

REGULAR MEETING

September 1, 1959

THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BLOOMINGTON, INDIANA, met in the Council Chambers in City Hall, on Tuesday, September 1, 1959, at the hour of seven-thirty o'clock (7:30 P.M. D.S.T.) in regular session with Mayor Thos. L. Lemon, presiding.

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

Members absent: Griffith and Van Meter.

The meeting was opened with a prayer by Reverend Richard Hamilton of the St. Mark's Methodist Church.

Councilman Sikes moved, seconded by Councilman Graves that the minutes of the last regular meeting of August 18, 1959 be approved as submitted to each individual councilman; motion unanimously carried.

Councilman Sikes presented Ordinance No. 14, 1959 for second reading by the Clerk-Treasurer. After second reading, Councilman Graves moved, seconded by Councilman Chitwood that Ordinance No. 14, 1959 be duly adopted. Upon a roll call vote Ordinance No. 14, 1959 was unanimously adopted.

Councilman Sikes presented the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION NO. 6, 1959

WHEREAS, the location and control of businesses dispensing alcoholic beverages is of primary concern to the city in which the same are located, and

WHEREAS, the General Assembly previous to the 1935 Liquor Control Act had vested the location and control of such places in the governing body of the cities, and

WHEREAS, the Liquor Control Act of 1935 removed from cities all authority formerly vested in them to control the location of taverns within the environs of said cities, and

WHEREAS, it is the consensus of this Council that this authority should be restored to the cities,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Common Council of the City of Bloomington, by resolution memorialize the General Assembly of the State of Indiana to enact legislation that will give to the cities through their common council a voice in the location and licensing of businesses dispensing alcoholic beverages.

Councilman Sikes moved, seconded by Councilman Graves that Resolution No. 6, 1959 be duly adopted. Upon a roll call vote Resolution No. 6, 1959 was unanimously adopted.

The following report from the Common Council Public Safety Committee was read by the Clerk-Treasurer:

Committee on Public Safety.
Report to Common Council.

Sept. 1, 1959

Regarding petition for removal of 3-way stop signs at 8th & Clark Sts.

In order to get a fair appraisal of the situation existing, a brief chronological study of events regarding 'Stop' signs at this intersection may clarify the issue.

On Aug. 21, 1956 (page 449, min. 1956) a petition signed by ten persons, residing at or near this corner; was read to the Common Council. Seven petitioners resided on Clark St. and three on 8th St. Three of these persons have since moved out of the neighborhood.

This petition was sent to the Traffic Commission for study. After a survey the Committee from the Traffic Commission reported vehicular traffic was light and visibility normal at the intersection and that 'Stop' signs were not recommended.

The Traffic Commission report was returned to the City Council without approval.

Sept. 4, 1956 the Common Council passed an ordinance authorizing the erection of 'Stop' signs. (page 454, min. 1956)

Since that time many complaints have been received, requesting their removal. The complaints in general, stating that they were not necessary and were breeding contempt for 'Stop' signs and other traffic regulations.

Additional surveys were made by the Traffic Commission and the original report was upheld; namely that the signs were unwarranted.

The latest petition for removal of the signs is the basis of the following report.

On Aug. 15, 1959, this Committee on Public Safety surveyed this intersection and talked with two persons residing in the immediate neighborhood. The time about 8:30 p.m. Very little traffic was noted.

At the meeting of the Common Council on Aug. 18, 1959, this Committee withheld a recommendation pending further study and asked interested citizens to attend this meeting tonight and voice their sentiments as to why these signs should remain or be removed.

Several traffic counts have been made at this intersection and the results of only two will be outlined briefly.

In three separate counts taken on March 9, 1959, while Indiana University was in session a total four hour count 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.- 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. and ~~3:10 p.m. to 4:10 p.m.~~ 3:10 p.m. to 4:10 p.m. the results were as follows:

Total number vehicles using intersection	49
Total number vehicles making rolling stop	23
Total number vehicles making DEAD STOP	6
Total number vehicles making NO STOP	20

Another count taken Tues. Aug. 25, 1959 showed the following total results for two 2 hr. counts; 11am. to 1 pm. and 3:30 pm to 5:30 pm.

Total number vehicles using intersection	27
Total number vehicles making rolling stop	9
Total number vehicles making DEAD STOP	2
Total number vehicles making NO STOP	16

Wed. Aug. 26, 1959 at 3:45 pm. Sgt. Simes of the Bloomington Police Department took a position on Clark St., approximately 125 feet south of 8th St. and facing north toward the intersection, shot approximately 25 feet of movie film, in an attempt to show various phases of traffic movement.

During this period no attempt was made to count traffic but it was noted that very high percentage of the cars failed to stop. However no excessive speeding was seen.

Traffic on Clark St. was very light. Not more than three or four cars in a two hour period. At least one car on Clark St. north of 8th St., backed up almost one-half block to turn around on 8th. Clark St. is dead-end at the north of the 400 block. There is no Stop sign to control southbound traffic north of 8th., but there are several houses in this block - some under construction.

A vacant lot on the south-east corner, was the scene of a football game. No count was made of the number of children playing on this lot. Many wore helmets to prevent injury.

Movement to and from this lot was almost continuous, both by bike and foot. Not one bicycle was seen to stop at the Stop signs or one child go out of his or her way to cross at the corner. On one occasion at least three bike riders entered the intersection abreast without stopping or apparently looking.

There are no sidewalks in this area. The intersection is well lighted at night. The intersection is at the crown of a slight hill. Visibility is as good or better than many intersections in the neighborhood.

This report is the result of an honest effort to present the facts to the people and to members of the Common Council for their consideration.

Norbert Peace, Ch.
S/ Norbert S. Peace
David Chitwood

The following people appeared in favor of stop signs at 8th and Clark Streets:

Mrs. Robert Pabst	Mr. & Mrs. Don Wagner
Mr. & Mrs. Loren E. Waltz	Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Perry
Mr. & Mrs. William B. Stafford	Mr. & Mrs. Clayton L. Moran
Mr. & Mrs. Morgan F. Carter	Harold Pitts, & Family
Roscoe Sexton	M. Howe

After much discussion, Councilman Graves moved, seconded by Councilman Chitwood that the schedule of the Traffic Ordinance be amended by having a two-way stop on 8th Street and making Clark Street a preferential street and also install a larger dead-end sign on Clark Street; motion unanimously carried.

Hazel Trueblood thanked the Council on behalf of the citizens on West Fourth Street for their action in taking care of the petitions that had been previously submitted to the Council.

Chas. Fox, Capt. of Bloomington Police Dept., petitioned the Council for street lights at the intersection of Woodlawn and Maxwell Lane and one on South Woodlawn near Bryan Park Pool.

Councilman Peace reported that this petition had been investigated by the Public Utilities Committee and moved, seconded by Councilman Miller that street lights be installed at the following locations: 1. at the intersection of Woodlawn and Maxwell Lane. 2. At the location on South Woodlawn near the south line of Bryan Park Pool parking lot on the east side of Woodlawn Street, near where Davis would intersect Woodlawn; motion unanimously carried.

A report was received from the Plumbing Inspector for the month of August, 1959, and placed on file.

Councilman Graves moved, seconded by Councilman Chitwood that the Mayor write a letter commending the American Legion upon their action in leasing a house for the benefit of the aged in Bloomington; motion unanimously carried.

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Councilman Chitwood moved, seconded by Councilman Graves that the claims presented for payment September 2, 1959 be allowed as submitted; motion unanimously carried.

Meeting adjourned.

W. J. Luman
Presiding Officer

ATTEST:

Mary Alice Dunlop
Clerk-Treasurer