



**MEETING MINUTES**  
**MAYOR'S COMPENSATION COMMITTEE**

April 5, 2016, 10:30AM Civic Center,  
2100 Ridge Avenue, Room #2403

Members Present: Alvin Telser, Chair  
Sue Calder  
Todd Kihm  
Robin Simmons

Staff Present: Erika Storlie, Deputy City Manager  
Jennifer Lin, HR Division Manager

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**DECLARATION OF QUORUM**

With all Committee members present, Chairman Telser called the meeting to order at 10:30AM.

Minutes of the Feb. 23 meeting were distributed and approved.

Data from 16 neighboring communities had been compiled by City staff following our request at the Feb. 23 meeting. Mr. Telser assembled most of the data into a table that allowed for a discussion of relevant information from comparable communities. He omitted data from Naperville since it is not comparable to the other municipalities listed in the spreadsheet in terms of population, median income, or salary of their City Clerk. One notable difference between Evanston and all the others is the number of committees and the fact that our alderpersons serve on four or more City Committees whilst the others have far fewer committees and less alderperson committee involvement.

While the data in the spreadsheet was more complete than was available four years ago, in practical terms these data provide only a minimal basis for comparing Evanston to the municipalities on the list. For example, of the 15 municipalities on the list, we only have alderperson stipends for eight (8) and no data for the other seven (7). Of the eight municipalities for which we have data, the stipends range from a low of \$2,400 to about \$12,400. This renders any stipend comparison mathematically meaningless.

The discussion turned to broad considerations of stipend increases. A significant point was raised and clarified. The Committee will not recommend any changes in the part-time status of the alderpersons or the Mayor; they will remain part-time. Discussion ensued on the general question of raising the stipend for the alderpersons to \$20,000 or even \$25,000 with a comparable dollar increase for the Mayor's stipend. In round numbers, omitting the necessary increase in benefits, this would mean the cost of such increases ranges from \$70,000 to \$125,000 per year. (NB: the 2016 City of Evanston budget is about \$304 million.)

During the meeting Deputy City Manager Storlie distributed information on the responsibilities of City Clerks in the municipalities we have compared ourselves to, as well on the general responsibilities of a City Clerk in the State of Illinois. She also

provided information of COLA (cost of living) adjustment for non-union city employees over the past four years; these were about 2.5% each year except 2013 when there was no COLA. The Committee requested information about the collective cost of benefits all nine alderpersons receive each year as well as the City Clerk's office budget, which will be provided at the next meeting.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, April 19, 2016 at 10:30 am. These minutes and the agenda will be posted on the City website at least 48 prior to the meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Meeting was adjourned at 11:35AM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Alvin Telsler, Chair