

REVISED

AGENDA
COMMON COUNCIL
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1983
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
SPECIAL SESSION
7:30 P.M.

- I. ROLL CALL
- II. AGENDA SUMMATION
- III. MESSAGES FROM COUNCILMEMBERS
- IV. MESSAGES FROM THE MAYOR
- V. PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS
- VI. LEGISLATION FOR SECOND READING - VOTE
 - 1. Resolution 83-44 To Approve an Interlocal Cooperation Agreement Between Monroe County and the City of Bloomington. (PARCS)
No Committee Hearing.
 - 2. Ordinance 83-60 To Add Chapter 2.20 Entitled "Board of Parks and Recreation" of the Bloomington Municipal Code.
Committee Report: Do-Pass 7-0
- VII. LEGISLATION FOR FIRST READING
 - 1. Ordinance 83-65 To Authorize the Issuance of Economic Development First Mortgage Revenue Bonds, Series 1983 for the Fred Prall project re: 116 West Sixth Street. Withdrawn
 - 2. Ordinance 83-66 To Amend the Bloomington Zoning Maps, Dated June 7, 1978 (re: Old Courthouse Annex and the Headley Building)
- VIII. MINUTES FOR APPROVAL - NONE
- IX. ADJOURNMENT (Followed by Council Committee Meeting of the Whole)

In the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building held on Wednesday, December 14, 1983, 7:30 P.M. with Council President Dilcher presiding over a Special Session of the Common Council.

COMMON COUNCIL
SPECIAL SESSION
DECEMBER 14, 1983

Councilmembers present: Towell, Porter, Service, Dilcher, Murphy, Olcott, Gross, Hogan. Absent: Jack Morrison.

ROLL CALL

Council President Dilcher gave the agenda summation.

AGENDA SUMMATION

Service referred to the Letter to the Editor regarding the resumption of the Pet of the Week column by the Herald-Telephone. The letter writer was hopeful that by reminding readers that pets were available, few animals would have to be destroyed. Service said that it was a crime that so many animals have to be put to sleep.

MESSAGES FROM
COUNCILMEMBERS

Murphy said that this past November an entire nation commemorated the death of John F. Kennedy. This event shocked his family as it did families everywhere and the anniversary of this death has been remembered in the Murphy family. "Of no lesser significance is the death of my father on December 12, 1965, of cancer. I would just like to take this opportunity to say publicly 'thank you' to my father for everything he did for me and to my fellow councilmembers for the opportunity to serve with you"

Olcott presented an encomium for soccer coach Jerry Yeagley congratulating him on a second NCAA championship. The encomium received an unanimous voice vote.

ENCOMIUM FOR
JERRY YEAGLEY

There were no Mayoral messages.

MESSAGES FROM MAYOR
LEGISLATION FOR
SECOND READING.
RES. 83-44 TO
APPROVE INTERLOCAL
AGREEMENT BETWEEN
MONROE COUNTY AND
CITY (PARKS BOARD)

Olcott moved and Towell seconded a motion to introduce and read Resolution 83-44 by title only. Clerk Williams read the resolution by title only.

Olcott moved and Towell seconded a motion to adopt Resolution 83-44.

Rick Zabriskie, speaking on behalf of Frank Ragan hoped that the Council would pass favorably on this interlocal agreement. A milestone will be reached when there is a county-wide board that is beneficial to the entire community. City-County support is essential. Most of the press coverage on this issue has been suspicious and negative.

Mayor Allison affirmed that this is a compromise and the very nature of compromise is that no one will be completely satisfied with the final outcome or results. All this interlocal agreement does is postpone the final settlement.

This is a signed agreement-a firm commitment and in two years we will be at the same point in the discussion process. This will be outside the tax freeze but it is a binding contract.

Charlotte Zietlow, Monroe County Commissioner President, agreed with Allison regarding the compromise but that it also is a directive to build an even better parks system. The proposed ordinance was onerous to the County-whereas a compromise is the more acceptable way to go. There is no present legislation that comes up with the right answer.

Towell said that he did not find this to be a compromise. The City tax payers are being suffocated by this process. He said that he could not support a 53% assessed valuation for city tax payers. Bloomington is the center of the County so it is not unusual for the majority of parks to be located within the city limits. Towell continued by saying that the Council was ready to vote for this ordinance last week and he could not understand why this was not happening now. Towell said that if the City had parity with the County tax payer paying 1/3 of the fees, the City tax payer would still be paying 1/2 of that. Even with parity, the City would still pay 5/6 of the cost of a park system. Over and over we hear that it would be terrible if the City were to run the park

system. The City has been running the Park program. The Park Boards have worked together for years, joint boards have been tried and again the County backed out of a parity agreement. He continued by asking why a County elected official seems to think that they only represent the County resident and not the City as well; the City is part of the County and therefore our County officials should represent all of us. No one complains about the many boards that are run by the County. Towell said that he was leaving the Council after 12 years and still there was no discernible progress in the area of parks. He urged the Council to go back to where they were a week ago, vote for the proposed ordinance and give the entire county a chance for a viable park system.

Service agreed with Towell and the desirability to pass the city ordinance, but if it were just the matter of a vote and passage by the City Council it would be one thing; but the prospect of a referendum is another thing. There is a slight advantage with the interlocal as it is signed and the City will get the monies. Service felt that it would be irresponsible of the Council to pass an ordinance, knowing that there might/would be a referendum on it, and the City can understand why the County might feel 'squeamish' about raising taxes. The local newspaper has done a very poor job of presenting the facts, more to the point, distorted the facts. The poor job of newspaper reporting coupled with the adverse reaction of County officials, running for office next year, would make the possibility of a successful referendum rather remote.

Gross agreed with Towell, stating that this is a complex issue, especially when County residents do not understand that city residents are also County residents. There are those persons who want better facilities and this compromise does not allow for any growth at all. Gross agreed with many of Olcott's statements these past few weeks, 'We've been at this for 12 years and it has been an administrative burden for both the City and the Board.'

Olcott agreed with Towell and said that he was disappointed in this resolution and raised the issue of the City councilmembers concerning themselves with the City taxpayer, the people who elected us to represent them. Olcott praised Frank Ragan and said that he had taken a lot of bad raps from the press; he is a sincere and honest park director who has tried to do what was asked of him and what was best for the entire county. Olcott said that he would almost vote for the third option (the city on its own) and let the County have its own parks program.

Porter said that he would support the resolution; it's not the economical thing to do, but it is the political thing to do.

Dilcher said that the proposed agreement is still not equitable for the City and some citizens (county) would not be able to elect the people who would control this issue. Parts of this agreement are offensive to the City as well; i.e., Section 3a, that the County agrees to provide to city residents access to County facilities and programs such as Karst Farms Park and the Community School and School Center Program.

Zietlow said that this agreement does not preclude the expansion of park services. The whole controversy is not just a matter of dollars; it would be irresponsible of county officials not to put up a stiff fight.

Service asked about FRS monies for the Karst Park Maintenance Director and how the county would be able to appropriate monies for this, when funding for everything else is so tight. The County cries poor for so many things, and here is an opportunity to improve a program before us now.

Zietlow responded that the City did not offer the County anything, the City simply said that they would do it.

Allison said that the City is dead serious about the funding of the parks programs. The ordinance would provide the best, the cheapest, and the most efficient way of funding. The County has asked for a little more time and a compromise is being negotiated; there are going to be unpleasant choices; we can vote now for a county-wide park district or the referendum can be voted down and we go to dual user fees.

Olcott asked Tomi if she would turn the Council loose and go for a referendum in May. Allison said that it would be extremely difficult to get a message straight given the problems with the media. People have been getting a bargain and we in the City have paid for it. We need time, time to sell the value and the cost of recreation to the public.

Hogan said that the Council might be surprised with how much support there would be for a referendum.

Olcott said that he has no problem with the interlocal agreement if we changed the make-up of the board to allow for a seven member board.

Murphy said that it was somewhat ironic that County officials keep saying that a referendum would be defeated - no one is here, just as there was no one here about the criminal justice building.

Mike Andrews said that he could see some sentiment for a referendum. There seems to be a proclivity for growth and expansion and not everyone sees growth and expansion and development as necessarily good.

The resolution for the interlocal received a roll call vote of Ayes: 7; Nays: 1 (Towell).

Olcott moved and Towell seconded a motion to introduce and read Ordinance 83-60 by title only. Clerk Williams read the ordinance by title only.

ORD. 83-60
TO ADD CHAPTER 2.20
ENTITLED "BOARD OF PARKS
AND RECREATION"

Olcott moved and Towell seconded a motion to adopt Ordinance 83-60.

The ordinance was defeated by a roll call vote of Ayes: 1, Nays: 7. (Towell voting for the ordinance).

Olcott moved and Towell seconded a motion to introduce and read the following ordinances for first reading. Clerk Williams read the ordinances by title only. Ordinance 83-66 To Amend the Bloomington Zoning Maps, Dated June 7, 1978 (re: Old Courthouse Annex and the Headley Building).

FIRST READINGS:
ORD. 83-66

There were no minutes for approval.

MINUTES FOR APPROVAL

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT

APPROVE:

Katherine Dilcher
Katherine Dilcher, President
Bloomington Common Council

ATTEST:

Patricia Williams
Patricia Williams, City Clerk

APPROVED Dec 21, 1983

(Ord. 83-65 To Authorize the Issuance of Economic Development First Mortgage Revenue Bonds, Series 1983 for the Fred Prall project re: 116 West Sixth St. -- the Wicks Building was withdrawn by the petitioner. No first reading was given this ordinance. Petitioner states that it will be presented to the Council in 1984.)