COMMON COUNCIL
SPECIAL SESSION
February 27, 2013

In the Council Chambers of the Showers City Hall on Wednesday, February 27, 2013 at 7:30 pm with Council President Darryl Neher presiding over a Special Session of the Common Council.

ROLL CALL

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

AGENDA SUMMATION

Council President Neher gave the Agenda Summation. He noted the Committee of the Whole meeting that would follow immediately after this meeting.

REPORTS FROM COUNCIL COMMITTEES

- 2012-2013 Council Rules Committee Report

Neher gave a summary of the report submitted to the council by the 2012-2013 Rules Committee.

He said the areas discussed were to increase council efficiency and addressed four areas of concern:

- Interview and nominating functions of the council
- Management of the council legislative cycle
- Length of meetings
- Conforming local code to actual practices and changes in state law

He said the first issue was covered by the passage of Ordinance 13-04 (passed in January of 2013) which consolidated nominating and interview committees.
He said the report proposed would allow the president to announce a five week legislative cycle if it was needed for more discussion or deliberation. He said that this would inform all parties at the beginning of the cycle.
He said length of meetings was a point of deliberation for the committee but no action was proposed because the five week cycle would possibly make for shorter meetings.
He said inactive committees would be dissolved, and establish the Sidewalk Committee, Jack Hopkins Social Service Funding Committee, the Interview and Nominating Committees as standing committees. He said that the other specifics would be addressed in the following committee meeting.
Neher added that the proposal regarding a fiscal impact statement which had been in the code since 1959. He said that a sample statement was included in the proposal, but did not need to be voted on separately.

Neher thanked clerk and council staff for their help, and Granger, Mayer and Ruff for serving on the committee.

There was no public comment on this report.

Volan said he attended some of the meetings and was pleased that the report addressed issues that were of concern to him, especially the provision that would allow a longer legislative cycle. He encouraged support of this report.

Spechler said determining the need for a longer legislative cycle should be at the discretion of the president, subject to reversal of the council. Neher said the president would initially determine this, and the decision could be modified by the council.

Granger said she learned much about the workings of the council by sitting on the committee and urged others to take that opportunity when it arose next.

Neher noted one other recommendation of the report that referred to the 2008 Rules Committee report chaired by Sandberg that outlined the protocol for the council. He said that this report reaffirmed the mode of operation for council meetings.

- 2012-2013 Council Rules Committee Report *(cont'd)*

It was moved and seconded that the council accept the 2012-2013 Council Rules Committee Report. The motion to accept the report received a roll call vote of Ayes: 8, Nays: 0.

Ordinance 13-05 To Amend Title 2 of the Bloomington Municipal Code Entitled "Administration and Personnel" – Re: Amending Chapter 2.04 (Common Council) Pursuant to Recommendations of the Council Rules Committee of 2012-2013

LEGISLATION FOR FIRST READING
Ordinance 13-05

President Neher reminded council members of an Internal Work Session on Monday, March 4, 2013 to be held in the McCloskey Room.

COUNCIL SCHEDULE

Neher also noted that Ordinance 13-03 (Downtown Parking) would be considered a the Wednesday, March 20th Regular Session of the Council. He also noted that he had called a Special Session of the Council to consider the three items to be considered during the first legislative cycle in March. That Special Session would be held immediately before the previously scheduled Committee of the Whole on March 27, 2013.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:43 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

APPROVE:

Darryl Neher, PRESIDENT
Bloomington Common Council

ATTEST:

Regina Moore, CLERK
City of Bloomington