

**Bloomington Common Council-Deliberative Session Minutes**  
**Council Chambers, City Hall, 401 N. Morton Street, Bloomington, Indiana**  
**Wednesday, December 10, 2025, 6:30pm**

**CALL TO ORDER [6:31pm]**

Council President Stosberg called the meeting to order.

**1. ROLL CALL (\* indicates participation via Zoom) [6:31pm]**

**Councilmembers present:**

Isak Nti Asare (arrived at 6:51pm)	At-Large
Courtney Daily	District 5, Council Parliamentarian
Matt Flaherty	At-Large
Isabel Piedmont-Smith	District 1, Council Vice President
Dave Rollo	District 4
Kate Rosenbarger (arrived at 6:51pm)	District 2
Andy Ruff	At-Large
Hopi Stosberg	District 3, Council President
Sydney Zulich	District 6

**City staff, officials, and guests present:**

Nicole Bolden	City Clerk
Kari Bennett	Deputy Administrator/Attorney
Christine Chang	Temporary Council Researcher
Gretchen Knapp	Deputy Mayor

**2. AGENDA SUMMATION [6:32pm]**

Stosberg summarized the agenda. The council would discuss outcome-based budgeting and 2027 priorities. Topics included progress on outcome-based budgeting, outcomes in city plans, prioritizing outcomes, public comment, and next steps.

**3. DISCUSSION OF OUTCOME-BASED BUDGETING AND PRIORITIES FOR 2027 [6:33pm]**

Piedmont-Smith gave an overview of outcomes-based budgeting versus priority-based budgeting and city progress towards prioritizing outcomes. Councilmembers and Deputy Mayor Gretchen Knapp discussed categorizing outcomes, funding, and measuring success. Councilmembers discussed structural challenges, adding the environment as a new category, starting with the outcome rather than a specific program, and conscientious categorizing. Councilmembers discussed existing outcomes in each category including housing & homelessness, high-performing government, economic development, public safety, transportation and mobility, community health & vitality, and environment, and suggested other outcomes. For housing & homelessness, ideas mentioned included implementing clear and easy processes, preventative and wraparound services, rare and non-repeating homelessness, short-term versus long-term outcomes, walkable neighborhoods, and follow-through on preplanned projects. Under high-performing government, councilmembers discussed better collaboration between administration and council, structures to create plans and fund projects, better public engagement, maintaining city assets, and council/city clerk functions. For economic development, comments included living wage jobs, neighborhood hubs/public spaces, filling vacant spaces, renaming the category “economic health,” arts enhancement, and simplifying entrepreneurship. Councilmembers moved to public comment after this category.

Christopher Emge commented on outcome-based budgeting.

Kevin Keough commented on outcome-based budgeting.

Councilmembers noted their top three outcomes for each category for future discussion. They discussed the need for processes for structuring/formalizing plans, holding future conversations, and better communication between council and mayor.

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Stosberg stated there would be a special session called by the mayor regarding the Hopewell development on Monday, December 15<sup>th</sup> at 4pm. The last regular session of the year would be Wednesday, December 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm. Piedmont-Smith said the Committee on Council Processes would meet Thursday, December 11<sup>th</sup> at 6pm.

**4. ADJOURNMENT [8:37pm]**

Stosberg adjourned the meeting.

APPROVED by the Common Council of the City of Bloomington, Monroe County, Indiana, upon this 04 day of March, 2026.

APPROVE:

ATTEST:



Isak Nti Asare, COUNCIL PRESIDENT

City Clerk Nicole Bolden

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Clerk's Note: The above memorandum summarizes the motions passed and issues discussed rather than providing a verbatim account of every word spoken. Bloomington City Council meetings can be watched on the following websites:

- Community Action Television Services (CATS) - <https://catvstv.net>
- YouTube - <https://youtube.com/@citybloomington>

Background materials and packets are available at <https://bloomington.in.gov/council>