

In the Council Chambers of the Showers City Hall, Bloomington, Indiana on Thursday, October 13, 2016 at 7:35pm with Council President Andy Ruff presiding over a Special Session of the Common Council.

COMMON COUNCIL
SPECIAL SESSION
October 13, 2016

Roll Call: Sturbaum, Mayer, Sandberg, Ruff, Volan, Piedmont-Smith, Chopra, Rollo(arrived at 7:36pm)
Absent: Granger

ROLL CALL
[7:35pm]

Council President Andy Ruff gave a summary of the agenda.

AGENDA SUMMATION
[7:36pm]

It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes from September 21, 2016, September 27, 2016, and September 28, 2016.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
[7:37pm]

The motion to approve the minutes was approved by voice vote, with Volan abstaining.

September 21, 2016 (Regular Session)
September 27, 2016 (Special Session)
September 28, 2016 (Special Session)

It was moved and seconded to appoint Claudia Vilorio Giraldo to the Commission on Hispanic and Latino Affairs.

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS
[7:38pm]

The motion was approved by voice vote.

It was moved and seconded to appoint Nicholas Carder to the Bloomington Housing Quality Appeals Board.

The motion was approved by voice vote.

It was moved and seconded that Ordinance 16-25 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, giving the committee Do Pass recommendation of 9-0-0.

LEGISLATION FOR SECOND READING AND RESOLUTIONS
[7:38pm]

It was moved and seconded that Ordinance 16-25 be adopted.

Caroline Shaw, Human Resources Director, introduced the legislation and asked for the Council's approval.

Ordinance 16-25 – An Ordinance Fixing the Salaries of Officers of the Police and Fire Departments for the City of Bloomington, Indiana, for the Year 2017

Councilmember Tim Mayer pointed out, for the benefit of the audience, that the legislation had been discussed in August and September, and that final action was required for all of the ordinances that night.

Councilmember Ruff agreed that it had been a lengthy process.

The motion to adopt Ordinance 16-25 received a roll call vote of Ayes: 8, Nays: 0.

Vote to adopt Ordinance 16-25
[7:40pm]

It was moved and seconded that Ordinance 16-26 be introduced and read by title and synopsis only. The motion was approved by voice vote. Clerk Bolden read Ordinance 16-26 by title and synopsis, giving the committee Do Pass recommendation of 6-0-3.

It was moved and seconded that Ordinance 16-26 be adopted.

Shaw introduced the legislation and asked for the Council's approval.

Councilmember Steve Volan commented about the Clerk's request for a staff attorney, and asked the Clerk if she would be willing to describe the Clerk's legal needs to the Council.

Clerk Bolden responded that she would include the information in her report to the Council the first week of December.

The motion to adopt Ordinance 16-26 received a roll call vote of Ayes: 8, Nays: 0.

It was moved and seconded that Ordinance 16-27 be introduced and read by title and synopsis only. The motion was approved by voice vote. Clerk Bolden read Ordinance 16-27 by title and synopsis, giving the committee Do Pass recommendation of 8-0-1 as amended. Amendment 01 to Ordinance 16-27 had a Do Pass recommendation of 8-0-1.

It was moved and seconded that Ordinance 16-27 be adopted.

Shaw introduced the ordinance and asked for the Council's approval.

It was moved and seconded that Amendment 01 to Ordinance 16-27 be adopted.

Councilmember Isabel Piedmont-Smith explained that the amendment was co-sponsored by herself, Councilmember Allison Chopra, and Councilmember Chris Sturbaum. She said that the amendment increased the Clerk salary by 5% rather than 2%, because after a preliminary review of second-class cities in Indiana, it seemed like the Clerk's salary was rather low. She noted that the amendment also asked the Human Resources Department to get an independent review of the Clerk and Council salaries in time for the 2018 budget hearings so the Council would have a better idea of what adjustments would need to be made for the following year.

The motion to adopt Amendment 01 to Ordinance 16-27 received a roll call vote of Ayes: 8, Nays: 0

Volan asked for clarification on the timeline of the independent study.

Shaw responded that they were committed to having it done in time for the 2018 budget process.

Volan commented that the Council looked forward to seeing the results of the salary survey, and thought it was long overdue. He thanked Shaw, the administration, and his colleagues.

The motion to adopt Ordinance 16-27 received a roll call vote of Ayes: 8, Nays: 0.

Ordinance 16-26 – An Ordinance Fixing 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 2017 [7:40pm]

Council Comment:

Vote to adopt Ordinance 16-26 [7:44pm]

Ordinance 16-27 – To Fix the Salaries of All Elected City Officials for the City of Bloomington for the Year 2017 [7:44pm]

Amendment 01 to Ordinance 16-27

Vote to adopt Amendment 01 to Ordinance 16-27 [7:47pm]

Council Questions:

Council Comments:

Vote to adopt Ordinance 16-27 as amended [7:50pm]

It was moved and seconded that Appropriation Ordinance 16-06 be introduced and read by title and synopsis only. The motion was approved by voice vote. Clerk Bolden read Appropriation Ordinance 16-06 by title and synopsis, giving the committee Do Pass recommendation of 8-0-1.

Appropriation Ordinance 16-06 – An Ordinance for Appropriations and Tax Rates (Establishing 2017 Civil City Budget for the City of Bloomington)
[9:36pm]

It was moved and seconded that Appropriation Ordinance 16-06 be adopted.

Jeffrey Underwood, Controller, introduced the appropriation ordinance and asked for the Council's approval.

Piedmont-Smith asked Underwood to repeat the amount of numbers in the general fund and in the other funds.

Underwood recounted that, in the three appropriation ordinances for the evening, there were 37 funds for a total of approximately \$130 million. He noted that in the Civil City Appropriation Ordinance that they were discussing the total was approximately \$79 million.

Piedmont-Smith asked how much was in the general fund only.

Underwood answered that it was about \$39 million.

It was moved and seconded that Amendment 01 to Appropriation Ordinance 16-06 be adopted.

Amendment 01 to Appropriation Ordinance 16-06

Councilmember Susan Sandberg explained that the amendment served as a formal request to the Mayor to recommend the changes in Appropriation Ordinance 16-06, which were necessary to effectuate the changes to Ordinance 16-27, and further requested that the Controller be directed to make those changes.

Ruff thanked the administration for its cooperation.

The motion to adopt Amendment 01 Appropriation Ordinance 16-06 received a roll call vote of Ayes: 8, Nays: 0.

Vote to adopt Amendment 01 to Appropriation Ordinance 16-06
[7:56pm]

Piedmont-Smith commented that the City should think carefully before changing its sanitation system and moving to side-loading single-stream recycling trucks. She suggested that because, as part of the Monroe County Solid Waste Management District's proposal for a materials recovery facility (MRF), the issue had been studied and it was found that the only way the MRF would be feasible was if the recycling that went in was dual stream, and it would not or may not work if the City had a single-stream sanitation system. She suggested that the City needed to consider changes to the sanitation system carefully and in the context of Bloomington's participation in a MRF. She also raised concerns that the City had 267 employees that earned less than \$10/hour, with the lowest paid employee earning \$7.85/hour. She noted that the fiscal impact of bringing all of those employees up to \$10/hour would be approximately \$122,800 for one year, which she acknowledged would be a considerable impact. She also acknowledged the argument that many of the employees affected were teenagers, but pointed out that some affected employees were not. She said she felt that all of those employees should be paid more, noting that the many of the affected employees were life guards, camp counselors, or other positions entrusted with children, and that that work should be more highly valued. In the future, Piedmont-Smith said she would

Council Comment:

be working with the administration to see if they could raise salaries for 2018.

Appropriation Ordinance 16-06
(cont'd)

Volan said he wanted touch on some of the points raised by Piedmont-Smith. He said college students were adults, and some were trying to pay their own way through school. He said that if there were IU students working for the City, they should not be lumped in with high school students who were typically unemancipated minors. Volan also commented on sanitation, explaining that there were four phases of the sanitation process: collection, processing, transportation to final disposal, and final disposal. He said there were cost savings to be had at any given phase. He explained that the administration had argued that, if the City moved to single-stream recycling, it would increase overall recycling, even if the value of the recycling decreased. He said the City currently asked residents to separate out recycling at the point it was gathered, but said it was an open question and hoped to hear more from the administration about the task force being formed to figure out how to redo the sanitation budget. He said single stream might not necessarily have to be the way to make the other plans for sanitation work.

Ruff said it was a new administration, new Clerk, and some new Council members that had been involved with the budget. He said the process involved collaboration, compromise, change, and some exciting new initiatives, which had been questioned and discussed thoroughly. He said he thought the process was productive and produced a solid budget with significant initiatives. He said it had a good amount of input and cooperation between all the branches of local government.

The motion to adopt Appropriation Ordinance 16-06 received a roll call vote of Ayes: 8, Nays: 0.

Vote to adopt Appropriation Ordinance 16-06
[8:06pm]

It was moved and seconded that Appropriation Ordinance 16-04 be introduced and read by title and synopsis only. The motion was approved by voice vote. Clerk Bolden read Appropriation Ordinance 16-04 by title and synopsis, giving the committee Do Pass recommendation of 7-0-0.

Appropriation Ordinance 16-04 – An Ordinance Adopting a Budget for the Operation, Maintenance, Debt Service and Capital Improvements for the Water and Wastewater Utility Departments of the City of Bloomington, Indiana for the Year 2017
[8:07pm]

It was moved and seconded that Appropriation Ordinance 16-04 be adopted.

Vic Kelson, Director of Utilities, introduced himself and presented the 2017 budget proposal for Utilities. He asked for the Council's approval and said he was available for questions from councilmembers.

Piedmont-Smith said the City needed to come up with a plan to help neighbors in various parts of the City deal with storm water issues that originated outside of private property. She said the City also needed to have some recourse for people impacted. She explained that people were experiencing flooding from water coming from upstream, which caused a big mess and a big expense. She said it seemed unfair, and that every time she had raised the issue with CBU, she had either not gotten an answer or the answer was that it was private property and the City could not do anything. She said she understood the limitations, but said the City needed a fund to help and a way to prioritize helping. She suggested the City could look to see how many property owners would benefit if the City made an investment to help members of the community with the

Council Comment:

issue, especially those who could not afford to deal with the problems and who were not at fault for the problems that arose. She said, other than that, she would be approving the budget.

Appropriation Ordinance 16-04
(cont'd)

Sturbaum seconded Piedmont-Smith's comments. He suggested that councilmembers develop a list of problem properties that they continually heard about, so they could start working on those properties in a serious way and with sensible priorities.

Chopra said she also had several constituents, especially in the Park Ridge and the Park Ridge East neighborhoods, who had experienced similar issues.

Volan thanked Kelson and the Utilities Department for their work.

The motion to adopt Appropriation Ordinance 16-04 received a roll call vote of Ayes: 8, Nays: 0.

Vote to adopt Appropriation Ordinance 16-04
[8:12pm]

It was moved and seconded that Appropriation Ordinance 16-05 be introduced and read by title and synopsis only. The motion was approved by voice vote. Clerk Bolden read Appropriation Ordinance 16-05 by title, noting no synopsis, and giving the committee Do Pass recommendation of 7-0-0.

Appropriation Ordinance 16-05 -
Appropriations and Tax Rates for
Bloomington Transportation
Corporation for 2017
[8:13pm]

It was moved and seconded that Appropriation Ordinance 16-05 be adopted.

Lew May, General Manager of the Bloomington Public Transportation Corporation, introduced himself. He noted there were no changes to the budget since it had been originally presented to the Council and said he was available for questions or comments.

Volan noted that the Council had recently deliberated over a PUD for Dunn Hill Apartments, and asked how Transit would handle an increase in population and higher demand for public transportation for that area if that project were to go forward.

Council Questions:

May said the current City route that went by that location was an hourly route, while IU had two routes nearby that ran at much higher frequencies. He suggested that the University would be in a much better position to serve that additional population, though acknowledged that the University had full bus loads at certain peak times. He said Transit did not have any immediate plans to add service on that route. He explained it would be expensive to do so, and estimated that moving to a 30-minute frequency would cost \$150,000 to \$200,000 in annual recurring operating costs, plus a one-time capital expenditure to buy a bus that would total around \$425,000. He said Transit was not experiencing a big enough increase in its funding from state and federal sources, which were the primary resources used to expand services. He also said future prospects for increased funding were grim, as public transportation funding was not a high priority for either the state or federal public bodies. He said Transit had limited abilities to raise local funding, but noted the best prospect for expanding transportation services would be to gain state authority to impose a local option income tax for Transit expansions. He said Senator Stoops had been working on that and would continue to do so. He explained that expansion of services might include improved frequencies of routes, serving new geographic areas, or providing better Sunday service.

Volan asked whether Transit ever experienced overloading of buses, and, if so, how often and whether it ever occurred at the route in question.

May said overloading did occur, but not on the route in question. He detailed the routes that did experience overloading.

Volan asked if Transit kept any data on the subject.

May said he believed it did, and would have to look it up.

Appropriation Ordinance 16-05
(cont'd)

The motion to adopt Appropriation Ordinance 16-05 received a roll call vote of Ayes: 8, Nays: 0.

Vote to adopt Appropriation Ordinance 16-05
[8:19pm]

Sherman reminded the Council of the meetings schedule for the following week.

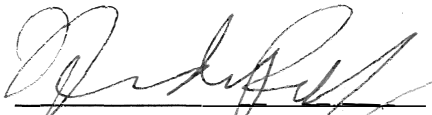
COUNCIL SCHEDULE
[8:19pm]

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20pm.


ADJOURNMENT

APPROVE:

ATTEST:



Andy Ruff, PRESIDENT
Bloomington Common Council



Nicole Bolden, CLERK
City of Bloomington