In the Council Chambers of the Showers City Hall on Wednesday, April 17, 2013 at 7:30 pm with Council President Darryl Neher presiding over a Regular Session of the Common Council.

COMMON COUNCIL
Regular Session
April 17, 2013

Roll Call: Mayer, Neher, Rollo, Ruff, Sandberg, Spechler, Volan, Granger, Sturbaum
Absent: None

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 reminded citizens about a charrette regarding homeless issues. He said it was a difficult issue and that this was a valuable way to include the public in this discussion.

Tim Mayer said that April 22, 2013 would be the 43rd celebration of Earth Day, and that Senator Gaylord Nelson from Wisconsin was present for the inaugural Earth Day ceremony in Dunn Meadow.

Dorothy Granger noted that there were a lot of art related events happening in April, and encouraged citizens to check them out and attend.

Susan Sandberg talked about the Manchin-Toomey amendment being defeated in the Senate that day. She noted that this would tighten the law with regards to background checks for gun purchases and noted that the public was exhausted from hearing and dealing with mass murders. She added that the amendment would not have been threatening to Second Amendment rights, or affect law abiding citizens. She said this issue would not go away until members of the US Senate were elected who would enact these checks.

Chris Sturbaum said he seconded Sandberg's remarks.

Darryl Neher sent thoughts and prayers to the City of Boston and the people involved in the bombing of the Boston Marathon. He said he was reminded of the words of Mr. Rogers: *"When I was a boy and I would see scary things in the news, my mother would say to me 'Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping.' "*

There were no reports from the Mayor or other offices at this meeting.

- The MAYOR AND CITY OFFICES

- COUNCIL COMMITTEES
  2013 Sidewalk Committee Report

Dan Sherman, Council Attorney/Administrator asked that the council accept the Uniform Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statement that he submitted because one of the unfunded projects would have crossed over his property. The motion to accept the report received a roll call vote of Ayes: 9, Nays: 0.

Sherman noted the council members serving on the committee and also the city staff that assisted the process. He reported that the Alternative Transportation Fund provided $275,000 for this project. He said the committee reviewed previous years' projects and progress to better enable them to deliberate this year. He listed criteria for deliberation as safety considerations, roadway classification, pedestrian usage, residential density, proximity to destinations, linkages, and cost/feasibility. He explained projects considered, gave background about engineering particulars, pointed out the proposed sidewalks on maps, and gave estimated costs of each project.

The four projects recommended were:

- West 17th – Construction of a Sidewalk Madison to College Avenue (South Side) for $161,000 (CBU commited $107 to in-kind services)
- Maxwell Lane – Construction of a Sidewalk Highland to Jordan (North Side) for $87,000
- Moores Pike & Olcott Boulevard – Construction of a Pedestrian Crossing for $18,000

- The remainder of the fund ($8,500) would be used as follows:
  First, to cover overages for the West 17th Street Project
  Second, to contribute toward the Leonard Springs Pedestrian Project proposed by Monroe County (as long as there were adequate assurances regarding the progress of the project).

The Committee also declared intent to recommend funding *no more than a total of* $15,000 over two years toward this project should it be constructed. Monroe County would construct and bear the remaining cost for this project.

The actual report can be found online or in the council office.

Sherman noted that an approval of this report was necessary for the allocation of funds to complete the sidewalk projects.

Council questions:

Volan asked if there was discussion about the 17th Street Sidewalk extending further west, and how the design of a roundabout at 17th and Monroe Street would play into this. Sherman noted that there was a narrative in the report, and said that the associated sidewalk projects would link with this one and were on the radar of this committee. Volan said that the areas further west were an issue for him. Sturbaum interjected that the I-69 project would have an impact on this area and that the committee was considering this, also.

Mayer asked if the $87,000 allocated for Maxwell Lane included stormwater remediation. Sherman said the sidewalk would be designed to be in the current roadway with curbs, and water inlets in the curbing with the current ditch used for stormwater flow.

Volan commented that there was still a need for a crosswalk at 17th and Jackson that should be addressed sooner rather than later.

Neher asked about Olcott Boulevard and Moore's Pike. He noted that a stop sign requested at Traffic Commission was denied, and that it could be brought before the council in a different way. He further asked, if the stop sign and the crossing were mutually exclusive; how would the crosswalk affect and impact a stop sign. Sherman said the projects and improvements at this intersection were independent of each other.
Sturbaum noted his understanding was that the hill near this area needed to be lowered, and that in itself was an independent project altogether.

Spechler said he was a member of the committee. He wanted it to be known that the $18,000 allocated for this intersection was not for just markings on the pavement, but to also build a traffic island to allow pedestrians to cross more safely. He said he understood that the reason staff did not want a stop sign there was the requirement of shaving the hill to lower it for visibility. He said that would make the project much more expensive. He said he felt the traffic island was a good compromise and that its effect should be evaluated before anything else is done.

A call for public comment brought none.

Council Comments:

Rollo noted the current configuration of Moore's Pike and Olcott Boulevard was actually isolating Hyde Park neighbors from the regional activity center to the north. He said it was essential to have safe crossing there. He said a crosswalk would be better than nothing, but asked if a stop sign could be implemented without the expense of shaving the hill. He said he would like to revisit this because the neighbors preferred a stop sign for safety in crossing there. He said a full stop would be better.

Spechler said that he agreed that this issue could be revisited. He noted that the committee members visited all the project areas to observe what objective indicators might not show. He said that there was another exit from Hyde Park to this area, and felt the solution of a crosswalk was a good compromise with the amount of money that was available to the committee.

2013 Sidewalk Committee Report *(cont'd)*

Sturbaum thanked Sherman for his work. He noted for the public that the committee could really only do a few of these projects each year and that was a bit frustrating. He said the main list consisted of over 100 projects, and that the narrowed down list had 35 projects. He said progress on the list was slow and asked folks to have patience.

Volan said that the growth of the city had an impact on these needs. He said that the city was three times more populous than in 1954, but five times larger geographically. He said the post-WWII automotive driven growth was responsible for much of this issue as the city did not require sidewalks in many developments. He called this a historic lesson.

It was moved to accept the 2013 Sidewalk Committee Report.
The motion was approved by a roll call vote of Ayes: 9, Nays: 0.

- PUBLIC

Gabe Rivera spoke about ending the drug war.

Samantha Harrell spoke about what she found the previous night since the low barrier homeless shelter had closed. She said some people were headed to a truck, a couple to a bridge, a few to IU with students surrounding them, and a few sat on the porch of a church, but got wet due to the rain. She said that Shalom Center had been overwhelmed with people sleeping there during the day because they have to stay away at night. She said the city needed a summer shelter and she had a plan but only needed a space to hold it.

Lily Rushlow said she was a social worker. She said that she would like to see the summer shelter plan be supported for the benefit of those community members who were homeless with mental health issues and addictions. She described the process of helping a person get shelter, and said that the Interfaith Winter Shelter was particularly helpful to her in finding permanent shelter for her clients.

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

MOTION: It was moved that the following recommendations for Board and Commission Appointments be made:

- Reappoint Jack Kahn and Alice Oestrich to the Commission on Aging.
- Reappoint Eric Sandweiss to the Historic Preservation Commission as an Advisory (Non-voting) member.
- Appoint Chris Cockerham, John Saunders, Duncan Campbell and Sam DeSollar to the Historic Preservation Committee as Advisory (Non-voting) members.
- Reappoint Susie Hamilton to the Housing Quality Appeals Board.
- Appoint Megan Binder to the Housing Quality Appeals Board.
- Reappoint David Walter and Mike Szakaly to the Redevelopment Commission.
- Reappoint Sarah DeLone to the Animal Control Commission.
- Reappoint Gregory Tourner to the Commission on the Status of Black Males.
- Reappoint Cathi Crabtree to the Commission on the Status of Women.
- Reappoint Mary Tourner and Barbara Fuqua to the MLK, Jr. Birthday Commission.
- Appoint Betty Rose Nagle and Paul Tory Ash to the Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Commission.
- Reappoint Mike Avila and Judy Maki to the Traffic Commission.
- Reappoint Greg Miller and Adalia Brown to the Commission on the Status of Children and Youth.
- Reappoint Tom Coleman and George Hegeman to the Tree Commission.
- Reappoint Alain Barker to the Bloomington Arts Commission.
- Appoint Luke Wood and Carlos Bakota to the Commission on Hispanic and Latino Affairs.
- Reappoint Gary Charbonneau to the Commission on Sustainability.
- Appoint Rita Drescher, Randy Cassady and Andrea Jobe to the Commission on Sustainability.

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS *(cont'd)*

ACTION: The appointments and reappointments were approved by a voice vote.

LEGISLATION FOR SECOND READING AND RESOLUTIONS
Resolution 13-08 To Approve An Enterprise Zone Investment Deduction (EZID) in the Downtown Tax Increment Financing (TIF) District -Re: Springhill Suites (501 North College Avenue)

It was moved and seconded that Resolution 13-08 be introduced and read by title and synopsis. Clerk Moore read the legislation and synopsis, giving the committee recommendation of do pass 2-0-6
It was moved and seconded that Resolution 13-08 be adopted.

It was moved and seconded that Resolution 13-08 be postponed until a Special Session. The motion also called for scheduling the Special Session meeting for Wednesday, May 8, 2013 at 7:30 pm.

Neher noted that this postponement was not a statement on the Springhill Suites project, but on the process of approving an EZID in a TIF, and also seeking clarity on the guidelines for this project and for any future applications. He said the council and administration would work together to identify criteria.

There were no questions from the council. Council comments:
Sturbaum noted that the Bloomington Urban Enterprise Association supported this application and he was inclined to do the same. He encouraged council to do the same after they got their questions worked out.

Spechler said he voted for this project earlier, but wondered what would happen if the council turned down the application. He said it was allowed by the state and that the council approval was pro forma.

Volan clarified the motion was to postpone the discussion of the resolution and asked that comments be confined to that issue.

ACTION: The motion to postpone Resolution 13-08 to a special session was approved by a roll call vote of Ayes: 9, Nays: 0.

LEGISLATION FOR FIRST READING

There was no legislation for introduction at this meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment in this section of the meeting.

COUNCIL SCHEDULE

It was moved and seconded to cancel the Committee of the Whole Scheduled for Wednesday, April 24, 2013.

The motion to cancel the Committee of the Whole 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

Regina Moore, CLERK
City of Bloomington