

In the Council Chambers of the Showers City Hall, Bloomington, Indiana on Wednesday, January 10, 2024 at 6:30pm, Council Vice President Isabel Piedmont-Smith presided over the Organizational Meeting of the Common Council.

COMMON COUNCIL  
ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING  
January 10, 2024

Councilmembers present: Isak Nti Asare, Matt Flaherty, Isabel Piedmont-Smith, Shruti Rana, Dave Rollo, Kate Rosenbarger, Andrew (Andy) Ruff, Hopi Stosberg, Sydney Zulich  
Councilmembers present via Zoom: none  
Councilmembers absent: none

ROLL CALL [6:30pm]

Council Vice President Isabel Piedmont-Smith noted why she was opening the council meeting as the returning Council Vice President, gave a land acknowledgment, and summarized the agenda.

AGENDA SUMMATION [6:30pm]

Stosberg announced her constituent meetings.

REPORTS

Rollo welcomed everybody and said he looked forward to working with them. He also announced his constituent meetings.

- COUNCIL MEMBERS [6:31pm]

Ruff said he was excited to work with all of the councilmembers and was honored to serve.

Asare reported attending a meeting related to encampments and said he looked forward to working with people in the government and community.

Zulich thanked council staff and Clerk Nicole Bolden for their work. She thanked former Councilmember Stephen (Steve) Volan for his service.

Piedmont-Smith discussed a recent death in an encampment in the community and said the time had come to take action. She also encouraged people to attend the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. celebration the following week. She announced her constituent meetings.

Mayor Kerry Thomson gave remarks, and Deputy Mayor Gretchen Knapp introduced herself and some of the new department heads, Margie Rice (legal), Jane Kupersmith (Economic and Sustainable Development), Jessica McClellan (Controller), and Sharr Pechac (Human Resources).

- The MAYOR AND CITY OFFICES [6:43pm]

There were no council committee reports.

- COUNCIL COMMITTEES [6:48pm]

Jen Pearl, Maggie Chin, Jim Shelton (via Zoom), Maria Douglas, Tom McGlasson Jr., and Sam Dove (via Zoom) made comments.

- PUBLIC [6:48pm]

ELECTION of OFFICERS [6:58pm]

Zulich moved and Asare seconded that Isabel Piedmont-Smith be elected as President.

Motion to elect Council President

Piedmont-Smith gave comments related to why she was well-suited to the role, and said she would appreciate the support of her colleagues.

Ruff, Stosberg, Rana, Asare, and Zulich spoke in favor of the selection.

The motion received a roll call vote of Ayes: 9, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0.

Vote to elect Council President [7:09pm]

Asare moved and Rana seconded that Andrew Ruff be elected as Vice President.

Motion to elect Council Vice President

Ruff explained why he was suited to serve as Vice President.

Zulich, Rosenbarger, Rana, Rollo, and Piedmont-Smith spoke in favor of the selection.

The motion received a roll call vote of Ayes: 9, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0.

Vote to elect Council Vice President [7:16pm]

Rosenbarger moved and Ruff seconded that Hopi Stosberg be elected as Parliamentarian.

Motion to elect Council Parliamentarian

Stosberg stated that she would be happy to serve as parliamentarian and explained why she would be suited to the role.

Flaherty, Asare, Rana, Ruff, and Piedmont-Smith spoke in favor of the selection.

The motion received a roll call vote of Ayes: 9, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0.

Vote to elect Council Parliamentarian [7:21pm]

Piedmont-Smith proposed that councilmembers email their seat preferences to her for assignment the following week.

Council President Piedmont-Smith presided over the remainder of the meeting.

Piedmont-Smith noted that the appointments to Boards and Commissions would be broken down by categories and that members were welcome to self-nominate if they wished to serve on a particular Board or Commission.

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS [7:22pm]

#### Economic Development

Asare moved and Zulich seconded that Asare be appointed to the Bloomington Economic Development Corporation.

Zulich moved and Asare seconded that Zulich be appointed to the Downtown Bloomington, Inc. Board of Directors.

Asare moved and Flaherty seconded that Asare be appointed to Economic Development Commission (County).

Asare moved and Rollo seconded that Asare be appointed to Economic Development Commission (City).

The motions related to the Economic Development appointments received a roll call vote of Ayes: 8, Nays: 0, Abstain: 1 (Asare).

Vote to accept Economic Development appointments [7:29pm]

#### Planning and Transportation

Stosberg moved and Rosenbarger seconded that Stosberg be appointed to the Plan Commission.

Rana moved and Rosenbarger seconded that Rana be appointed to the Metropolitan Planning Organization.

Flaherty moved and Rosenbarger seconded that Flaherty be appointed to Parking Commission.

The motions related to the Planning and Transportation appointments received a roll call vote of Ayes: 9, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0.

Vote to accept Planning and Transportation appointments [7:35pm]

#### Sustainability and Environment

Piedmont-Smith moved and Zulich seconded that Piedmont-Smith be appointed to the Board of the Waste Reduction District of Monroe County.

Rollo moved and Zulich seconded that Rollo be appointed to the Bloomington Commission on Sustainability.

The motions related to the Sustainability and Environment appointments received a roll call vote of Ayes: 9, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0.

Vote to accept Sustainability and Environment appointments [7:38pm]

#### Community Development Block Grant

Zulich moved and Rollo seconded that Zulich be appointed to the Citizens Advisory Committee- Community Development Block Grants-Social Services

Rosenbarger moved and Stosberg seconded that Rosenbarger be appointed to the Citizens Advisory Committee- Community Development Block Grants-Physical Improvements.

The motions related to the Community Development Block Grant appointments received a roll call vote of Ayes: 9, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0.

Vote to accept Community Development Block Grant appointments [7:40pm]

#### Tax Advisory Boards

Ruff moved and Stosberg seconded that Ruff be appointed to the Monroe County Food and Beverage Tax Advisory Commission.

Rosenbarger moved and Stosberg seconded that Rosenbarger be appointed to the Public Safety Local Income Tax Allocation Committee.

Zulich moved and Rollo seconded that Zulich be appointed to the Public Safety Local Income Tax Allocation Committee.

Ruff moved and Stosberg seconded that Ruff be appointed to the Public Safety Local Income Tax Allocation Committee.

Piedmont-Smith moved and Stosberg seconded that Piedmont-Smith be appointed to the Public Safety Local Income Tax Allocation Committee.

The motions related to the Tax Advisory Boards appointments received a roll call vote of Ayes: 9, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0.

Vote to accept Tax Advisory Boards appointments [7:44pm]

Utilities

Flaherty moved and Rollo seconded that Flaherty be appointed to the Utilities Services Board.

The motion related to the Utilities appointment received a roll call vote of Ayes: 9, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0.

Vote to accept Utilities appointments [7:46pm]

Piedmont-Smith appointed the following councilmembers to the Climate Action & Resilience Committee: Flaherty (Chair), Stosberg, Rollo, Zulich

ASSIGNMENTS TO COUNCIL COMMITTEES [7:47pm]

Piedmont-Smith appointed the following councilmembers to the Jack Hopkins Social Services Funding Committee: Rana (Chair), Asare, Ruff, Stosberg

Piedmont-Smith appointed the following councilmembers to the Council Sidewalk Committee: Rosenbarger (Chair), Ruff, Stosberg, Rana

Piedmont-Smith made the following assignments to the Board and Commission Interview Committees:

- Interview Team A- Asare, Rosenbarger, Stosberg
- Interview Team B- Ruff, Piedmont-Smith, Rana
- Interview Team C- Flaherty, Rollo, Zulich

Piedmont-Smith continued the Special Committee on Council Processes and appointed the following councilmembers to the Special Committee: Piedmont-Smith (chair), Flaherty, Rollo, Rana

Christopher Emge and Steve Volan made comments.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENT [7:55pm]

Stephen Lucas, Council Attorney, reviewed the upcoming council schedule.

COUNCIL SCHEDULE [8:04pm]

Piedmont-Smith adjourned the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT [8:05pm]

APPROVED by the Common Council of the City of Bloomington, Monroe County, Indiana upon this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2024.

APPROVE:

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Isabel Piedmont-Smith, PRESIDENT  
Bloomington Common Council

\_\_\_\_\_  
Nicole Bolden, CLERK  
City of Bloomington