

In the Council Chambers of the Showers City Hall, Bloomington, Indiana on Wednesday, October 18, 2023 at 6:30pm, Council President Sue Sgambelluri presided over a Regular Session of the Common Council.

COMMON COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION
October 18, 2023

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

ROLL CALL [6:30pm]

Council Vice President Isabel Piedmont-Smith gave a land acknowledgment and Council President Sue Sgambelluri summarized the agenda.

AGENDA SUMMATION
[6:30pm]

There were no minutes for approval.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
[6:34pm]

Smith reported on the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) meeting. He also urged the public to volunteer at the ReStore, as he did.

REPORTS [6:34pm]
• COUNCIL MEMBERS

Volan echoed the call for volunteers at ReStore. He commented on the consideration of Bloomington Transit service outside of the city.

Holly Warren, Interim Director, Assistant Director for the Arts, Economic and Sustainable Development (ESD) department, presented the Bloomington Arts Commission's (BAC) work. She described BAC's mission, background, members, and the importance of art in the community. She noted projects, operations, and emerging artist grants that were awarded in 2022 and 2023. She spoke about public art and the public art master plan.

• The MAYOR AND CITY
OFFICES [6:36pm]

Gerard Panekoek, Chair, BAC, discussed why the arts were important for the city. He provided details on the grants that were awarded.

There was discussion on the maintenance of the painted electrical boxes, guided tours of city public art, amount of grants in relation to need, art spaces, BAC's participation in the design of the Miller-Showers Park monolith, and collaboration with the Capital Improvement Board (CIB) for the expansion of the Convention Center.

There were no reports from council committees.

• COUNCIL
COMMITTEES
[6:57pm]

Collin Nielsen spoke about his experience of nearly being hit by a car that ran a red light on 10th Street and Woodlawn. He said that adjusting the traffic signal could help make the intersection less dangerous.

• PUBLIC [6:58pm]

Marc Haggerty commented on democracy in the city, elections, political parties, and write-in candidates.

Christopher Emge, Greater Bloomington Chamber of Commerce, discussed work being done by the chamber and recent and upcoming events.

Volan moved and Flaherty seconded to appoint Todd Mullins to seat C-7, Adrienne Weber to seat C-8, and Jenna Buckner to seat C-11 on the Community Advisory on Public Safety commission. The motion was approved by voice vote.

APPOINTMENTS TO
BOARDS AND
COMMISSIONS [7:15pm]

Vote to appoint [7:15pm]

Flaherty moved and Piedmont-Smith seconded to notify Shefali Prabhakar, currently appointed to seat C-2 on the Commission on the Status of Women, of the Council's intent to consider her removal from the Commission due to non-attendance pursuant to Bloomington Municipal Code 2.08.020. Ms. Prabhakar should be notified of the Council's intent to consider a motion for

her removal and invited to provide any extenuating circumstances in writing.

Flaherty provided a brief description of the process that was taken on the motion.

The motion was approved by voice vote.

Rollo moved and Piedmont-Smith seconded that Ordinance 23-28 be introduced and read by title and synopsis only. The motion was approved by voice vote. Clerk Nicole Bolden read the legislation by title and synopsis.

Rollo moved and Piedmont-Smith seconded that Ordinance 23-28 be adopted.

Neil Kopper, Senior Project Engineer, Engineering, briefly presented the updates in the legislation. He discussed 180-day orders, stop sign placement at certain intersections, one-way lane on Henderson, speed limit changes, parking, restriping on streets, and noted there was a minimal fiscal impact.

Rollo asked about data on stop sign placement and on crashes.

Kopper said staff had looked at motor vehicle volume and the Manual and Uniform Traffic Control (MUTC) which guided where to place stop signs.

Rollo asked how police and Engineering coordinated on the 180-day order.

Kopper stated that was dictated by code and an internal administrative, written policy requiring the coordination, along with other departments like Planning and Legal.

Sims asked for clarification on back-in, angled parking on Pete Ellis Drive.

Kopper clarified that it was safer than forward facing parking, specifically while exiting the parking spot because the driver could see traffic.

Sims asked if back-in, angled parking would be used more throughout the city and how it would be determined that it was successful.

Kopper stated it was possible to use that parking more, and described the two areas with that type of parking. He gave additional details on the evaluation of using back-in parking. Staff would look at crash data after the back-in parking was installed.

Volan said another benefit of back-in parking included loading cars from the sidewalk.

Kopper confirmed that was correct, as well as safety for children exiting a vehicle.

There was additional discussion on areas in the city that might be considered for back-in, angled parking and the factors staff would consider.

Piedmont-Smith asked for clarification on the Fountain Drive and Crescent Drive stop sign change, and how it related to the B-Line extension.

Kopper explained the need for an additional stop sign in that intersection because the traffic pattern was dominant on Fountain with lower volume on 11th Street. There would be a multiuse path on Fountain Drive extending the B-Line. He gave additional details.

Flaherty understood there was not statistical analyses of crash data at other locations with forward, angled parking.

Kopper said that back-in, angled parking was notably safer. He provided examples such as bicyclists passing behind parked cars.

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS (*cont'd*)

Vote to notify [7:17pm]

LEGISLATION FOR SECOND READING AND RESOLUTIONS [7:18pm]

Ordinance 23-28 –To Amend Title 15 of the Bloomington Municipal Code Entitled “Vehicles and Traffic” Re: Amending Section 15.08.040 to update how temporary, experimental, or emergency traffic regulations may be made and enforced; Section 15.12.010 to add three stop intersections; Section 15.16.010 to amend the included intersections of one-way travel on Henderson Street; Section 15.24.020 to modify the posted speed limit on Seventeenth Street; Section 15.32.030 to add back in angle parking on Pete Ellis Drive; Section 15.32.080 to add no parking spaces on Eight Street, Swain Avenue, Wilson Street, Southern Drive and Third Street and to; Section 15.32.090 to remove limited parking zones on Allen Street, Eighth Street, Swain Avenue and Third Street and add limited parking zone on Third Street; Section 15.32.100 to add a loading zone on East Longview Avenue; and Section 15.32.110 to add a bus zone on Third Street [7:18pm]

Council questions:

Flaherty commented on forward, angled parking on Morton, with the recent changes near 7th street and in front of City Hall, and the painted center lane that gave drivers a lot of space to back out. He asked if roads were being designed to be wider and if so, for what reasons.

Kopper noted that Morton was a unique example, and for angled parking, roads were not changed. He expected that back-in, angled parking would require less space, but he was not certain.

Sgambelluri asked if it had been considered to decrease the speed limit on 17th street to below thirty miles per hour. She asked what was being done to alert drivers of the change.

Kopper stated that there had not been a corridor study and the change was for consistency on the street. He said that there would be a posted speed limit sign and with the changes, drivers would be alerted.

Sims asked if a traffic signal on Pete Ellis Drive would change the parking.

Kopper said a study could supply a variety of considerations and parking would be included. A traffic signal near back-in parking did not prohibit that type of parking.

Piedmont-Smith asked about the No Parking Zone on Swain between 3rd Street and State Court Street.

Kopper was not specifically familiar with that change; it was on a previous Title 15 ordinance, and was maybe requested by police.

Rollo asked for clarification on the 180-day orders and any extensions that were to be brought before council. He asked how many extensions could be put in place.

Kopper said any order could be in place for 180-days and extensions of the same order were not prohibited. He was not aware of any limits.

Allen added that consecutive orders could be done, and were used sparsely.

Stephen Lucas, Council Attorney, stated that council was not obligated to act on those orders.

Volan asked for clarification on the name of East State Court Street.

Kopper said it was codified to include the word "street."

Volan asked why a loading zone was defaulted to twenty four hours.

Kopper described the purpose of loading zones, including not obstructing traffic flow and parking, and could be reconsidered.

Sue Tuohy commented on 17th Street and its speed limit. She wanted to reduce the speed on 17th Street all the way to the bypass.

Rollo asked how it was known that future councils would not reverse the changes.

Volan appreciated back-in, angled parking and commented on parking in the city. He agreed with slowing traffic on 17th Street. He would be proposing Title 15 changes in the near future. He believed the intersection on 10th Street and Woodlawn Avenue needed addressed.

Volan moved and Rollo seconded that Amendment 01 to Ordinance 23-28 be adopted.

Amendment 01 Synopsis: This amendment corrects the spelling of Eighth Street in the title of the ordinance.

There were no council questions.

There was no public comment.

Ordinance 23-28 (cont'd)

Council questions:

Public comment:

Council comments:

Amendment 01 to
Ordinance 23-28

Council questions:

There were no council comments.

The motion received a roll call vote of Ayes: 8, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0.

There were no council comments.

The motion to adopt Ordinance 23-28 as amended received a roll call vote of Ayes: 8, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0.

Rollo moved and Piedmont-Smith seconded that Ordinance 23-23 be introduced and read by title and synopsis only. The motion received a roll call vote of Ayes: 3 (Rollo, Smith, Volan), Nays: 5, Abstain: 0. FAILED

Clerk's Note: Ordinance 23-23 was passed by the council on October 04, 2023. Mayor John Hamilton vetoed the legislation on October 13, 2023.

There was no legislation for first reading.

There was no additional public comment.

Lucas reviewed the upcoming council schedule and noted that there was no legislation for review at the next meeting. There was brief council discussion.

Piedmont-Smith moved and Flaherty seconded that the Council authorize the Council President to cancel the Regular Session meeting scheduled for November 1, 2023 if no items of legislation were ready for consideration. The motion received a roll call vote of Ayes: 8, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0.

Piedmont-Smith adjourned the meeting without objection.

Public comment:
Council comments:

Vote to adopt
Amendment 01 to
Ordinance 23-28
[8:12pm]

Council comments:

Vote to adopt Ordinance 23-28 as amended
[8:13pm]

Ordinance 23-23 – To Amend Title 15 of the Bloomington Municipal Code Entitled “Vehicles and Traffic” – Re: Amending Section 15.12.010 (Stop Intersections) to remove a stop intersection from Schedule A and add a multi-stop intersection to Schedule B [8:14pm]

LEGISLATION FOR FIRST READING [8:14pm]

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENT [8:15pm]

COUNCIL SCHEDULE [8:19pm]

Vote to cancel Regular Session [8:19pm]

ADJOURNMENT [8:19pm]

APPROVED by the Common Council of the City of Bloomington, Monroe County, Indiana upon this 06 day of March, 2024.

APPROVE:

ATTEST:



Isabel Piedmont-Smith, PRESIDENT
Bloomington Common Council



Nicole Bolden, CLERK
City of Bloomington