

In the Council Chambers of the Showers City Hall on Wednesday, October 20, 2004 at 7:30 pm with Council President Diekhoff presiding over a Regular Session of the Common Council.

COMMON COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION
October 20, 2004

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

ROLL CALL

Council President Diekhoff gave the Agenda Summation

AGENDA SUMMATION

There were no minutes to be approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Jason Banach reported that he attended a real estate auction for three houses on North College recently. He said he was surprised that there were only one or two bids on the properties and that these bids were a fraction of the appraised value. He said it demonstrated a disconnect between the business community and the historic preservationists, as these properties were perceived as being under the 'threat' of historic designation. Banach noted that he would like it if the council had an opportunity to address this issue in a constructive fashion.

MESSAGES FROM
COUNCILMEMBERS

Chris Sturbaum said he wanted to put the auction, mentioned by Banach, in a larger perspective. He told of the beginnings of Bloomington and said that in the 1890s the core city and core neighborhoods were built to much of what we see now. He summarized the chronology of the 'City Beautiful' movement that created the Monroe County Courthouse and urban core, the building of the suburban areas with the abandonment of the downtown and the current downtown revitalization movement. He said the remnants of past town building need to be saved, adding that current planners are replicating this pedestrian friendly model. He said when historic preservationists consider saving pieces of the old town model, this remnant of the past is valuable. He said the community has an interest in buildings and that we should not succumb to random acts of capitalism, but should build the town together. He warned of the same shortsightedness that threatened to demolish the courthouse.

Andy Ruff announced a rally at 11 am on Friday, October 22, 2004, at the east entrance to the Indiana Statehouse to oppose the construction of a new terrain I-69 highway route 3C. He encouraged attendance of local citizens.

Stephen Volan read a letter he had written to a citizen that complained about Volan's wearing of a hat in the council chambers. Volan said he meant no disrespect to the council body, but wore the hat as he is extremely sensitive to the glare of the bright overhead lights. He said this discomfort made it difficult for him to see and concentrate on the business of the council. He welcomed suggestions to his problem.

David Sabbagh said he was in Bloomfield last week for a report on Crane. He said Lt. Governor Kathy Davis and former U.S. Senator Birch Bayh were present and were working with Southern Indiana Business Alliance (SIBA) to keep Crane open. He said they were surprised about the resolution opposing the routing of I-69 through the city of Bloomington. Sabbagh said we should all work together to insure that Crane stays open.

Dave Rollo said that Crane is an economic resource for our community but took exception to Sabbagh's evaluation of the impact of the I-69 highway. He said that the highway was insignificant for the viability of Crane in the BRAC considerations. He said that they have the accessibility needed for the base, and that for security reasons and future

expansion, it would be best if sprawl did not develop around the base. He said he wanted the record to indicate that I-69 was not an issue in the viability of Crane Naval Base. Rollo also reported that a recent Bioneers Conference was a success, and was gaining national recognition. He related the topics of well received and nationally known speakers, acknowledged Mayor Kruzan's keynote speech, and thanked the organizers and sponsors for allowing our community to be recognized for its concern and efforts on environmental protection and sustainability.

Tim Mayer said he had just received word that his son and daughter-in-law were preparing for the delivery of new twin babies and wished them well.

President Diekhoff welcomed Stacy Jane Rhodes to the council office as the new Assistant Administrator.

Maren McGrane, Council Liaison with the Mayor's Office, introduced Greg Volan, Manager of Information Technology Services, who gave a report on the Bloomington Digital Underground Advisory.

Volan reviewed the creation and direction of the BDU advisory committee, adding that his report would serve as the promised annual progress report to the council. Volan named last year's committee members and commended the council and board of public works for gathering an impressive group to tackle the mission of providing advice and recommendations on the usage, pricing and management of the City of Bloomington's fiber optic assets. Volan recited the two recommendations suggested by the committee 1) allow the Center for Behavioral Health to use two strands of the city's fiber for free, and 2) have the city hire a consultant to prepare a telecommunications strategic development plan. Volan added that the committee's current and ongoing assessment of the demand for fiber optic service in the city, of the ability of current providers to meet that demand and the city's role in response to any failure in the market fall within the purview of the committee. He added that the answers to these questions help determine how best to use the fiber optic assets to serve the public good.

Chris Gaal, council representative on the Environmental Resources Advisory Committee (ERAC), reported on recent activities. He stated that the function of the committee was to advise the Parks Board and department regarding natural resources. In the interest of keeping an important issue before the public, he read a letter which the committee recently sent to the Monroe County Plan Commission regarding the property North of the Griffy Lake preserve. Gaal reviewed the plan that would divide an area into twenty-nine parcels for development, said that the county Plan Commission unanimously voted against it and thanked them for making a decision that reflects the best interest of the community. He added that the Monroe County Commissioners will now take up the issue.

David R. Grubb, who called himself a country boy from Salt Creek township, said he was ashamed of how the city was being run. He warned of sludge and poisons in the community that were seeping into the water table and criticized those who have allowed septic systems around Lake Monroe. He said they were bound to fail and would poison the water supply even more. He called for county government control over the city, and said that government should be protecting children from poisons.

Jim Murphy, Vice President of CFC, noted that he sent a letter to the council regarding a section in the recently amended property

MESSAGES FROM COUNCILMEMBERS (cont'd)

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PUBLIC INPUT

maintenance code. He referred to a code update that increased the minimum size of bedroom windows for egress. He said that one of their properties built in 1968 had 166 windows that were now noted by the city to be out of compliance with this code, even though they met the code requirements when the building was built. He said his choices were to change the windows for a cost of \$92,000 or to ask for a variance to the code which would probably require the installation of hard wired smoke detectors for a cost of \$39,000. He said neither option was acceptable and said it was costly to have the properties inspected more frequently. He asked for a change in the code, and said he hoped the council took this matter seriously.

There were no appointments to boards or commissions from the council.

It was moved and seconded that Resolution 04-20 be introduced and read by title and synopsis. Clerk Moore read the legislation and synopsis, stating that there was no committee recommendation. It was moved and seconded that Resolution 04-20 be adopted.

President Diekhoff said he was asked to sponsor this resolution in support of the application for the award. He asked Talisha Coppock, President of the Downtown Bloomington Commission, to further explain its purpose. She said the last twenty five years of historic preservation, promotion of the arts and downtown businesses, and residential and governmental involvement in downtown was a wonderful story to celebrate and tell to the Main Street Program. She said the resolution was part of the application along with the history of the downtown revitalization and a documentation of five major achievements in downtown.

Resolution 04-20 received a roll call vote of Ayes: 9, 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.

Appropriation Ordinance 04-07 To Specially Appropriate from the General Fund, Sanitation Fund and Telecommunications Non-Reverting Fund Expenditures Not Otherwise Appropriated (Appropriating Funds from the General Fund – Animal Care and Control Department for Medical Supplies; Appropriating Funds from the Sanitation Fund for Landfill Fees; and Appropriating Funds from the Telecommunications Non-Reverting Fund for a Grant, to Hire a Consultant, to Install Fiber Optic Cable between the Animal Shelter and the Sanitation Building, and to Transfer Funds to the General Fund).

Ordinance 04-30 To Vacate a Public Parcel - Re: A 12-Foot Wide Right-of-Way Between Dunn Street and Indiana Avenue Running North of Thirteenth Street for 132 Feet (PSI Energy, Inc, and a Wholly Owned Subsidiary Known as South Construction Company, Petitioners).

Ordinance 04-31 To Vacate a Public Parcel - Re: A 12-Foot Wide Improved Alley Running Between 307 and 317 East 2nd Street from East Second Street to the First Alley North of the Street (The Trustees of Indiana University, Petitioner).

Ordinance 04-32 To Amend the Bloomington Zoning Maps from PUD and RM7 to PUD and to Amend the Preliminary Plan for the Century

PUBLIC INPUT (cont'd)

BOARD AND COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS

LEGISLATION FOR SECOND READING

Resolution 04-20 In Support of the Downtown Bloomington Commission's Application for the 2005 Great American Main Street Award

LEGISLATION FOR FIRST READING

Appropriation Ordinance 04-07

Ordinance 04-30

Ordinance 04-31

Ordinance 04-32

Village 2 Planned Unit Development (PUD) - Re: 300 S. State Road 446
(Bill C. Brown, Petitioner).

LEGISLATION FOR FIRST
READING (*cont'd*)

Ordinance 04-33 To Amend Title 8 of the Bloomington Municipal Code,
Entitled "Historic Preservation and Protection " to Establish a Historic
District - Re: Hitching Posts at 416 East Fourth Street and 615 West Sixth
Street (Bloomington Historic Preservation Commission, Petitioner).

Ordinance 04-33

There was no public input at this point in the meeting.

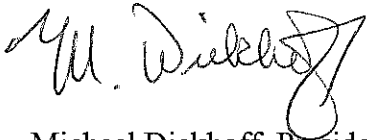
PUBLIC INPUT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

APPROVE:

ATTEST:



Michael Diekhoff, President
Bloomington Common Council



Regina Moore, CLERK
City of Bloomington