

**COUNCIL QUESTIONS/COMMENTS AND RESPONSES
RECEIVED AS OF FEBRUARY 13, 2011 AT 7:02 PM
REGARDING FEBRUARY 14, 2011 COUNCIL AGENDA ITEMS**

Councilperson: David Sage

Item: Consent Agenda-7E "Analysis of Bids for Lime Room Door and Masonry Modifications"

Question/Comment: Excellent report summary of transparent process around the bidding process including: Pantagraph, **Dodge Report**, pre-bid meeting, and bid opening.

Staff Response: Thank you Councilman.

Councilperson: Karen Schmidt

Item: Consent Agenda-7F "Liquor License for Booboo's Dawghouse"

Question/Comment: Regarding the discussion with Mr. Maynor regarding item #9 on the license questionnaire, which I gather relates to legal requirements and arrest: My question is NOT about Mr. Maynor, I appreciate that he was forthcoming. My question is: what is our routine "due diligence" to follow up on all the details of a license application? Suppose he had not checked the box that indicated he had some history with the law?

Staff Response: The application is reviewed by both the City Clerk's Office and the Legal Department regarding compliance with the requirements of the Liquor Code. Notifications of the Liquor Commission hearing date and time are sent by the Legal Department to occupants of nearby properties. The names, birthdates and social security numbers of the applicants are sent to the Police Department for background checks.

Councilperson: Jim Fruin

Item: Consent Agenda-7F "Liquor License for Booboo's Dawghouse"

Question/Comment: No concern, although there is an indication we will be receiving verification from the Police Department

Staff Response: The Police Department has checked Mr. Maynor's criminal record to ensure it is in agreement with his disclosure to the City. Mr. Maynor's criminal history was run in McLean County and all fifty states. The records indicate Mr. Maynor was truthful on his Liquor Application in that he was arrested in 1997 and served 90 days work release for a Class 4 Felony conviction. Mr. Maynor has not been arrested for a criminal offense in the United States since 1997.

Councilperson: David Sage

Item: Consent Agenda: 7G- "Liquor License for Orient Cuisine"

Question/Comment: Speaking only for myself, I'm still concerned about the disconnect with the Liquor Commission. What's the strategic direction for granting liquor licenses?

Staff Response: Mayor Stockton will address this issue at the Council Meeting.

Councilman: Jim Fruin

Item: Consent Agenda-7H- "Liquor License Price Rite Food and Liquor"

Question/Comment: Looks like the Liquor Commission has done their due diligence and addressed any concerns to allow the simple CHANGE in license classification. I believe this is one of those examples that illustrate the interest for follow-up monitoring.

Staff Response: Additional discussion will be held at the City Council Meeting.

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Councilperson: David Sage

Item: Consent Agenda-7H- "Liquor License for Price Rite Food & Liquor"

Question/Comment: Speaking only for myself, I'm still concerned about the disconnect with the Liquor Commission. What's the strategic direction for granting liquor licenses?

Staff Response: Mayor Stockton will address this issue at the Council Meeting.

Councilperson: Karen Schmidt

Item: Consent Agenda-7H "Liquor License for Price Rite Food & Liquor"

Question/Comment: I do not understand how the conditions that are placed on this license can be policed. What does "substantial reduction in the sale of single serve products" mean? How is it measured? Why are we allowing the addition of all types of alcohol to a vulnerable neighborhood? I appreciate Commissioner Clapp's concerns for the impact on the neighborhood.

Staff Response: Additional comments will be made by Councilwoman Stearns.

Councilperson: Karen Schmidt

Item: Consent Agenda-7K "Illinois Wesleyan University Utility Easement"

Question/Comment: I will be abstaining from these votes.

Councilperson: Karen Schmidt

Item: Consent Agenda-7L "Illinois Wesleyan University Expedited Final Plat

Question/Comment: I will be abstaining from these votes.

Councilperson: Karen Schmidt

Items: Regular Agenda-8A and 8B –" Approval of an Annexation Agreement and Rezoning and Approval of Preliminary Plan"

Question/Comment: I am confused by the statement in 8A that says: "The proposed lots will be served by City water & septic systems. The existing City sanitary sewer lines are not sufficiently close to the property to require an extension and connection to serve the four lots. "Does this mean the lots require extensions to connect? Who pays?

Staff Response: The sanitary sewer system cannot reasonably serve this subdivision. Since the lots are very large they can easily sustain a septic system. The water mains already exist in front of the properties. The Annexation Agreements calls for a \$16,800 tap-on fee payment be made.

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Councilperson: Bernie Anderson

Item: Regular Agenda-8A and 8B- "Approval of Annexation Agreement and Rezoning and Approval of Preliminary Plan"

Question/Comment: Who will [pay for the extension? It is my belief that it will NOT be the COB. Is the Petitioner aware of this?

Staff Response: There are no expenses to the City of Bloomington with this annexation. The sanitary will be satisfied by septic systems. Storm water detention will be supplied on site. The water mains already exist in front of the properties. The Annexation Agreement calls for payment of a tap-on fee in the amount of \$16,800 be paid. A Park Land dedication of \$520.00 payment is required as well. The tap-on and Park Land dedications fees will be required when the final plat is submitted.

Councilperson: Jim Fruin

Item: Regular Agenda-9A- "Illinois Environmental Protection Agency Loan"

Question/Comment: I support this COMMUNITY need. An example of a silo big-ticket cost, done outside the Budget process. There is a need to keep our eye on prioritizing all of our big ticket financial commitments, and staggered due dates of new/large debt obligations.

Staff Response: Staff will continue to look at ways to stagger dates on new/large debt obligations.

Councilperson: Jim Fruin

Item: Regular Agenda-9B – "Establishing Downtown Entertainment Task Force"

Question/Comment: Thanks to all who are moving this forward. I suggest that 90++days is more than sufficient for the Task Force to complete their work. I suggest any recommendations be presented by June 1. Any decisions should be IN PLACE by August 1, before students return to school. Advance and effective communication is critical.

Staff Response: Additional discussion and comments will be made at the City Council Meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Barbara J. Adkins
Deputy City Manager