

RESOLUTION NO. 73-49

WHEREAS, the Common Council of the Civil City of Bloomington, Monroe County, Indiana, is informed and believes that Indiana Bell Telephone Company, Incorporated, has requested a rate increase which, if approved, would raise the one party, residential phone basic monthly charge from \$6.90 to \$8.70 and the one party, business phone basic monthly charge from \$17.90 to \$22.40, and

WHEREAS, the Indiana Bell Telephone Company, Incorporated, has received rate increases in 1970, 1971, 1972, and 1973 totaling over \$50 million, and

WHEREAS, if the rate increases are approved it will mean that basic, one party residential phone costs for Bloomington will have risen by 64% since 1970, and

WHEREAS, the new rates, if approved, will have the Indiana Bell Telephone Company subscribers paying higher rates than any other subscribers in the Bell System, and

WHEREAS, despite the claims of Indiana Bell Telephone Company of the need for new funds, the Company raised its dividends by 20¢ a share in the first quarter of 1973, and

WHEREAS, it is the belief of this Council that the new proposed rates, particularly the increase in coin operated telephone charges from 10¢ to 20¢ will be a severe hardship on those persons with fixed or level incomes, and

WHEREAS, the City of Bloomington, budgeting within a frozen tax rate, with a maximum average pay increase for city employees of 5%, would have to pay a rate increase under the present proposal of a minimum of 9.2%, and

WHEREAS the proposed rate structure puts an undue burden on rates paid by those least able to pay, namely single-party and pay phone rates, and

WHEREAS the Indiana Bell Telephone Company, Incorporated, although a private company is a public utility,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Common Council of Bloomington, Monroe County, Indiana, that said Council, on behalf of its citizens that they represent, go on record as opposed to the requested rate increase for Indiana Bell Telephone Company and that the Public Service Commission of Indiana be notified of the objection of said City of Bloomington, Monroe County, Indiana.

passed: July 19, 1973

Charlotte T. Zietlow
Charlotte T. Zietlow
President
Common Council
City of Bloomington
Monroe County, Indiana

adopted: July 20, 1973

Francis X. McCloskey
Francis X. McCloskey
Mayor
City of Bloomington
Monroe County, Indiana