

In the Council Chambers of the Showers City Hall on Wednesday, May 20, 2009 at 7:30 pm with Council President Andy Ruff presiding over a Regular Session of the Common Council.

COMMON COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION
May 20, 2009

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

ROLL CALL

Council President Ruff gave the Agenda Summation

AGENDA SUMMATION

There were no minutes to approve at this meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Dave Rollo noted that the newspaper had reported that community members were lobbying Congressman Baron Hill on the climate change bill that was currently before Congress. He said that the Citizen Action Coalition and the Green Sanctuary Task Force led by David Keppel tracked this bill, its implications and amendments. Rollo said that at Keppel's suggestion he had drafted a letter in support for a strong climate bill to the congressman. He asked fellow councilmembers to sign on to a letter he wrote to Congress. He highlighted parts of a letter he wrote regarding the Cap and Trade program being debated in Congress. He said the country needed a mandated 100% auction system to make that system work and not subsidize polluters. He added that it's our obligation for future generations to oppose the vested interests that have motivations for profit and are currently lobbying to defeat, derail, or weaken this bill that is in committee.

REPORTS:
COUNCILMEMBERS

Rollo said we should end any new coal generation plants unless it could capture and sequester the carbon emissions before they are authorized for construction. He said it was a way of internalizing costs appropriately in economic terms, and placed renewable energy sources within an economic framework that made them highly competitive. He added that the US needed to lead the world in conservation of green energy production as well as energy conservation.

He noted that it had been three years since the council supported the resolution supporting the Kyoto Protocol and Mayor Kruzan signed the US Mayor's Climate Protection Agreement. Since then our city government has concentrated on saving energy through very effective programs: a light bulb exchange program that replaced some 40,000 incandescent bulbs in the community with compact fluorescent bulbs, workshops on energy savings given by the Sustainability Commission for citizens, business leaders and contractors, and initiatives by the city's Team Green to reduce the energy usage in city buildings.

Brad Wisler reported that Fritz Terrace neighborhood association has begun meeting and is getting active. He said he attended the first meeting and thanked Celeste Wolfinger and the Hand Department's Vickie Provine and Officer Scott Oldham for their work in this area. He added that he was looking forward to the opening of the B-line trail.

Susan Sandberg said she was looking forward to the "Dancing with the Celebrities" event on Saturday at the Buskirk-Chumley Theater. She said dancers would be raising funds for non-profits and would be a lot of fun.

Tim Mayer wished everyone a safe Memorial Day.

Steve Volan said he and Sturbaum had attended the charrette for the new transit station design. Adding that Bloomington and IU contribute to the

city's high transit ridership, he said more than 25 persons attended the session to review designs and give input. He urged citizens to attend a follow-up meeting in June where a fine-tuned draft would be presented.

Chris Sturbaum reported on the charrette process that Volan mentioned. He said that at the end of the first day, based upon the ideas generated at the session, the architects drew up three sets of plans before participants arrived the next day. He said it was an upfront process that would produce an attractive station that would be clean, nice and easy to use. He added that the City of Bloomington had offered to pay half the cost of a design charrette for the Bloomington Hospital in an effort to help the hospital stay in the downtown area. He said that he had so much faith in the charrette process that he was certain it would help the hospital redesign their current location to stay where they are.

Andy Ruff noted an HT article that was buried in the back of the first section regarding comments by Governor Daniels at an Evansville Chamber of Commerce event. He noted that the price of a new terrain I-69 was now estimated at \$3B, but said that the costs could be reduced by reducing the standards under which the highway would be built. Ruff quoted Daniels as saying thinner pavement, or reduced median could be used. Ruff said that this was not cost saving, but would add maintenance costs and would not be as safe. Ruff said that it was striking that there was no consideration of a new cost benefit analysis for this highway since the projected costs have now doubled and projections of use have decreased.

There were no reports from the Mayor or City Offices.

MAYOR and CITY OFFICES

It was moved and seconded to allow the Environmental Commission 15 minutes for their Greenhouse Gas Inventory for the City of Bloomington Indiana: Footprint, Projections and Recommendations.

COUNCIL COMMITTEES

- Environmental Commission

The motion was approved by a voice vote.

Michael Tosick of the EC introduced intern Mark Lemon who helped plan, research and write the report. Lemon explained the report, its methodology and its findings. He ended by giving recommendations, noting that the city's Sustainability and Environmental Commissions could help greatly in the endeavor to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. He noted that the full report was available on the City's website.

Almost all council members commented on the report, thanking Lemon and his colleagues for their work and saying that they appreciated the thoroughness and scope of the report.

Isabel Piedmont-Smith council representative on the Plan Commission, amendments that the Plan Commission had considered to the Unified Development Ordinance that would solve some problems that had come up since the UDO had been implemented in 2007. She reviewed several amendments that did not pass the Plan Commission and outlined arguments pro and con.

- Plan Commission

She noted that there were several more amendments to be considered by the Plan Commission before they would be considered by the Common Council as an ordinance.

There was no public comment at this point in the meeting.

PUBLIC INPUT

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

BOARD AND COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS

It was moved and seconded that Resolution 09-12 be introduced and read by title and synopsis. Clerk Moore read the legislation and synopsis, stating that there was no committee recommendation.

LEGISLATION FOR SECOND READING

It was moved and seconded that Resolution 09-12 be adopted.

Resolution 09-12 To Approve Recommendations of the Mayor for Distribution of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funding Under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009

Lisa Abbott, Director of the Housing and Neighborhood Development Department, asked approval of the allocation of the CDBG funds that would be received from the Housing and Urban Development Office. She said that the grant would be in the sum of \$224,578. She said that the recommendation of the department and the Mayor were to allocate this money to the project that would meet the goals of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. She noted that the project fit the requirements of stimulating the economy through measures that modernize the nation's infrastructure, improve energy efficiency, and expand educational opportunities and access to health care. She said that these funds were to be used for hard costs associated with infrastructure activities that provide basic services to residents.

Abbott said that the project would install sanitary sewers to 11 parcels that are currently on septic systems. She said that the funds would also be used to assist in financing of the Country Club sidepath. She said that a requirement under the funding source was that 50% of the funds be spent within 120 days of the contract signing. For this project, she said the environmental review was complete, the engineering design was complete and the City was already working on the acquisition of the right-of-way.

She said if the allocation was approved, the City would be able to post the substantial amendment to the fiscal plan by the date required, have public comment for the required seven days and meet HUD's deadline by June 5, 2009.

Sturbaum asked about the route of the existing sewer, but Abbott said she didn't have an answer to that question with the information she had with her. She said that there were some septic issues in the area. Mayer spoke to some of Sturbaum's issues of connectivity and noted that the route went south to the Dillman plant. Sturbaum said he supported this allocation.

Wisler asked if there was an original source of money for this project, to which Abbott noted that Neighborhood Capital Improvement Funds were slated to be used. She said that since the Country Club project was 'shovel ready,' CDBG funds could be used here to free up the other funds for use on the South Rogers streetscape project. Wisler asked if all the funds would be used there, to which Abbott said it was possible for them to be allocated to another approved neighborhood plan.

Sandberg asked if local contractors would be used, to which Abbott said that the contract would be put out to bid and she couldn't tell what that process would bring.

Sturbaum asked if each house would have to pay a hook-on cost. Abbott said it was very likely and that that might be an eligible use for the Neighborhood Capital Improvement Funds.

There was no public comment on this item.

Sandberg said the project was worthy and was happy to support it.

Mayer thanked Abbott for all her work on the project. He said that this would help facilitate the sewer for the Broadview area as well as sidepaths in the area.

Sturbaum said that there was a lot of demand for sewer extensions in the Broadview area and didn't want to forget the rest of the area after this project was completed.

Piedmont-Smith thanked Abbott and the staff for working so quickly on this and recommended hiring local people to do this work.

Resolution 09-12 (cont'd)

Resolution 09-12 received a roll call vote of Ayes: 9, Nays: 0.

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 09-09 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 Near Westside Neighborhood (on West Seventh Street)

Ordinance 09-09

Ordinance 09-10 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 Diamond Gardens / J. N. Alexander Neighborhood

Ordinance 09-10

There was no public comment at this portion of the meeting.

PUBLIC INPUT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

APPROVE:

ATTEST:



Andy Ruff, PRESIDENT
Bloomington Common Council

Regina Moore, CLERK
City of Bloomington