

Bloomington Common Council-Deliberative Session Minutes
Bloomington Council Chambers, City Hall, Bloomington, Indiana
Wednesday, March 11, 2026 at 6:30pm

Call to Order [6:35pm]

Council President Isak Nti Asare called the meeting to order.

1. Roll Call: (*indicates participation via Zoom) [6:35pm]

Council Members:

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

City staff, officials, and guests present:

Susan Stoll	Deputy Clerk
Sofia McDowell	Chief Deputy Clerk
Geoff McKim	Controller
Michael Wagenaar	Council Office, O'Neill Leadership Program Fellow
Kelly Murphy	Information & Technology Services, Technology Support Manager

1. Agenda Summation [6:36pm]

Stosberg summarized the agenda. The purpose of the session was to identify shared budget priorities.

2. Development of 2027 Shared Budget Priorities [6:37pm]

2.1. Data from December 10 Deliberation and follow up surveys:

Stosberg explained her data compilation and analysis process from the first councilmember survey. Considerations should include whether the outcome was driven by local government; if it was measurable; if it required direct fiscal investment, staff time, or legislation; if it was a priority for 2027; and if it was personally important. Councilmembers discussed whether they should use bucket organization for the thirteen identified top priorities.

(Clerk’s note: the thirteen top priorities, data, and further information can be found in council meeting packet³).

Flaherty stated that the city lacked framework for a strong outcome-based budgeting system. Council discussion ensued on outcome-based budgeting limitations and previous years’ budget processes. Each priority was discussed in accordance with the three aforementioned considerations. Stosberg would create a second priorities survey for councilmembers based on the discussion.

2.2. Discussion of trends identified by the Special Fiscal Committee:

2.3. Public Comment:

Christopher Emge commented on multiple aspects of the council discussion. Kevin Keough commented on the city financial report. Paul Rousseau thanked the council for acknowledging the inequitable transportation system.

2.4. Review of Priority List:

Stosberg thanked councilmembers for their input. She planned to bring a priorities letter addressed to the administration for council approval at the next regular session on March 25, 2026. Councilmembers shared final thoughts and thanked Stosberg for her work.

3. Adjournment [8:36pm]

Asare adjourned the meeting.

APPROVED by the Common Council of the City of Bloomington, Monroe County, Indiana, upon this day: 16 of September, 2026.

APPROVE:



Signature of Isak Nti Asare, Common Council President

ATTEST:



Signature of City Clerk Nicole Bolden

Clerk’s Note: The above minutes summarize the motions passed and issues discussed rather than providing a verbatim account of every word spoken. Bloomington Common Council meetings can be accessed on the following websites:

- [Community Access Television Services](#)¹ (CATS)
 - [City of Bloomington YouTube](#)²
- [Background materials and packets](#)³ are available on the Common Council website.

¹ <https://catvstv.net>
² <https://youtube.com/@citybloomington>
³ <https://bloomington.in.gov/council/meetings>