

In the Council Chambers of the Showers City Hall on Wednesday, August 2, 2006 at 7:30 pm with Council President Chris Sturbaum presiding over a Regular Session of the Common Council.

COMMON COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION
August 2, 2006

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

ROLL CALL

Council President Sturbaum gave the Agenda Summation

AGENDA SUMMATION

There were no minutes to be approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Jason Banach noted that in a recent publication from the US Mayor's Association there had been an article that reported the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee had approved the spending bill for the fiscal year 2007 Transportation, Treasury, Judiciary, HUD and related agencies with an increased funding level for the Community Development Block Grants and several other housing programs. He read that the CDBG formula grants are funded at \$3.877B which was \$813M above the administration's budget request in this bill. The Community Development Fund is funded at \$4.2B, \$1.2B over the budget request. He noted that the article should illustrate much of what one hears about the federal administration is rhetoric and cautioned citizens to seek out the facts.

REPORTS:
COUNCILMEMBERS

Chris Gaal lightheartedly noted that he was happy to hear the Republican senators were beginning to listen to their Democratic colleagues. He noted that he had attended the National Night Out activities at Crestmont the night before. He also noted other council members and city officials who were representing the city, as well as the activities that highlighted public safety. He said he was happy to speak to the neighborhood and the resident council at Crestmont about forming a Neighborhood Watch program. He said this will ultimately be the one thing that would make a difference in this neighborhood. He asked the city to help facilitate this effort.

Chris Sturbaum noted that Patty Hoard had retired from the city, and thanked her for her years of service.
Sturbaum sadly noted the passing of Regina Miller, former city council member from District 5.
He noted that the Mills Pool had previously closed at 6 pm, but would begin to stay open later in the evening.

There were no reports at this meeting.

MAYOR and CITY OFFICES

There were no reports at this meeting.

COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Cindy Hoffman gave a report on electronic voting machines. She noted that the federal Help America Vote Act (HAVA) provisions were to be completely in force during the general election of 2006 for the first time, and that there were concerns with the use of Direct Recording Electronic (DRE) voting machines.

PUBLIC INPUT

Hoffman said concerns were that system errors, human errors or cheating could occur without election officials or voting machine companies knowing anything about it. She cited the latest report from the Brennan Center for Justice at the NYU School of Law. She emphasized that paper ballots were the only way to preserve voting data for audits or recounts.

Hoffman showed a short video clip on election fraud that presented information on how to hack into a central tabulator, and also showed the problems with some faulty machines.

As public comment is limited in time allotted, Hoffman stopped her presentation and said she intended to return at the end of the meeting to continue the second part of her talk.

Public Comment (cont'd)

Joe Neal noted that he had worked part time at the Sanitation Department until the previous week, and at that time his employment was terminated. He asked the council to look into the matter.

There were no appointments at this meeting.

BOARD AND COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS

It was moved and seconded that Appropriation Ordinance 06-03 be introduced and read by title and synopsis. Clerk Moore read the legislation and synopsis, giving the Committee Do-Pass Recommendation of 7-0-1. It was moved and seconded that Appropriation Ordinance 06-03 be adopted.

LEGISLATION FOR SECOND READING

Appropriation Ordinance 06-03 To Specially Appropriate from the General Fund Expenditures Not Otherwise Appropriated (Appropriating Funds from the General Fund for Grants Awarded to the Fire Department)

Jeff Barlow, Fire Chief, noted that the Fire Department tried to fund increases in spending in their budget lines by using outside funding sources if possible. He said that this instance was an example of that. He noted that this appropriation was comprised of federal dollars from Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) and the Community Foundation provided a 30% local match for these funds. He added that with this expenditure, all self contained breathing apparatus for the Fire Department would be updated.

Sturbaum asked about the sequence of receipts and expenditures for this project, to which Chief Barlow said that \$65,100 had been received from the federal government. He said that \$27,900 would be supplied by the Community Foundation, and that this appropriation ordinance would then the total bill of \$93,000 to be paid.

Diekhoff noted that the Fire Chief and his firefighters attended the National Night out with their equipment on display for citizens to see.

Appropriation Ordinance 06-03 received a roll call vote of Ayes: 7, Nays: 0.

It was moved and seconded that Ordinance 06-12 be introduced and read by title and synopsis. Clerk Moore read the legislation and synopsis giving the Committee Do-Pass Recommendation of 7-0-1. It was moved and seconded that Ordinance 06-12 be adopted.

Ordinance 06-12 To Amend Title 15 of the Bloomington Municipal Code Entitled "Vehicles and Traffic" - Re: Expanding the Elm Heights Proximate Residential Neighborhood Permit Parking Zone (Zone 1)

Justin Wykoff, Manager Of Engineering Services, gave an overview of the area of the neighborhood zone in question noting that Councilmember Rollo brought this issue before the Traffic Commission on behalf of a constituent. The ordinance would add the 900 and 1000 blocks of South Highland and South Ballantine streets to Zone 1 of the Residential parking zone.

Sturbaum clarified that councilmember Rollo did not advocate or ask for the section of South Highland to be included in this ordinance. Wykoff said that was true, and that the Traffic Commission and others suggested the addition of the nearby street at this time. He added that all residents of both streets had been notified, and that the Traffic Commission supported the addition of both streets to the zone.

Wykoff outlined the permit process for residents of the neighborhood zones. He added some history of the expansion of Zone 1 over the last few years.

Volan asked for an estimate of the distance from Third Street, the

Ordinance 06-12 (cont'd)

northern edge of the zone, to the end of Highland where the zone is proposed to stop. Wykoff said it was probably a quarter of a mile. Volan asked how far Highland was from Bryan Park, the western edge of the zone. Wykoff said it was four blocks away.

Gene Coyle, who lives in the 1000 block of South Ballantine, said he requested this change of his council representative. He said that as streets were included in residential parking zone 1, more cars were being parked on his street. He added that as Indiana University was scaling back their sale and availability of parking permits, he feared even more cars would be parking on his street.

Andrew Hanson, of South Highland, noted he was in favor of adding his street to the neighborhood parking zone. He indicated that a line of cars routinely appeared on that street from nine to five each day. He noted that there were no curbs or sidewalks on this narrow road, and that parking cars there, especially close to the intersections, made the area unsafe for pedestrians. He also added that to include Ballantine and not Highland at this time would actually encourage parking in this area.

Volan noted that the one person who objected to Highland being included in the zone had indicated that it would be an inconvenience to get a residential permit for his street. Volan said that it was a philosophical issue that residential parking zones privatized entire streets that should belong to all of us as residents and taxpayers. He agreed with the premises that parking in this area should be reserved for the residents of the area.

Sturbaum read part of a statement from Councilmember Rollo who was out of town on business:

My request stands that only Ballantine become part of Zone 1. I have visited the 1000 block south of Southdowns several times this past spring, and can verify that an excessive number of cars are parked there the entire day, which constitutes an access problem for the neighbors living there. I apologize for not being able to attend this meeting, but have confidence in your deliberations on this matter. Best Regards, Dave Rollo, City Council, District V.

Ordinance 06-12 received a roll call vote of Ayes: 7, Nays: 0.

There was no legislation for first reading at this meeting.

LEGISLATION FOR FIRST READING

Cindy Hoffman was called on to finish her presentation at this time, but was not present.

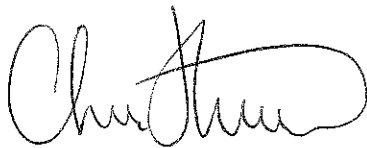
PUBLIC INPUT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:17 pm

ADJOURNMENT

APPROVE:

ATTEST:



Chris Sturbaum, PRESIDENT
Bloomington Common Council

Regina Moore, CLERK
City of Bloomington