

**Evanston City Council
Closed Session Minutes
Aldermanic Library
Monday, March 09, 2009**

PRESENT: Alderman Holmes, Moran, Tisdahl, Rainey,
Hansen, Wollin, Jean-Baptiste, Wynne,
Bernstein

STAFF: Interim City Manager Rolanda Russell
Interim First Asst. Corporation Counsel

PRESIDING: Honorable Mayor Lorraine Morton

Mayor Morton called the meeting to order at 11:25p.m. She then asked were there any corrections to the minutes and hearing none the minutes were accepted. She then called on the Interim City Manager Rolanda Russell to introduce her first item to be presented for discussion.

LITIGATION

Interim First Corporate Counsel Ms. Purze stated she would be meeting with Judge Budzinski on March 12, 2009 at 1:00 p.m. for a pretrial conference. This case is about Emma Barber, 69 year old woman requesting \$140,000.00. Ms. Purze also stated the woman had a prior injury, but Ms. Purze does not have all of the medical records and she suggested we settle out of court. Aldermen had an in-depth discussion of the particulars of the case. Ms. Purze suggested we offer \$35,000.00 to close out the case. The final decision was to offer \$ 45,000.00.

REAL ESTATE

In reference to Chiaravalle (425 Dempster), Ms. Purze stated we had a verbal agreement with Steve Freeland to keep \$250,000 in case of a default on the agreement. Over a 5 year period \$500,000.00 would be retrieved. Council asked for written information regarding her verbal report.

She also mentioned she had a phone call from bidder number 3 who bid \$350,000.00 on 2022 Central, and was disappointed he did not get a piece of the project.

PERSONNEL

Interim City Manager Rolanda Russell presented an update, the accomplishments and the concerns. (1) Lack of Institutional knowledge, (2) Search for key personnel replacements, (3) Current Union negotiations, (4) We will hire but only after all the justifications and paperwork, (5) She will schedule orientation sessions with the new Aldermen as she look for dates to introduce them to the Department heads and schedule tours, (6) Work to acquire agreements from tax exempt organizations for services, (7) Discussions with State regarding a 3 year grant to assist in staffing Police Resource Officers, (8) Have the new Council interview the City Manager applicants sometime in May, (9) She stated she will give Council a final date and work with the new City Manager through the transition (depending upon the date). She would get an update from the Search Firm.

Mayor Morton then asked for a motion to adjourn the Executive Session. The motion was made by Alderman Bernstein and 2nd by a majority of the Aldermen. The meeting adjourned at 11:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Rodney Greene
City Clerk

THERE IS A CD RECORDING OF THIS CLOSED SESSION OF THE CITY COUNCIL IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE, ROOM 1200 OF THE CIVIC CENTER.