



## **Human Services Committee**

**Monday, January 4, 2021 @ 5:00 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, Peter Braithwaite, 2nd Ward Alderman, and Robin Rue Simmons, 5th Ward Alderman

**COMMITTEE MEMBER  
ABSENT:**

**STAFF PRESENT:**

**1. CALL TO ORDER/DECLARATION OF A QUORUM: ALDERMAN RUE SIMMONS**

- A. As the result of an executive order issued by Governor J.B. Pritzker suspending in-person attendance requirements for public meetings, City Council members and City staff will be participating in this meeting remotely. Due to public health concerns, residents will not be able to provide public comment in-person at the meeting.

Those wishing to make public comments at the Human Services Committee meetings may submit written comments in advance or sign up to provide public comment by phone or video during the meeting by completing the City Clerk's Office's online form at [www.cityofevanston.org/government/cityclerk/public-comment-sign-up](http://www.cityofevanston.org/government/cityclerk/public-comment-sign-up) or by calling/texting 847-448-4311.

Community members may watch the Human Services meeting online at [www.cityofevanston.org/channel16](http://www.cityofevanston.org/channel16) or on Cable Channel 16.

The meeting was called to order at 5:12 p.m.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF**

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT**

- A. Betty Ester asked what is the City Manager's position on the Northern Illinois Police Alarm System (NIPAS) on crowd control in Evanston? Freedom of Information Act does not apply to the NIPAS group, how can you get information from them?

Zachery Watson asked given the attitude towards protesters how is the City planning to hold officers accountable and how can protesters not fear retribution?

Alex Harrison said there are transparency issues with the Evanston Police Department what can be done to remedy the lapses in transparency?

Neal Weingarden voiced his concerns with the activities of NIPAS officers.

Sean Peck Collier is disturbed about the information on NIPAS. When on sight do they need additional approval to use deadly force?

Lisa Sargent filed a complaint and she did not like the handling of her case. She felt exonerating the lead officer was a disservice to her.

#### **4. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

#### **5. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

- A. Northern Illinois Police Alarm System (NIPAS)

Chief Cook gave a brief history of Northern Illinois Police Alarm System (NIPAS)

Notes from the memo included in the packet:

2. Financial Cost of NIPAS to the City of Evanston. 2020 Annual Membership Fee of \$6,205. Direct OT cost related to Northwestern University Protests of \$19,585.48; Total Cost of \$88,435.48 for all personnel related costs.

3. Personnel Assigned to NIPAS Emergency Services Team (EST) and Mobile Field Force. Four (4) assigned to Emergency Service Team; Four (4) assigned Mobile Field Force and One (1) assigned to Bicycle Team.

4. Amended Mutual Aid Agreement and Plan was executed prior to Chief Cook's tenor as Chief.

There were several peaceful protests during the summer; however, the protest on October 31, 2020 became violent due to the actions of the protestors. A fire was started and store windows were broken. There were bricks being thrown, rock launcher and lasers pointing and shining in officers face.

Progression of force are pepper balls to dispersed crowd, CS and tear gas; between each stage are assessment of situation before moving to the next stage.

The disruption downtown Evanston went on for 31 days with one arrest.

Northern Illinois Police Alarm System is an independent organization and not subject to FIOA. It is set up that any civil litigation is the responsible of the requesting city.

The NIPAS officers wear numbers instead of their name on badges for their safety.

Chief Cook is the Commander of the NIPAS officers when they are in his jurisdiction.

Alderman Fleming request that in the future the NIPAS officers are briefed that the expectation of conduct with residents is to be respectful.

NIPAS was called out ten times and were on standby seven times in 2020.

Four officers were injured.

## 6. ITEMS FOR COMMUNICATION

### A. Review of Evanston Police Complaints and Comments Report

Staff recommends the Human Service Committee accept and place on file the review of Evanston Police Complaints and Comments Report.

DI 20-15 was tabled to allow the complainant to provide the sergeant with the video she has.

**For Action:** Accept and Place on File

Moved by 5th Ward Alderman Robin Rue Simmons  
Seconded by 2nd Ward Alderman Peter Braithwaite

**Ayes:** 2nd Ward Alderman Peter Braithwaite, 5th Ward Alderman Robin Rue Simmons, 9th Ward Alderman Cicely Fleming, and 7th Ward Alderman Eleanor Revelle

**Carried 4-0 on a recorded vote**

## 7. ADJOURNMENT

### A. Meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

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CAO

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Mayor