

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

COMMON COUNCIL  
REGULAR SESSION  
December 7, 2005

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

ROLL CALL

Council President Ruff gave the Agenda Summation

AGENDA SUMMATION

There were no minutes to be approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chris Sturbaum said he was going to do two things this Christmas that would make him feel good. He said he would be doing all his Christmas shopping downtown to support local businesses as he had done since he was about 10 years old, and the other was to give \$100 to Martha's House, the local shelter for persons who have no home. He said the shelter needed support at this time of year, and that half of one's donation would be available for state tax credits. He urged support for them.

REPORTS:

▪ COUNCILMEMBERS

Jason Banach noted that one's gift to Martha's House could also be used as a deduction on federal taxes. He said this was a great cause and urged support.

Dave Rollo said he agreed with Sturbaum's statement about buying local and shopping downtown.

Tim Mayer said he would support Martha's House as well, and noted that he and his wife shopped downtown just the night before. He noted with particular delight the canopy of lights and thanked people involved in decorating the square with all nineteen miles of lights.

Andy Ruff welcomed students who were present in the council chambers, and hoped that they would find the meeting interesting, informative and enlightening.

Maren McGrane introduced Nate Nickel, Senior Long Rang Planner, from the Planning Department. Nickel explained the newly unveiled Prospect Hill Neighborhood Plan which had been released at public meeting the night before that was hosted by the Planning and Housing and Neighborhood Development departments. He said this was the third plan the city had developed and was available to the public in the planning department, on line or at local copy shops. He said that the neighborhood was chosen for the study by application process, that public meetings were held with workshops to determine the strengths, weaknesses, threats and opportunities for the area. He said a volunteer steering committee oversaw the development of the plan which identified goals, objectives, and action strategies for achieving the goals.

▪ MAYOR and CITY  
OFFICES

Volan said he was pleased to hear of the plan and asked about the timing of the next plan. Nickel said it would be sometime next year. Nickel said that the application process would be fine tuned.

Mayer thanked those who were instrumental in the project and asked that the planning department consider a neighborhood on the other side of town since the three plans were for Broadview, McDoel and Prospect Hill, all on the near west side of town.

Ruff asked if neighborhoods were lined up for this process, to which

Nickel said Elm Heights had submitted a plan, and that five neighborhoods had submitted applications for the last round.

Sturbaum noted that the sub-area plans were envisioned in the 1991 Growth Policies Plan, and said that neighbors were looking at smaller portions of the areas to do planning on a micro level. He thanked the new administration for their emphasis on this process. He thanked the Planning Department for the great work on the Prospect Hill Plan.

Mayer noted that the Miller Drive plan had been developed right after the Growth Policies Plan was passed and therefore there were really four plans in play.

There were no reports from council committees at this meeting.

▪ COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Lucille Bertuccio, President of the Center for Sustainable Living, said that the Center's organization had been in existence since 1991. She introduced four students from Richard Wilkes class on Global Consumer Culture at Indiana University. Katherin Chi, Mike Harpring, Mallory Quigley and Emily Roberts presented a study on Commercial Food Waste Diversion by Creating a Zero-Waste Community.

▪ PUBLIC INPUT

There were no appointments at this meeting.

BOARD AND COMMISSION  
APPOINTMENTS  
LEGISLATION FOR SECOND  
READING

It was moved and seconded that Ordinance 05-30 be introduced and read by title and synopsis. Clerk Moore read the legislation and synopsis, giving the Committee Do-Pass Recommendation of 9-0-0. It was moved and seconded that Ordinance 05-30 be adopted.

Ordinance 05-30 To Amend Title 8 of the Bloomington Municipal Code, Entitled "Historic Preservation and Protection" to Establish a Historic District – Re: 1115 North College (Vencel Properties, Inc., Petitioner)

Nancy Hiestand, Program Manager for Housing and Neighborhood Development and staff member for the Historic Preservation Commission presented the details of this proposal for designation. She said that this structure was a remnant of the old affluent historic corridor that existed on North College in the early part of the twentieth century. She said that the Maple Heights neighborhood just west of the property was interested in creating a historic district in the area. She added that the Historic Preservation Commission voted unanimously in favor of this designation and found it worthy on architectural grounds.

Hiestand explained that the owner intended to restore some elements of the house and the limestone retaining wall in the front of the house. She noted that the Queen Anne house was different because it was of limestone instead of the usual frame construction of that style. She noted that the owner had developed adjacent properties and buildings with the historic guidance of this home in question. She showed pictures of the property in its day and noted that salvaged limestone was used for the property. She said that the stone retaining wall was a fixture that could be lost in time, and the owner intended to use a \$10,000 Bloomington Urban Enterprise Grant to help with restorations.

Travis Vencel, property owner, said that Hiestand explained his intentions well and he asked for the council support for the designation. Vencel responded to a question from Sturbaum and said he and his brother were in agreement with the designation.

There were no comments from the public on this designation.

Banach noted he was pleased to whole heartedly support the historic designation.

Sturbaum thanked Vencel, stating that when an owner put a property under historic protection it was a gift to the community. He said that it would be here for another 100 years to set an architectural example. He said that with the help the community would be giving Vencel on his restoration, it was truly a win-win situation.

Ordinance 05-30 (cont'd)

Mayer thanked Vencel for re-investing in the community.

Sturbaum noted that only one category was needed for a property to be eligible for historic designation, and that this was a historic house and important because of its architecture.

Rollo thanked Hiestand for her presentation calling it enjoyable and thorough.

Ordinance 05-30 received a roll call vote of Ayes: 8, Nays: 0.

It was moved and seconded that Appropriations Ordinance 05-08 be introduced and read by title and synopsis. Clerk Moore read the legislation and synopsis, giving the Committee Do-Pass Recommendation of 9-0-0. It was moved and seconded that Appropriations Ordinance 05-08 be adopted.

Appropriations Ordinance 05-08 To Specially Appropriate from the General Fund, Fleet Maintenance Fund, Parks & Recreation Fund, and Sanitation Fund Expenditures Not Otherwise Appropriated (Appropriating Various Transfers of Funds within the General Fund for Animal Care & Control, Clerk's Office, Common Council, Community & Family Resources, Housing & Neighborhood Development, Planning, and Police Departments; Appropriating Transfers of Funds within the Parks & Recreation General Fund and within the Sanitation Fund; and Appropriating Funds from the Fleet Maintenance Fund, the General Fund – Fire Department, and for Fuel)

Susan Clark, City Controller, noted that this was the year end appropriation ordinance and that many of the items were transfers from one major category to another thus requiring council approval. She itemized the transfers and the additional moneys that were required for the departments. She noted that the Police Department had received a grant of \$7500 from the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute that needed to be appropriated into the budget.

She noted that with the unexpected rise in fuel costs in the past few months, the Fleet Maintenance fund budget was not adequate for the year.

Sturbaum asked if the fleet drove more miles than last year, and Clark said it really was all about cost. In answering a question from Banach from the committee meeting, Clark noted that the 2005 budget allowed for \$1.60 per gallon for fuel, and in 2006 the budget included \$1.95 for unleaded and \$2.05 for diesel fuel.

Banach asked about taxes on fuel to which Clark said that the city did not pay the federal tax of 18.5 cents per gallon.

Sturbaum asked how costs were going, to which Clark noted fluctuating prices. She added that costs were on a downward trend, but that there might still be a need for transfers and additional appropriations at the end of next year. She said that the last fuel invoice showed prices of \$1.72 for unleaded and \$2.72 for biodiesel. Clark advised the council to note that there would be reversions from other budget lines not fully used that will cover the amount of appropriations in this ordinance.

There were no comments from the public on this item.

Council comments included a statement from Rollo. He said we could expect more volatility in the markets over the next year. He said it would be constructive to form a plan for higher costs of liquid fuels, and that the increases this year would seem modest in the coming years. He added that we should ascertain the fuel efficiency of city vehicles, consolidate use of city vehicles, and he then invited council members to work with him and the mayor in creating such a plan.

Diekhoff noted that many departments had already cut back on fuel use when the prices rose this year. He said that there had been serious thought about vehicle use at that time.

Appropriations Ordinance 05-08  
(cont'd)

Gaal thanked Rollo for his comments and the theme of peak oil that he has spoken about all year. He said this was the type of forward thinking that the council should be engaging in.

Appropriations Ordinance 05-08 received a roll call vote of Ayes: 8, Nays: 0.

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

Ordinance 05-33 To Amend Title 7 of the Bloomington Municipal Coded Entitled "Animals" - Re: Extensive Amendments which Delete Chapter 7.12 (Licensing) and Make Changes to All the Other Chapters in the Title

Ordinance 05-33

Ordinance 05-34 To Amend Title 10 of the Bloomington Municipal Code Entitled "Wastewater" (Wastewater Rate Adjustment)

Ordinance 05-34

Ordinance 05-35 An Ordinance To Authorize Issuance of Sewage Works Revenue Bonds (For Wastewater and Storm Water Projects)

Ordinance 05-35

There were no comments from public at the meeting.

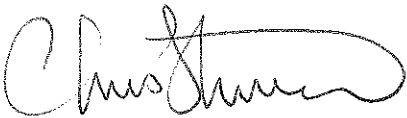
PUBLIC INPUT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:37 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

APPROVE:

ATTEST:



Chris Sturbaum, PRESIDENT  
Bloomington Common Council

Regina Moore, CLERK  
City of Bloomington