

**Evanston City Council
Closed Session Minutes
Aldermanic Library
Monday, June 12, 2006**

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

ABSENT: Aldermen Wynne and Hansen

STAFF: Julia Carroll

PRESIDING: Mayor Lorraine H. Morton

START: 10:40 p.m.

Alderman Bernstein moved that Council convene into Closed Session for the purpose of considering personnel and minutes pursuant to 5 Illinois Compiled Statutes 120/2 (c) (1) and (21).

Roll call. Voting aye – Jean-Baptiste, Bernstein, Holmes, Moran, Tisdahl, Rainey, Hansen and Wollin. Voting nay – none. Motion carried. (8-0).

Mayor Morton asked City Manager Carroll for her goals; suggested goals that can be measured in six months and the remainder at the end of 2007. Council would review the goals on the manager's anniversary.

Develop a new structure for economic development. Begin a business retention program. This would be done by creating a process and procedure in which staff go out and call on businesses to determine if the City is meeting their needs. Let Council know how many businesses they kept from leaving Evanston.

Develop and recommend a new comprehensive approach to economic development. It was mentioned that there are disparate groups that work on economic development. The manager felt there is a need for more than disparate groups.

Develop long range financial projections using the Budget Policy Committee. Starting in June, review programs and services of each department with Council to determine what services and programs could be eliminated, or contracted out at a savings to the taxpayer. Make decisions based upon information received. Submit suggestions for educating the public on efforts to hold the line on increasing property taxes.

Review the Zoning Ordinance regarding downtown businesses and retail services located on the first floor. Bring recommendations for first floor uses.

Oversee acquisition of land for the Civic Center. Ms. Carroll reported that Mr. Stern has an appraisal for \$4.1 million. She will bring back efforts to acquire land.

Develop a targeted marketing plan to attract retail and manufacturing businesses to Evanston. (This goal is for 2007-08.) This involves pursuing businesses to locate here.

Alderman Holmes asked about the Recycling Center as a business and for jobs. Ms. Carroll responded that the Recycling Center is part of CIP development options. Alderman Rainey noted that the Recycling Center looks unkempt.

Continue her own self development based upon feedback from Council.

Alderman Jean-Baptiste wanted to get a Youth Program started; said that municipalities are focusing on that and Evanston is a small enough community to make a difference. Ms. Carroll, Aldermen Jean-Baptiste, Moran, Rainey and Holmes discussed that more definition was needed to have an Office of Youth Services. Ms. Carroll reported that staff is assessing what is being done for youth. The role of the Youth Bureau at the Police Department, the need for enforcing curfew and that youth do not exist in isolation were also mentioned.

Aldermen Tisdahl, Rainey, Jean-Baptiste, Wollin and Mayor Morton discussed the current state of recreation in Evanston and trends in recreation.

Mayor Morton stated the goals would be evaluated in six months. The City Manager would bring a recommendation for the adding a youth program. Alderman Rainey commented that the Summer Youth Job program gets kids off the street. Ms. Carroll observed that could be made a 'year round program.

There being no further business to come before Council, at 11:30 p.m., Mayor Morton asked for a motion to adjourn and the Council so moved.

Mary P. Morris,
City Clerk