

**Evanston City Council
Closed Session Minutes
Aldermanic Library
Monday, April 16, 2007**

PRESENT: Aldermen Tisdahl, Moran, Rainey, Hansen, Wollin, Jean-Baptiste, Wynne, Bernstein, Moran and Holmes.

STAFF: Judith Aiello, Julia Carroll, Richard Eddington, Herb Hill, and Rolanda Russell

PRESIDING: Mayor Lorraine H. Morton

START: 7:35 p.m.

Police Chief Richard Eddington gave a brief update on undercover operations, pending arrests and ongoing policing activities many of which are dictated by staffing available. He noted they have a significant retirement in May of Detective Vandell Catron who has dealt with domestic violence situations, a critically important service to victims of domestic violence. This is another slot they have to fill that impacts the number of people available for undercover operations.

They have continuing undercover long term operations with the Net unit and the Chicago Police Department and this operation would conclude in late May or early June. They hope to do a decapitation strike to several active gangs here and the 24th district in Chicago. He did not mention more because undercover officers are at risk. Over the weekend an individual walking down the street was mistaken for an undercover police officer and suffered aggravated battery.

Over the summer they will frequently combined operations with the Illinois Department of Corrections and police. People on parole/ probation have different rules concerning police latitude. They cannot check on a parolee twice in a row. Those are rules beyond their control that Dept of Corrections will read to them. They have dates tentatively scheduled in May and June. Those targeted have long criminal histories. There are about 150 probationers from the court, approximately 20 with Evanston addresses are already in violation. This is a group of recidivists. There are other parts of the summer plan that are ongoing. They will address career criminals who engage in burglaries and robberies in the 8th or 9th wards and other parts of the community.

Ms. Carroll asked what police were doing to address criminal damage to vehicles. He explained when they get to shift minimums (different for each shift) they re-assign officers to plain clothes to track those. Additionally, once the department identifies a crime pattern, they re-direct personnel to affected areas. Alderman Rainey noted they missed the 1700 and 1800 block of Dobson.

In response to Alderman Jean-Baptiste, Chief Eddington said that they received an adverse court verdict on back to back sweeps. There is a "time out" when police cannot target an individual. When they do a parole/probation sweep, if they contact them on Monday (on the list) they cannot contact them on Friday. These individuals are being checked on depending on their crime, drug use, etc. Liberties are considerably curtailed for these individuals.

There being no further business to come before Council, Mayor Morton declared the meeting adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

Mary P. Morris,
City Clerk