

In the Council Chambers of the Showers City Hall on Wednesday, January 6, 2010 at 7:30 pm with Council President Andy Ruff presiding over the Organizational Session of the Common Council.

COMMON COUNCIL
ORGANIZATIONAL SESSION
January 6, 2010

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

ROLL CALL

Council President Ruff gave the Agenda Summation

AGENDA SUMMATION

Minutes of the Regular Session meetings of November 16, 2009 and December 18, 2009 were approved by a voice vote after minor corrections to Councilmember Satterfield's council comments made at the 12-18-09 meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chris Sturbaum said he had no real report to give but said he was ready for a good year.

REPORTS:
COUNCILMEMBERS

President Ruff gave a statement about the council's work in 2009. Ruff, chairing the council for the last time, said it was an honor and privilege to serve as president in 2009. He thanked his colleagues for giving him the opportunity to serve, adding that he appreciated their confidence in him and their cooperation and support. He also thanked the mayor, City staff, council staff, the City Clerk and her office. He commended the citizens of the community for their civic participation, guidance and input along with the infusion of their tax dollars. He said they made the community work and made it that place we call home. He said Bloomington was a wonderful place because of the committed, passionate and dedicated citizens.

Ruff reviewed the council actions in 2009, saying that the City was able to add to its assets by purchasing the CSX Switchyard, the Sportsplex facility and by opening the B-Line trail. He said that the council worked on legislation that reviewed the Unified Development Ordinance, reviewed and accepted the Peak Oil Task Force Report, established a Commission on Aging, a Green Building Program, and a Responsible Bidders' Ordinance. He said all these things were done to move the community towards greater sustainability. He added that 2009 was a better year for Bloomington than many communities due to good fortune and good governance. He explained that to him, good governance was not exclusive to the elected leadership, but just a formalized process by which the community moved its priorities, values and goals forward and into action. He added that 2010 would bring challenges and progress, with major debates on issues such as a proposed expansion of a water utility, and a community debate about the moving of the hospital away from the downtown. He said he was confident the next council president would do an excellent job in moving the community forward.

Valeri Haughton, Chair of the Human Rights Commission, awarded the 2009 Human Rights Commission Award to New Leaf/New Life. Reverend Hal Taylor accepted the award for the group, acknowledged the board, employees, and volunteers of the program whose aim is to make changes in the way the justice system works with the jail population. Taylor, in his remarks, invited the community to join them in changing the system from a punitive one to a restorative one that respects the human rights of all.

MAYOR and CITY OFFICES

There were no council committee reports at this meeting.

COUNCIL COMMITTEES

George Brooks spoke about sole proprietorship zones and their benefit to workers. He spoke about large corporations being sought after by communities because they bring the largest number of jobs. He claimed that employees of small businesses, mom and pop stores and sole proprietorships have more creativity, problem solving and thinking involved in their work, and advocated for them.

PUBLIC INPUT

John Keyes spoke of the upcoming census, saying that he was involved in the Bloomington area and was recruiting 954 census workers for Monroe County to work six weeks in April. He described the census work, highlighted its importance and asked the council to amplify his request for workers.

Marc Haggerty, a member of New Leaf, New Life, told the council that the program had been fostered by Roberta McCloskey before her death. He said she was passionate about human rights and that this would come to no surprise to council members. He asked that they, too, help with a reformative system of justice rather than a punitive one.

Buff Brown noted that he was from the First Presbyterian Church's group Earth Stewards which had joined with other faith groups to found an interfaith group called Earth Care. He talked of four weekends during the year 2010 that would increase awareness of the care needed for our planet. He gave dates and asked that the council help by providing bus service on Sundays to promote less use of cars.

It was moved and seconded that following slate of officers be elected:

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

- President: Isabel Piedmont-Smith
- Vice President: Andy Ruff
- Parliamentarian: Mike Satterfield

This slate was approved by a voice vote. Council Members changed seats in accordance with their new positions as assigned by the new president. New Council President Piedmont-Smith thanked outgoing president Ruff for his service, and presented him with an engraved gavel to commemorate his term as president. She presided for the rest of the meeting.

It was moved and seconded that the following appointments to various council positions be considered:

BOARD AND COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS

- Citizens Advisory Committee (Community Development Block Grants)
 - Social Services Susan Sandberg
 - Physical Improvements Timothy Mayer
- Commission for Bloomington Downtown Chris Sturbaum
- Economic Development Commission (City) Mike Satterfield
- Economic Development Commission (County) Regina Moore
- Environmental Resource Advisory Committee Dave Rollo
- Metropolitan Planning Organization Andy Ruff
- Plan Commission Chris Sturbaum
- Solid Waste Management District Stephen Volan
- Urban Enterprise Association Board Chris Sturbaum
- Utilities Services Board Timothy Mayer
- Bloomington Economic Development Corporation Susan Sandberg
- Bloomington Commission on Sustainability Dave Rollo

The nominations were approved by a voice vote.

Appointments (cont'd)

President Piedmont-Smith appointed the following council members to the Jack Hopkins Social Services Funding Committee:

Mayer, Piedmont-Smith, Ruff, Sandberg and Satterfield

President Piedmont-Smith appointed the following council members to the Council Sidewalk Committee:

Rollo, Sturbaum and Satterfield, Volan

President Piedmont-Smith appointed council members to Board and Commission Interview Committees as they served in the past year adding one for the Historic Preservation Commission (Sturbaum, Volan, Satterfield) and one for the new Commission on Aging (Satterfield, Sandberg, Mayer).

It was moved and seconded that the council affirm the mayor's reappointment of Chris Sturbaum to the Historic Preservation Commission. The affirmation was approved by a voice vote.

This being the first meeting of the year, there was no legislation for consideration for final action.

LEGISLATION FOR SECOND READING

It was moved and seconded that the following legislation be introduced and read by title and synopsis only. Clerk Moore read the legislation by title and synopsis.

LEGISLATION FOR FIRST READING

Ordinance 10-01 To Amend the Bloomington Zoning Maps from Commercial General (CG), Industrial General (IG) and Planned Unit Development (PUD) to a Planned Unit Development (PUD) and Adopt the District Ordinance and Preliminary Plan for the 18.32 Acre Patterson Pointe PUD – Re: 420 S. Patterson Drive (Patterson Pointe LLC, Petitioner)

Ordinance 10-01

Ordinance 10-02 An Ordinance of the Common Council of the City of Bloomington, Indiana, Approving the Issuance and Sale of Special Taxing District Refunding Bonds by the City For and On Behalf of the Bloomington Park and Recreation District to Provide a Savings to the Park District

Ordinance 10-02

Ordinance 10-03 An Ordinance Concerning the Current Refunding by the City of Bloomington, Indiana, of Its Sewage Works Revenue Bonds of 1999, Series A; Authorizing the Issuance of Sewage Works Refunding Revenue Bonds for Such Purpose; Providing for the Collection, Segregation and Distribution of the Revenues of the Sewage Works and the Safeguarding of the Interests of the Owners of Said Sewage Works Refunding Revenue Bonds; Other Matters Connected Therewith; and Repealing Ordinances Inconsistent Herewith

Ordinance 10-03

Clerk Moore noted that the mayor and council were accepting applications for the newest City Commission on Aging. She noted application forms could be found on the City's website and also could be submitted in person.

PUBLIC INPUT

Michelle Cole said she was disappointed in the council's selection and appointments earlier in the meeting. She noted that Brad Wisler had not been appointed to a commission or a council committee. She added that more voices and different voices made for a better process.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:32 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

APPROVE:

ATTEST:

Isabel Piedmont-Smith, PRESIDENT
Bloomington Common Council

Regina Moore, CLERK
City of Bloomington