

In the Council Chambers of the Showers City Hall on Wednesday, February 1, 2006 at 7:30 pm with Council President Chris Sturbaum presiding over a Regular Session of the Common Council.

COMMON COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION
February 1, 2006

Roll Call: Banach, Diekhoff, Ruff, Gaal, Rollo, Sturbaum, Volan, Sabbagh, Mayer

ROLL CALL

Council President Sturbaum gave the Agenda Summation

AGENDA SUMMATION

The minutes of Regular Session December 21, 2005 and Organization Meeting of January 3, 2006 were approved by a voice vote.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Gaal announced that Sisters City International would hold a fundraiser Friday, February 10 at 7:00pm at the Fountain Square ballroom. Gaal reported that he attended a forum hosted by Citizens for Effective Justice, featuring Morgan Moss from the Center for Therapeutic Justice, among other local officials. Gaal said it was reported that Monroe County has a 70 percent recidivism rate. He suggested that there are cost-effective methods that could be implemented at the jail in order to help reduce the number of repeat offenders and ultimately reduce violent crime in the community.

REPORTS:

▪ COUNCILMEMBERS

Dave Rollo spoke about the Resolution passed by the council in June of 2003 that highlighted threats to fundamental rights and liberties pertaining to the USA Patriot Act. He reported that 8 out of 9 council members recently issued a letter to the Indiana Congressional Delegation requesting that the lawmakers oppose reauthorization of the current version of the USA Patriot Act. Rollo thanked his fellow council members, City Clerk Regina Moore, Mayor Mark Kruzan, and the Bloomington Bill of Rights Defense Committee.

Jason Banach stated for the record that he did not sign the letter.

Steve Volan congratulated newly appointed leaders at Indiana University, Interim Provost Michael McRobbie and Chancellor Kenneth Gross Louis. Volan also said he would be presenting a report at the next council meeting on the subject of why Bloomington is no longer a college town.

Andy Ruff commented on Major Moves, which he described as Governor Mitch Daniels' radical plan to change how public roads are operated, maintained and funded. He criticized Daniels for describing Major Moves one of the biggest jobs programs in the state's history which would create 50,000 jobs for every \$1 billion spent. Ruff said, by those flawed estimates, that the I-69 extension from Bloomington to Evansville would supposedly generate 100,000 to 150,000 new jobs. Ruff then displayed a memorandum from one of the state's consultants working on the I-69 extension that showed a projection of 586 new jobs by 2030. He also displayed an economic impact statement from the consultant that showed an estimated creation of 4,450 new jobs from the project. He commented on the significant discrepancy in information and thanked his fellow council members who have voiced opposition to the project.

Tim Mayer thanked Julio Alonso for his service as director of the Public Works Department and said he will continue doing great work as the director of the Hoosier Hills Food Bank.

Chris Sturbaum seconded Mayer's comments about Alonso. Sturbaum spoke in favor of preserving the Kappa Sigma house that Indiana University plans to demolish. He argued that the university will never build a structure like the Kappa Sigma house again and said preserving it would be an efficient use of resources and support sustainability. Sturbaum noted that Indiana House Bill 1279, which could potentially hurt locally produced television programming such as CATS, was amended in favor of local programming. He said that the Indiana Association of Cities and Towns were still concerned about the fate of the bill and its effect on local

video technology. Sturbaum commented on Major Moves and described it as the governor's proposal to mortgage the future of public resources in exchange for an immediate payoff. He said it would be irresponsible to sell control of public roads to a private, foreign company for the next 75 years. Lastly, Sturbaum commented on the State of the Union address and pointed out that the federal government is cutting funding for social services due to a \$230 billion dollar war, the federal deficit, and other major challenges.

COUNCIL COMMENTS (cont'd)

Beverly Calendar-Anderson, Safe and Civil City Director, spoke about National Girls and Women in Sports Day. She said the City of Bloomington will commemorate the day on February 12th and she presented a proclamation on behalf of Mayor Mark Kruzan.

▪ MAYOR and CITY OFFICES

A representative from Girls Scouts of Tulip Trace Council thanked the City of Bloomington for the proclamation and provided tickets to the February 12th event.

Calendar-Anderson spoke about Black History Month and noted that a kick off event occurred January 31st.

There were no reports at this time.

▪ COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Gabe Rivera spoke about the Citizens for Effective Justice forum featuring Morgan Moss and commented on the war on drugs.

▪ PUBLIC INPUT

There were no appointments at this time.

BOARD AND COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS

There was no legislation for final action at this meeting.

LEGISLATION FOR SECOND READING

There was no legislation for first reading at this meeting.

LEGISLATION FOR FIRST READING

Mayer moved that the council suspend its rules in order to consider a matter not on the agenda and reschedule the regular session of February 15, 2006 to February 22, 2006. Mayer asked what would happen in the event that no legislation comes forward by that time. Dan Sherman announced that it was anticipated that a vacation of right-of-way would be heard by the council. The council unanimously approved by voice vote the cancellation of the committee of the whole meeting on February 8, 2006 and the rescheduling of the regular session of February 15, 2006 to February 22, 2006.

PUBLIC INPUT

Bree Hartlage criticized the council for ignoring a gender identity protection recommendation from the Bloomington Human Rights Council. Hartlage spoke about gender identity protection legislation in other local governments and requested that the council act on the recommendation from the Human Rights Council.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

APPROVE:

ATTEST:



Chris Sturbaum, PRESIDENT
Bloomington Common Council

Regina Moore, CLERK
City of Bloomington