

In the Council Chambers of the Showers City Hall on Wednesday, July 18, 2007 at 7:30 pm with Council President Dave Rollo presiding over a Regular Session of the Common Council.

COMMON COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION
July 18, 2007

Roll Call: Wisler, Diekhoff, Ruff, Sandberg, Rollo, Sturbaum, Volan, Sabbagh, Mayer

ROLL CALL

Council President Rollo gave the Agenda Summation

AGENDA SUMMATION

There were no minutes to be approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
REPORTS:
COUNCILMEMBERS

David Sabbagh reported on Jazz concerts he had recently attended. He recommended citizens take advantage of these activities next year adding that the venue and the performer, David Baker, were the best.

At the request of a constituent, Steve Volan announced a benefit event for the Bloomington North High School Bands entitled Jazz Under the Stars to be held on August 18, 2007 at Deer Park Manor.

Susan Sandberg reported the "Summer Night at Lotus" event she attended and noted the upcoming Lotus Festival. She also encouraged citizens to support the Girls, Inc. luncheon on July 24, 2007 at Outback Steakhouse.

Chris Sturbaum noted that US Post Office officials attended the last council meeting and sought citizen input regarding the relocation of the downtown post office. Sturbaum said that the post office officials indicated they needed 5 acres of land to relocate the facility. But he encouraged citizens to contact their council representatives, the council office, the post office officials, the congressman's office, the Chamber of Commerce and Downtown Bloomington, Inc., to lobby those making the relocation decision to keep the post office downtown with a smaller property.

Tim Mayer agreed with Sturbaum and encouraged citizens to contact their legislators. He said that on his way into the meeting, a citizen, Jimmy Thomas, gave him promotional CD copies of his original work "Bloomington, My Hometown." Mayer noted the appropriateness of this title and encouraged his fellow council members to listen to the work.

Dave Rollo encouraged citizens to contact the post office officials to encourage them to stay downtown. He also noted that citizens should be aware that the city budget hearings would be taking place at 6:00 pm on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of the next week and encouraged them to attend these important sessions or to watch them on Public Access TV.

Assistant Director of Economic Development for the Arts Miah Michaelson reported on the July events that the city is sponsoring for "Be Playful Bloomington" Month. She noted recent successful events and encouraged citizens to join in the fun at several upcoming events.

MAYOR and CITY OFFICES

There were no committee reports at this meeting.

COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Cindy Hoffman said she would like to hear weekly council comments about the climate crisis, how the city would address that crisis, ideas for citizens to address the crisis or bits of information about how other cities are trying to solve the crisis.

PUBLIC INPUT

Hoffman, a member of Verify the Vote, spoke of paper ballots in early voting. She noted the Monroe County Board of Elections was meeting

on Tuesday, July 24, 2007 at 5 pm in the Justice Building to decide what type of ballots would be used for early voting in the November 2007 election. She said the Direct Record Electronic Machines were used in the past, but favored a Paper Ballot Optical Scan system for accuracy in recording votes and ease in recounting votes. She said that she had 130 signatures on a petition for the board to encourage them to allow voters the choice of using a paper ballot in addition to the electronic machines. Hoffman said paper ballots were easier for voting as with electronic machines there could be long lines in elections, noting the next presidential election as one that would bring out many voters. She said there would be less pressure on poll workers, too. She noted that she would ask the commissioners to review this as an alternative to the Direct Record Electronic Machines. She noted that too often the only information that those who purchase machines get are from the vendors, but that computer information security specialists say that paper ballots with optical scanning counted in precincts is the best method. She added that this method was inexpensive and actually used less energy.

PUBLIC INPUT (*cont'd*)

Cliff Meadows, candidate for City Council, read a statement on the Post Office relocation which called for the post office to relocate to the area north of City Hall on land presently owned by Indiana University. He said this would keep the Post Office in the downtown area, destroy no green space, guard against urban sprawl, fit the stated goal of the use for the area and would create no problems with acquiring property from private owners.

There were no boards or commission appointments at this meeting.

BOARD AND COMMISSION
APPOINTMENTS

It was moved and seconded that Ordinance 07-13 be introduced and read by title and synopsis. Clerk Moore read the legislation and synopsis, giving the Committee Do-Pass Recommendation of 8-1-0. It was moved and seconded that Ordinance 07-13 be adopted.

LEGISLATION FOR SECOND
READING

Development Review Manager Patrick Shay reviewed the changes in the PUD that would add 6 acres to the development, change the zoning on those 6 acres, change the location of the Assisted Care Living Facility to a less environmentally sensitive area, and increase the amount of conservancy easement on the property. He noted that neighbors and the University were satisfied with the a compromise on the flow of construction traffic by allowing smaller trips and vehicles to use the Dunn Street entrance while large trucks would use the Milo B. Sampson Lane.

Ordinance 07-13 To Amend the
Bloomington Zoning Maps From RE
To Planned Unit Development (PUD)
and to Amend The Preliminary Plan
for the Meadowood/Jill's House PUD
– Re: 800 E. Tamarack Trail
(Meadowood Retirement Community)

Sandberg noted some neighbors were concerned about flooding and asked if any would be negatively affected by this change. Shay noted that this property drained to the east, and would have negligible effects on those neighbors. He noted that previous problems in the area had been solved.

Steve Peters represented Bynum Fanyo Engineering and Meadowood at this meeting and said he was available for questions.

Susan Bookout, Executive Director of Meadowood Retirement Community, commended the council for their attentiveness at the late meeting last week. She said that the new location would be much more conducive for the quality of life of the residents and added that they would be diligent in adhering to the environmental standards and guidelines that they had committed to. She noted that as Jill's House was progressing, she looked forward to developing collaborative relations with them as their project progressed

Sturbaum apologized for the long Committee meeting the week before and thanked the Meadowood folks for their patience.

Ordinance 07-13 (cont'd)

Mayer thanked the University officials, staff and neighbors for working out a compromise on the construction traffic flow. He lauded the developers for strongly addressing environmental issues in the design of the building and said it would be a model for future development. He thanked them for leading the way.

Volan said that he had issues with the old plan the previous week, but wanted to make a point that he preferred a building forward design.

Rollo said the attempt to receive Silver LEED qualifications was exceptional and visionary and would lead the community in its ideas of acceptable development.

Ordinance 07-13 received a roll call vote of Ayes: 9, Nays: 0.

It was moved and seconded that the following legislation be introduced and read by title and synopsis only. Clerk Moore read the legislation by title and synopsis.

LEGISLATION FOR FIRST
READING

Ordinance 07-15 To Amend Title 8 of the Bloomington Municipal Code, Entitled "Historic Preservation and Protection" to Establish a Historic District – Re: 2102 West Vernal Pike (Vivian Galligan, John Galligan Jr. and John Galligan III, Petitioners)

Ordinance 07-15

Ordinance 07-16 To Amend Title 14 of the Bloomington Municipal Code, Entitled "Peace and Safety" (Providing a Comprehensive Revision of Chapter 14.09, entitled "Noise Control")

Ordinance 07-16

There was no public input at this point in the meeting.

PUBLIC INPUT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

APPROVE:

ATTEST:



~~Dave Rollo, PRESIDENT~~
Bloomington Common Council

Regina Moore, CLERK
City of Bloomington