

**Evanston City Council  
Closed Session Minutes  
Aldermanic Library  
Monday, November 26, 2007**

PRESENT: Aldermen Wynne, Bernstein, Holmes, Moran, Tisdahl, Rainey, Hansen and Wollin

ABSENT: Alderman Jean-Baptiste

STAFF: Julia Carroll, Richard Eddington, Herb Hill, Elke Tober-Purze, Rolanda Russell

PRESIDING: Mayor Morton

START: 10.22 p.m.

**Minutes**

City Council Closed Session minutes from meetings on September 24, October 22 and November 12, 2007 were approved as submitted.

**Litigation**

*Chanel Graham vs. COE*

The trial starts tomorrow with no change in posture from two weeks ago. Elke Tober-Purse was at the pre-trial that day and will monitor the trial. Premise of the plaintiff's case is that our police officers lied and their supervisors covered it up. Judge Moran was skeptical of that approach. The court room is small so the jury is close. The three-day trial is in federal court.

**Personnel**

City Manager Carroll referred to a memo sent earlier regarding crime. The proposal is to attach tactical capability to the current Neighborhood Enforcement Team. If the city can provide funding for two additional officers, Chief Eddington will supplement the unit by reassigning two officers from existing personnel and create a tactical unit. This would be a four member team supervised by a sergeant.

Chief Eddington reviewed some crime statistics on the board. Thefts are down 9% but increases in robberies and aggravated assaults are a real concern. There is person on person crime at the street level resulting in negative press.

The tactical unit is small and more practical given overall budget issues. They can set realistic expectations for what they accomplish. He will not be bashful about coming back and showing them the results of their investment. He also noted they can adjust on the fly if desired.

Chief Eddington briefly discussed police work on downtown Beat 87.

Alderman Rainey asked if they are hiring two officers for patrol. Yes. She remembered Ralph and another partner as a two person tactical team that was very effective. She wants neighborhoods to benefit, while recognizing that downtown is important. Chief Eddington hoped the department is responsive to needs.

Ms. Carroll asked to go ahead with the proposal and Council expressed consensus to go for it. Alderman Rainey wanted Council to have a discussion about crime in Evanston.

There being no further business to come before Council, Mayor Morton declared the meeting adjourned at 10:32 p.m.

Mary P. Morris,  
City Clerk