

In the Council Chambers of the Showers City Hall, Bloomington, Indiana on Wednesday, June 07, 2023 at 6:30pm, Council President Sue Sgambelluri presided over a Regular Session of the Common Council.

COMMON COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION
June 07, 2023

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

ROLL CALL [6:30pm]

Council President Sue Sgambelluri gave a land and labor acknowledgement and summarized the agenda.

AGENDA SUMMATION
[6:31pm]

Rollo moved and it was seconded to approve the minutes of June 1, 2022. The motion was approved by a voice vote.

APPROVAL OF
MINUTES [6:33pm]

Sims acknowledged the youth in the audience that evening.

REPORTS [6:34pm]
• COUNCIL MEMBERS

Volan referenced a news article noting lower rates of enrollment at colleges and universities and commented on housing.

Kaisa Goodman, Public Engagement Director, Office of the Mayor, introduced Vicki Veenker, Founder of Sibling Cities USA.

• The MAYOR AND
CITY OFFICES
[6:36pm]

Veenker thanked council for their support for the sibling cities program and for Bloomington's sibling city relationship with Palo Alto, California. She explained the three pillars of connection including community, commerce, and civil discourse. She noted programs, events, delegations, and many successes.

Ryne Shadday, Human Rights Commission (HRC), Chair, wished everyone a happy Pride month and commented on the unrelenting attacks on the community by those who wish to do harm. There were six nominations with two award recipients, Reverend Forrest Gilmore of Beacon and the Monroe County Community School Corporation (MCCSC) Equity Ambassadors. Shadday recognized the expansive work of Gilmore in the community including food, shelter, and other basic needs. He also recognized the group of high school students, under the tutelage of Dr. Markay Winston, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction of MCCSC.

Rollo moved and it was seconded to extend the time for reports by 10 minutes. The motion was approved by voice vote.

Vote to extend time
[7:05pm]

Adam Wason, Director, Public Works, reported on the field reconnaissance project and its data including quality of street pavement, sidewalks and sidepaths, and accessible curb ramps. The contracted vendor used advanced technology to analyze roads and more. He discussed details on the findings on roads, sidewalks, and curb ramps. He briefly described the project's next steps.

Rollo asked if there was data from 2017 for comparison.
Wason said yes, and would provide that to council.

Council questions:

Volan asked about possible funding for the projects.

Wason said staff was looking at grant opportunities, federal infrastructure bills, and other funding.

Sgambelluri appointed Volan to replace Rollo on the Special Committee for Council Processes (SCCP).

• COUNCIL
COMMITTEES
[7:10pm]

There was no public comment.

• PUBLIC [7:11pm]

Sims moved and it was seconded to appoint Dylan Schutte to seat C-1 on the Housing Quality Appeals Board. The motion was approved by a voice vote.

Volan moved and it was seconded to approve the appointment of Piedmont-Smith to the Monroe County Justice Finance Advisory Committee. The motion was approved by a voice vote.

Volan moved and it was seconded to approve the appointment of Sims to the College and Walnut Corridor Study Steering Committee. The motion was approved by a voice vote.

APPOINTMENTS TO
BOARDS AND
COMMISSIONS
[7:12pm]

Rollo moved and it was seconded that Resolution 23-09 be introduced and read by title and synopsis only. The motion was approved by a voice vote. Clerk Nicole Bolden read the legislation by title and synopsis.

Rollo moved and it was seconded that Resolution 23-09 be adopted.

Josefa Madrigal, Chief of Staff, Office of the Mayor, thanked community members for their work on the legislation in English and Spanish. She presented the legislation and the benefits of the driver card for community members like transporting their children to and from school, going to food pantries, and more. Some restrictions were the inability to vote, no access to federal assistance, and not claiming citizenship. Undocumented residents paid taxes. There were twenty states that offered driving cards to undocumented residents. The driver card would be obtained after taking a driver's test at the Department of Motor Vehicles. It would allow drivers to obtain insurance.

LEGISLATION FOR
SECOND READING
AND RESOLUTIONS
[7:14pm]

Resolution 23-09 – A
Resolution of the
Common Council of the
City Of Bloomington,
Indiana, Endorsing and
Urging Passage of
Indiana Legislation
Establishing a Driver
Card for
Undocumented
Indiana Residents
[7:14pm]

Rollo referenced a bill that had passed the senate and asked what the next steps were.

Ed Rodriguez, La Voz Unida member, said that legislation had been drafted for the Indiana General Assembly for thirteen years, but repeatedly failed. Currently there was a grassroots effort to support the driver card in local cities and towns via supportive resolutions. The goal was to assist community members and eliminate the fear of driving due to not having a license. The DMV, police departments, and more were in full support of driver cards.

Council questions:

Indiana State Senator Shelli Yoder spoke in favor of the legislation. She noted it was a bipartisan effort, and gave reasons in support of driver cards.

Public comment:

Sims strongly supported Resolution 23-09 and noted the importance of educating the public on the topic of driver cards. It did not make sense to have a group of community members to live with fear.

Council comments:

Rollo appreciated the efforts that had been made and said it made sense to make the roads safer. It was a humane thing to do and he would support it.

Smith agreed that it was the right thing to do. He hoped it passed at the state level.

Volan commented on the Census Bureau's inclusion of all residents of a community, even those who were not citizens. He said a driver card made the roads safer and he fully supported the legislation.

Sgambelluri thanked everyone and appreciated the clear explanation of what the card did and did not allow.

The motion that Resolution 23-09 be adopted received a roll call vote of Ayes: 8, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0.

Vote to adopt
Resolution 23-09
[7:37pm]

LEGISLATION FOR
FIRST READING
[7:38pm]

Rollo moved and it was seconded that Ordinance 23-12 be introduced and read by title and synopsis only. The motion was approved by a voice vote. Bolden read the legislation by title and synopsis.

Ordinance 23-12 – An Ordinance To Amend Ordinance 22-26, Previously Amended By Ordinance 22-40, Which Fixed the Salaries of Appointed Officers, Non-Union, and A.F.S.C.M.E. Employees for All the Departments of the City of Bloomington, Monroe County, Indiana for the Year 2023 – Re: To Reflect Updates Needing Implementation in 2023 [7:38pm]

Sgambelluri referred Ordinance 23-12 to the Regular Session to meet on June 14, 2023.

Rollo moved and it was seconded that Ordinance 23-13 be introduced and read by title and synopsis only. The motion was approved by a voice vote. Bolden read the legislation by title and synopsis.

Ordinance 23-13 – An Ordinance to Amend Ordinance 22-25, Which Fixed the Salaries of Officers of the Police and Fire Departments for the City of Bloomington, Indiana for the Year 2023 - Re: To Reflect Increases in Compensation to Certain Firefighters [7:39pm]

Sgambelluri referred Ordinance 23-13 to the Regular Session to meet on June 14, 2023.

Christopher Emge, Greater Bloomington Chamber of Commerce, spoke in support of Monroe County Community School Corporation (MCCSC) and Richland Bean Blossom (RBB) school district. He discussed the Success School at the chamber.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENT [7:40pm]

Sgambelluri scheduled a work session on Monday, June 12, 2023 at 12:00pm.

COUNCIL SCHEDULE [7:44pm]

There was discussion regarding the scheduled Budget Advance meeting.

Rosenbarger moved and it was seconded to cancel the Budget Advance on June 13, 2023 and reschedule at a later date. The motion was approved by voice vote.

Vote to cancel [7:46pm]

Lucas reviewed some upcoming council and committee meetings.

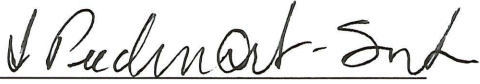
Sgambelluri adjourned the meeting with no objections.

ADJOURNMENT [7:47pm]

APPROVED by the Common Council of the City of Bloomington, Monroe County, Indiana upon this 24th day of January, 2024.

APPROVE:

ATTEST:



Isabel Piedmont-Smith, PRESIDENT
Bloomington Common Council



Nicole Bolden, CLERK
City of Bloomington