[failed = 6-1 (Sabbagh)]

ORDINANCE 02-32

TO AMEND TITLE 2 OF THE BLOOMINGTON MUNICIPAL CODE ENTITLED "ADMINISTRATION AND PERSONNEL"
Re: Section 2.04.380 "Order of Business" (at Council Regular Sessions)

WHEREAS, Section 2.04.380 of the Bloomington Municipal Code presently provides for the Mayor, Council Members, Council Committees and the Public to make comments early in the agenda under the item known as "Reports"; and

WHEREAS, the Common Council recognizes that, at times, this portion of the agenda has taken more than an hour to finish and has caused undue inconvenience and delay for those who were presenting legislation and other arranged business to the Council; and

WHEREAS, the Common Council desires to move comments from the councilmembers and the public to the end of the agenda in order to avoid delay in the consideration of scheduled business; and

WHEREAS, the Common Council recognizes that a twenty-minute limitation for the Mayor and Council Committees should also avoid such delay at the beginning of the meeting and that no such limitation is necessary at the end of the meeting; and

WHEREAS, the Common Council further recognizes that members of the public should be able to address the Council regarding matters that do not appear on the agenda and that a five-minute limitation for each speaker should provide adequate time for each speaker to convey a message or raise a concern to the Council; and

WHEREAS, the Council President, as Presiding Officer, has the duty to maintain order and decorum of meetings and use good judgment in keeping speakers within their allotted time limits;

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

SECTION I. Section 2.04.380 Order of Business, Part (a), of the Bloomington Municipal Code shall be amended to read as follows:

(a) The council shall transact its business in the following order, but it may by majority vote amend the normal order of business:

(1) Roll call;
(2) Agenda summation;
(3) Approval of minutes;
(4) Reports from:
  (A) The mayor and city offices,
  (B) Council committees,
(5) Legislation for second readings and resolutions;
(6) First readings;
(7) Comments from:
  (A) Council members,
  (B) Public;
(8) Adjournment.

FAILED

SECTION II. If any sections, sentence or provision of this ordinance, or the application thereof to any person or circumstances shall be declared invalid, such invalidity shall not affect any of the other sections, sentences, provisions, or applications of this ordinance which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this ordinance are declared to be severable.

SECTION III. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage by the Common Council of the City of Bloomington and approval of the Mayor.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Common Council of the City of Bloomington, Monroe County, Indiana, upon this _____ day of _____, 2002.

_____
CHRIS GAAL, 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 _____ day of _____, 2002.

_____
REGINA MOORE, Clerk
City of Bloomington

SIGNED and APPROVED by me upon this _____ day of _____, 2002.

_____
JOHN FERNANDEZ, Mayor
City of Bloomington

FAILED

SYNOPSIS

This ordinance is sponsored by Councilmember Sabbagh and amends Section 2.04.380 of the Bloomington Municipal Code, which concerns the order of business at the Regular Sessions of the Common Council. In order to avoid undue inconvenience and delay for those who are presenting legislation and other arranged business to the Council, the amendments move the general comments of the council members and the public from near the beginning to near the end of the agenda. The ordinance also lifts the 25-minute limitation on general public comment regarding matters that do not appear on the agenda and, in the Whereas clauses, acknowledges the role of the Council President in keeping speakers within certain informal time limits.