

CITY COUNCIL OF EVANSTON
Special Meeting
February 24, 2009

ROLL CALL:

Present: **Alderman Holmes** **Alderman Hansen**
 Alderman Moran **Alderman Wollin**
 Alderman Tisdahl **Alderman Bernstein**
 Alderman Rainey

Absent: **Alderman Jean-Baptiste**

Presiding: **Honorable Mayor Lorraine Morton**

The meeting was called to order at 6:23 p.m. with the Mayor informing the Council and audience that Alderman Wynne informed her she would be about 30 minutes late for the meeting and she arrived at 6:50 p.m. The Mayor then announced the reason for the Special Meeting, and it is only an informational meeting. She then displayed the water bottles presented to the Council members from the Water Department.

The Interim City Manager stated there would be two presentations, the first one will be on The Lakefront Master Plan (Mr. Gaynor & Ms. Levine) and secondly the Water & Sewer Division (Mr. Stoneback).

Mr. Gaynor gave an overview via a slide presentation of the users of the Lakefront and revenues. Further presentations referred to Capital Investments which included references to the Lakefront Master Plan in the North, Central, and South sections. These were identified in the presentation of Ms. Levine who talked about the 11 projects of the plan which were: (1) The Lighthouse Landing, (2) The Bike and Pedestrian Paths & Dempster Street Parking Lot, (3) The Clark Street Beach Restroom, (4) Dempster Beach Non-Motorized Boat Storage, (5) Fog/Signal House Renovations, (6) Garden Park Renovations, (7) Greenwood Street Beach Improvements, (8) Lagoon Suction Pit Replacement, (9) Evanston Arts Center Coach House Greenhouse HVAC Renovations, (10) Lagoon Building Furnace Replacement, and finally (11) Evanston Arts Center Improvements. Information was given as to City bonding as needed for any Capital Improvements.

The presentation elicited comments from Alderman Wynne as to the possibility of the rehabbed building having a green roof. Mayor Morton inquired about the dog beach

and the feasibility of someone locating a restaurant there. Alderman Moran expressed concern about eliminating the beauty of the landscape. Alderman Wollin gave information concerning citizen's desire not to have a restaurant on the lake front.

The Division of Water & Sewer's CIP Justification FY 2010 – 2014 presentation was presented by Mr. David Stoneback. He presented a slide show concerning the Water & Sewer Rates, Capital and Revenue Opportunities. Evanston Water Utility has over 365,000 customers in Evanston, Skokie, and Northwest Water Commission. He talked about the BZPP (Buffer Zone Protection Plan), the Water Billing Software and the need for the SCADA System Replacement

Alderman Bernstein asked who were our water selling competitors, and asked if we could bottle Lake Michigan water and sell it. Mr. Stoneback answered yes but he is not much of a bottled water man.

Mr. Stoneback suggested staff investigate increasing our wholesale customer base, hire an Attorney / Firm to research wholesale water supply contracts, and then also to hire an Engineering firm to explore and estimate cost to implement.

Mayor Morton asked Alderman Moran did he want the Council to vote on hiring a Lawyer tonight.

Interim City Manager Russell said tonight was just a time to present what the staff had been doing and not looking for any decisions, but will be giving details in the next packet going out to the Aldermen.

Mayor Morton asked if there were any more questions and since there were none she declared the meeting to be adjourned at 8:15p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Rodney Greene / City Clerk

A CD RECORDING OF THIS MEETING WILL BE AVAILABLE IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE ROOM 1200 FOR REVIEW IF NECESSARY.