

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

COMMON COUNCIL  
REGULAR SESSION  
April 7, 2010

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

ROLL CALL

Council President Piedmont-Smith gave the Agenda Summation

AGENDA SUMMATION

The minutes of February 3, 2010 were approved by a voice vote.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Dave Rollo gave a power point presentation for a report on Peak Oil based on the Peak Oil Task Force's 18 month study on a community wide preparation for Peak Oil. The Task Force Report was accepted by the city council as an advisory document by a vote of 8-1. He said it claimed that many energy experts concluded Peak Oil, the maximum global production, had been reached in 2008. He said the report examined oil dependency as a community and as a society, and recommended a variety of strategies to prepare for its inevitability, most importantly by building resiliency in vital areas.

REPORTS:  
COUNCILMEMBERS

He spoke about the interconnection between this issue and the current economic conditions and spoke to the urgency of the situation and that the media had utterly failed to report an issue that had such a drastic impact on our lives.

Rollo updated the council on several international reports:

- A report by a consortium of businesses from the United Kingdom, released on February 10, 2010 to the Royal Society, which is the chief scientific body in the UK that indicated that we are indeed at peak, and that oil shortages, insecurity of supply, and price volatility would destabilize economic, social and political activity potentially by 2015 when we go into the decline phase.
- A report in Energy and Fuels Journal, March 12, 2010, which forecasted by using advanced mathematical modeling that world production would peak in 2014.
- The Oxford Report, Oxford University which concluded that we're past peak.
- The March 25, 2010, *Le Monde*, in which Department of Energy Glen Sweetnam, said "once maximum world oil production is reached, that level will be approximately maintained for several years thereafter creating an undulating plateau. After this plateau period of production, we'll experience a decline."
- Richard Heinberg, who maintained that "the idea of the undulating plateau has been part of the Peak Oil discussion for years and world oil production, in fact, has been at plateau since 2004". He also faulted the mainstream press in North America for failing to report on the issue
- A statement from Mr. Sweetnam's that we were headed into the terrain of unidentified projects to supply demand in the near future. Since it would take about ten years before an oil source was identified, capitalized and the technology was brought to bear, we were at a near term supply shortfall.
- The report from the American Joint Forces Command published March 15, 2010 predicted that in 2015 the world capacity for petroleum production could be ten million barrels per day less than demand, which was similar to the DOE's forecast which projected that in 2015 the lack of production would be about ten million barrels per day.

Rollo said that this was a very compelling picture, and a key energy resource was about to go into permanent decline and become ever more scarce. However, he said a place for to start was with our own Peak Oil Report that could be found at the city website.

Susan Sandberg announced the Homeward Bound Walk that would raise money for agencies dedicated to the homeless issue. She urged citizens to support this event.

Chris Sturbaum said that he and Tim Mayer were representing the council on the Hospital Facilities Task Force. He said that it was planned for Bloomington Hospital to be an intermediary facility for the Clarion system. He said that 3 or 4 of the options for the system facilities involved reusing the existing hospital site. He said it was a little more expensive to create a new site. He said he was glad to hear that the hospital was considering the use of the present site. He said that work in Orange County and Bedford would take the next few years and that nothing would happen in Bloomington until about 2015. He said that the task force would meet two more times before the end of the year and would have a public meeting, too. He said that the options were all open and great care was being taken in the decisions.

Steve Volan reminded citizens that they should fill out and return their census forms or be ready to have someone come to their door to get that information. He stressed the importance of the accuracy of this count.

Mike Satterfield said that this past Monday brought the first severe weather warnings of the season. He said that new and old TV formats and telecommunications systems were supposed to provide an emergency override, but might not always work. He said that the cable franchises were no longer responsible for the emergency override, a changed made by the state administration. He said that citizens should rely on radio information and urged them to contact their state representatives about this issue.

Mayor Mark Kruzan acknowledged the work done by Prosecutor Chris Gaal and other representatives in preventing crimes against the elderly. He said that the group entitled TRIADS, a partnership of law enforcement, senior citizens, and community groups was committed to reducing crime against seniors and to reducing the fear of crime that the elderly often experience. He said that these goals coincided with the city's priorities and thanked the county for their participation.

MAYOR and CITY OFFICES

Prosecutor Gaal spoke about his agenda on the issue of crimes against the elderly. He said his philosophy was that prevention was important and that with agency partnerships, he formed an Elder Crimes Task Force in 2007. He said that this group allowed him to create trainings and public education information that had been distributed to the community. He thanked the Mayor for recognizing this important work. He thanked the council for hearing the proclamation the Mayor read after his presentation.

Georgia Schaich spoke briefly about the local chapter of the National Association of TRIADS group and said that she helped form the TRIADS group in 1993. She urged folks to get involved with the group.

Mayor Kruzan read his proclamation naming the month of March 2010 as Older Hoosiers Awareness Month in Bloomington.

Mayor Mark Kruzan awarded Marines Fornerino the Mayor's Award for Excellence in Civic Engagement for her work in community service in

her adopted city of Bloomington. Fornerino thanked Kruzan for the award and said she was lucky to have two homes and two families, and truly loved her work in community service.

Reports from the Mayor (cont'd)

Mayor Kruzan read a Proclamation for long time resident and activist Rosemary Miller to congratulate her on her 92<sup>nd</sup> birthday. Miller was present in the council chambers to receive her proclamation and gave some remarks but did not walk to the podium to have them recorded.

Sturbaum said that Miller's career started after she retired and thanked her for her inspiration and work for the community. Mayer noted that Miller should also be recognized for her work and contributions to the John Waldron Arts Center.

Kathy Mayer gave an extensive overview of the Homeward Bound Walk to be held on April 18, 2010. She talked about the agency recipients of the funds that would be raised and invited the council members and general public to participate in the walk.

REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICES:  
Community and Family Resources

There were no reports from council committees at this meeting.

COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Iris Kiesling, Monroe County Commissioner spoke about the importance of this year's Census and how the returns were coming in.

PUBLIC INPUT

Gabe Rivera thanked several people by name for helping him restructure his thinking as an activist.

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

BOARD AND COMMISSION  
APPOINTMENTS

It was moved and seconded that Resolution 10-03 be introduced and read by title and synopsis. Clerk Moore read the legislation and synopsis, giving the committee recommendation of do pass 9-0-0.

LEGISLATION FOR SECOND  
READING

It was moved and seconded that Resolution 10-03 be adopted.

Resolution 10-03 Creating a Joint  
City of Bloomington-Monroe County  
Deer Task Force

Dave Rollo noted the purpose and multi-governmental approach to this issue and said that the resolution was cosponsored by Common Councilmember Andy Ruff, and County Commissioner Iris Kiesling.

Rollo said that the purpose of the joint city and county task force was to bring together residents, local government and the Indiana Department of Natural Resources to create a community based approach to deer in urban and suburban environments. He outlined problems with the ever increasing deer population and said that there was a will to deal with the issue, but a significant lack of community knowledge regarding the complexity of addressing deer in urban environments. He added that the task force's purpose would be to understand and communicate what was known about urban deer management. He said that it was important that a wide range of perspectives be represented on the task force. He noted that the resolution further stated that members should be open-minded and capable of working alongside those of differing opinions. The task force would issue its non-binding recommendations to local government and the IDNR, and would end when it made those recommendations. He added that it was reasonable to expect that the task force would wrap up its work by September. He noted that peer reviewed published papers had been referenced in the council packet along with how other communities have dealt with the issue.

Iris Kiesling, County Commissioner, thanked the council for making this a cooperative effort between the city and county. She said issues do

not stop at the city borders, and that this was an issue that encompassed public safety, health, and sustainability.

Sandra Ducey said animals were only trying to live their lives, and we needed to learn to live with them, even if it meant putting up fences to protect gardens. She said her main concern was for wounded deer and what might happen if little children would see this sight as a result of bow hunting in the city.

David Haberman, professor of Religious Studies at Indiana University, spoke about the deer problem. He read a statement that he said might convert to an op-ed piece. He said that we should co-exist with deer in our forested environment and said that he took great pleasure in watching these creatures on his property. He noted that there were not instances of deer attacking humans in urban environments, and asked if they were such a threat that we would want to eliminate them from our environment. He encouraged tolerance instead of extermination.

Gabe Rivera said he appreciated the passion of the previous two speakers. He suggested increased deer warnings on traffic signs and signals.

Marc Haggerty said it was a blessing to live with the wildlife.

Sturbaum said he knew as many people who wanted to keep the deer as wanted to get as rid of them. He wished the task force well.

Volan said he was encouraged and noted that the term 'deer problem' was a product of trying to reduce issues to the shortest possible terms in order to deal with them in short order. He said that the presence of deer was an issue of safety because an urban environment was not set up for them. He wished the task force well and said he looked forward to the solution.

Wisler said that there were some neighborhoods that didn't see as many deer, possibly because of dogs in some yards. He wished the task force well and said that there was a challenge to mitigating the circumstances of the individuals who were most affected.

Rollo said that comments at this meeting would be forwarded to the deer task force. He noted that the resolution did not specify extermination or elimination of deer; however it did address biological carrying capacity and social carrying capacity. He said the resolution called for the expertise of biologists, ecologists and wildlife specialists who would be able to evaluate the carrying capacities and impacts on other species, sustainability, health and safety. He said it was a complex problem and preferred to suspend judgment until experts came up with a report.

Ruff said that other communities had formed this type of task force, and that it wasn't just a Bloomington thing. He said that the community based study group with a diversity of backgrounds, experiences, interests and perspectives was supported by the Department of Natural Resources. He said that understanding the issues and educating people on this issue was a productive outcome of this endeavor. He thanked the members of the public who spoke on the issue.

Rollo thanked Stacy Jane Rhoads for her research on the topic, and thanked Iris Kiesling for working on this at the county level.

Volan cautioned that one should take care with the words we choose as they make a difference in the solutions we shape.

Resolution 10-03 received a roll call vote of Ayes: 9, Nays: 0

There was no legislation to introduce at this meeting.

LEGISLATION FOR FIRST  
READING

Gabe Rivera continued his remarks at this point in the meeting.


PUBLIC INPUT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:17 pm.


ADJOURNMENT

APPROVE:

ATTEST:



Isabel Piedmont-Smith PRESIDENT  
Bloomington Common Council  
ANDY RUFF, Vice President



Regina Moore, CLERK  
City of Bloomington