

In the Common Council Chambers of the Municipal Building held on Thursday, March 24, at 6:00 p.m. with Council-president Pro-tem Richardson presiding over a Special Session.

SPECIAL SESSION
COMMON COUNCIL
3/24/77

Roll Call. Present: Blume, Kinzer, Middleton, Morrison, Olcott, Richardson, and Towell. Absent: Young and De St. Croix, who were both out of town. There were several members of the Parks and Recreation Department staff and Parks and Recreation Board members in attendance.

ROLL CALL

Council-president Pro-tem Richardson then gave the agenda summation. For Second Reading, Resolution 77-14, To Approve the Purchase of Used Ice Skating and Hockey Equipment; and for first reading (and requested second reading) Ordinance 77-33, Budget Transfer re: \$15,000 from FRS Department of Parks and Recreation line 722, Motor Equipment to line 26, Other Contractual Services.

AGENDA SUMMATION

Councilmember Richardson then called for Messages from Councilmembers. Councilmember Towell remarked that by viewing the audience, it did not look like the public was notified of the meeting. He stated that public notice is very important, and said that in effect, the Council is approving an appropriation without the public's knowledge.

MESSAGES FROM
COUNCILMEMBERS

Councilmember Olcott replied that this is a wonderful opportunity to get some fine, used hockey and ice skating equipment at a substantial savings. He explained that a special session was needed because the funds had to be in the hands of the owner by March 30, and there were no Council meetings scheduled before that date. A transfer of funds is needed through Ordinance 77-33 so that the bill may be paid.

Councilmember Morrison moved and Councilmember Olcott seconded a motion to introduce and read Resolution 77-14 in entirety.

RESOLUTION 77-14
To Approve the Purchase
of Used Ice Skating &
Hockey Equipment

Deputy Clerk Connors read Resolution 77-14 in entirety.

Councilmember Morrison moved and Councilmember Olcott seconded a motion to adopt Resolution 77-14. Council-president Middleton read the legislative synopsis.

Councilmember Towell remarked that he is not saying that the equipment is not a desirable purchase, but that he did not like the procedure. He said by passing the Ordinance, it would be a commitment for an appropriation ordinance later. He questioned the necessity for the meeting.

It was noted that the Herald-Telephone had printed notice of the meeting, and that two radio stations had also been notified.

Bill Wilson, Director of Parks and Recreation, explained that there was no other way to go about it. He said that a week ago last Friday, the firm's engineer did not feel that the entire rink had to be sold, and that the refrigeration units could be converted for the Convention Hall that is planned for the location. At that time, Bill Wilson had been promised first choice (he added that he was friends with the owner). Sunday afternoon the staff and Board went to review the equipment. A week ago Monday, they negotiated for the price, which was then around \$17,000 to \$18,000. They had the skates and bleachers sold, but they still desired a package deal. ~~This~~ meant that he must have the money in the owner's hands by March 30. He said they will use the money that they have appropriated for automobiles (\$18,000) for the equipment and then come back before the Council in April for an appropriation to put the money back in their budget for the vehicles. There is a City policy that caused the Department to go to the Auditors - any purchase over

\$5,000 must be bid for. The Auditors recommended that if the Council and the Parks Board would pass a Resolution stating their support for the venture, this could then be presented to the State in the form of Resolutions. In this way, there would be no advantage in the bidding procedure for used equipment. He estimated that the retail value of equivalent new equipment would be \$50,000. He added that such equipment was included in the bond issue for 1980, which will now be removed. He asked the owner if he might even sign an affidavit to swear that the City will pass the resolution and ordinance, but they would not accept that. They need cash as they are remodeling, have other buyers waiting, etc. He explained a transfer is needed because the funds are in the wrong line item, adding that it has to come out of Contractual Services as a purchase is being made in one lump sum.

Councilpresident Middleton noted that if Bill Wilson were to get the funds directly from Federal Revenue Sharing, he would have to go through at least a one month procedure of two readings and approval by the State Board of Accounts.

Councilmember Kinzer said that from her point of view, there may be some problem with reappropriating the \$15,000 back into the Parks and Rec line items. She questioned why \$15,000 has to be appropriated out of Federal Revenue Sharing.

Bill Wilson explained that the funds are badly needed in the Motor Equipment line item because the Department needs cars. He said even if he were not sure the Council would not reappropriate, he would go ahead with purchasing the equipment and hope for the best. In answer to a question from Councilmember Kinzer re: whether free ice skating is to be continued, he said that fees were reinstated this year. It could be discussed once again during budget hearings.

Councilmember Towell questioned the funds having to come from one source, and the necessity for the meeting. He asked for current figures on how much money is in each of the four line items that could be used. He also mentioned that there may be something else in the future that the Council would like to spend FRS funds on rather than hockey and ice skating equipment.

Councilmember Richardson said that this was discussed publicly at Parks and Recreation Board meetings, and was brought up by Councilmember Olcott at the last Council meeting. He went on to say that the reason the City has citizen boards is to have public input and participation. He suggested that the Board is the public, in answer to a point made by Councilmember Towell regarding public notice. He said emergencies occur, such as with the Health Services Bureau, the emergency vehicle, etc., and that sometimes the City has to act quickly. He said the Council has to trust their Boards and Commissions.

Councilmember Towell stated that he would not vote to suspend the rules because of the public notice and the budget implications. He said he would go along with giving the ordinance first reading only.

Councilmember Kinzer moved and Councilmember Morrison seconded a motion to introduce and read Ordinance 77-33 by title only.

ORDINANCE 77-33
Budget Transfer Parks
and Rec Department

Deputy Clerk Connors read Ordinance 77-33 by title only.

Councilpresident Middleton read the legislative synopsis.

Councilmember Olcott moved and Councilmember Morrison seconded a motion to suspend the rules to allow second reading of Ordinance 77-33.

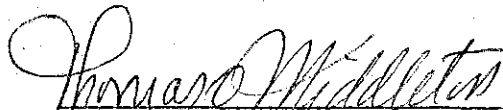
The motion failed by a ROLL CALL VOTE of Ayes: 5, Nays: 2 (Blume and Towell). Unanimous vote is needed to suspend rules.

A Special Session was then scheduled for 7:00 p.m. on Monday, March 30, 1977 in the Council Chambers to consider Ordinance 77-33 for Second Reading.

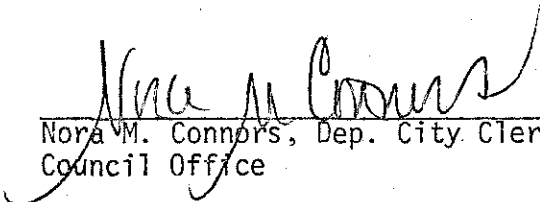
The meeting was then adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

APPROVE:

ATTES:



Thomas O Middleton, President
Bloomington Common Council



Nora M. Connors, Dep. City Clerk
Council Office

Minutes approved this 7 day of April, 1977.