

In the Council Chambers of the Showers City Hall on Wednesday, February 17, 2010 at 7:30 pm with Council President Isabel Piedmont-Smith presiding over a Regular Session of the Common Council.

COMMON COUNCIL  
REGULAR SESSION  
FEBRUARY 17, 2010

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

ROLL CALL

Council President Piedmont-Smith gave the Agenda Summation

AGENDA SUMMATION

Councilmember Mayer announced that noon on Friday was the deadline to file for office. He also said the new city hybrid buses were very cool. He suggested that everyone take the opportunity to ride the buses.

REPORTS:  
COUNCILMEMBERS

Councilmember Sturbaum expressed dismay over the drastic cuts in public education funding. He said most in the community probably didn't remember voting for these cuts, but they did when they voted to support property tax cuts and the transfer of the education General Fund to state income and sales tax. He commented also on the proposal to eliminate Township Trustees which he said would mean a marked difference in service. He said that the state was in essence hurting people at risk. He said to remember that a cut in taxes equated to a cut in services.

Councilmember Satterfield thanked the crews from Sanitation and Public Works for their efforts during the recent snow.

Councilmember Sandberg said what has happened to public education is a direct result of decisions made by the state. She supported the sentiments of Sturbaum about the cuts to public education and the critical nature and influence of public education on our community and its future economic development. As a child of public school educators she said we need strong schools with adequate resources and all of the things that help socialize young people to become good citizens. Sandberg also announced the beginning of Arts Week and the local celebration of the arts in Bloomington which will have a multitude of dance events, theater events and speaking events. The theme is art and the environment with art reflecting how we interact with the natural environment.

Councilmember Ruff recognized the brave dissenting patriots who weathered the snow to protest Governors Daniels' appearance in Bloomington, and who were there to voice objection to his spending priorities and against his spending cuts. He added that education was a more critical element of our future economic development than the billions of dollars spent on the construction of interstate highways.

Council President Piedmont-Smith welcomed the Boy Scouts who were in attendance and who were a part of Assistant City Controller Jeff McMillian's Boy Scout Troop.

Councilmember Volan shared a brief video produced by the IU Public Relations Student Society of America Team which will be entering a national contest based on this year's topic of student participation in the 2010 Census. The video explained how IU students are counted in the census, why it's important for them to participate and the purpose of the census.

No reports

MAYOR and CITY OFFICES

Councilmember Mayer, the Council representative to the Utilities Service Board presented a report and a PowerPoint presentation on Bloomington Utilities Department and the USB. He described all of the functions and services of the City of Bloomington Utilities as well as the purpose and goals of the Utilities Service Board which governs the department. He also explained the Stormwater Utility and its purpose. He emphasized that the the Stormwater Utility is to keep the rain water separated from the waste water. Mayer thanked the utilities staff for all of their assistance in preparing the PowerPoint. He also said that the PowerPoint was available through the Utilities department.

COUNCIL COMMITTEES

- Utilities Service Board

John Keyes for the Census Office spoke about the need for census workers in Bloomington and Monroe County. He said locally, additional workers were needed. He mentioned that unemployment benefits would be extended by the amount of time one worked for the Census Bureau.

PUBLIC INPUT

Michelle Cole announced that the Community Orchard Planning Meeting would be Monday, February 22, 2010 in council chambers.

Gabe Rivera talked about his concerns about pharmaceuticals in the water supply and the satanic cults that he believed controls this country and the world. He said that pharmaceutical companies had no ethics and were destroying our country.

Buff Brown talked about the Long Range Travel Plan which is created by the Metropolitan Planning Organization. He said the Travel Plan was very road-oriented and not transit-oriented, and as such would not fulfill the goals in planning and policy documents. He highlighted other communities that were focusing more on transit rather than on roads.

Marc Haggerty talked about his concern for the lack of funding for education, but said that he was against property taxes because it was what was used to separate poor people from their land for development. He said however, he would be in favor of raising income taxes. He said the money wasted on the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan could be used better on education.

Michael Summers said that when adjusted for the cost of living, Indiana teachers rank 6<sup>th</sup> in salaries across the country and 5<sup>th</sup> for amount of money spent per student.

David R. Grubb said he was proud to have been in the Army Reserves. He said the city was still dumping poison into Lake Monroe.

There were no appointments to boards or commissions at this meeting.

BOARD AND COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS

It was moved and seconded that Resolution 10-01 be introduced and read by title and synopsis. Deputy Clerk Wanzer read the legislation and synopsis, giving the committee recommendation of Do Pass 9-0-0. It was moved and seconded that Resolution 10-01 be adopted.

LEGISLATION FOR SECOND READING

Resolution 10-01 To Approve Recommendations Of The Mayor Distribution Of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funds For 2010

Lisa Abbott, Housing and Neighborhood Development introduced the Resolution and explained the allocation of the funds.

Volan asked about the process used to make the allocation recommendations. Abbott explained the Citizen Advisory Council's role and the public hearings in which agencies describe their funding requests.

Volan asked the difference between the Jack Hopkins allocation process and the CDBG allocation process. Abbott responded that the Jack Hopkins fund was entirely city money and used a much simpler process since the process for allocations can be set by the city. However CDBG funding is federal money with a more complex process governed by federal regulations.

Resolution 10-01 (cont'd)

Volan said he asked his questions because he believed the allocation committee and process was structured in such a way that it represented the community and complied with federal statute which described the process for allocation. Therefore, he said he felt there was no need to vet this type of resolution in a Committee of the Whole as was done last week. He said this was part of his continuing effort to improve the processes by which city council operated. He said he was very enthusiastic to support the recommendations.

Mayer thanked Abbott and her staff for all of the time and energy devoted to this project.

Resolution 10-01 received a roll call vote of Ayes: 8, Nays: 0.

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

LEGISLATION FOR FIRST READING

APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE 10-01 To specially appropriate from the Cumulative Capital Development (CCD) fund expenditures not otherwise appropriated (Appropriating Funds for the Local Match and Inspection Portions of the Atwater and Henderson Intersection Improvement Project)

Appropriation Ordinance 10-01

This ordinance appropriates \$149,512.38 from the CCD Fund for the 10% local match and construction inspection portions of the Atwater & Henderson Intersection Improvement Project.

*Note: On March 3, 2010, this ordinance was amended to add Section II regarding installation of a sharrow on Henderson Street between Hunter Avenue and 10<sup>th</sup> Street.*

Gabe Rivera spoke about a major offensive in Afghanistan and recent information which indicated a link between the Taliban insurgency and the narcotics trade. He said the insurgency was to combat the drug trade. However, he said, ending the war on drugs, would lead to an end of war.

PUBLIC INPUT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 pm

ADJOURNMENT

APPROVE:

ATTEST:

Isabel Piedmont-Smith PRESIDENT  
Bloomington Common Council

Regina Moore, CLERK  
City of Bloomington