

In the Council Chambers of the Showers City Hall, Bloomington, Indiana on Wednesday, September 04, 2019 at 6:31pm, Council President Dave Rollo presided over a Regular Session of the Common Council.

COMMON COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION
September 04, 2019

Members Present: Ruff (arrived at 6:35pm), Chopra, Piedmont-Smith, Granger, Rollo, Volan, Sims, Sturbaum, Sandberg
Members Absent: None

ROLL CALL [6:31pm]

Council President Dave Rollo summarized the agenda.

AGENDA SUMMATION [6:32pm]

There were no minutes for approval.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilmember Allison Chopra thanked the Bloomington Police Department (BPD) for protecting citizens. She spoke of a current court case in Lawrence County, Indiana.

REPORTS

- COUNCIL MEMBERS [6:35pm]

Councilmember Dorothy Granger spoke of the recent events that took place in Bloomington, including the Garlic Festival and PRIDE Fest.

Councilmember Chris Sturbaum thanked the police officers for their service.

Councilmember Jim Sims spoke of various hateful incidents occurring in Bloomington. He said the community needed to focus on those issues and find a solution.

Councilmember Stephen Volan thanked the audience for attending the council meeting. He said September 5th was his late father's birthday

Kelsey Thetonia, MS4 Coordinator from the Utilities Service Center, provided information on the Residential Stormwater Grant Program implemented in early 2019. She thanked the council for approving the budget and informed them of the approved projects.

- The MAYOR AND CITY OFFICES [6:45pm]

There were no council committee reports.

- COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Paul Post, BPD, spoke of lack of staffing in the Police Department due to low wages. He said the BPD needed more funding for staffing and better benefits.

- PUBLIC [6:48pm]

Trae Luck, BPD, spoke about low staffing due to low pay and poor benefits. He said the Bloomington community would suffer due to a lack of police services.

Jeff Rogers, BPD veteran, spoke of the issues of police recruitment and officer retention due to low wages. He compared BPD's salaries with other cities.

Jacob Woods said BPD's officers take on a lot of responsibility, yet the department has low recruitment and retention issues. He said BPD officers need higher wages.

There were no appointments to boards or commissions.

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND
COMMISSIONS

Volan moved and it was seconded that Ordinance 19-12 be read by title and synopsis only. The motion was approved by voice vote. Clerk Nicole Bolden read the legislation by title and synopsis, giving the committee do-pass recommendation of Ayes: 0, Nays: 1, Abstain: 3.

LEGISLATION FOR SECOND READING AND RESOLUTIONS [8:02pm]

Ordinance 19-12 To Amend the City of Bloomington Zoning Maps by Rezoning 3.85 Acres of Property from Commercial Arterial (CA) to Planned Unit Development and to Approve a District Ordinance and Preliminary Plan - Re: 1800 N. Walnut Street (CDG Acquisitions, LLC, Petitioner)

Eric Greulich, Senior Zoning Planner, explained that the property needed to be rezoned to allow the development of an apartment complex for student housing. He displayed a map detailing the proposed site plan and explained various aspects of the building plan. He discussed the changes made to the petition. He briefly explained the setbacks with the buildings. He said the Bloomington Planning Commission approved of the plan.

Alex Crowley, Director of Economic and Sustainable Development, spoke in support of this project because it was a step forward to provide low-income housing.

Rollo asked Dan Sherman, Council Attorney, to explain the schedule and process of the petition.

Council Question:

Sherman explained that the council had to have a majority vote against the Ordinance to prevent the petitioners from developing the area. Sherman said the council could postpone the vote.

Volan presented the summary of the previous Land Use Committee meetings and their proposed changes given to the developers. There was extensive council discussion.

Brandt Stiles, employee of CDG Acquisitions, explained the importance of student housing. He stated various amenities in the apartment complexes. Stiles discussed the changes made to the petition after listening to the comments made by the Land Use Committee. He introduced CDG's architect from Dwell Design Studio.

Public comment:

Amran Kafite discussed the architectural design of the potential plaza on Walnut Street and the overall site plan.

Stiles discussed the new plan that had a larger focus on sustainability. He discussed implementing solar energy to produce power and a green roof. Stiles explained the building materials that would be used.

The motion to adopt Ordinance 19-12 received a roll call vote of Ayes: 3 (Chopra, Sims, Sandberg), Nays: 5, Abstain: 1 (Sturbaum). FAILED

Vote to adopt Ordinance 19-12 [9:42 pm].

Volan expressed a wish to postpone the vote to a later date for Ordinance 19-12.

The rest of the council disagreed.

Volan moved and it was seconded that Ordinance 19-15 be read by title and synopsis only. The motion was approved by voice vote. Clerk Nicole Bolden read the legislation by title and synopsis.

LEGISLATION FOR FIRST READING [9:45pm]

Ordinance 19-15 An Ordinance Authorizing the Refunding of Certain Outstanding Sewage Works Revenue Bonds of the City; Authorizing the Issuance of the City of Bloomington, Indiana Sewage Works Refunding Revenue Bonds of 2019 to Provide Funds for such Refunding and the Payment of the Costs Thereof; and Addressing Other Matters Connected Therewith
Public Comment

Volan moved and it was seconded that Ordinance 19-16 be read by title and synopsis only. The motion was approved by voice vote. Clerk Nicole Bolden read the legislation by title and synopsis.

Ordinance 19-16 To Amend Title 10 of the Bloomington Municipal Code Entitled "Wastewater" (Rate Adjustment)

Volan moved and it was seconded that Ordinance 19-17 be read by title and synopsis only. The motion was approved by voice vote. Clerk Nicole Bolden read the legislation by title and synopsis.

Ordinance 19-17 To Amend Title 10 of the Bloomington Municipal Code (BMC) Entitled "Wastewater" - Re: Amending BMC 10.08.040 (Connection Fees) to Allow Waiver of those Fees in Two Limited Circumstances - To Promote Conversion of Septic to Sewer and to Complement Certain City Affordable Housing Programs

Volan moved and it was seconded that Ordinance 19-18 be read by title and synopsis only. The motion was approved by voice vote. Clerk Nicole Bolden read the legislation by title and synopsis.

Ordinance 19-18 To Authorize the Issuance of Bonds by the Monroe County Redevelopment Commission Pursuant to IC 36-7-14-3.5

Volan moved and it was seconded to reconsider the vote on Ordinance 19-12.

Motion to reconsider vote on Ordinance 19-12.

Sherman read the legislation explaining the process for reconsidering the vote on Ordinance 19-12.

Volan asked the council to reconsider the vote after entertaining a third reading.

Volan withdrew his motion to reconsider the vote on Ordinance 19-12.

There was no additional public comment.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Sherman explained the upcoming schedule for the council.

COUNCIL SCHEDULE [9:51pm]

Sherman asked what councilmembers would be able to attend the work session on September 6.

Volan moved and it was seconded to cancel the Council Work Session scheduled for September 6, 2019. The motion was approved by voice vote.

Volan moved and it was seconded to adjourn. The motion was approved by voice vote.

ADJOURNMENT [9:56pm]

APPROVED by the Common Council of the City of Bloomington, Monroe County, Indiana upon this ~~16th~~ day of September, 2020.

APPROVE:

ATTEST:



Stephen Volan, PRESIDENT
Bloomington Common Council



Nicole Bolden, CLERK
City of Bloomington