

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TAKING OF AN APPEAL TO THE STATE BOARD OF TAX COMMISSIONERS FROM REDUCTIONS TO THE CITY OF BLOOMINGTON BUDGETS AND TAX LEVY OF THE YEAR 1975 BY THE MONROE COUNTY BOARD OF TAX ADJUSTMENT

WHEREAS, the Common Council of the City of Bloomington, Monroe County, Indiana, did, in compliance with Indiana Law, enact a budget and tax levy for the year 1975, on August 26, 1974, and

WHEREAS, the Monroe County Board of Tax Adjustment did on October 2, 1974, publish notice that it had reduced numerous budget items and the tax levy for the City of Bloomington, and

WHEREAS, the Common Council now finds that several of the items reduced are necessary to the efficient functioning of City of Bloomington government and that it is in the public interest that said items be restored,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BLOOMINGTON, MONROE COUNTY, INDIANA, that an appeal be taken to the State Board of Tax Commissioners petitioning the restoration of the following items to the 1975 City of Bloomington budget:

<u>COMMON COUNCIL</u>	\$6,600.00
<u>SANITATION</u>	\$5,000.00
<u>ANIMAL SHELTER</u>	\$6,000.00
<u>PERSONNEL</u>	\$2,000.00
<u>BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS</u>	\$6,000.00
<u>MAYOR</u>	\$2,000.00
<u>CLERK</u>	\$1,000.00
<u>HUMAN RESOURCES</u>	\$40,000.00

Total Sum to be Restored--
to City General Fund -- \$68,600.00

Amount to be Restored to Tax Levy--
City General Fund -- 0.074

Total Tax Levy Requested--
City General Fund -- 2.616

passed by the
Common Council Oct. 3, 1974

James S. Ackerman
James S. Ackerman, President
Common Council, City of Bloomington

approved by the
Mayor Oct. 7, 1974

Francis X. McCloskey
Francis X. McCloskey, Mayor
City of Bloomington

PETITION OF THE CITY OF BLOOMINGTON FOR RESTORATION OF BUDGETS
AND INCREASE IN TAX LEVY

Comes now the City of Bloomington through its duly elected Mayor, Francis K. McCloskey, and the President of its Common Council, James S. Ackerman, and shows to the State Board of Tax Commissioners that on August 26, 1974, it did in accordance with Indiana Law adopt a budget and proposed tax levy for the City of Bloomington for the year 1975.

On October 2, 1974, the Monroe County Board of Tax Adjustment did publish numerous reductions in the City of Bloomington's budgets and tax levy.

Now, therefore, the City of Bloomington under authority of Burns Indiana Statutes Annotated Section 64-1911 petitions the State Board of Tax Commissioners that the following amounts reduced by the Monroe County Board of Tax Adjustment be restored to the City of Bloomington's budgets and tax levy:

<u>COMMON COUNCIL</u>	\$6,600.00
<u>SANITATION</u>	\$5,000.00
<u>ANIMAL SHELTER</u>	\$6,000.00
<u>PERSONNEL</u>	\$2,000.00
<u>BOARD OF WORKS</u>	\$6,000.00
<u>HUMAN RESOURCES</u>	\$40,000.00
<u>MAYOR</u>	\$2,000.00
<u>CLERK</u>	\$1,000.00

TOTAL SUM TO BE RESTORED:

\$68,600.00

AMOUNT TO BE RESTORED TO TAX LEVY-CITY GENERAL FUND .074

TOTAL TAX LEVY REQUESTED - CITY GENERAL FUND 2.616

A Memorandum in support of the restoration of these sums is attached hereto and made a part of this petition.

Respectfully submitted this _____ day of October, 1974.

James S. Ackerman
JAMES S. ACKERMAN
President, City Bltn.
Common Council

Francis K. McCloskey
FRANCIS K. McCLOSKEY
Mayor, City of Bloomington

MEMORANDUM THE SUPPORT
OF
RESTORATION OF BUDGETS

COMMON COUNCIL :

The sum budgeted and reduced, \$6,500.00, is the tax base portion of the salary of a full time research assistant.

The City feels that such a post is indispensable to the proper fulfillment of the Council's responsibilities. The Council Aide serves as the Administrative Assistant to the Common Council. Currently the position is held by an Attorney pursuant to the guidelines contained in §§ 48-1428 (I.C. 18-2-3. 5-1) of Burns Indiana Statutes Annotated. The Council Aide manages the Council office on a full-time basis, which is not otherwise possible, because members of the Common Council serve on a part-time basis. The primary assistance offered by the Aide is facilitation of communication between the Council members and other City departments and citizens. The Aide serves as the liason person between the Council and various City Boards and Commissions. In particular, the Aide maintains communications with the Utilities Service Board. The Aide is the only research staff employed by the Council on a full-time basis and enables the Council to prepare properly for its review of proposals submitted to it by the executive branch. The Aide has also performed various representative functions for the City. An additional very important function performed by the Aide is that of ombudsman for citizens who have questions and complaints concerning services provided by the City. The Aide daily assists citizens in obtaining answers to questions and refers them to the proper departments. Without someone in the Aide's position, it would be very difficult for the Council members to properly perform their representative function.

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS:

\$6,000 was reduced from the total budget of \$600,142.

Charged with numerous responsibilities including management and maintenance of the City's various physical plants, this budget is composed primarily of fixed costs of maintenance of the City buildings and employees.

Although the Board's budget faced a mandated 1975 increase of \$37,500 for City elections, the total increase over 1974 was only \$20,000. Prior to submittal to the County Tax Adjustment Board, the budget reflected a minimal functional budget with no provision for unexpected emergencies or repairs to City facilities. In fact, one of the two positions funded in 1974 was cut for 1975.

Though the County Tax Adjustment Board's deliberations did not center on particular line items, item number 362 reflects the exact amount of the total cut of \$6,000. We feel a need to explain and justify such line item cuts.

This is a new account in 1975 which will pay for supplies for the City's copying equipment and stationery for all City departments. The system, implemented during 1974, has improved and centralized operations for a more efficient service.

PERSONNEL:

The amount of \$2,000 was reduced from a total budget of \$14,400. Personnel is primarily responsible for recruiting new employees for all City departments. This service included giving adequate notice of employment opportunities, taking applications, pre-employment screening and referral to the department where the vacancy exists.

In the area of Manpower Planning the director provides the liaison between the City and State Area Manpower Planning Council. Personnel also coordinates the City's participation in present manpower programs such as Operation Mainstream and Neighborhood Youth Corps.

The department has established an employee service record for each City employee. Records are continually reviewed and updated. Affirmative Action data is included in the update and maintained separately for use in Federal E.E.O.C. reporting (required by law) and for internal analysis regarding E.E.O.C. guideline compliance and the need for Affirmative Action.

The budget cut of \$2,000 proposed by the County Tax Adjustment Board would force the delay of the project to completely classify the City work force. The lack of such funds would force the elimination of an intern who was intended to provide much of the groundwork necessary to implement and complete the job classification that will begin late in 1974. Such groundwork is essential to insure the validity of the classification plan.

This classification will benefit the City in these ways when completed:

PERSONNEL, CON'T.

1. It will provide for fair and consistent pay based on the principle of "Equal Pay For Equal Work".
2. It will aid in attracting and retaining qualified employees by providing a rational basis for determining job requirements and promotion decisions.
3. It will provide a consistent, intelligent format for work assignments, budgetary decisions, forecasting manpower requirements, and planning short and long range organizational goals.
4. It's overall effect will be the improvement of productivity and performance through more effective use of human resources.

Though the Personnel Department has additional responsibilities in the areas of Affirmative Action, Loss Control and Occupational Health and Safety and Labor Relations, the cut of \$2,000 will have a detrimental effect on the major program of job classification in the City government and undercut time allotted to other important functions of this office.

ANIMAL SHELTER:

\$6,000 was reduced from a total budget of \$51,317.

The City of Bloomington has an animal control problem of serious dimensions. In the first six months of 1974, the Shelter impounded 2,683 animals. For this reason, to continue to carry out the responsibility of impoundment of strays, the shelter requires an adequate motor vehicle to carry out these functions, which will be impossible if this cut is not restored.

Along with the rising cost of picking up stray, injured, and sometimes dead animals, another prime responsibility is the care of animals at the shelter. Within the past year, the cost of dog food has more than doubled while the cost of humanely disposing of animals not claimed has increased one hundred per cent. All other increases in the 1975 budget are due to inflation hitting hardest on such products as gasoline, utilities, and building materials for repairs.

The City is currently reevaluating its Animal Control policies and with adequate equipment can best serve the community in solving these problems.

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES

The City Administration has made a concerted effort to provide services where needed in the human resources area. A Drug Commission whose full time staff is funded by the Lilly Endowment, a Human Rights Commission, a City Equal Opportunity Office, an Older Americans Center, and the newly created Commission on the Status of Women presently constitute the bulk of such programs directly offered by the City.

While the addition of new agencies to the City governmental structure has been necessary and desirable, the current practice of indefinitely expanding the number of departments and providing separate personnel leads to inefficiency in administration and problems in facilitating coordination, especially in areas of similar concern as the social services.

With this background in mind, the City Administration passed a reorganization plan which would consolidate most social services under a new director/coordinator, in a new Department of Human Resources. Additionally, the plan, in an economy move, pools clerical staff support for other commissions or boards which previously were separate and distinct operations.

The most crucial points that the City wishes to bring to bear with regard to appeal the returning of \$40,000 to the Department of Human Resources are these:

1. While there exist numerous agencies - both public and private-dealing with various and oftentimes overlapping social concerns in the City of Bloomington, there remains little or no systematic coordination and evaluation of the programs in this important area. It should be stressed that the City Administration cannot and would not assume major financial responsibilities already assumed by existing community agencies. The intent is to put the City's social resource personnel working under a single qualified director to improve on present programs.

serve flexibly as backup for other programs within the Department, and benefit from coordinated grantsmanship, research, community educational efforts and informational services, etc.

2. The budget cut of \$40,000 by the Monroe County Tax Adjustment Board will not only block the City's Human Services revitalization plan, but will diminish social service programs which have existed and been performed effectively the past two years. A cut of approximately fifty percent from what the Mayor and Council had approved is unjustified.

A staff of the size proposed is a first step towards analyzing pressing community social problems and instituting a framework which will enhance the resolution of such problems. The development of this new department, which has counterparts in South Bend and Fort Wayne, is a positive step, neither unnecessary nor fiscally irresponsible. To ask for the expenditure of approximately \$80,000 in the area of human concerns out of a total budget of over \$3 million does not represent a misuse of taxpayers' monies.

It should be noted that one of the significant concerns of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development in workable program developments is how the City is going to plan and allocate resources for social needs. The new Department of Human Resources provides the structure to fulfill those needs. Some of the main functions and program areas should include:

FUNCTIONS

- overall planning and coordination for community social services.
- social problem referral services.
- community relations, ombudsman, special events coordination services.
- grant preparation and application.

PROGRAMS

1. Manpower and Economic Development Coordination
2. Equal Opportunity and Contract Compliance.
3. Drug program implementation and coordination.
4. Older Americans Programs, including R.S.V.P. Program.

5. Study and Promotion of Day Care Needs.
6. C.A.P. relations and future services.
7. Low income Health Services coordination.
8. Emergency Housing information and placement.
9. Mental Health Coordination.
10. Telecommunications Council.
11. Neighborhoods and their special concerns.

In some of these areas, initial development has occurred within the City government while others are ongoing or developing in other sectors of the community. However, the efforts are piecemeal and comprehensive services do not exist.

The City Administration has no doubts that launching this department will make the City a more humane community, more responsive to the needs of the people most in need. Again, it should be stressed that the City cannot and would not assume major responsibilities in many of most of the above stated areas. The attempt to reorganize human services programs into a Department of Human Resources is a re-thinking of the manner in which we are organizing and managing to get our jobs accomplished.

SANITATION:

\$5,000 was reduced from a total budget of \$153,391.

Since January of 1974, the City has continued its active policy on annexation by incorporating over fourteen new areas with an approximate ten more before the end of the year. Calendar year 1975 promises more of the same type of active annexation policies.

However, with annexation of territory comes the RESPONSIBILITY for the civil city to provide services.

At the present time, this department is operating with a bare minimum of employees. Elimination of \$5,000 from this budget will greatly hamper the ability of this traditional City department to carry out a long standing housekeeping function for the City and its residents.

CLERK:

The amount of \$1,000 was reduced from a total budget of \$28,346.

Aside from the City Clerk, there are employed a Deputy for the City Court, the City Council and a new deputy position for small claims.

Though the small claims deputy clerk position is a new item in the 1975 budget, it should be noted that \$2,500 which was appropriated in 1974 for part time help has been deleted in 1975. Also reduced to offset the new position was a part time help item in the Court's budget. Thus, the increase is approximately \$3,000.

It is essential that this position be full time since the awareness of, and demand for, the Small Claims Court has grown commensurately. The Court is now filing around seventy new claims per month in addition to the follow through on existing claims.

MAYOR:

The amount of \$2,000 was reduced from a total budget of \$38,580.

The daily demands placed on this office for communications, research, development of City programs, and performance of the representative function of the City fix the need to employ professional staff and meet any and all situations that confront the Mayor. The City feels that reinstatement of funds cut by the Tax Adjustment Board is necessary for the smooth and proficient functioning of the Mayor's Office.