

## From the Flipcharts

### **Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts**

- Promote use on more projects – increase fees
- Use Miller Park for more private one on one on empty zoo days
- Golf paths –
- Golf courses – go down to less, use land for tax generating revenue – Raise fees
- Variable fee structure based on income on special needs program with caps and review on what someone pays
- BCPA – Increase fee, increase use of building
- Constitution Trail – do upgrades
- Miller Park – upgrade pavilion
- New subdivision – all infrastructure paid by developer – change city codes
- City maintains, developer pays
  
- Cut 12 employees
- Reduce zoo/BCPA subsidies
- Raise zoo admission fees
- Set fixed amount to subsidize & let Department come up w/ the difference
- Privatize golf courses (franchise)
- Find private \$\$\$ (sponsorship) for the zoo/BCPA
- Raise rental fees for sports fields
  
- Would City consider selling the Coliseum?
- Can the City reach out to businesses (local), for funds that have been allocated?
- Can we get companies to advertise inside rec. facilities?
- Where is the need at?
- Raise user fees on places like Miller Park Pav. ie: weddings
- Where is demand for services; ie ice rink
- Possibly raise service fees
- Review the programs to determine usage fees. Survey the attendees of the programs.
- Look at \$581.593 and see where funds are going
- \*Are some of the fees too low?
- \* Lack of marketing on what is available in this community?
  - What would marketing costs be? What is current marketing?
- Improvements to buildings would be an investment
- Cost effective
- Use friends of the zoo to create benefactors
- Why is the City of Blmgtm supporting “regional attractions”?
- Combine Bloomington & Normal Parks & Recs./District
- Vary fees based on where you live
- Naming rights of BCPA
- Is there a threshold of attendance that we are not losing money on events?
- Review ticket prices
- Are we doing a good enough job promoting and marketing events?
- 557 total events per year at the BCPA

- Encourage feedback for people using services
- Has the city asked for patron list from Civic Center & Krannert Center
- Dinner shows
- Market to college students

### **Public Safety**

- Personnel – Fire
  - Supervisor to subordinate ratio
    - 1:1.5
  - SOP in fire standards?
  - Staffing part of negotiations?
  - 130 staff cut in 2009
    - Didn't fill positions
- Cut expenses
- Make gov't more efficient
- Don't higher/increase taxes
- Quality of service needs maintained
- Response time needs addressed
- 8 hr. shift – 7 days/wk?
- COB firefighters not equal to Chicago FD
- Weight room
- Putting out fires
- Paramedics outsourced?
- Audit from independent organization on how time is being spent in FD
  - Are performance standards being meant?
- Is this a state problem or city problem?
- Can't cut Public Safety
- How do we address building needs?
- What's being done w/ empty fire station?
- Response times are not what they should be
- Opportunities to share empty fire station
- Where are response times lowest?
  - Northeast
- Blm & Nrml building library together – union vs non union
- Reciprocity agreements?
- Human life is more important
- Airport – station
- Pension
  - Reducing head count
  - Minimum eligibility
  - How do we increase – state law
  - Do we reduce head count, increase efficiency, proximity?
  - Layers of management?
    - Public Works, for ex.
    - Need to start looking at unnecessary layers
  - Police & FD are specifically trained; need to preserve these ees.

- Why do we have a communications specialist for both police & fire?
- Who are essential & who can we combine?
- Blm has more unions than Nrml
- Going to have reduce/get rid of so many unions. Will not be easy.
- # of ees doesn't make a company better
- For ex. Postal Service
- Have to limit how much we structure upward
- Do we have to have a certain # of Srgts & Lts?
- Police has a flatter structure
- NFPA – Best Practices
- Smaller span of control in the “hazard zone”
- Does our response time depend on lean staffing?
- Are there \*proximity levels of mgmt. that can be “leaned” out?
- Thank you to HQ for a fire one of the members had in '09
- Are all of the searg. In police necessary?
- We are down 5 police officers – what if we had a riot?
- Is police required for staffing like Fire?
- What is the biggest driver of OT?
  
- Reconcile budget shortfalls
- Sell unused station/property?
- Eliminate unnecessary spending in non core services? (quality of life)
- Prioritize budget for core issues first!
- Not enough info to make informed decision on lowering response times
- Pensions –
- Priorities
  - Capital improvements
  - Core services
  - Pensions
  
- Empty building (Six Points) to sell?
- Federal dollars
- Add another station
  - Shared station
- Buildings need updating
- Prioritize needs versus wants
- Intelligent traffic signals to lower response times = less stations needed long term
- Possible joint or shared sources
- Co-ordinate changes with adjoining towns
- Find a solid funding source
- Release some mandates on the city from the state
- Prioritize -> Proactive funding (save on instere cost\$)
- Citizen interactions
- Cost of livings?
- Holding line on hiring and spending increases
- Outsourcing of jobs that will not require pensions?

## Solid Waste

- Excess bags, piles ->
  - Is it enforced?
  - City follow-up
- Suggest pick-up same day as recycling
- Some heavy users put out disproportionate amount, others never
  - Charge for it beyond a certain amount/frequency (e.g. more than one)
- Recycling
  - Need opportunities for businesses to participate
  - Municipal system we have good for quality of life
  - Incentivize recycling for everyone – residences, businesses
- Garbage
  - Evaluate new system after 6 months -> has it happened?
  - Density
  - Municipal system convenient, better than many other communities
  - Greater differential between 35/65/95 gallon containers
- Snow Removal
  - Requirement for residents and businesses to clear sidewalks
    - Enforcement
    - Revenue generation
  - Electronics
    - Cooperate w/ other governmental entities
    - Change state law
    - Incentives to recycle
  - Increase fee for additional bulk waste “bucket”
  - Enforce regulations re trash, bulk containers, quantity
  - Encourage recycling by increasing fees for garbage pick-up (35/65/95)
  - Cooperate w/ Normal
  - Business recycling
- Bulk pick-up is a problem:
  - Who is/isn't paying for it?
  - How is it being picked up? (specifically, Bloomington process vs Normal's process)
  - Number of vehicles used vs. drop-off facility?
  - No schedule for bulk waste
  - Limit to once a month
  - Rentals: Private contractors
  - Landlord education of responsible waste disposal
  - Crews need to enforce the billing for the extra work they do for residents (not packing correctly)
  - Get rid of limits on loads per day at drop-off facility
  - Out-source bulk pick-up
  - Distinctions between residential/commercial bulk pick-up
  - Separate thought process and practices for recycling vs. other solid waste vs. bulk
  - Increase charge for “2<sup>nd</sup> bucket” pick-up so it's in line w/ what it costs

- Eliminate bulk waste pickup
- Privatize bulk waste if it can't be made self sufficient
- Would elimination reduce pension liability
- Do reductions in union staff impact contracts?
- Can bulk waste equipment be repurposed if program is eliminate?
- What would it take to make bulk waste program self-sufficient?
  - Can it be reduced to the point where it is self sufficient?
- Keep "drop off" location for bulk waste & possibly expand this location
  - Entire table concurs on this point
    - 8 for 8
  
- Privatize waste removal
- Individuals pay separate find own source to contract
- City contract with private company
- Can just bulk be contracted out
- Limit bulk to less pick-ups
- Get ballpark costs from private companies
- Quit hiring consultants
- Cut down
  
- Solid waste fees 30% short
- Fines
- Greater enforcement of codes
- Higher -> Bulk waste cost for rental properties
- Less frequent pick up for bulk waste
- Increase recycle

### Idea "Parking Lot"

- Cap total property tax at 1% of property value
- Have a group of ILL mayors go to Spfld and lobby legislature to remove public services pensions out of state constitution. Possible amendment.
- Establish a Park District. Move zoo, Parks & Rec, Coleisum, to that District
- Accountability for contracted work
- More quality control on road work & other contracted work
- Section 8 housing?
  - What advantages
- Enforce clearing sidewalks after snow storm – Keep better track of landlords & their properties – Can surprise inspections be done? Unfortunately there are "slumlords" & renters are afraid to complain

## Other Written Questions/Comments

- Comments from neighbors – street repair, water mains/sewers (major concern from everyone who contacted me), housing complex on Oakland – use metal garbage cans – couldn't they have city carts, slowdown on spending of Const. Trail/parks/zoo, how to control panhandlers in neighborhood, some neighbors can't afford 50/50 on sidewalks
- You can state the rental owner are okay
- Eliminate sticks for extra bags – just charge people for extra bags not in garbage cans
- How come there is no mention of Economic Development in all the documents. Did I miss it?
- What percent of seats at the BCPA and Colliseum are filled for each seat?
- Thanks Tina. BCPA 550 venues per year, how many are “free” gratis, how many are fees, please respond to Jim Fruin
- Didn't have the opportunity to say this – In terms of revenue streams, we, as a city, do a poor job in collecting code violation fees. I have never been in a city that lets things slide like they do here – if a citizen doesn't meet the expectations of the law, they need to pay the legal fine.
- This has been a great experience and I applaud the council for this initiative. It was also worthwhile to meet taxpayers from other wards and listen to their comments from a perspective different than mine. I hope this assists the council in successfully accomplishing completion of the 2016 budget.
- Unclear in statement, articulate cost/benefit/analysis, need to distinguish bulk waste program from recycling participations, work on enhancing citizen responsibility, communicate widely info, pickup dates, kinds of pickup, alternatives to curbside, hire professional grant-getter, re: raising fees: needs-based exemptions coordinate with county, McLean County Regional Planning
- (I was at solid waste table. I've thought of some more possibilities to save money.) Increase liquor license fees substantially; increase OTB fees; charge downtown bars a lot for extra policing needed for unruly patrons; increase local gas tax for road improvements; charge private groups that make heavy use of city parks (ie private football taking over parks on weekends); submit ambulance bills promptly to insurers; increase fines for ordinance violations; eliminate K-9 unit due to new marijuana laws – will no longer be effective in drug searches; increase trash cart fees, especially for larger carts; abandon school resource offices; no staff should take home city vehicles unless job takes them out on overnight emergencies; increase water charges; increase golf fees; no need for another fire station; discourage urban sprawl. Force developers to bear the cost of streets, sewers, sidewalks; note: we live in one of the richest countries in the world. We are the top 1% -> whining about taxes is a luxury for people whose needs are mostly well met. Change Coliseum management. Demand accountability; increase retirement age for police & fire; resist calls for an east side library branch; hire fewer expensive consultants. When they mess up (garbage cart predictions) do not rehire them; hire another full-time inspector to check for property ordinance violations – place liens on properties that are constantly out of compliance; keep the zoo & programs for children -> not everything is about the \$, and our youngest citizens didn't have a voice tonight
- Why does CIAM report not match auditors report which shows 100,000s in losses? Which shows 100,000s in losses? Why is income (revenue) not known for point of sale? Colliseum! I don't have my notes but I believe there were areas pointed out where possible fraud or abuse could take place – Have these loopholes been closed? ie petty cash being used for employee loans, refer to BLNews for Dianas outline of the report, need to look @ more cuts, cut wasteful spending and don't say there isn't any.

