In the Council Chambers of the Showers City Hall on Wednesday, June 19, 2013 at 7:30 pm with Council Vice President Dorothy Granger presiding over a Regular Session of the Common Council.

COMMON COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION
June 19, 2013

Roll Call: Mayer, Ruff, Sandberg, Volan, Granger, Sturbaum, Neher, Spechler
Absent: Rollo

ROLL CALL

Council President Neher gave the Agenda Summation.

AGENDA SUMMATION

There were no minutes for approval at this meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

REPORTS

- COUNCIL MEMBERS

Marty Spechler said recent economic news would affect both the city and county. He noted an energy revolution which would reduce the cost of natural gas and other energy sources, lower imports, raise exports meaning a stronger dollar and cheaper goods. He said the Federal Reserve and the Wall Street Journal predicted accelerated growth of 2% per capita in 2014 - 2015 with a moderate rate of inflation. He said it should be easier financially for business, non-profits and cities.

Tim Mayer noted the passing of Jim Weigand who had served IU for many years. He said he was a special kind of guy and would be sadly missed.

Chris Sturbaum said he had searched for a 'pithy' quote to share and found: *Silence is golden.*

There were no reports from the Mayor's office or other city offices at this meeting.

- The MAYOR AND CITY OFFICES

There were no reports from council committees at this meeting.

- COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Call for public comment:

- PUBLIC

Glenn Carter asked council members to approve his basic request and added that it did not require funding. He said Bloomington needed a place for the poorest people in the city to sleep while having adequate sanitation and potable water. He said that 80-90% of homelessness was caused by an economic disaster, not by excess drinking or using drugs. He said that the public perception of homeless persons was a lack of understanding of them. He said that cell phones were not a luxury for the homeless, but a necessity. He would like for homeless persons in Bloomington to have a place to legally sleep.

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

MOTION: It was moved and seconded that Oscar Velasquez be appointed to the Hispanic and Latino Affairs.
ACTION: The nomination was approved by a voice vote.

MOTION: It was moved and seconded that Amanda Barge be appointed to the Commission on the Status of Women.
ACTION: The nomination was approved by a voice vote.

LEGISLATION FOR SECOND READING AND RESOLUTIONS
Resolution 13-10 To Give Consent for the Town of Ellettsville to Annex Property Within Three (3) Miles of the Corporate Boundaries of the City of Bloomington - Re: 4444 West State Road 46 (CVS Property)

It was moved and seconded that Resolution 13-10 be introduced and read by title and synopsis. Clerk Moore read the legislation and synopsis, giving the committee recommendation of do pass 9-0.
It was moved and seconded that Resolution 13-10 be adopted.

Darla Brown, corporate attorney for the Town of Ellettsville, explained that the consent of the council was needed for Ellettsville to annex the particular property according to state law. She showed maps, noted that

Resolution 13-10 *(cont'd)*

fire protection, police services (when requested by the county's Sheriff), and water were provided by the town already.
In answer to questions raised at the Committee of the Whole hearing on this item, she noted that the total assessed value of the town of Ellettsville was $182,034,539. She noted that she did not have an idea why Google Maps showed that the property was part of the town.
She noted that the town's current policy was to not require a waiver of a remonstrance as a condition for a land owner to connect with water or sewer service.

Neher asked for comments from Tom Micuda, Director of Planning for the City of Bloomington. Micuda said he had no comments. He said he had addressed the requirements for the town of Ellettsville in the committee meeting.

Neher noted that Ellettsville Town Council member Dan Swafford was present for questions.

There were no council questions, and no public comment on this item.

Spechler said that it was practical for the town of Ellettsville to collect a little more money to finance the services that they had already been giving to this property.

Mayer noted that the reasons for the legislation dated back several years. He noted that the town planner and a growth policies plan were two of the requirements, and that those conditions had been met. He thanked those involved for working together in this endeavor.

Resolution 13-10 received a roll call vote of Ayes: 8, Nays: 0

Resolution 13-11 Authorizing the Allocation of the Jack Hopkins Social Services Program Funds for the Year 2013 and Other Related Matters

It was moved and seconded that Resolution 13-11 be introduced and read by title and synopsis. Clerk Moore read the legislation and synopsis, noting that the Jack Hopkins Committee recommended forwarding their report to the council for approval with a vote of 5-0. It was moved and seconded that Resolution 13-11 be adopted.

Neher asked Sandberg, chair of the committee to make an introductory statement.

Sandberg noted that she was happy to inform folks of the committee's hard work and the work of the staff in preparing the packet and guiding the process. She also thanked the council members and community members who served on the committee. She assured the transparency of the committee's work noting that all the meetings were public meetings. She noted that needs were shifting, but was certain that the applications addressed needs in the areas of health care, food security, shelter and other community needs. Sandberg read the list of organizations that were proposed for funding, the amounts and the program for which funding was recommended.

There were no questions from the council on this funding proposal.

Public comments on this legislation:

Scott Tibbs, resident of Bloomington's District 1, said he again rose in opposition to the funding for Planned Parenthood. He said he was opposed to this funding based on the agency's financials in the annual report from their website. He noted that there were worthy organizations that went without funding while the city gave what was a 'political endorsement' to Planned Parenthood. He noted this was funding the group's operational expenses not first time funding of a program.

Josh Congrove said he was a PhD graduate and long time Bloomington resident and spoke in opposition to taxpayer money funding Planned Parenthood in any way, but particularly in light of justice. He spoke of Plato, Aristotle, and the prophet Micah and more modern definitions of justice, and questioned this funding as justice. He said Planned Parenthood had killed 10-15 of Bloomington's boys and girls each week. He said that justice would treat the unborn as human beings and would not discriminate against them.

Brian Bailey noted his 7th child, a son, was delivered at 20 weeks with numerous medical conditions that did not allow him to take even one breath. He said his son was no different from a 13 week pregnancy or one just after conception, and that these lives should not be taken. He asked that the council not approve the funding of Planned Parenthood.

Glenn Carter said that Planned Parenthood prevented many abortions by allowing women access to low or no cost birth control. He said it was not the job of council to cater to one view of abortion or interpretation of the Bible, let alone one particular religion. He said he wanted this proposal to be approved.

Tom Tarzian said that all the recipients did praise-worthy work except for Planned Parenthood which, he said, performed surgical abortions and sold drugs that induced abortions. He said that while the JHSS funding may be earmarked for services other than abortion, any funds given by the city would allow them to use other donations for abortions. He likened this to giving money to the KKK for a clinic, and being sure it wasn't used for racist activities.

Marc Haggarty said that human population was at a crisis level; there were more people on the planet than have died in all of history. He said there were twice as many people on the planet than when he was born. He said that this was a catastrophe and that we must rationally limit human reproduction.

Jim Billingsley said he was impressed with the list of approved items, but that the criteria of food, health care, and shelter was not provided by Planned Parenthood. He asked that the city not murder with the aid of tax dollars. He said that the clinic ended the lives of 900 babies each year in Bloomington. He asked that the city not use tax money to fund what some people believe is abhorrent.

There being no further public comments, the council members commented:

Spechler said he was pro-life which to him meant being against capital punishment, against hunting and murder of children. The law and dominant Judeo Christian ethics do not recognize fetuses equivalent to babies. He said the law did not call any abortion, however regrettable, murder. He said that the rhetorical probe did not change the situation that the law permitted a woman to choose to abort a child before a certain number of weeks. He regretted that some people don't approve of that, and added that this topic is now in the realm of social mores. He said the better way to deal with this issue was to convince women to carry to term. He said that the law allowed a woman the right to choose and that Planned Parenthood helped a woman make a legal choice and should therefore be promoted. He said that the majority of citizens in the city believed this and he would be voting for the resolution.

He said he was happy to serve on this committee and under the very able chairmanship of Susan Sandberg who, he said, knew about the range of social services. He offered her his thanks.

Resolution 13-11 *(cont'd)*

Granger said she applauded the work of the committee that took on the huge task of allocating funds. She added that the JHSSF grant to the Middle Way House would not result in her financial benefit as an employee of the agency, but that she would be abstaining from voting on the resolution.

Mayer thanked the committee for the work and thanked the agencies that submitted applications for review.

Sandberg noted that with each round of JHSSF committee decisions the committee learned and could be more proactive in predicting needs. She said she was proud of the transparency of the process, proud of the resulting list and noted that providing food, shelter, and health care were the top three areas funded. She said prevention of social ills was addressed by funding programs on child development, youth development and the respect for the integrity of families. She said we stood above those communities that did not fund their social service agencies. She thanked Lisa Abbott and Marilyn Patterson who would oversee the grants.

Resolution 13-11 received a roll call vote of Ayes: 7, Nays: 0, Abstain: 1 (Granger)

LEGISLATION FOR FIRST READING

There was no legislation to be introduced at this meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments at this section of the meeting.

COUNCIL SCHEDULE

Dan Sherman, Council Attorney/Administrator, noted the following upcoming meetings of the council:
June 26, 2013 Special Session for hearing the Tax Abatement Report
June 26, 2013 Committee of the Whole Session for any upcoming legislation. In light of no impending legislative items, he suggested cancelling that Committee meeting.

It was moved and seconded to cancel the June 26, 2013 Committee of the Whole Meeting.
The motion was approved by a voice vote.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:33 pm.

APPROVE:

Darryl Neher, PRESIDENT
Bloomington Common Council

ATTEST:

Regina Moore, CLERK
City of Bloomington