



Human Services Committee

Monday, February 3, 2020

6:00 PM

Lorraine H. Morton Civic Center, James C. Lytle City Council Chambers, Room 2800

**COMMITTEE MEMBER
PRESENT:**

Cicely Fleming, 9th Ward Alderman, Eleanor Revelle, 7th Ward Alderman, Judy Fiske, 1st Ward Alderman, and Peter Braithwaite, 2nd Ward Alderman

**COMMITTEE MEMBER
ABSENT:**

Robin Rue Simmons, 5th Ward Alderman

(I) CALL TO ORDER/DECLARATION OF A QUORUM: ALDERMAN BRAITHWAITE

Meeting called to order 6:08 p.m.

(II) APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF DECEMBER 9, 2019

HSM1. Staff recommends approval of the Minutes of the December 9, 2019 Human Services Committee meeting.

For Action

(III) PUBLIC COMMENT

State Representative Robyn Gabel is working with the Illinois End of Life Coalition to craft a bill to give people the option for medical aid in dying.

Oliver Ruff supports Resolution 14-R-20 Supporting the Illinois Legislature to Enact Legislation that Allows Terminally Ill, Mentally Capable Adults the Option to Seek Medical Aid in Dying.

Larry Biondi a member of Not Dead Yet, opposes Resolution 14-R-20, he urged the committee to vote NO.

Ms. Gunther does not support Resolution 14-R-20.

John Lyon Burger a Minister at Three Crowns Park says medical aid in dying is only for the terminal ill and to-date there has not been any substantiated case of abuse.

Jill Gardner says medical aid in dying will allow patients the options of how they die, it is not assisted suicide. This option will reduce the emotional anguish and provide peace of mind of loss of life for the patient.

Doreen Price spoke on the Donation Policy she suggested adding the provision to allow and identify future donation funding programs as Committees, Commissions and City Council recommends.

(IV) ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

HS1. Resolution of 3-R-20 Approval of City of Evanston Donation Policy

Shenicka Hohenkirk, ICMA Management Fellow undated the committee on the proposed donation policy which will

1. Provide a criteria and process for the acceptance of donations.
2. Give the City the ability to accept donations that it needs and the capacity to maintain.
3. Allows department heads to delegate authority to accept or spend donations within the scope herein.

"Donations" are defined as cash or in-kind contributions which provide assistance to the city. Donations do not constitute a business relationship since no reciprocal consideration is sought. Donations generally qualify for a tax receipt.

The Donation Policy and application form does not apply to the Reparations fund. Reparations will have a separate process.

The Committee would like the City Council to be notified regardless of dollar amount. The zoning donations will be clarified further by request of the committee.

HS2. Resolution 14-R-20, Supporting the Illinois Legislature to Enact Legislation that Allows Terminally Ill, Mentally Capable Adults the Option to Seek Medical Aid in Dying

Alderman Braithwaite does not support this Resolution due to spiritual and cultural beliefs.

Alderman Fiske does not believe this Committee is the appropriate place to hear this Resolution; it is better suited to be heard at the State level to be more effective.

Alderman Revelle is in favor and believes Evanston passing the Resolution would support it at the State level. She would like the Resolution forwarded to City Council.

Alderman Fleming is not personally comfortable dictated this choice. She will support the Resolution being forwarded to be reviewed by the full City Council.

Alderman Braithwaite recommends adoption of Resolution 14-R-20, "Supporting the Illinois Legislature to Enact Legislation that Allows Terminally Ill, Mentally Capable Adults the Option to Seek Medical Aid in Dying." The Human Services Committee previously discussed this item and took no action.

For Action

Moved by 7th Ward Alderman Eleanor Revelle
Seconded by 9th Ward Alderman Cicely Fleming

Ayes: 9th Ward Alderman Cicely Fleming and 7th Ward Alderman Eleanor Revelle

Nays: 1st Ward Alderman Judy Fiske and 2nd Ward Alderman Peter Braithwaite

DEFEATED. 2-2 on a recorded vote

Alderman Revelle moved to amend the recommendation to forward to City Council for discussion.

Moved by 7th Ward Alderman Eleanor Revelle
Seconded by 9th Ward Alderman Cicely Fleming

Ayes: 9th Ward Alderman Cicely Fleming, 7th Ward Alderman Eleanor Revelle, 1st Ward Alderman Judy Fiske, and 2nd Ward Alderman Peter Braithwaite

Carried 4-0 on a recorded vote

Motion to move Resolution 14-R-20 as amended to City Council

Moved by 7th Ward Alderman Eleanor Revelle
Seconded by 9th Ward Alderman Cicely Fleming

Ayes: 9th Ward Alderman Cicely Fleming, 7th Ward Alderman Eleanor Revelle, and 2nd Ward Alderman Peter Braithwaite

Nays: 1st Ward Alderman Judy Fiske

Carried 3-1 on a recorded vote

HS3. 2019 Mental Health Board Funded Programs and Summary of Programs Requesting Funding in 2020 Report

Staff recommends the Human Services Committee Accepts and Places on File the 2019 Mental Health Board Funded Programs and Summary of Programs Requesting Funding in 2020.

For Action: Accept and Place on File

Moved by 9th Ward Alderman Cicely Fleming
Seconded by 7th Ward Alderman Eleanor Revelle

Ayes: 9th Ward Alderman Cicely Fleming, 7th Ward Alderman Eleanor Revelle, 1st Ward Alderman Judy Fiske, and 2nd Ward Alderman Peter Braithwaite

Carried 4-0 on a recorded vote

HS4. Health and Human Services General and Emergency Assistance Update

Indira Perkins Human Services Manager, updated the committee on the General Assistance Program.

If you are currently on social security or another state funded program you can apply for Emergency Assistance not General Assistance due to state mandate. Alderman Fleming thanked Ms. Perkins and her team on their assistance given to a resident that was referred to the program. Alderman Braithwaite said the feedback he has received from residents is that the program is working and he thanked her and team.

Staff recommends the Human Services Committee accepts and place on file the General and Emergency Assistance update.

For Action: Accept and Place on File

Moved by 2nd Ward Alderman Peter Braithwaite
Seconded by 9th Ward Alderman Cicely Fleming

Ayes: 9th Ward Alderman Cicely Fleming, 7th Ward Alderman Eleanor Reville, 1st Ward Alderman Judy Fiske, and 2nd Ward Alderman Peter Braithwaite

Carried 4-0 on a recorded vote

HS5. City of Evanston Emergency Shelter for the Homeless Update

Ike Ogbo Director of Health and Human Services, update the committee on the possibility of a City of Evanston designated emergency shelter for the homeless. The old building of Robert Crown was designated for the 2019-2020 winter; however due to the pending demolition a 2020-2021 winter location has not been found.

Staff requests the Human Services Committee to accept and place on file the Evanston Homeless Shelter Update.

For Action: Accept and Place on File

Moved by 1st Ward Alderman Judy Fiske
Seconded by 9th Ward Alderman Cicely Fleming

Ayes: 9th Ward Alderman Cicely Fleming, 1st Ward Alderman Judy Fiske, 7th Ward Alderman Eleanor Reville, and 2nd Ward Alderman Peter Braithwaite

Carried 4-0 on a recorded vote

(V) ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

HSD1. Cook County Animal Shelter Grant

Lara Biggs, Capital Planning and Engineering Bureau Chief, said Cook County through Housing Cook County's Animals is calling for proposals to do capital improvements at animal shelters. The grant is 8 million dollars for two or more shelters. A contract to take in Cook County impounded animals in the improved facility is part of the grant stipulation.

The Evanston Animal Shelter building is owned by the City of Evanston therefore the City will take the lead on applying and facilitating the requirements of the grant. Cook County Commissioner Larry Suffredin supports the application for the Cook County Animals grant.

HSD2. Drug Testing Policy Update

Nicholas Cummings, Deputy City Attorney said the Law Department is working with Human Resources to update the employment handbook. The legalization of marijuana will not change the standing for job positions listed as Safety Sensitive.

(VI) ITEMS FOR COMMUNICATION

(VII) ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned 7:51 p.m.