In Bloomington, Indiana on Wednesday, October 21, 2020 at 6:30pm, Council President Stephen Volan presided over a Regular Session of the Common Council. Per the Governor’s Executive Orders, this meeting was conducted electronically.

Council members present via teleconference: Matt Flaherty, Isabel Piedmont-Smith, Dave Rollo, Kate Rosenbarger, Susan Sandberg, Sue Sgambelluri, Jim Sims, Ron Smith, Stephen Volan

Council members absent: none

Council President Stephen Volan summarized the agenda.

Piedmont-Smith moved and it was seconded to approve the Regular Session Minutes of February 19 as amended, March 04 as amended, July 22 as amended, and October 07, 2020 as amended. The motion received a roll call vote of Ayes: 9, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0.

Roll Call [6:31pm]

AGENDA SUMMATION [6:31pm]

APPROVAL OF MINUTES [6:36pm]

February 19, 2020 (Regular Session)
March 4, 2020 (Regular Session)
July 22, 2020 (Regular Session)
October 7, 2020 (Regular Session)

Smith said that his neighbor Dick Scott turned 99 years old and wished him a Happy Birthday.

Sims said Happy Birthday to Mr. Scott.

Rollo wished Mr. Scott a Happy Birthday. Rollo also reminded people to continue taking safety precautions to reduce the transmissibility of the virus.

Sandberg said that Star Trek: Voyager’s Captain Kathryn Janeway statue was due to be unveiled on the upcoming weekend. She noted that Janeway would be born in the future on May 20, 2336.

Volan echoed Sandberg’s comments. He also discussed the city and county budgets in lieu of his absence at the adoption meeting. He specifically expressed dismay and wished that the City and County fire departments could be streamlined to save taxpayer money. He stated that he felt the county budget for fire protection service was excessive when those services may be provided by city fire protection personnel.

Rollo said that adding the monument to Captain Janeway would put the city in line for an attack from the Romulans, but he felt it was worth the risk.

Beth Rosenbarger, Planning Services Manager; Mallory Rickbeil, Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator; Amir Farschi, Long Range Planner; and Keegan Gulick, Zoning and Long Range Planner; of the Planning and Transportation Department gave an update on the Comprehensive Plan.

There was council discussion related to the presentation.

There were no council committee reports.

Jim Shelton gave a report about CASAs (Court Appointed Special Advocates).

There were no appointments to boards or commissions.

• The MAYOR AND CITY OFFICES [6:46pm]

• COUNCIL COMMITTEES

• PUBLIC [7:35pm]

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS [7:39pm]
Piedmont-Smith moved and it was seconded that Ordinance 20-17 be read by title and synopsis only. The motion was approved by voice vote. Clerk Nicole Bolden read the legislation by title and synopsis, giving the committee do-pass recommendation of Ayes: 4, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0.

Piedmont-Smith moved and it was seconded that Ordinance 20-17 be adopted.

Rickbeil, Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator for the Planning and Transportation Department, presented the legislation.

Rosenbarger reported on the Transportation Committee’s meeting where they discussed this ordinance. The committee liked the proposed changes for the most part.

Piedmont-Smith inquired about the removal process. Rickbeil answered it required signatures from a majority of residents and a seven year waiting period between when the traffic calming had been approved and when a neighborhood could request the removal. It also needed to be approved by the Bicycle Pedestrian Safety Commission (BPSC). Piedmont-Smith asked if there was any recourse sooner than seven years if unforeseen negative impacts were recognized. Rickbeil responded that there was a clause that provided for the Planning Department to take action. It required that the City Engineer support the change.

Rollo asked if Fire, EMT and Police would be consulted before implementation of traffic calming features. Rickbeil said that the process included their input. Rollo asked if data was kept on bicycle and pedestrian crashes. Rickbeil did not think that they had those types of records.

Sims asked for a definition of housing units that were affected by the traffic calming measures. Rickbeil said affected housing units were defined as residents or property owners of record who were located within 2 lots but not to exceed 300 feet of streets that were affected by the traffic calming installation.

Sgambelluri asked for further clarification of affected housing units.

Rosenbarger asked about the traffic calming projects in the Countryside neighborhood. Rickbeil elaborated about the signatures that were obtained.

Smith asked when the program would begin. Rickbeil said that if the ordinance passed, it would take effect in November 2020. Smith asked how citizens would be notified of the new policy. Rickbeil said there would be a concerted effort to get the word out starting in January 2021.

Rosenbarger moved and it was seconded to introduce Amendment 01 to Ordinance 20-17.
Synopsis: This amendment is sponsored by Councilmember Rosenbarger. The amendment reduces the percentage of signatures required from Affected Housing Units impacted by a proposed traffic calming installation in an effort to simplify the resident-led traffic calming process, improve efficiency, and remove unnecessary barriers to traffic calming installations.

Rosenbarger presented the Amendment 01.

Rickbeil spoke in favor of the Amendment 01.

Rollo asked if the Planning Department had data on speeding in residential neighborhoods that would be used to qualify applications.

Rickbeil responded that they would use 5 years of data when evaluating the applications.

Rollo asked how that was qualified.

Rickbeil explained the rubric that would be used to analyze applications.

Rollo asked if the council would have a say on the approval of the rubric.

Rickbeil said that the council would not be involved in setting those priorities.

Sims expressed his concern that fewer residents would have the ability to apply when not all the residents in the area supported the addition of traffic calming features.

Sgambelluri asked how many residents it would take to stop the addition of traffic calming features in a neighborhood.

Rosenbarger reminded the Council that the Amendment 01 was for the application for traffic calming grants, not for approval of the project.

Rickbeil added that after an application had been accepted, a hearing would take place for residents of the neighborhood.

Greg Alexander spoke in favor of the Amendment 01.

Katie Yoder spoke in favor of the Amendment 01.

Rollo spoke in favor of the Amendment 01.

Smith spoke in favor of the Amendment 01.

Volan spoke in favor of the Amendment 01.

The motion to adopt Amendment 01 to Ordinance 20-17 received a roll call vote of Ayes: 8, Nays: 0, Abstain: 1 (Sims).

There was no council comment on Ordinance 20-17 as amended.

Katie Yoder thanked the city on their efforts to be proactive with the safety of pedestrians. She spoke in favor of Ordinance 20-17.

Greg Alexander spoke in favor of Ordinance 20-17.

Jim Shelton spoke in favor of Ordinance 20-17.

Sgambelluri asked how the city proposed to maintain the paint on the speed cushions that were added.
Rickbeil believed that Public Works expressed a need for additional funds to maintain them because the current budget was already earmarked for other needs.

Rosenbarger said Ordinance 20-17 had been vetted with Public Works.

Rollo expressed his appreciation for Ordinance 20-17.

Sims thanked Planning and Transportation for working on Ordinance 20-17.

Flaherty stated his appreciation for Ordinance 20-17 and asked if council could be informed about projects that were funded and those that were not.

Rickbeil said that would be possible.

Piedmont-Smith expressed her support of Ordinance 20-17.

Sgambelluri congratulated Planning and Transportation on Ordinance 20-17 and stated her support of it.

Volan expressed support for Ordinance 20-17.

The motion to adopt Ordinance 20-17 as amended received a roll call vote of Ayes: 9, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0.

Piedmont-Smith moved and it was seconded that Ordinance 20-18 be introduced and read by title and synopsis only. The motion received a roll call vote of Ayes: 9, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0. Bolden read the legislation by title and synopsis.

Vote to adopt Ordinance 20-17 as amended [9:25 pm]

LEGISLATION FOR FIRST READING

Ordinance 20-20 – To Amend Title 2 (“Administration and Personnel”) of the Bloomington Municipal Code (To Establish a Community Advisory on Public Safety Commission) [9:30 pm]

Ordinance 20-18 - To Amend Title 15 of the Bloomington Municipal Code Entitled "Vehicles and Traffic" Re: Amending Chapters 15.12.010 (Stop Intersections) to add several stop signs; 15.12.030 (Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon Signals) to add a hybrid beacon signal; 15.32.080 (No Parking Zones) to add several no parking zones; 15.32.100 (Loading Zones) to delete several loading zones; 15.32.100 (Loading Zones) to add a loading zone; 15.37.020 (Applicability) to delete several streets from Zone 8; and 15.37.050 (Fees) to add provision about the timing of permit sales [9:26 pm]
Piedmont-Smith moved and it was seconded that Ordinance 20-26 be read by title and synopsis only. The motion received a roll call vote of Ayes: 9, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0. Bolden read the legislation by title and synopsis.

Piedmont-Smith moved and it was seconded that Ordinance 20-27 be read by title and synopsis only. The motion received a roll call vote of Ayes: 9, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0. Bolden read the legislation by title and synopsis.

Maqube Reese asked to speak about Ordinance 20-20 that was introduced tonight.

Volan explained since Ordinance 20-20 was on tonight’s agenda for a first reading, it should not be discussed until it was introduced in a subsequent committee meeting or during a council meeting when it was up for a second reading.

Reese spoke in general about including all voices before initiatives were created.

Alex Goodlad spoke about policies surrounding public safety practices.

Volan referred Ordinance 20-18 to the Transportation Committee to meet on Wednesday, October 28 at 6:30pm. He referred Ordinances 20-26 & 20-27 to the Utilities & Sanitation Committee to meet at 5:30pm on Wednesday, October 28. Ordinance 20-20 was referred to the Public Safety Committee at 8:00pm on Wednesday, October 28.

Stephen Lucas, Council Attorney, reviewed the council schedule.

Piedmont-Smith moved and it was seconded to adjourn. The motion was approved by voice vote.

APPROVED by the Common Council of the City of Bloomington, Monroe County, Indiana upon this 1 day of September, 2021.

APPROVE: ATTEST:

Jim Sims, PRESIDENT Nicole Bolden, CLERK
Bloomington Common Council City of Bloomington