

In the Council Chambers of the Showers City Hall on Wednesday, July 15, 2009 at 7:30 pm with Council President Andy Ruff presiding over a Regular Session of the Common Council.

COMMON COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION
July 15, 2009

Roll Call: Mayer, Piedmont-Smith, Rollo, Ruff, Sandberg, Satterfield, Sturbaum, Volan, Wisler
Absent: none

ROLL CALL

Council President Ruff gave the Agenda Summation

AGENDA SUMMATION

The minutes of Regular Sessions of March 4, 2009, May 20, 2009, and July 1, 2009 were approved after by a voice vote after several minor corrections were made.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilmember Satterfield noted that Bloomington's Options for Better Living Director Susan Rinne was elected to the Association for Persons in Supported Employment's National Board of Directors. He congratulated Rinne, and added that it was nice to have people like her as resources in Bloomington. Satterfield also reminded the public about the dangers of texting while driving.

REPORTS:
COUNCILMEMBERS

Councilmember Sturbaum said he wanted to honor the life of 29-year old Libby Yarnelle, who had passed away recently. He said she was a 'bright light' and would be missed.

Councilmember Rollo said that he had attended the previous day's Commission on Sustainability meeting, and noted the Congressional bill being considered involving climate change. He encouraged folks to urge Senators Evan Bayh and Richard Lugar to pass a 'tough bill' that will hold industries accountable. He discussed carbon dioxide and human effects on marine life.

Councilmember Wisler announced there would be a meeting of the Fritz Terrace Neighborhood Association on July 21st at 6pm in the Monroe County Library. He noted the good turnout of neighbors at previous meetings, and said he hoped to see even more at the upcoming meeting.

Councilmember Sandberg noted a Housing and Neighborhood Development press release, which announced focus groups to discuss housing issues. Sandberg said it was important to get feedback from the public, because the focus groups would be relevant to funding for Housing and Urban Development. She listed times and locations where the meetings would take place, and said items for discussion would include affordable housing options, funding for non-profit organizations, economic development, homeless issues, and community development. She encouraged people to attend the meetings and contact the HAND Department for further information.

Ruff made a follow-up comment to Sturbaum's announcement of Libby Arnel's passing. Ruff said donations could be made to Mother Hubbard's Cupboard, where Yarnelle worked, in her name. Ruff noted that area talk radio station WGCL said they would be discontinuing their local afternoon broadcast to air a nationally syndicated talk show. He said he felt it was a bad decision for the community because it would no longer allow a forum for important local issues to be discussed. Ruff said he wanted to see WGCL thrive as a business, but that they had an obligation to be community oriented.

Mayor Kruzan thanked the Council for their work on the Unified Development Ordinance. He said that an extensive amount of time and work had gone in to the UDO. He said that copies of the 2010 City Budget would be available later that evening, as well as online, through the Herald-Times newspaper, Monroe County Library, and in City offices. Kruzan invited the public to attend the budget hearings the following week. He congratulated Jim and Susie Butler, of Butler Wineries, who brought home gold medals from the 2009 Indy International Wine Competition. Kruzan also noted that Faron Livingston, Chief of the Bloomington Township Fire Department, was named State Firefighter of the Year by the American Legion. He welcomed Ron Walker, former city employee, back to the council chambers.

Gretchen Scott and Mary Jane Hall, of the Board of Realtors, spoke of their program *Bloomington in Bloom*. Bloomington in Bloom Steering Committee Chair Scott described the program as a cooperative community initiative between the Board of Realtors and Bloomington's Parks and Recreation Department to enter the 2010 national contest *America in Bloom*.

Scott said that America in Bloom was an independent, non-profit organization with the mission to promote nationwide beautification, personal and community involvement through environmental and lifestyle enhancements. She named the categories on which cities would be judged, with the ultimate goal being that Bloomington would be recognized on a national level for its community and environmental assets. Scott noted that the winners of Bloomington in Bloom's local contest, which recognized outstanding yards within the city's different zip codes, were invited to attend the night's City Council meeting.

Mayor Kruzan then announced the runners-up and winners, and presented the winners with plaques. 47401 runners-up were Dan and Jonlee Smith, Ronald Davis and Michelle Egidio, Bobbie and Sandra Burke, and Bill and Nancy Riggert. 47401 winners were Rick and Mary Van Kooten. 47403 runners-up were Glen Johnson, Andrew Baker and Barbara Bulla, Keith Romaine, Jeff and Kelli Taylor, and Vicky Provine. 47403 winner was Laura Shively. 47404 runners-up included Margaret Contompasis, Lucy Schaich and Spencer Goehl, LL Goodman, Ron and Ginny Chatlos. 47404 winners were Joan Middendorf and Matt Wysocki. 47408 runners up were Bill and Georgia Schaich, John and Jane Watkins, and David and Carole Canfield. 47408 winners were James and Myriam Wood.

Kruzan mentioned that the home of Joan Middendorf and Matt Wysocki was also a Monarch Waystation. Councilmember Volan asked for clarification of the definition of a Monarch Waystation.

Joan Middendorf said that in order to have property designated a Monarch Waystation, it had to have milkweed and other plants that attract Monarch butterflies. Volan then asked if all of Middendorf's plants were in compliance with City code, to which she responded that she believed they were. Volan said he was only concerned because he wanted to make sure that City code was working hand in hand with the objectives of the Monarch Waystation and Bloomington in Bloom programs, instead of being contradictory.

Gretchen Scott noted that none of the plants that Middendorf had mentioned were on the list of invasive species for Bloomington.

Councilmember Rollo said that anyone who wanted to know about guidelines for naturalization could contact the HAND Department or Environmental Commission.

MAYOR and CITY OFFICES
(cont'd)

Councilmember Ruff congratulated the award recipients.

Tim Mayer reported that the Utilities Services Board met in special session to hear a conservation report. He said it was in depth and thoroughly researched. He said the report discussed a 10-year program that would focus on education, conservation methods, and leakage within the system. Mayer noted that Sandburg and Ruff had also attended the session, and that the following work session was not yet scheduled. He concluded by saying that Bloomingtonians were 'ahead of the curve' in terms of their conservation of water, but there was still some work to be done.

COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Gabe Rivera relayed some grievances he had with the Bloomington Police Department and with government in general. He encouraged folks to visit his website, www.myspace.com/endthedrugwar.

PUBLIC INPUT

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

BOARD AND COMMISSION
APPOINTMENTS

It was moved and seconded that Resolution 09-14 be introduced and read by title and synopsis. Clerk Moore read the legislation and synopsis, stating that there was no committee recommendation. It was moved and seconded that Resolution 09-14 be adopted.

LEGISLATION FOR SECOND
READING

Resolution 09-14 received a roll call vote of Ayes: 9, Nays: 0.

Resolution 09-14 To Authorize Expenditures from the Industrial Development Fund to Support an Economic Development Project (Envisage Technologies, Inc. at the Fountain Square Mall in the Downtown CRED)

Danise Alano, Director of Economic and Sustainable Development, presented information pertaining to the resolution. She said that Resolution 09-14 and Resolution 09-15 were recommended by the Bloomington Industrial Development Advisory Commission (BIDAC).

Alano noted that BIDAC administered funds to the City's Industrial Development Fund (IDF). She said funds were available specifically for use within the Community Revitalization Enhancement Districts (CRED). She noted that as of 6/28/2009, the IDF had a balance of nearly four million dollars. The resolution would use a portion of this money to fund 23 additional full-time jobs at Envisage Technologies, Inc., located within the Downtown CRED. Alano stated reasons the funds would be put to good use if invested in Envisage Technologies, Inc.

Rollo asked for clarification regarding living wage. Alano said all employees to be paid through IDF funding would be paid well above living wage standards.

Rollo asked Envisage Technologies Vice President of Operations Michelle Cole how long the company was planning to be located in downtown Bloomington. She responded that she hoped the company would be there indefinitely, and added that being located downtown was a great opportunity for Envisage Technologies employees to frequent surrounding local businesses.

Piedmont-Smith asked for clarification on the lifetime of the CRED. Alano said it would expire in 2019.

Mayer asked Alano if there were any provisions in place, should Envisage Technologies not meet their employment goals. Alano said it wasn't necessary because they would only be reimbursing the company after they had achieved said goals. He asked Cole how many parking spaces they intended to use and she said they planned to rent 57 spaces.

Volan asked for many clarifications, including whether or not a company given funds by the IDF was obliged to stay in the CRED area for a given amount of time. Alano said it was not a benchmark in the financing agreement.

Satterfield asked if Envisage Technologies had started in Bloomington and how the company came up with its proposed expenses. Michelle Cole said the company had started in Bloomington, and their staff had used consultants and CFC to help determine many costs.

Sturbaum clarified usage of funds and then expressed his support for this venture.

Alano said that through the use of the IDF funding, Envisage Technologies' growth would bring Bloomington to a more notable position nationally in the technology sector.

Wisler wanted to know if all of the company's operations would be moved to the new Fountain Square Mall location, to which Cole responded that a smaller portion of activity would remain at the company's current location.

Ruff sought clarification of how Envisage Technologies would use the funds they had asked for.

Ron Walker, of the Bloomington Economic Development Corporation, said that companies like Envisage Technologies brought money into the community and were important to its economic vitality.

Sandburg said she whole-heartedly supported the resolution.

Wisler said it was important for Bloomington to continue building its technology sector and that he was glad to see Envisage Technologies relocating downtown.

Volan said he chose to keep his own technology related company in Bloomington as opposed to moving to a larger city because he enjoyed what Bloomington had to offer, and supported this resolution.

Rollo said in the future he would like to have a conversation about tech transfers among various entities, and said this was a positive move for the downtown.

Piedmont-Smith said it was a good investment, and she would support the resolution.

Mayer said this was very positive to have a new tech company move downtown, and thought it would liven up the downtown.

Ruff said this was a fortunate proposal and he was happy to support it.

Resolution 09-14 received a roll call vote of Ayes: 9, Nays: 0.

Resolution 09-14 To Authorize Expenditures from the Industrial Development Fund to Support an Economic Development Project (Envisage Technologies, Inc. at the Fountain Square Mall in the Downtown CRED) (*cont'd*)

It was moved and seconded that Resolution 09-15 be introduced and read by title and synopsis. Clerk Moore read the legislation and synopsis, stating that there was no committee recommendation. It was moved and seconded that Resolution 09-15 be adopted.

Resolution 09-15 To Authorize Expenditures from Annual Revenues Generated and Received by the Industrial Development Fund to Support an Economic Development Project (Envisage Technologies, Inc. at Fountain Square Mall in the Downtown CRED)

Danise Alano, Economic and Sustainable Development, described the resolution.

Rollo asked if there would be updates on the progress. Alano said she would be happy to schedule that.

Volan clarified the amount of funds that would be generated.

Piedmont-Smith clarified the amount of money that Envisage would receive and asked what would happen to that money if the resolution did not pass.

Alano said if the resolution did not pass, the city would receive no revenue.

Piedmont-Smith asked if the recession would cause the income to the Downtown CRED to be less than last year. Alano said she didn't know but that even the effects of Fine Light leaving the downtown had not yet been determined.

Wisler asked how the money going into the CRED and the Cap was figured. Alano said it is determined on the aggregate.

Ruff asked about projections of sales for Envisage, and why it was so high. David Habearle said the company has been profitable over the past few years, but not by much, and has been putting most of its money back into the company to build software, which will yield greater results in the coming years.

Wisler said this is great net gain for all.

Sturbaum said this helped the downtown and the community.

Ruff said this was a benefit for all.

Resolution 09-15 received a roll call vote of Ayes: 9, Nays: 0.

There was no legislation for introduction at this meeting.

LEGISLATION FOR FIRST READING


PUBLIC INPUT

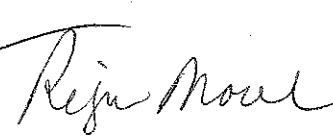
ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:53 pm.

APPROVE:

ATTEST:


Andy Ruff, PRESIDENT
Bloomington Common Council


Regina Moore, CLERK
City of Bloomington