

March 17, 1959

THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BLOOMINGTON, INDIANA, met in the Council Chambers in City Hall, on Tuesday, March 17, 1959, at the hour of seven-thirty o'clock (7:30 P.M. C.S.T.) in regular session with Mayor Thos. L. Lemon presiding.

Members present: Graves, Chitwood, Sikes, Miller, Peace, and Van Meter.

Members absent: Griffith.

The meeting was opened with a prayer by Councilman Graves.

Councilman Graves moved, seconded by Councilman Chitwood that the minutes of the last regular meeting of March 3, 1959 be approved as submitted to each individual councilman; motion unanimously carried.

Councilman Sikes presented the following report of the Bloomington Salary Study Commission which was read by the Clerk-Treasurer:

REPORT OF THE BLOOMINGTON SALARY STUDY COMMISSION

WHEREAS, a bi-partisan Salary Study Commission of the 1957 General Assembly, after its study and deliberations, in its report to the 1959 General Assembly, recommended a scale of minimum salaries for elective officials in all cities of Indiana; and

WHEREAS, a law has just recently been enacted empowering the Common Councils of the Cities to fix the salaries of such elective City Officials; and

WHEREAS, the time allowed under this act for the Council to fix these salaries for the next four years is so short as not to allow the Bloomington Salary Study Commission to make an extended and thorough study of the salary question; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Commission believe the salaries should be increased so as to cause persons receiving comparable salaries or incomes in other fields to seek City Offices; and

WHEREAS, the Bureau of Business Research of Indiana University in the basis of a study of salaries paid professional, technical and kindred workers in the United States from 1947 through 1958 projected to January 1960, estimated the median salary would show a rise of 93%, and on this basis, a salary of \$4500.00 in 1947 would rise to \$8684.00 by January 1960; and

WHEREAS, we believe because of the lateness of any possible increase and the nearness of the time when candidates for nomination for office make their announcements, will to some extent nullify the effect of the increase for this year, we believe that the salaries of City Officials should be brought more in line with salaries of other public officials in the county; and

WHEREAS, the salaries recommended by the State Legislative Commission are recommendations for statutory salaries and do not include compensation from utilities operated by Cities;

THEREFORE, we recommend;

1. That the Common Council fix the annual salaries of the elective officials of the City of Bloomington at the minimum amounts recommended by the State Salary Study Commission for Cities in Bloomington's classification as follows: Mayor \$8500.00, Clerk-Treasurer \$5500.00, City Judge \$6000.00, and Members of the Common Council \$800.00
2. That the proper administrative authority give consideration to the matter of compensation paid the administrative officers rendering service to the utilities with a view to adjusting this compensation so as to make it more nearly proportionate to the respective budgets and duties performed.

S/ F. B. Stimson
F. B. Stimson

S/ P. S. Sikes
P. S. Sikes

S/ Daniel Bynum
Daniel Bynum

S/ Arthur Weimer
Arthur Weimer

S/ Rodney Douglas *
Rodney Douglas

S/ Bruce Temple
Bruce Temple

S/ William Baldwin
William Baldwin

S/ Mary Alice Dunlap
Mary Alice Dunlap

Councilman Sikes presented Ordinances No. 4, 5, 6, and 7 for first reading by the Clerk-Treasurer.

Councilman Graves reported that the Public Works Committee had investigated the petition of R. F. Leonard to have a plot, on East Third Street in the 300 block, 14 feet wide and one half block long paved with black top, and moved, seconded by Councilman Chitwood that the petition be granted and the work to be done under the supervision of the City Engineer; motion unanimously carried.

Councilman Graves reported that the Public Works Committee had investigated the petition of Dr. J. M. Wolff to cut the curbs at the corner of Lincoln and Third Streets for the purpose of ingress and egress to the off-street parking on his property and moved, seconded by Councilman Chitwood that the petition be granted and the work to be done under the supervision of the City Engineer; motion unanimously carried.

The annual report of the Fire Department was received and placed on file.

Message from Councilmen:

Councilman Sikes read clippings from newspapers published in New York about the misdeeds of the police in that city and cited the misconducts of members of the police departments in cities in Indiana and at Louisville, Kentucky. He felt that our local Police Department should be commended for their initiative in performing duties beyond their regular duties; such as, taking over responsibility of the emergency ambulance services to the citizens of Monroe County. To them goes the credit of the saving of a life by their quick thinking and action. Councilman Sikes moved, seconded by Councilman Peace that the Police Department be commended by the Common Council of the City of Bloomington for the good work they have been doing and that the Chief of Police be instructed to convey this message to all members of the department; motion unanimously carried.

Message from the Mayor:

Mayor Lemon said he had been asked about the snow that was piled up on 5th Street between Walnut and College. This snow was pushed against the curb by the State Highway Department and Mr. Richardson had then piled it out in the middle of the street with the purpose of picking it up in the city trucks but before he could get it picked up, the State Highway Department came along and pushed it back against the cars making it impossible for the street department to scoop it up in their shovels.

Councilman Chitwood moved, seconded by Councilman Graves that the claims presented for payment March 18, 1959 be allowed as submitted; motion unanimously carried.

Meeting adjourned.

Tho. L. Lemon
Presiding Officer

ATTEST:

Mary Alice Dunlap
Clerk-Treasurer

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