

In the Council Chambers of the Showers City Hall on Wednesday, September 7, 2005 at 7:30 pm with Council President Andy Ruff presiding over a Regular Session of the Common Council.

COMMON COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION
September 7, 2005

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

ROLL CALL

Council President Ruff gave the Agenda Summation

AGENDA SUMMATION

The minutes of July 13, 2005 and August 3, 2005 were approved by a voice vote.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Michael Diekhoff submitted a conflict of interest statement to the council and asked for its acceptance. He said that while state law allowed him to serve in the police department and the council at the same time, he might be asked to vote on items related to the department. It was moved and seconded that this statement be accepted. The motion received a roll call vote of Ayes: 7, Nays: 0.

REPORTS:

▪ COUNCILMEMBERS

Disclosure of Conflict of Interest
Statement for Michael Diekhoff

Chris Sturbaum said he was thinking of both Iraq and New Orleans, the site of Hurricane Katrina. He connected the two items with the issue of leadership. He said that good leadership would have fixed the levees in New Orleans before the hurricane, but that the leadership cut the funds to fix the levees. He added that good leadership would have not started an unprovoked war and said the similarity was that here, too, people are left to clean up the damage and the dead. He said our country was being led astray and that we need better leadership.

Steve Volan noted for the record that he really enjoyed the August recess. He said that the hurricane Katrina disaster reminded him to think of other natural disasters, noting the effect of recent tornados and earthquakes in the area. He said when another more disastrous earthquake would hit our community, as predicted will happen by reputable scientists who study the New Madrid fault, we need to consider our preparedness and how we will respond. He noted that we do not have earthquake clauses in our building code as California does. He also said we need to consider what would happen if our community was totally prepared and the communities around us were not. He invited comments from citizens.

David Sabbagh welcomed the students of IU and IVY TECH and cautioned residents to be careful with driving. He also noted that they are welcome as they were important to the economy of our community.

Dave Rollo thanked Sturbaum for his comments. He said among his thoughts of sadness and horror watching the aftermath of hurricane Katrina unfold were that the national emergency services such as FEMA and DHS would not be able to respond as they should. He said that local communities should assess risks with this in mind and prepare for such an event. Rollo also noted that an investigation into the national disaster response is essential as we all remain at risk if FEMA is not really prepared.

Rollo announced a talk by Richard Heinberg at the Buskirk Chumley Theater on Wednesday, September 14th at 7 pm. He noted the title as Peak Oil - the Challenge and Opportunity of Petroleum's Waning Days, said the talk would be the keynote for the Simply Living Fair and would be free and open to the public. He added that more information could be obtained from the website bloomingpeak.org or the Bloomington Alternative.

Tim Mayer noted the nation's concern on the lack of response of many

levels of government, and he recalled the Ellettsville and Martinsville tornado. He said that within the day, the City of Bloomington's Public Works department contributed people and equipment to deal with damage in Ellettsville. He noted that our community understands needs and rises to meet them in times like that, a thought that comforted him. Mayer noted that there were people coming from the Gulf area hit by Katrina that would be coming to our community to live, and asked that civic organizations and citizens to welcome them and help them. He noted that everything they owned was missing and asked folks to help them out.

Mayor Kruzan announced a public hearing on Thursday, September 8 at 7:00 pm in the council chambers regarding the Auto Mall Road project. He apologized for the way the issue regarding the modification of the roadway was handled and regretted the needless upset to a lot of people, including businesses along that stretch of road. He expressed regrets for this trouble. He noted that the city council members were not to blame for any misunderstanding on this issue. He stated that any frustration on this issue should be directed to the executive branch of government, and not the legislative branch.

Kruzan said that the hurricane and relief efforts had put things into perspective for him, and that the local response to the disaster showed a caring and compassionate community. He noted that local people are driving supplies to the affected areas, offering their houses, and then asking what else they can do. He said the City of Bloomington will be announcing an event to be coordinated with the Red Cross and United Way. He specially thanked Bet Savich, volunteer coordinator for the city, for her efforts regarding this extra volunteer coordination. He also noted that five fire fighters and one police officer from Bloomington were headed to the Gulf area to help with relief, and thanked their families. He noted that 125 evacuees are coming to Bloomington.

Kruzan noted that we are presently acting on emotion regarding the immediate need for help and reminded all that the needs will continue to exist for months and even years to come. He noted need for support for the Red Cross and Habitat for Humanity. Kruzan also noted that when checks are written to the Red Cross and other relief agencies, the funds would go to the national organization, and asked that if folks would like their funds to remain in Monroe County, that it be noted in the memo line of their check. Lastly the mayor noted that there are ongoing needs for the United Way campaign and IVY Tech capital campaign.

There was no report from a council committee.

George Brooks, citizen, said he often participated in the regular Wednesday peace vigils on the square. He noted that looking for metaphors to put on signs, he came up with "Recipe for Terrorism: This War." He believed that the hurricane disproportionately hurt the poor. He said that while the president often talks about the sanctity of human life, the bombing of Iraq has hurt people's lives. He added that permanent bases in Iraq send a mixed message about our intentions, and that we need to make reparation to the families that have been bombed and get them humanitarian aid to repair our reputation.

There were no appointments to boards and commissions.

There was no legislation for second reading or final action.

- MAYOR and CITY OFFICES

- COUNCIL COMMITTEES

- PUBLIC INPUT

BOARD AND COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS

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 05-04 An Ordinance for Appropriations and Tax Rates (2006 Civil City Budget for the City of Bloomington)

Appropriation Ordinance 05-04

Appropriation Ordinance 05-05 An Ordinance Adopting a Budget for the Operation, Maintenance, Debt Service and Capital Improvements for the Water and Wastewater Utility Departments of the City of Bloomington, Indiana for the Year 2006

Appropriation Ordinance 05-05

Appropriation Ordinance 05-06 To Specially Appropriate from the General Fund and Risk Management Fund Expenditures Not Otherwise Appropriated (Appropriating a Transfer of Funds within the General Fund – Animal Care and Control Division; Appropriating Funds from the General Fund – Fire Department for Overtime; Appropriating Grants Awarded to the Police Department; and Appropriating Funds from the Risk Management Fund for Workers Compensation Charges)

Appropriation Ordinance 05-06

Ordinance 05-20 To Fix the Salaries of All Elected City Officials for the City of Bloomington for the Year 2006

Ordinance 05-20

Ordinance 05-21 An Ordinance Fixing the Salaries of Appointed Officers, Non-Union and A.F.S.C.M.E. Employees for All the Departments of the City of Bloomington, Monroe County, Indiana, for the Year 2006

Ordinance 05-21

Ordinance 05-22 An Ordinance Fixing the Salaries of Officers of the Police and Fire Departments for the City of Bloomington, Indiana, for the Year 2006

Ordinance 05-22

Ordinance 05-24 An Ordinance Reviewing and Modifying the Budget of the Bloomington Public Transportation Corporation for the Year 2006

Ordinance 05-24

Ordinance 05-25 To Amend Title 15 of the Bloomington Municipal Code Entitled "Vehicles and Traffic" - Re: Changes on North Dunn Street which Add Multi-Way Stop Signs at Saville Avenue and Tamarrack Trail (Section 15.12.010 - Schedule B) and Remove Authorization for Traffic Calming Devices (Section 15.26.040 – Schedule J-1)

Ordinance 05-25

Ordinance 05-26 To Designate an Economic Development Target Area (EDTA) - Re: 1010, 1018, 1026, 1034 and 1042 W. 14th Street (City of Bloomington Housing and Neighborhood Development Department and Habitat for Humanity of Monroe County, Inc., Petitioners)

Ordinance 05-26

Ordinance 05-27 To Amend Ordinances which Fixed the Salaries of Appointed Officers and Employees of the Civil City for the Year 2005 (Ordinance 04-19) and Utilities for the Year 2005 (Ordinance 04-21) - Re: Positions in the Community and Family Resources, Engineering, HAND, Information Services, Office of the Mayor, Parking Enforcement, Parks and Recreation, Planning, the Police Department, Sanitation, and Utilities

Ordinance 05-27

David Grubb wondered why we were worried about what was going on way down 'yonder in Louisiana. He said he was concerned about trash and farmland and noted that we don't need more flowers here in our town.

PUBLIC INPUT

Mr. Grubb began to ask irrelevant and disrespectful questions of the

council which prompted Ruff to ask that Grubb keep his comments relevant and respectful.

Grubb said the cancer that we are dying of is our own pollution. He had concerns about the water wells he had drilled that are now polluted.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:27 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

APPROVE:



Andy Ruff, PRESIDENT
Bloomington Common Council

ATTEST:



Regina Moore, CLERK
City of Bloomington