

In the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building held on Wednesday, June 1, 1994 at 8:30 P.M. with Council Vice-President Pizzo presiding over a Regular Session of the Common Council.

COMMON COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION
JUNE 1, 1994

Roll Call: Service, Swain, Pizzo, Hopkins, Cole, White, Kiesling. Absent: Sherman. Councilmember Miller submitted a letter of resignation on May 31, 1994.

Roll Call

Pizzo gave the agenda summation.

AGENDA SUMMATION

White extended prayers to Marge O'Laughlin, State Treasurer for a full recovery from her recent stroke. He wished her well.

MESSAGES FROM
COUNCILMEMBERS

Service said several people have expressed concern about the IU Trustees not supporting the student body/faculty proposal for including domestic partners for insurance purposes as well as the Gay/Lesbian Student Center on campus. While not a city matter, the decision does effect citizens of this community. There will be Open Houses to examine the new, proposed zoning maps and she urged everyone to come over and view the maps. On a personal note, she wished Regina Miller well and said she would be missed.

Swain echoed Pam's comments and also wished Regina well and looked forward to working with her on many other projects.

Pizzo also wished Miller the best of luck.

Diane Breeden-Lee, a resident of Spicewood, expressed the concerns of the neighborhood and the manner in which the city forged ahead with the Sare Rd. road improvements. There were strenuous objections to the removal of trees, the placement of concrete retaining walls, fences and the lack of citizen information and input opportunities. She read a letter from Bob Holladay, a Sare Rd. resident expressing his anger and frustration with the manner in which the city has handled the entire project with citizen tax dollars and with absolutely no citizen input.

MESSAGES FROM THE
PUBLIC

Eugene Fritz, a Kensington resident, also expressed concern about the Sare Rd. project and as a result there is a traffic problem because of the placement of construction signs and everyone is cutting through Kensington to avoid the construction sites. He said he has called the police numerous times and no one has responded. Cars are traveling at a high rate of speed and there are too many children at play who are now at risk.

Don Chesick (sp) asked what the long term plans for Sare Rd are. He was not happy with the concrete retaining walls that will abut his property and when he bought the property, he understood the city owned certain easements but never dreamed that the sidewalk along his property would be edged with a chainlink fence!

Chris Goen, another area resident, said the city needs to take a long hard look at the project, for no one seems to know what is going on. It doesn't have to be this wide and it is a real mess and a real shame.

Hopkins said that people need to keep themselves informed about what is going on. Numerous (Smith Rd as well as Sare Rd.) projects have been on the drawing board for years and residents of those areas have been asking for safety improvements in those roads and we've gone along with that. As plans then develop and the project grows, it can turn into a very unhappy situation for almost everyone.

Service thought the concept of "improved", especially with roads, usually means improvements for cars but not people. Sare Rd has been discussed for years as various by-passes and "loops" have been considered. The current public notice was not adequate for this plan at this time. Small details may be mitigated, but the major issues are pretty much in place.

Swain suggested Traffic Commission input from neighbors in the developmental

stage of plans as well as the Metropolitan Planning Organization. Sare Rd did go through these processes before final decisions were made.

Kiesling said the information flow was very poor and the current thoroughfare plan has been pushed further out than Sare Rd. This road improvement was identified when Hyde Park was annexed in order to make it safer.

White said that the council used to review these kinds of plans at blueprint stages and major capital improvement plans should be brought back to us. He asked Mr. Fritz when the call to the Police Dept was made. He said he would look into that. He urged people to understand that development of heretofore country area creates the need to make safe improvements to those areas after they are heavily developed. White asked about the neighborhood meeting prior to the start of construction and if there was any attempt to modify parts of the plan. Chesick said the main question is why does the street have to be so wide (38') and is this going to be a by-pass at some future date.

Breeden-Lee said she was totally flabbergasted to discover the plans contained a 9' retaining wall topped by a 6' chain link fence. West side trees were not supposed to be cut and she did not find out about the wall until the trees started coming out.

White was concerned that we were not being very customer oriented and this should have been handled better. Service thought the temporary signs should be placed more appropriately. Swain, as the MPO member, said he would look into all of this.

Cole thought bicycle and pedestrian concerns need to be brought to the table in the beginning of the process and there are a lot of new things being utilized in traffic calming initiatives nationwide. Whenever we sit down to solve problems, we are invariably solving problems for cars.

Pizzo, a 30 year resident of Sare Rd, said that as each development has come in the traffic has quadrupled over and over. As a county road, about 12 years ago, there were plans to make this a major road (before 446 was improved), 4 lane it and the county and state government would take it all the way to S.R. 37. So even at that time, the road was slated for improvement. He said speed control is essential when the improvements are completed. There have been 3 deaths in the last 10 years on that road.

It was moved and seconded that Resolution 94-18 be introduced and read by title only. Clerk Williams read the resolution by title only.

SECOND READINGS
RESOLUTION 94-18

It was moved and seconded that Resolution 94-18 be adopted. The synopsis was given.

Chris Spiek reviewed the confirming process for the tax abatement process and for the plans in general.

The resolution received a roll call vote of Ayes: 7, Nays:0.

It was moved and seconded that Resolution 94-20 be introduced and read by title only. Clerk Williams read the resolution by title only.

RESOLUTION 94-20

It was moved and seconded that Resolution 94-20 be adopted. The synopsis was given.

Hopkins outlined the process whereby the Social Services Committee met and heard presentations by 5 social service agencies. The agencies selected had applied for CDBG funding earlier in the year and the committee then concluded and subsequently recommended to the council that Middle Way House and Rhinos Club be funded with \$35,000 to Middle Way and \$5,000 to Rhinos Club.

Toby Strout thanked the council for the support and issued a statement regarding domestic violence.

Cedar Martin, a Rhinos Club co-founder, thanked the council for their help. Cole said that it is a small amount of money but our hearts are certainly in it. Brad Wilhelm raced into the Council Chambers after hearing the discussion on TV. He thanked the council for their support.

White said that he initially did not support this council funding budget line for social services and was concerned that agencies would come to us for operating funds. There have been some excellent requests and the monies have allowed these agencies to initiate some projects that they would not have the start up monies for.

Service was pleased the Rhinos was included in the funding. She urged the council to be sure to maintain this social service budget line in the future. This money is important and has been very valuable.

Kiesling said the Hoosier Hills Food Bank and the Birth to Five programs are also all very good programs and she thanked everyone for participating in the process.

Service reinforced the Food Bank needs, saying that they desperately need a refrigerator truck to access more foods that might be donated.

The resolution received a roll call vote of Ayes:7, Nays:0.

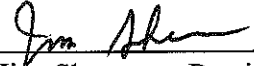
Kent Moore suggested that a part time staff person is needed to facilitate bicycle and pedestrian issues. He also pointed out several street lights that are out.

PUBLIC INPUT

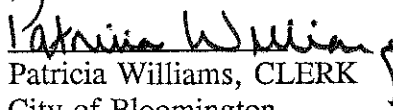
The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 P.M.

FIRST READINGS
ADJOURNMENT

APPROVE;


Jim Sherman, President
City of Bloomington

ATTEST;


Patricia Williams, CLERK
City of Bloomington

Approved 20th July, 1994.