

In the Council Chambers of the Showers City Hall on Wednesday, February 7, 2007 at 7:30 pm with Council President Dave Rollo presiding over a Regular Session of the Common Council.

COMMON COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION
February 7, 2007

Roll Call: Wisler, Diekhoff, Ruff, Sandberg, Rollo, Sturbaum, Volan, Sabbagh, Mayer

ROLL CALL

Council President Rollo gave the Agenda Summation

AGENDA SUMMATION

There were no minutes to be approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
REPORTS:

Brad Wisler said it was good to be back, hoped everyone was enjoying the snow, and asked citizens to give the council members feedback concerning clearing snow from roads.

COUNCILMEMBERS

David Sabbagh noted the controversy of the contract between Bloomington Hospital and Anthem Insurance. He said that Bloomington Hospital was a community owned not-for-profit hospital which was locally owned and was a major employer of the city. He noted that providing health care for employees was an issue for all levels of employers including the hospital. He said that the hospital was the linchpin of high level medical services in the community, and it should not be impaired. He noted that the contract discussions between the hospital and Anthem were complex, but that the community should come down on the side of a strong medical community and be in support of Bloomington Hospital.

Steve Volan noted his district was the most urban in form of all the city council districts, and noted that while Indiana University campus was in the midst of the city, it did not comply with an urban form. He read portions of an article from the New York Times entitled "Rural Colleges Seek New Edge and Urbanize." It related the task of Hendrix College in Conway, Arkansas to attract students of all ages with a more urbanized version of a campus. Volan related this to the IU campus design, noting that Ashton Center, a new residence hall being re-built did not have urban amenities planned.

Andy Ruff noted that in the first week of February, 2003, the Council heard debate and passed a resolution opposing the invasion in Iraq at that time. He noted that what had transpired in the last four years was tremendous destruction and chaos in Iraq. In light of the timing of a possible escalation and even an invasion of Iran, Ruff read Resolution 03-04 Opposing a War in Iraq at This Time as a tool to remember this debate.

Susan Sandberg said that it was a delight to see the artwork in the Atrium in honor of Black History Month. She also noted the upcoming "Arts Week" collaboration between the City and IU in scheduling local and national artists for visual and performing arts events during this upcoming celebration.

Chris Sturbaum thanked Ruff for his reading. Sturbaum noted that the widening of West Second Street was an issue on which the City was taking public comment. He noted that New Urbanism would be a concept that would work nearer to the city core. He cautioned against widening the road instead of something simpler like realigning the traffic lights. He said the proposal of a six lane road in front of the hospital made no sense and that we should question how communities, roads, neighborhoods and cars work for the betterment of the community.

Council Comments (cont'd)

Tim Mayer, Parliamentarian, noting a large group of students in attendance, explained the structure of the council meeting, the procedure for public comment and what would be happening at the evening's meeting.

Mayer thanked the police, firefighters and public works employees who were working outside in the snow and cold weather. He said that utilities workers were working to handle frozen water pipes and water main breaks because of the cold weather and he thanked them publicly.

Dave Rollo read a list of board and commission vacancies. He also read an announcement inviting citizens to join the staff of the Clerk and Council office in their continuation of a Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Day On Not A Day Off project in knitting hats for chemo patients.

Rollo announced a lecture sponsored by the Commission on Sustainability to be given on February 15, at 6:30 at the Monroe County Public Library by Professor Ben Brabson. The talk was to focus on innovations in Green Architecture, building sustainable homes that conserve energy and use renewable non-fossil energy sources.

Steve Volan announced that the Council would have a bowling team (Council Commission on Pin Demolition) in the Big Brothers Big Sisters fundraiser, and encouraged citizens to help the organization. Many puns followed this announcement.

Rollo thanked councilmember Ruff for sponsoring the Resolution against the War in Iraq back in 2003. He said that Ruff's action was visionary.

Sara Ollis, Assistant Deputy Mayor, gave an update on Be Bloomington Month focusing on the themes and activities for each month in 2007. She noted that Be Healthy Bloomington (January), Be Compassionate Bloomington (February), and Be Accessible Bloomington (March) events included partners in the community that helped sponsor and promote events to highlight the themes.

MAYOR and CITY OFFICES

Beverly Calendar Anderson gave a brief history of the origins of Black History Month, and an overview of events during Black History Month. She highlighted leadership opportunities for children, a fashion show for me, and a gala event at the Country Club. She also noted that the Women of Color panel had been postponed because of weather and would be rescheduled during March.

Calendar-Anderson read portions of Mayor Kruzan's proclamation regarding National Girls and Women in Sports Day, and announced the activities to be held on February 19. She presented the Proclamation to Deborah O'Brien, Executive Director of the Girl Scouts of Tulip Trace.

There were no reports at this meeting.

COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Robert Carnes informed the Council of problems with a long-term residence hotel and asked that the Council consider regulating health and safety conditions in these types of facilities for the protection of these residents.

PUBLIC INPUT

Gabe Rivera spoke against the war on drugs, saying it is ineffective by raising the value of illicit drugs.

Larry Summit, commander at the American Legion, spoke in favor of the Council saying the Pledge Of Allegiance before every meeting.

Isabel Piedmont spoke about the West 2nd Street Corridor study saying that she was concerned that five lanes in that area would not be a sustainable development product. She said rather than focusing on the unsustainable auto, the plan should encourage and foster public transit and bicycle traffic on this route. She added that if additional lanes were built, many additional cars would use them, and urged the city to consider this concept.

PUBLIC INPUT (cont'd)

Trent Deckard of Congressman Baron Hill's local office introduced himself to the Council and said that Congressman Hill's local office was located in the Showers Complex at 820 W. 8th Street, Suite 114.

It was moved and seconded that Michael Chapuran be appointed to the Housing Quality Appeals Board and that Sarah DeLone be reappointed to the Animal Control Commission. Both appointments were approved by a voice vote.

BOARD AND COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS

There was no legislation for second reading at this meeting.

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

Appropriation Ordinance 07-01 To Specially Appropriate From the General Fund Expenditures Not Otherwise Appropriated (Appropriating Funds from the General Fund for Animal Care & Control)

Appropriation Ordinance 07-01

Ordinance 07-02 To Amend the Bloomington Zoning Maps from Q to PUD and to Adopt the Preliminary Plan for the Southern Indiana Health Sciences Park Planned Unit Development – Re: 2401 West Tapp Road (Southern Indiana Medical Park II, LLC, Petitioner)

Ordinance 07-02

Council members Rollo, Mayer and Sturbaum took this opportunity to explain the legislative cycle to the approximately 50 students attending the meeting.

PUBLIC INPUT

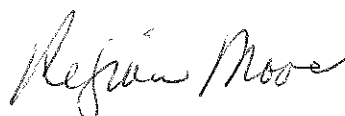
There was no public comment at the end of this meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:33 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

APPROVE:

ATTEST:



Dave Rollo, PRESIDENT
Bloomington Common Council

Regina Moore, CLERK
City of Bloomington