Passed 7-0-1
Spechler passed (abstain)
Volan absent

RESOLUTION 13-09

SUPPORTING BLOOMINGTON'S DESIGNATION AS A "FAIR TRADE TOWN" AND ENDORSING A SUSTAINABLE PURCHASING POLICY REGARDING THE PROCUREMENT OF FOOD, BEVERAGES AND CATERING SERVICES

WHEREAS, the City of Bloomington has a long history of supporting fair wages, workers' rights, and environmental stewardship; and

WHEREAS, fairly-traded products reflect fair prices and environmentally sustainable production practices for farmers, direct trade relationships for producers, sustainable wages and safe working environments for workers, and investment in local economies; and

WHEREAS, Fair Trade products such as coffee, tea, chocolate and fresh fruit are widely available and competitively priced in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Fair Trade Bloomington is a local non-profit that has been working since 2005 to educate the community about Fair Trade and to increase the availability of Fair Trade products in Bloomington; and

WHEREAS, Fair Trade Bloomington is working to declare Bloomington a "Fair Trade Town" and has laid much of the groundwork toward this end, including reaching out to local organizations and businesses, and has substantially grown the number of Fair Trade products available in Bloomington; and

WHEREAS, numerous communities throughout the United States and the world have become Fair Trade Towns; this designation is intended to build awareness of Fair Trade products and to increase their local availability; and

WHEREAS, 17 local organizations and 24 local vendors carry and support Fair Trade products, including: The Greater Bloomington Chamber of Commerce, Downtown Bloomington, Inc., Visit Bloomington and the Monroe County Building Association; and

WHEREAS, Fair Trade Bloomington has met four of the five criteria outlined by Fair Trade Towns USA to become a Fair Trade Town; the last step is for local government to pass a resolution in support of a Fair Trade purchasing policy; and

WHEREAS, if Bloomington is declared a Fair Trade Town, it would be the first community in Indiana to achieve such designation; and

WHEREAS, the City has adopted a Sustainable Purchasing Policy as a necessary component in attaining LEED® for Existing Buildings: Operations and Maintenance; however, this policy does not attach to food, beverages or catering; and

WHEREAS, Fair Trade should be one component of the City's overall commitment to the sustainable purchase of food, beverages and catering services. Other priorities include buying products that are: local, organic, of recycled content/reduced packaging, composed of rapidly renewable material, and Forest Stewardship Council® certified; and

WHEREAS, as a consumer, the City of Bloomington has a responsibility to be aware of the ways in which our consumption has an impact on people and our environment; and

WHEREAS, the purchase of food and catering services for public events represents a highly-visible opportunity for the City to lead by example by ensuring that the products provided at these events represent the values of the City and its citizens.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BLOOMINGTON, MONROE COUNTY, INDIANA, THAT:

SECTION 1. The Common Council supports the designation of Bloomington as a Fair Trade Town.

SECTION 2. The Common Council supports Fair Trade initiatives consistent with all of the City's purchasing policies and advises that, when purchasing food, beverages and catering services, the City should strive to incorporate one or more of the following types of products into procurement decisions: Fair Trade Certified and/or fairly-traded, locally-produced, organic, of recycled content/reduced packaging, composed of rapidly renewable material, and/or Forest Stewardship Council® certified.

SECTION 3. The City will strive to purchase these products when such products are are readily available, meet applicable City standards, are competitively priced, are of comparable quality, and are procured in accordance with all of the City's existing procurement policies and with local, State and federal law.

SECTION 4. The Common Council encourages members of the Bloomington community to use, sell or provide Fair Trade, local, recycled, organic and responsibly-sourced products whenever possible for the well-being of producers, consumers and the planet.

SECTION 5. This resolution shall be in full force and effect after its passage by the Common Council and approval by the Mayor.

PASSED by the Common Council of the City of Bloomington, Monroe County, Indiana, upon this 22nd day of MAY, 2013.

DARRYL NEHER, President
Bloomington Common Council

ATTEST:

REGINA MOORE, Clerk
City of Bloomington

PRESENTED by me to the Mayor of the City of Bloomington, Monroe County, Indiana, upon this 23rd day of MAY, 2013.

REGINA MOORE, Clerk
City of Bloomington

SIGNED and APPROVED by me upon this 29th day of MAY, 2013.

MARK KRUZAN, Mayor
City of Bloomington

SYNOPSIS

This resolution is sponsored by Councilmember Sturbaum and supports the designation of Bloomington as a Fair Trade Town. The legislation resolves that when purchasing food, beverages or catering services, the City should strive to incorporate one or more of the following types of products into procurement decisions: Fair Trade Certified and/or fairly-traded, locally-produced, organic, of recycled content/reduced packaging, composed of rapidly renewable material, and/or Forest Stewardship Council® certified. The resolution states that the City should strive to purchase such products when the products are readily available, meet applicable City standards, are competitively priced, are of comparable quality, and are procured in accordance with all of the City's existing procurement policies and with local, State and federal law. The resolution also encourages members of the Bloomington community to use, sell or provide such products when possible.

Signed copies to:
Controller
Sustainability (J Bean)
Fair trade Bloomington (M Embry)
PW
Visit Bloomington
DBIVC
CofC.
MCBA