**Steps Toward Homeownership – Special Use for Small Lot Housing**

Staff recommends consideration of developing a Special Use process that would enable developers to propose the construction of modest-size homes on smaller lots than currently allowed by our zoning. This process would enable the development of “starter” homes affordable to first-time homebuyers and less affluent residents by reducing the land cost associated with the development of a single family home. It would also allow non-conforming parcels throughout our community that are currently undevelopable based on zoning to be put into productive use.

**For Action**
Motion made to refer to Planning and Development Committee  
Passed 8-0

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**Update on Priority Based Budgeting Process**

City Council accepted and placed on file the update on the priority based budgeting process and direct staff to move forward with the public outreach portion of the process.

**For Action: Accept and Place on File**  
Passed 8-0
Call of the Wards

Ward 1: No Report

Ward 2: Thanked Rebuilding Together for the homes rebuilt in the 2nd, 5th and 7th Ward. Special thanks to Kinzie Group, Northwestern and others for the participation in the event. Another special acknowledgement to the Sergeant B. Williams snail post 71-86. Ald. Braithwaite joined the Mayor and Cook County Commissioner Larry Suffredin as they celebrated the men and women that serve our country.

Ward 3: On Thursday May 3rd office hours will be from 7:00-10:00 a.m. In the evening of May 3rd the first meeting of the Garden Park Renovation Plan at 7 pm at Lincoln school.

Ward 4: No Report

Ward 5: No Report

Ward 6: No Report

Ward 7: Thanked Rebuilding Together for rebuilding the home of a resident of the 7th Ward.

Ward 8: No Report

Ward 9: No Report

Adjournment

Mayor Hagerty called a voice vote to adjourn the City Council meeting, and by unanimous vote the meeting was adjourned.