

In the Council Chambers of the Showers City Hall on Wednesday, September 21, 2011 at 7:30 pm with Council President Susan Sandberg presiding over a Regular Session of the Common Council.

COMMON COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION
September 21, 2011

Roll Call: Mayer, Piedmont-Smith, Rollo, Ruff, Sandberg, Satterfield, Volan, Wisler
Absent: Sturbaum

ROLL CALL

Council President Sandberg gave the Agenda Summation.

AGENDA SUMMATION

There were no minutes for approval at this meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Susan Sandberg noted that Lou Stonecipher, a city employee for 38 years, had passed away on September 19, 2011. She read a piece from Stonecipher's obituary and said she would be missed.

REPORTS:
COUNCILMEMBERS

Stephen Volan noted the deadline to register to vote for this year's municipal elections was October 11, 2011. He urged citizens to register and relayed the information as to how to register online.

Mike Satterfield said he recently visited the Seattle/Tacoma area and shared his observations on roads, parking, and transportation. He said he was surprised at the lack of light rail, and the lack of parking regulations.

Tim Mayer noted that Otis Elevator was closing, and also the report from the Monroe County Humane Association stating their immediate financial need. He said that the economy was not good at this time, and that Jill's House, Middle Way House, United Way, Community Kitchen, Boys and Girls Club and more agencies needed funds. He asked that those with means consider contributing to the well being of those not so well off.

Sandberg noted that the Lotus Festival would bring world music and world culture to the city. She said it was a wonderful way to celebrate Bloomington's spirit.

There were no messages from the Mayor or other offices.

MAYOR and CITY OFFICES

There were no committee reports at this meeting.

COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Sandberg called for public comment.

PUBLIC INPUT

Marc Haggerty noted the rise of industry, the use of machines in the world, and now the use of computers in society and the impact on human life.

Sue Tuohy from the Crescent Bend Neighborhood Association read a statement from the neighborhood regarding the roundabout at Arlington Road which asked the council to support improvements at this intersection.

There were no appointments at this meeting.

BOARD AND COMMISSION
APPOINTMENTS

It was moved and seconded that Ordinance 11-16 be introduced and read by title and synopsis. Clerk Moore read the legislation and synopsis, giving the committee recommendation of do pass 7-0-1. It was moved and seconded that Ordinance 11-16 be adopted.

LEGISLATION FOR SECOND
READING

Karl Sturbaum said this ordinance would extend the time in which the bonds may be issued from 180 days from March 23, 2011, to 360 days from the adoption date of the ordinance. He noted that the structuring of the bonds was taking longer than expected, and noted Denise Lessow, Director of Pinnacle School was present to answer questions.

Piedmont-Smith asked about the phasing of the project. Denise Lessow, Director of the Pinnacle School, said the debt service on the whole project was found to be prohibitive. She said the first phase would include the multipurpose classroom added on to the back of the current school building, landscaping and buffering, driveway improvements, some exterior issues and a waterline connection. She said the second phase would include additional classrooms, common areas and office space.

Volan clarified timing allowed for the issuance of bonds noting that it basically extended the time period for about a year. Lessow agreed.

Piedmont-Smith wished the Pinnacle School well with the project. Sandberg echoed that sentiment and thanked Lessow for her presence.

Ordinance 11-16 received a roll call vote of Ayes: 8, Nays: 0.

It was moved and seconded that Ordinance 11-12 be introduced and read by title and synopsis. Clerk Moore read the legislation and synopsis, giving the committee recommendation of do pass 6 - 1 - 1. It was moved and seconded that Ordinance 11-12 be adopted.

Lew May, Director of Bloomington Transit, said the board of directors had approved the 2012 proposed budget of \$7.46 million and that there had been no changes since his presentation in July.

Rollo asked about fuel prices and locking in a price for further projection after March of 2012. May said that a new fixed price fuel contract negotiated in conjunction with IU was awarded for the period of April 1, 2012 to March 31, 2013. He said the price was for \$3.08/gallon and would supply 75% of the fuel needs. He added that the budgeted amount was for \$3.28/gallon.

Rollo said he appreciated this effort, and asked for elaboration on the Grimes Lane facility expansion. Rollo added he was interested in the proposal for fuel storage, a component of the Redefining Prosperity Report. May noted that the Master Plan study for expansion of the physical plant for the Grimes location, which was built in 1997, had been completed in late 2010. Ridership and services have grown and BT facility had almost reached capacity for the number of vehicles that could be operated and maintained at the facility. He said that the capacity for diesel fuel storage would be increased from 20,000 gallons to 80,000 gallons which would be a 45 day supply.

Piedmont-Smith asked about a possible discrepancy in the budget numbers. May said the revenue portion of the budget may have been reduced by \$60,000 due to decline in local and IU revenues. He said the transfers from operating reserves made up the difference. Piedmont-Smith noted this was the case.

Rollo asked about prospects of a 30% reduction in federal transportation funding. May said nothing had changed. He said the "Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users" SAFETEA-LU would expire on September 30, 2011 and that the Congress would probably pass a continuing resolution for 6 months (or longer). He said the Fed's were in a deficit cutting mode and that

LEGISLATION FOR SECOND
READING (cont'd)

Ordinance 11-16 An Ordinance Amending Ordinance 10-18, as Amended by Ordinance 11-02, Extending the Time for the Issuance by the City Of Bloomington, Indiana, of Economic Development Revenue Bonds for the Benefit of Bloomington Dyslexia Center, LLC and Authorizing Other Actions in Respect thereto

Ordinance 11-12 Appropriations and Tax Rates for Bloomington Transportation Corporation for 2012

Ordinance 11-12 (cont'd)

everything was on the table, including public transportation funding. He said that the national association indicated that as much as 30% of the federal funding to transportation could be slashed. May said that the 30% would be a half million dollars a year for BT. He said it would be untimely in terms of high gas prices, as people need and want alternatives to driving cars. He said that in the light of those funding cuts, fare increases or service reductions might be needed to balance the budget. May said he had contacted Congressman Young, and said it would be a good idea if council could help with this.

Piedmont-Smith lauded May for securing the fuel contract for \$3.08.

Rollo noted that he appreciated May's proactive approach to this issue. He asked if for every 10 cents of fuel cost increase the budget increased by \$30,000. May said it was true.

Rollo noted with the prospect of higher fuel costs and volatility, the council needed to add its voice to May's and contact Congressman Young to guard against cuts in the event of high fuel prices. He said that instead of cutting services government should be doing just the opposite. He suggested writing a letter to Young and congress.

Mayer thanked Lew May for his work at Bloomington Transit.

Ordinance 11-12 received a roll call vote of Ayes: 8, Nays: 0.

There was no legislation for First Reading at this meeting.

LEGISLATION FOR FIRST
READING

Sandberg asked if there would be at least three council members planning to attend the internal work session on Friday, September 23rd. More than three planned to attend, and so the work session would take place at noon.

COUNCIL SCHEDULE

Cheryl Underwood and assistants Ross Bomholt and Shaun Kastner addressed issues surrounding her property that they said had been zoned as Institutional but was in a residential area. They presented information on allowed occupancy in several buildings like Underwood's in the University Courts area and asked that the council help with this obvious misunderstanding in zoning.

PUBLIC INPUT


Darin Haggerty brought a poster and talked about a volunteer effort to clean up the city, especially the B-Line which he said he really liked.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:34 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

APPROVE:

ATTEST:



Susan Sandberg, PRESIDENT
Bloomington Common Council

Regina Moore, CLERK
City of Bloomington