

In the Council Chambers of the Showers City Hall on Wednesday, March 21, 2012 at 7:30 pm with Council President Tim Mayer presiding over a Regular Session of the Common Council.

COMMON COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION
March 21, 2012

Roll Call: Mayer, Neher, Rollo, Ruff, Sandberg, Spechler, Sturbaum, Volan, Granger

ROLL CALL

Council President Mayer gave the Agenda Summation

AGENDA SUMMATION

Minutes for August 3, 2011 were approved by a voice vote

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilmember Sturbaum said there had been nonsense spoken about healthcare, which he corrected with excerpts from Time Magazine. He said twenty years ago Switzerland had a system very similar to America's with private insurers and private providers with very similar problems. Now, Sturbaum said, two decades later quality of care remained very high, everyone had access and costs had moderated. He added that the article also highlighted health care programs and costs from other countries showing that the US health care program was more expensive with inferior outcomes.

REPORTS:
COUNCILMEMBERS

Councilmember Sandberg mentioned the program called 'Imagine Bloomington' that was developed to help form the basis for the Growth Policies Plan and which will be the vision for Bloomington. She said the process of the meetings held for the public was half-way finished, and she encouraged citizens to participate. Sandberg also announced the Homeward Bound Walk.

Councilmember Spechler talked about a \$10,000.00 matching state grant for Bloomington to promote tourism. He said tourism was important to the community, but he cautioned that additional study on tourism was needed.

Councilmember Volan wished IU luck in the upcoming NCAA Sweet 16 basketball game.

Councilmember Rollo said in the next couple of meetings he wanted to revisit sustainability, related to and in the context of peak oil. He said the bigger problem was the incompatibility between sustainability and economic growth. He said the challenge was to reevaluate the economic system and find a way in which to develop an economy that worked in equilibrium with basic ecological support services.

Councilmember Ruff mentioned an AP article from March 15th that indicated that the so-called "right-to-work legislation" was not a reason that a company in Brookville, Indiana recently expanded, as had been stated by the Governor. He emphasized that this indicated that the Governor and others would say anything to have people believe that this legislation was beneficial.

Ruff also mentioned the recent Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) vote to include I-69 in the Transportation Improvement Program. He thanked all of the elected officials who voted against the proposal and said except for the Ellettsville representative, all of the elected officials on the MPO voted against the proposal. He also thanked Mayor Kruzan for voting no.

Councilmember Mayer welcomed the vernal equinox which arrived the previous day. He also recognized the roadway improvements on South Walnut St. and recognized the collaboration between the City Utilities and Public Works departments.

Jacqui Bauer, from the Economic and Sustainable Development Department for the City of Bloomington announced the addition of two electric vehicle charging stations at two of the downtown city garages: Garage Band at 7th and Walnut and Garage Market at Morton and 7th. She said both stations were public stations and were installed as a two-year Duke Energy pilot program at no cost to the city. Bauer said funding came from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, the federal stimulus package. She said knowing that downtown hotels were getting requests for this from their guests, it would give the city the opportunity to study the demand and use. For the opportunity to use the station, the user will need to pay the parking fees as well as a small usage fee.

MAYOR and CITY OFFICES

Spechler said he thought it was wonderful news, because electric cars will become our future.

Lisa Abbott, Director of Housing and Neighborhood Development was present to talk to about their "Pick It Up" program. HAND will pick up litter free of charge from all registered groups. She also reminded the council about the NeighborLink program which was a way for citizens to register complaints. Abbott said those filing would be contacted and the complaint addressed. She also offered advertising cards for council members to hand out to constituents.

COUNCIL COMMITTEES
PUBLIC INPUT

Michael Malik, former HT reporter and currently a graduate student in IU SPEA was accompanied by Claire McGuire to announce the SPEA Auction and Gala which to be held on March 30th in Alumni Hall. Malik invited the public and issued a special invitation to the council members and Mayor Kruzan. He said the event was a fund raiser that would help fund stipends for SPEA students who take unpaid summer internships.

Gabe Rivera publicly proclaimed his support for Ron Paul for President.

Tony Minnick, Bloomington resident, representing a Quaker Youth group said they would like to raise funds to purchase and plant fruit trees along the B-Line Trail. He asked what he would need to do in order to make it happen. He was directed to Mick Renneisen, Director of City Parks and Recreation who just happened to be present. The council extended their thanks for this project.

It was moved and seconded that Andy Williams, Dianne May and Carissa Moncavage be appointed to the Environmental Commission, that Katherine Lessing be appointed to the Board of Housing Quality Appeals and that Gary Charbonneau be appointed to the Commission on Sustainability. The appointments were approved by a voice vote.

BOARD AND COMMISSION
APPOINTMENTS

It was moved and seconded that Appropriation Ordinance 12-01 be introduced and read by title and synopsis. Deputy Clerk Wanzer read the legislation and synopsis, giving the committee recommendation of do pass 8-0-0.

LEGISLATION FOR SECOND
READING

It was moved and seconded that Appropriation Ordinance 12-01 be adopted.

Mick Renneisen, Director of Bloomington Parks and Recreation said this was a fairly simple request. He said there was a willing seller and the funds were available in the Parks Acquisition Fund. Renneisen said the \$10,000.00 was under market value, the acquisition would be a great addition to the trail network and this spur would connect to the B-Line Trail at the switchyard property sometime in the future.

Appropriation Ordinance 12-01 To Specially Appropriate from the Park Land Acquisition Fund Expenditure Not Otherwise Appropriated (Appropriating Funds for the Purchase of Black Lumber Rail Spur)

In response to a council question, Renneisen explained that future funding for the connection would come from the Transportation

Improvement Plan (TIP), and said it was the state funding that each county received for transportation improvements.

Appropriation Ordinance 12-01 (cont'd)

Council Comments:

Sturbaum said that Parks had always done a good job of recognizing a bargain. He said he appreciated that and would support the legislation.

Mayer added that he had been involved with the B-Line since the inception many years ago, and the Black Lumber spur was always something the city had its eye on.

Appropriation Ordinance 12-01 received a roll call vote of Ayes: 9, Nays: 0.

It was moved and seconded that Ordinance 12-04 be introduced and read by title and synopsis. Deputy Clerk Wanzer read the legislation and synopsis, along with the Legislative History and Anticipated Actions.

Ordinance 12-04 To Amend the Bloomington Zoning Maps from Institutional (IN) to Residential Multifamily (RM) - Re: 718 East 8th Street (Cheryl Underwood, Petitioner)

It was moved and seconded that Ordinance 12-04 be adopted.

It was moved and seconded that Ordinance 12-04 be tabled.

The motion to table received a roll call vote of Ayes: 8, Nays: 1 (Volan).

Ordinance 12-06 To Amend Title 2 of the Bloomington Municipal Code Entitled "Administration and Personnel" – Re: Changing the Name and Focus of Section 2.26.050 from the "Community and Family Resources Commission" to the "Commission on the Status of Children and Youth"

LEGISLATION FOR FIRST READING

Ordinance 12-07 To Amend Title 15 of the Bloomington Municipal Code Entitled "Vehicles and Traffic" – Re: To Amend Chapter 15.26 Entitled "Neighborhood Traffic Safety Program" to Approve Installation of Traffic Calming Devices in the Prospect Hill Neighborhood (on West Third Street) and to Amend BMC 15.32.090 – Schedule N (Limited Parking) per 90-Day Order

Sturbaum announced that although he may have some interest in the neighborhood mentioned in Ordinance 12-07, it would not sway him from acting fairly, objectively and in the public interest, and that he made this statement per local code.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST STATEMENT

Volan objected to a portion of Sturbaum's statement that he said was an endorsement of the motion prior to the council even considering it, and should not be discussed during first reading. He asked that that portion be stricken from the record, therefore it is not included here.

There was no public input during this portion of the meeting.

PUBLIC INPUT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:23 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

APPROVE:

ATTEST:

Timothy Mayer, PRESIDENT
Bloomington Common Council

Regina Moore, CLERK
City of Bloomington