



City of Evanston

SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

**CITY OF EVANSTON, ILLINOIS
LORRAINE H. MORTON CIVIC CENTER
JAMES C. LYTTLE COUNCIL CHAMBERS
Monday, November 5th, 2018**

Present:

Alderman Fiske

Alderman Revelle

Alderman Braithwaite

Alderman Rainey

Alderman Wynne

Alderman Fleming

Alderman Wilson

Alderman Suffredin

Alderman Rue Simmons

(9)

Absent:

Presiding:

Mayor Stephen Hagerty

**Devon Reid
City Clerk**

Mayor's Public Announcements

Mayor Hagerty thanked the 4th grade class of Dewey Elementary School and 1st grade class of Oakton Elementary School for taking a field trip to City Hall to learn about local government. [Watch](#)

City Manager's Public Announcements

City Manager Wally Bobkiewicz had no announcements [Watch](#)

City Clerk's Communications

City Clerk Reid reminded residents of the November 6, 2018 Election. Also shared Early Voting numbers for Evanston. Lyft and Uber will provide free rides to election polls. [Watch](#)

Public Comment

Michael Vasilko	Opposed any of the levies, taxes, fees and fines proposed by City Council and City Staff. Wanted to know who is challenging spending \$3,000 for food and vaccines for the animal shelter. Talked about the organizational chart not representing the current view of the city. Questioned why the City Clerk's Office budget was slashed 50 percent compared to other departments who only saw a budget cut of 5 percent. Mr. Vasilko believes the City Council is picking on the Clerk's Office. Asked why the Library Director's contract isn't being renegotiated. Wanted reassurance from City Council that a final vote will be brought back for discussing relating to Harley Clarke.	Watch
Toni Rey	Thanked City Council and staff for improving the Inclusionary Housing Ordinance.	Watch
Meg Krulee	On behalf of the District 65 teachers union, she expressed their opposition of the closing of Fire Station #4 or reduction of emergency response vehicles. Stated it would put the lives of the students in danger. Also is opposed of any budget cuts that would negatively impact Evanston students and residents.	Watch
Ray Friedman	Shared some suggestions about the budget. Talked about creating a budget process committee that would have decision making impact	Watch

on the budget. Asked that staff create a page/website where residents can have their questions answered by City Council. Suggested that there be a flat 2-5 percent across the board on the proposed budget cuts.

Eric Paset	Owner of Northshore Apartments and Condos that believes that taxes must be raised in order to keep services. Stated that landlords such as himself are forced to raise rent when property taxes go up. This has created less affordable housing in Evanston. Believes that in order to keep taxes low some services must be eliminated in order to prevent residents from leaving Evanston.	Watch
Doreen Price	Talked about equity and references a few new articles that spoke about cities that speak about tackling the issue of equity.	Watch
Jessica Sales	Thanked City Council members who have voiced their support for the Mental Health Board. Made a proposition to ensure grant writing is being continued for the Health Department. Believed that a 5-10 percent cut to the Health and Human Services Department would give the department ample time to regroup and find a solution to keep their services.	Watch
Jason Hays	Expressed his anger towards the City Manager for continuing to propose slashing the Fire Department. Believes that cuts to social services will put a strain on the Fire Department staff and resources. Stated that the department cannot continue to serve the public and respond to the over 10,000 calls a year with a 20% reduction.	Watch
Juan's Rizki	Stated that the mismanagement of funds for projects and legal problems account for the deficit in the budget. Suggested there would be a 30-50 percent tax increase in the following years. Mr. Rizki expressed his doubts for the new Chief of Police, stating that City Manager Bobkiewicz hires under qualified people in his department that report to him. Thinks it's unnecessary for Directors to have a car allowance.	Watch
Mary Rosinski	Stated that volunteers who are experts in the preservation of the Harley Clarke mansion could bring revenue for the city if given the chance to run the mansion. Said it would be a huge mistake to close down Fire Station #4. Asked City Council to not close the fire station.	Watch

Special Order of Business

(SP1) Fiscal Year 2019 Budget Workshop

Motion: Ald.
Rainey

[Watch](#)

No formal action will be taken regarding the FY 2019 Budget. Budget documents are available here: www.cityofevanston.org/city-budget/.

For Discussion

Call of the Wards

Ward 1:	Thanked the staff for all of their hard work. Also shared her concern over comments being made by residents about city staff and their work. Wants everyone to work together.	Watch
Ward 2:	Wanted to share his thoughts on comments made towards city staff. Believes that disparaging remarks are not appropriate towards staff and hopes the public keeps that in mind when making public comments	Watch
Ward 3:	Thanked staff for all of their hard work	Watch
Ward 4:	Thanked the city staff for their hard work and commitment to the city	Watch
Ward 5:	No Report	Watch
Ward 6:	No Report	Watch
Ward 7:	No Report	Watch
Ward 8:	Suggested that Mayor Hagerty control the tone of public comment	Watch
Ward 9:	No Report	Watch

Adjournment

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