

In the Council Chambers of the Showers City Hall, Bloomington, Indiana on Wednesday, May 27, 2020 at 6:30pm, Council President Stephen Volan presided over a Special Session of the Common Council. Per the Governor's Executive Orders, this meeting was conducted electronically.

COMMON COUNCIL
SPECIAL SESSION
MAY 27, 2020

Councilmembers present via Zoom: Matt Flaherty, Isabel Piedmont-Smith, Dave Rollo, Kate Rosenbarger, Susan Sandberg, Sue Sgambelluri, Jim Sims, Ron Smith, Stephen Volan
Councilmembers absent: none

ROLL CALL [6:30pm]

Council President Stephen Volan summarized the agenda.

AGENDA SUMMATION [6:32pm]

Mayor John Hamilton discussed the recent opening of City Hall to the general public, the COVID-19 pandemic, and various nonprofit organizations that had aided the community.

REPORTS

- The MAYOR AND CITY OFFICES [6:33pm]

Alex Crowley, Economic and Sustainable Development Director, discussed the funding commitments and total applications for the Rapid Response Fund program.

Sean Starowitz, Assistant Director for the Arts, Staff Liaison for the Bloomington Arts Commission, discussed the impacts of COVID-19 on various art performances and events. Such impacts included ticket refunds, event cancellations, and salary and staff reductions. Starowitz named various organizations that would receive grant funding from the 2020 Arts Fund.

Hamilton introduced several members from the Social Services Working Group.

Tina Peterson, Community Foundation of Bloomington-Monroe County, spoke of the importance of developing a strong organization that could support the broader community in addressing a variety of challenges, such as shelter, food, childcare, and health. Peterson described the Social Services Working Group's areas of focus, which included safe shelter for those experiencing homelessness, an emergency food system, childcare for essential workers, and health and personal safety.

Efrat Feferman, United Way of Monroe County, updated the council on the Social Services Working Group's creation of safe shelters to provide emergency housing for those experiencing homelessness.

Jon Barada, Bloomington Health Foundation, spoke of the Social Services Working Group's help in creating an emergency food system after conducting research on the community's needs.

Peterson spoke of providing childcare for essential workers and the various facilities that helped care for the children, while taking safety precautions. Peterson spoke of various funding opportunities for Social Services Working Group to provide childcare.

There was council discussion related to the reports.

Flaherty moved and it was seconded to appoint Chiara Bangor-Giorgio to the Traffic Commission. The motion received a roll call vote of Ayes: 9, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0.

APPOINTMENTS [7:34pm]

Piedmont-Smith moved and it was seconded to have the council authorize Councilmembers Volan and Sims to enter into negotiation

to hire Stephen Lucas as the Council Administrator/Attorney effective no earlier than August 1, 2020, and to report back to the council by the regular session on June 3, 2020.

Volan provided a brief report on behalf of the Administration Committee.

Piedmont-Smith asked Volan if he could explain the time frame of waiting two months to hire Lucas.

Volan said that Dan Sherman, Council Attorney, set his retirement for July 31. Volan explained that providing a two month time span would allow ample time for the search of Deputy Council Administrator/Attorney.

The motion received a roll call vote of Ayes: 9, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0.

There was no legislation for second reading.

LEGISLATION FOR SECOND READING AND RESOLUTIONS

LEGISLATION FOR FIRST READING [7:40pm]

Piedmont-Smith moved and it was seconded that Ordinance 20-10 be introduced and read by title and synopsis only. The motion was approved by voice vote. Chief Deputy Clerk Sofia McDowell read the legislation by title and synopsis.

Ordinance 20-10 - TO AMEND TITLE 15 OF THE BLOOMINGTON MUNICIPAL CODE (BMC) ENTITLED "VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC" - Re: Amending BMC Chapters 15.48 (Removal and Impoundment of Vehicles) and 15.52 (Abandoned Vehicles) to Align Rules for City-Initiated To with Non-Consensual Tows

Stephen Lucas, Deputy Council Attorney, gave a summary of the upcoming council schedule.

COUNCIL SCHEDULE [7:43pm]

Volan adjourned the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT [7:46pm]

APPROVED by the Common Council of the City of Bloomington, Monroe County, Indiana upon this 16th day of June, 2021.

APPROVE:

ATTEST:



Jim Sims, PRESIDENT
Bloomington Common Council



Nicole Bolden, CLERK
City of Bloomington