

In the Council Chambers of the Showers City Hall at a meeting held on Wednesday, April 2, 1997 at 7:30 PM with Council President Pizzo presiding over a Regular Session of the Common Council.

COMMON COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION
APRIL 2, 1997

Roll Call: Banach, Mayer, Young, Cole, Pizzo, Service, Sabbagh, Sherman, Pierce.

ROLL CALL

Mayor John Fernandez presented the State of the City Address to the Common Council. A copy of the full text is attached to the approved minutes of this meeting.

STATE OF THE CITY

President Pizzo gave the Agenda Summation.

AGENDA SUMMATION

The minutes of March 5, 1997 were approved by a voice vote.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Pierce congratulated the BHS North Basketball Team, the 1997 Indiana High School Basketball Champions.

MESSAGES FROM
COUNCILMEMBERS

Sabbagh applauded the Mayor for his aggressive pursuit regarding the PCB issue, the importance of downtown viability, the delivery of basic services and infrastructure. Sidewalks for kids walking to school are a priority, the Thomson closing will affect the entire community, we must be prudent about spending, good choices must be made, and that he opposed the remodeling of the Mayflower lot for the Farmers Market. It is not a prudent use of \$250,000, is fiscally irresponsible and that it should be reconsidered. Service expressed concerns about the upcoming MCCSC redistricting discussion that is talking place before the School Board and she hoped that there would be a significant socio-economic mix in all our schools and if kids are going to be bused to their schools, anyway, then the mix of backgrounds can be more easily accomplished. She commended the Mayor for his expansion of access to and the availability of health care to domestic partners of all/any city employees, and finally, she said that two of her books will now be made into films and she said that we all might have an opportunity to audition for a voice role in the productions.

Cole congratulated Service on her good news, noted the closing of the Betty Jean Shop on the north side of the downtown square and expressed concern about the increased expenses of doing business in the downtown.

Mayer also congratulated Service and commended all the people involved in the "rebirth" of the house on 10th St and Woodlawn.

Banach also wished Service the best, congratulated the BHS Cougars, gently commented on a HT letter from ed a BHS South student who was unhappy because only the Basketball players were acknowledged in recent school successes and Banach assured her the Common Council appreciates all the successes of every student effort. He too talked about his opposition to the Farmers Market project and he said this is \$250,000 left over from the Showers Bond issue, will cost \$27,000 each year in interest alone over the life of the bond, in addition to maintenance cost, he asked that the record reflect his strict opposition to this project.

Pizzo commended the Science Olympiad winners and said that encomiums will be forthcoming from the council.

Pizzo said that the Housing Trust Fund Board met and completed the application for funds procedure. A point system will be established to evaluate each application.

REPORTS FROM COUNCIL
COMMITTEES

William E. Scott spoke was disturbed at the State of the City Address that was congratulatory when he thought the city was in a state of despair, the rate of crime, teenage crime, drive by shootings, rapes on almost a daily basis, the state of our high schools, violence to educators, drug abuse, 20-25% of high school girls are pregnant and the domestic partners health insurance for city

PUBLIC INPUT

employees. He also disagreed with everything Pam Service said and he thought we were all in serious trouble in this community.

It was moved and seconded that Ordinance 97-13 be introduced and read by title only. Clerk Williams read the legislation by title only.

It was moved and seconded that Ordinance 97-13 be adopted. The synopsis was given. There was no committee recommendation.

LEGISLATION FOR
SECOND/READING
ORDINANCE 97-13

Don Hastings, Planning Director, summarized the ordinance and said that our zoning ordinance does not identify brewpubs or breweries and the national growth of this particular industry has been tremendous and that is reflected locally in growing enquiries as to the availability of this use in our area.

Currently there are two brewpubs operating in Bloomington and the Allen St. facility would like to relocate to the north side of town. It is within that context that this petition has been forwarded to the council this evening. This question is, do we consider these as a restaurant/tavern because they serve beer or are they an industrial use because they often keg beer for off site shipment. Some cities have considered them as a manufacturing use, others as a restaurant tavern, and we have treated them as both, depending on how big they are and where they plan to be located. After researching how other cities regard this use, it was necessary to differentiate brewpubs from breweries and a threshold of 15,000 barrels a year was decided on. If less is brewed then the use is considered a brewpub (retail, commercial use), and if more than 15,000 is made then it would be a brewery and must be reported to the state. Also if there is less than the 15,000 barrels per year and there isn't enough restaurant/tavern space provided, then it would still be an industrial use and defined as a brewery. It was also determined that brewpubs should be permitted in commercial areas (arterial, general and downtown) and conditional uses in business park and light industrial districts. The brewery uses should be permitted in light industrial and general industrial and conditional in business.

Brewpubs must have 15% or 500 sq ft, (whichever is larger) of their gross floor area as a restaurant tavern use and have a certain commercial pedestrian aspect to it. And a downtown facility should have at least 50% of the floor area be dedicated to restaurant/tavern usage. Brewpubs in light industrial areas must be compatible with the other uses and general theme and cannot exceed 4,000 sqft. And brewpubs in the business parks cannot exceed 15,000 sqft. Parking requirements were based on existing code for restaurants and taverns.

Banach asked, as a comparative, how many barrels does Lennies (a local brewpub) produce and Hastings said about 3,000 per year. They would not intend to exceed the 5,000 barrel amount.

Mike Shay, Long Range Planner, said that the standards that have been established have come from the industry itself.

Mayer asked if this proposal was in response to a particular petitioner or case. Hastings said it was in response to expressions of interest from persons in town as well as out of town. Planning thought it was a fairly simple code amendment to bring forth. Mayer asked about the annual code review and Hastings said that this year Planning is focusing on the transportation plan update and in 1998 the focus will be the Growth Policy Plan Update. A file of needed changes is being maintained. There have been three expressions of interest in the last five months and again, this is an easier one to do than some of the other larger more comprehensive areas that need to be adjusted. He urged the council to let him know just what areas of the code they would like to see adjusted.

Service thought that stretching the discussion time table of many of the

changes that the council is concerned about is important so that they can really be carefully considered.

Sherman asked if our smoking ordinance applies to this usage. Shay said that, yes, it would apply to all the public portions of these uses.

Cole also asked about the already identified sub area plans and Hastings said that Mike Shay would be working on this, neighborhood organizations will be surveyed and within the next month the planners will be out in the field developing those plans.

The ordinance received a roll call vote of Ayes:9, Nays:0.

There was no legislation for First Reading.

It was moved, seconded and approved by a voice vote that the council would not meet next week.

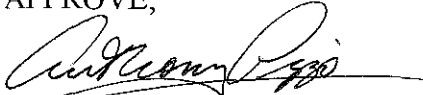
There was no public input.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM

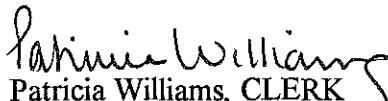
LEGISLATION FOR FIRST
READING ~ NONE

PUBLIC INPUT
ADJOURNMENT

APPROVE;


Anthony Pizzo, President
Bloomington Common Council

ATTEST;


Patricia Williams, CLERK
City of Bloomington



1997 STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS

Mayor John Fernandez

April 2, 1997



Members of the Common Council, City Clerk, City staff, and citizens of Bloomington:

It is an honor and a privilege to stand before you tonight to deliver the 1997 State of the City address.

In the last ten weeks we've all heard reports on the states of various jurisdictions; State of the Union, State of the State, and last Wednesday, the State of the County. It seems appropriate that the State of the County and the State of City should follow the federal and state reports. With each report you get closer to the people. And the sequence from federal to state to local government mirrors the shifts in responsibilities and burdens that are the hallmark of governance at the end of the twentieth century.

The so-called "de-evolution" of government, a term with perhaps more than one appropriate meaning — and a process the full ramifications of which are not yet fully known — compels us to continually re-examine and clarify the role of municipal government in the lives of our citizens.

THE MISSION OF MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT

When I gave this address to you last year, my administration had just begun a strategic planning process so that we might add more clarity to our purpose, more precision to our direction, and more focus to our efforts. Our strategies must, of course, remain flexible so that we can respond to changes in a dynamic environment. But with input from members of the community, and with the help of our extremely talented staff, we have been able to articulate mission, vision, values and goals that will serve this administration well as a management tool.

I would like to focus this evening on the mission of this municipal government. Briefly, I see this mission as consisting of three components:

1. Quality delivery of basic services and programs.
2. Continuous improvement of government.
3. Preservation and enhancement of community character.

I would like to consider each of these briefly. Let's start with community character.

PRESERVE AND ENHANCE COMMUNITY CHARACTER

In order to preserve and enhance community character we will maintain, develop and implement policies that foster those aspects of our community spirit, and our civic life, that combined constitute the cherished quality of life that is uniquely Bloomington's.

These policies include protecting the community's natural assets, and enhancing environmental quality. In Bloomington, any progress on environmental quality must begin with the remediation of PCB contamination in our city. This administration has taken an aggressive approach in negotiations with the consent decree parties. We have agreed to using an independent facilitator to help us resolve our differences. She will help us in our efforts, and I remain determined that cleanup begin this year.

Bloomington is keenly aware of soil erosion as an environmental issue. At the urging of the Common Council the City retained soil erosion enforcement within its planning jurisdiction as part of our interlocal agreement with the County. But we are particularly encouraged by the response to the two soil erosion seminars the City Engineer and the Planning Department have conducted in conjunction with the Monroe County Building Association. The response is a testament to how education and working together with the private sector can mitigate the need for enforcement activities.

Our parks system is an integral part of our community character. Presently, the City's Parks Department has been working closely with the Utilities Department to acquire right-of-way for two new greenbelt trails in conjunction with constructing new sewer interceptors on the south side. Parks has also been working with the Department of Community and Family Resources on the design and management of the new site for that important emblem of our community character, the Farmers' Market. The new location for the market and the other uses

to which the site will be put will enhance the vitality of the downtown, and contribute to the renaissance of the Morton Street area. For Bloomington to be Bloomington, our downtown must thrive.

A compassion for citizens in crisis is also a hallmark of Bloomington's community character. Our 1997 budget increased the Common Council's social services grant line by 80%. Our Department of Housing and Neighborhood Development manages targeted redevelopment projects funded by Community Development Block Grants, and provides ongoing administrative support for the Housing Trust Fund. The Department of Community and Family Resources has begun carrying out its refocused mission as a resource center and facilitator for the direct providers of social services. The department has also emerged as a forceful advocate for enhancement of the community's accessibility to citizens with disabilities. Sensitivity training has been conducted for city officials and accessible parking spaces have been added downtown. Our Streets Department built over 100 sidewalk ramps last year, and will build over 100 more this summer.

CONTINUOUS GOVERNMENT IMPROVEMENT

The second component of our mission is the continuous improvement of government. We are developing the management and information systems that enable us to implement the best practices and methods for the delivery of services and programs.

This includes improving our organizational architecture so that the City can best achieve its mission. The Rose Hill division of Public Works, which oversees the City's landscaping, has been transferred to the Parks Department in order to consolidate our natural resources operations. The result has been a natural synergy and greater efficiency. The restructuring of the Redevelopment Department and Code Enforcement Division into the new Department of Housing and Neighborhood Development has been a major organizational effort, but one for which the benefits and rewards are already apparent. I am very excited about this new department and its mission, and I am gratified by the energy and enthusiasm coming from the affected staff. I would like to take this opportunity to especially thank Doris Sims, the Director of that

department, for her dynamic and effective leadership in meeting the challenge and overseeing this important step in our efforts to improve municipal government.

We are all familiar with the adage that government must learn to do more with less. We accept this challenge. Our 1997 budget slowed the rate of growth in our City property taxes. With the state's formulas for property tax limits, the impact of this slow down will have a lasting beneficial impact on Bloomington's taxpayers.

In order to do more with less, we must have the necessary information to make rational decisions about the costs and benefits of municipal programs and services. As the next evolutionary step in our program budgeting process, the Controller's Office has begun an important new initiative in Activity-Based Costing . With Activity-Based Costing we will learn much more about the true costs, both direct and indirect, of City programs. Pilot studies have begun with our Parks Department and Information Services division, with the goal of eventually applying this important management tool City-wide. Bringing this private sector practice to our public sector decisions will help ensure that taxpayers are getting the most value for their dollar.

In order to be effective, government must be accessible, so that feedback from the community can be integrated into the decision-making process. I have been holding office hours so that I can meet more frequently with individuals from the community. I do a radio call-in show every month on each of Bloomington's two non-profit stations. Through E-mail via the Internet my office alone receives dozens of messages every month. With the cooperation of Bloomington Cable Access Television, we expanded City meeting coverage to include the Parks Board and the Board of Public Works, and plan to expand meeting coverage further this fall.

We will continue to seek effective and inclusive means to engage in two-way communication with our citizens. Towards that goal, our Planning Department and the Neighborhood Development division will conduct an open neighborhood forum in early June so that our neighborhood residents and our staff can talk constructively about the community's priorities and resource allocation.

Customer service is another goal this administration strives for as part of our efforts to improve government. An example of such service is the AQUA-Pay system recently

implemented by our Utilities Department. For greater convenience, Utilities customers can now have their payments automatically deducted from their checking accounts.

Our Sanitation Division has made it easier for our customers to recycle by reducing sorting requirements, especially with the pick-up of mixed paper products. We have expanded the frequency of recyclables collection with every-other-week service. And we've tried to make the purchase of trash stickers easier for customers by initiating a mail order system and expanding retail distribution to include City Hall and the Utilities Service Center.

Government is most effective and most efficient when the various jurisdictions work together to achieve common goals. The transition to a county-wide building permit system is an example of the benefits to be derived from intergovernmental cooperation and a customer-driven approach to governance.

I meet monthly with our County Commissioners so that together we may explore concerted solutions to local problems. We are moving forward with an agreement for the joint dispatch of our fire fighters, law enforcement officers and ambulance services, resulting in not just more efficient government but, more importantly, enhanced public safety protection for our community.

The City is also enjoying the fruit of our efforts to enhance cooperation and collaboration with our educational institutions. Our relationship with Indiana University remains strong and we are grateful for their help on everything from the PCB cleanup to the Thomson plant closing. We are excited by both the potential and the immediate benefits of the partnership with the Monroe County Community School Corporation as together we develop the Southeast Park around the new middle school. And both the Monroe County and Richland-Bean Blossom Schools have been working with the City and the Chamber of Commerce on the School-to-Careers initiative to help prepare our youth for the economy of the next century.

QUALITY DELIVERY OF BASIC SERVICES AND PROGRAMS

If there is a nucleus to our mission, it is the quality delivery of basic services and programs. We must do well those things that municipal government is uniquely expected and able to do,

such as public safety, streets and roads and parks.

Nowhere is the role of municipal government more important than in protecting public safety. With the leadership of former SPEA dean Charles Bonser, many members of the community have come together to help us research the problem of crime in our community through our Safe and Civil City Project. Next week at a community summit that task force will seek public input on preliminary action plans.

We have taken other important strides with regard to public safety. Last year the City entered into new collective bargaining agreements with the Fraternal Order of Police and the Fire Fighters Association. As I mentioned earlier, we are moving forward with the joint dispatch system for public safety services. We will be relocating our police department early next year into the old municipal building, simultaneously giving us more space for our severely cramped police force, making that force more accessible to the community, providing a command post for the joint dispatch system, and making the highest and best use of a municipal asset.

But while buildings and communications systems are important, the quality of our police protection ultimately comes down to the officer on the street. In the last year we have added five new police officers to our force and I would like to introduce you to four of them now:

Jeff Alwine William Jeffers Faron Lake Mick Williams

Gentlemen, we are pleased to have you on the force and appreciate your willingness to contribute to public service and the public safety.

I would also like to welcome our other new officer, Wendy Pritchard-Kelly, who is currently at the police academy and could not join us this evening.

Another core function of municipal government is the investment in, and maintenance of, our city's infrastructure. Infrastructure is about a lot more than pipes and asphalt. It is critical to the preservation of our quality of life, and to sustaining a healthy economy. Taking care of our infrastructure is not glamorous, nor are the full benefits derived immediately. But we must summon the political will to sacrifice now so that we may make the investments that will ensure that our children do not pay for our short-sightedness, and that they instead inherit a safe, vibrant and thriving community.

INVESTING IN OUR FUTURE

Construction will begin this summer on the sewer interceptors that will improve wastewater service to our expanding south side. The Utilities Department is also embarking on an important study of the impact of wet weather on our aging wastewater system — an important first step for ensuring that the system continues to meet our needs, and those of the next generation.

Our storm water network grows increasingly dilapidated. We have recently seen dramatic damage to structures and roadways created by a rapidly deteriorating drainage system. I have asked our City Engineer to work with Public Works, Utilities and Planning to begin a thorough and comprehensive investigation of our options for repair and improvements to this critical component of our infrastructure. We begin this investigation with no preconceived notions on how these improvements should be funded, but we accept the reality that the required investment must be made, and will be substantial.

The demands on our city's roads and streets are also growing rapidly. We continue to make improvements of the transportation network. Bicycle lanes have been added to the frequently used north/south corridors of Lincoln and Washington Streets. These pathways both enhance our transportation alternatives and slow the traffic through these neighborhoods. And we remain committed to increasing the mileage of bike paths in the community.

Right-of-way acquisition is completed and construction will begin this summer on improvements to Hillside Drive and Tapp Road. And our 1997 budget reflects substantially increased funding for traffic signalization, lane striping and street paving.

The unfortunate truth about our transportation network is that our needs continue to outpace our ability to keep up. The estimated cost to the City for projects over the next five years necessary just to correct existing road capacity deficits is \$18 million. This is just for our most critical, current needs and does not account for any future growth. And of this \$18 million, only \$9 million from existing federal and local revenue sources can be realistically anticipated for these badly needed projects. We are only half-way to where we need to be in order to satisfy current demands on our transportation system.

We will continue to lobby our state and federal officials to increase funding to local governments for our transportation needs, but we cannot make realistic capital plans based on

wishing and hoping. My administration will work closely with the Common Council to explore creative and fair financing solutions. We all know that someday, someone will pay the price. The cost of delay is too high. Let us make these important investments now for the future of our community.

I cannot give you a report tonight without commenting on two historic events that have had a great impact on our community. No amount of foreshadowing could have fully prepared us for the emotional impact of Thomson's announcement of the closing of the Bloomington RCA plant. You have all seen the numbers about jobs that will be lost, payrolls that won't be paid, multiplier effects and, yes, government revenues that won't be collected.

These numbers are important. But the loss is greater than economics. There is the stark human tragedy of long-time employees cut adrift. There is the loss of an institution that is an integral part of our community heritage. And there is sorrow in watching a company that is part of our history, part of our culture, deciding that it wants to end what, until now, had been an enduring and mutually beneficial relationship.

We are encouraging Thomson to do the right thing. We believe it should seize the opportunity to become *the* case study of corporate responsibility and humanitarian free enterprise.

In the meantime, we are uplifted by the overwhelming response of the community to this loss. From all quarters have come offers of assistance, many of which we have gratefully accepted. It is truly part of our community character to pull together in times of need.

And in times of joy. As if to provide an analgesic for the pain of the Thomson loss, a group of young men, as proudly diverse as the community from which they hail, rose to the very pinnacle of a most cherished Hoosier institution. I sat in — ironically enough — the RCA dome and watched the Bloomington North Cougars play with all their hearts, and with them were the hearts of a community, this community. The pride in Bloomington was palpable. The victory we celebrate was thrilling.

From the fate of our workforce, to the many accomplishments of our youth, Bloomington cares. And I know we will all do whatever it takes to ensure it forever remains the city we love.