

MINUTES
MUNCIE COMMON COUNCIL
300 NORTH HIGH STREET
MUNCIE, INDIANA 47305



JANUARY 8, 2024

REGULAR MEETING: 7:00 P.M., 1st Floor City Hall Auditorium.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Councilwoman Ro Selvey.

INVOCATION: Given by Pastor Tim Overton, Kingston Avenue Baptist Church.

| ROLL CALL: | PRESENT | ABSENT |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|---------------|
| <i>At-Large 1, Dale Basham</i> | X | |
| <i>At-Large 2, Ro Selvey</i> | X | |
| <i>At-Large 3, William McIntosh</i> | X | |
| <i>District #1, Jeff Green</i> | X | |
| <i>District #2, Nora Powell</i> | X | |
| <i>District #3, Brandon Garrett</i> | | X |
| <i>District #4, Sara Gullion</i> | X | |
| <i>District #5, Jerry Dishman</i> | X | |
| <i>District #6, Harold Mason</i> | X | |

2024 REORGANIZATION:

PRESIDENT: A motion was made by McIntosh and seconded by Selvey to nominate Jerry Dishman. No further nominations. A roll call vote showed 1 absent (Garrett) and 8 yeas. MOTION CARRIED. Jerry Dishman is declared President.

VICE-PRESIDENT: A motion was made by Gullion and seconded by McIntosh to nominate Nora Powell. A motion was made by Basham and seconded by Selvey to nominate Jeff Green. No further nominations. A roll call vote showed 1 absent (Garrett), 5 yeas (Powell, McIntosh, Dishman, Mason, Gullion) for Nora Powell and 3 yeas (Selvey, Basham, Green) for Jeff Green. Gullion's MOTION CARRIED. Nora Powell is declared Vice-President.

READING SECRETARY: A motion was made by Mason and seconded by Powell to nominate Sara Gullion. A motion was made by Green and seconded by Basham to nominate Ro Selvey. No further nominations. A roll call vote showed 1 absent (Garrett), 5 yeas (Dishman, McIntosh, Powell, Gullion, Mason) for Sara Gullion and 3 yeas (Selvey, Green, Basham) for Ro Selvey. Mason's MOTION CARRIED. Sara Gullion is declared Reading Secretary.

LEGAL COUNSEL: A motion was made by McIntosh and seconded by Powell to nominate Dan Gibson with Delk McNally LLP. A motion was made by Green and seconded by Basham to nominate Brandon Murphy of Cannon Bruns & Murphy LLP. No further nominations. Before taking the

vote, Councilwoman Gullion informed she will be recusing herself from this vote. She is also filing a conflict of interest disclosure statement due to working for the law firm of Delk McNally for 11 years. She has worked alongside Dan Gibson who served as Council Attorney prior to the election and just nominated again tonight. She does not believe it is a conflict of interest because there will be no impact to her salary and this is a very small contract for the firm. She also provides copies to the rest of the councilmembers and the City Clerk and makes the request for it be accepted prior to this particular vote. A roll call vote showed 1 absent (Garrett), 1 abstain (Gullion), 4 yeas (Powell, McIntosh, Dishman, Mason) for Dan Gibson, and 3 yeas (Selvey, Basham, Green) for Brandon Murphy. McIntosh's MOTION CARRIED. Dan Gibson with Delk McNally LLP is appointed as Legal Counsel.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: A motion was made by Selvey and seconded by McIntosh to approve the Minutes from December 4, 2023 as presented. A roll call vote showed 1 absent (Garrett), 4 yeas (Dishman, McIntosh, Green, Selvey) and 4 abstain (Powell, Gullion, Basham, Mason). MINUTES APPROVED.

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARD AND COMMISSIONS: President Dishman asks Attorney Gibson if they should hold off on making appointments until the next meeting because the Clerk is still getting the master list of put together. However, he thinks there may be one they might *have* to make this evening. Attorney Gibson is not sure there is necessarily a requirement the open appointments be made tonight. There Muncie Edit Building Corporation is one that only meets once a year in January. It is his understanding that they have one expired politically balanced Republican appointment. Regarding any others, it is dependent upon those boards and commissions whether they have any pressing business and need a quorum in the next few weeks. The Mayor might be more aware and if there needs to be then the Council can call a Special Meeting to appoint someone if there is a pressing issue at hand. Otherwise, there is not any requirement they do that this evening. Depending on appointments, some of which may have a current person appointed who will be staying until their successor is elected but that would just depend on each board and commission.

Councilwoman Selvey refers to a few appointments on the Redevelopment Commission. She has already been in communication with somebody who wants to serve and is physically here this evening. She wonders if there is any reason why they could not vote on that tonight. Attorney Gibson answers no, if there was a motion and a second, then they could vote but they do not *have* to. Selvey confirms that she can make a motion if she chooses. Gibson informs that is correct but nominations need to be declared opened for anybody to make a motion and if somebody wanted to postpone that then they would have to make a motion to postpone that as well. A motion was made by Powell and seconded by McIntosh to wait on board appointments (until they have an opportunity to alert people that those positions are available and any interesting applicants have opportunity to submit letters of interest). Gibson confirms she is referring to all appointments. First Powell refers to just the MRC but then explains it would be best for all boards and commissions. A roll call vote showed 1 absent (Garrett), 6 yeas (Green, Mason, Dishman, McIntosh, Gullion, Powell) and 2 nays (Basham, Selvey). MOTION CARRIED. Board and commission appointments postponed until next month.

MUNCIE EDIT BUILDING CORP: A motion was made by Dishman and seconded by Powell to reappoint Andrew Popp to the Muncie Edit Building Corp. No further nominations. A roll call vote showed 1 absent (Garrett) and 8 yeas. MOTION CARRIED. Andrew Popp is declared reappointed to the Muncie Edit Building Corp.

ORDINANCES PREVIOUSLY INTRODUCED: No Ordinances Previously Introduced.

NEW ORDINANCES: No New Ordinances Filed.

RESOLUTIONS: No New Resolutions Filed.

TABLED:

RES. 17-23 AUTHORIZING THE ENTRY BY THE CITY OF MUNCIE, INDIANA INTO A BOT AGREEMENT AND RELATED DOCUMENTS AND TAKING CERTAIN OTHER ACTIONS RELATED THERETO. (Tabled 12/4/2023)

A motion was made by Selvey and seconded by Green to Bring res. 17-23 Off the Table.

Marshall Farmer, Owner of MIDAS on MLK Jr. Blvd, would like to speak on behalf of a new fire station. When driving by multiple times a day, it reminds him of the Brady Bunch with a garage added to Station #6. It is a very ill equipped facility and impossible to have gender fluidity there. There isn't separate quarters so you can't have the opposite sex there. He worries about the neighborhood. Specifically, in his industry, large amounts of chemicals and such are kept in stock at his store and that station is not currently equipped to handle. That station has a tremendous amount of calls and he watches them all day long and go up and down MLK. He has the upmost respectful for them and think they deserve a place they can be proud of.

Audie Barber has spoken to most of the councilmembers about this BOT agreement and has been talking about it himself for the last year or so. Everybody knows we need new fire stations. That is not the argument. The argument is how we are going to build it. When we enter into a BOT agreement, we're going to spend upwards of \$8.5 million to build this building sitting on City property that will be soon be owned by someone. There are other ways of building this fire station. They can bid it out like all the other buildings they do. He recalls the City recently bid out a new sign building to store street signs and stuff in. The BOT is shoving too much under the rug. By going out to bid, there is money in the EMS Fund or they can use EDIT money. To turn a \$8.5 million project over to one individual when it hasn't even been bid out seems a little reckless on the Council's behalf. He just feels it needs to be done the right way, being bid out. Like he said, we need a new fire station over there and hopes we get one started soon but the BOT is not the way of doing it.

Mary Stilts welcomes the new and preexisting councilmembers. She recalls visiting Station #6 a couple of weeks ago, knowing it was in bad shape but wanting to see for herself. She doesn't think any man or woman would be comfortable with men and women having to sleep in the same area. There is no privacy. There are plumbing problems and the building is a wreck that needs demolished and rebuilt. Everybody is harping about the BOT but if the Council takes this vote tonight, it doesn't solidify anything on the financing which will be voted on later on down the road. This is just to get the motion going to get the fire station issue fixed. Her niece lives in that neighborhood and her house actually caught on fire a few years ago. Luckily, she was able to get it rebuilt but if it wasn't for Station #6 she would have lost her. The Council needs to take the responsibility and get the first step going tonight. When it comes to the financing, they can then decide how to do this but for now, let's get moving and get that fire station started. Quit harping about the BOT.

Ken Hudson, Whitely Community Council Executive Director, informs he had the opportunity to tour the fire station recently and confers with Ms. Stilts. It is subpar. There is just an obscene amount of

improvements that need to be done but other than speaking on the obvious that the building is old, he turns the attention to the need for redevelopment on the east side in general. Currently you could probably count 7 new small business acquisitions right on MLK Jr. Blvd and Highland Ave. He notes he may be counting the new Sanitation building as part of it so maybe 6. The residents are pushing for a lot of redevelopment but he would like to see the City government get behind the development. He hates to see that the east side is rebuilt and our government is being drug behind it instead of driving the front. The redevelopment of the east side is going to occur regardless of who is involved and the Whitely Community Council is going to do its best to make sure that happens. His only encouragement right now is that we built a facility that shows us what we want the east side to be in 5, 6, and 7 years instead of just asking how much of the budget we can scrape off and downsize. We really should be asking how to get the job done so that residents can have pride and quality of life and on the east side and not watching all sorts of investment dollars roll over to the west or north side of town. Every city with new fire stations are growing cities, at least the ones he has seen while traveling. It is as simple as that. One of the things he would like to see is the east side of town look identical, if not be a shining star in Muncie, as to the west side of town.

Frank Scott with the Whitely Community Council President recalls them talking about this fire station at their last meeting. He has sent the Council some letters on his feelings and opinions but does not represent the Neighborhood until he has talked to the Neighborhood. Since those discussions, the Neighborhood is very concerned about the station. He and Mr. Hudson both toured the station and the description we have heard in public dialogue and presentations does not do it justice unless you have been there and seen it yourself. He is hoping the Council will actually visit the station because it wasn't until he went and saw it that he felt embarrassed by what he saw. These men and women deserve better. They've done a lot with what they've had to work with and with the conditions they're asked to work under. Hudson is unsure even he would stay there himself. The City is not going to draw any firefighters in to believe that they would want to live and work here. It is not a question, again, whether it needs to be done but the scaling of it. The community wants to consider the growth in that area as well as new growth, new businesses and new homes being built. The people are investing in the neighborhood themselves and it is not just the Whitely Neighborhood but in so many surrounding areas. He hears the fire trucks go by all the time, down Gavin to the nursing home, and over off Highland where a lot of elderly citizens live. The need is known but the scaling of it has to be scaled for the future. You do not want to put all this money in and get a thriving neighborhood but will ultimately need something bigger. He is not saying to build the Taj Mahal but what it is now is not significant and what they decide to build needs to be significant for the future and not just for right now. He challenges them to go out and look at the station, again, because if they do then they might realize they need to move on it. He knows it has been in the works for a while so let's just get it started.

Kristopher Bilbrey welcomes the new Council and wants them to remember that along with being the fiscal and legislative body, they are also (and probably most importantly) the representative body. At the last Council meeting, one of these councilmembers (Councilwoman Powell) stood here and asked for the Council before them to not vote until they learned more about this and not until the new Council took their seats. Bilbrey thought that that was an excellent ask and the Council did the right thing in Tabling. He is more than aware that this Council has already had meetings with the Administration. However, this Council is a stopgap between the Administration and the citizens. While the Council may know a little bit more information, there still has not been a second Public Works Committee meeting that the last Council stated would occur. He doesn't know what's going to happen with that and has been trying to look into what is actually happening. There are still a lot of questions left on the table and multiple people here are

asking them to go and inspect this fire station but they will not be able to if they decide to vote on this now. An old adage says, "You measure twice and cut once." Bilbrey feels like over the last 4 years this Administration has cut – cut – cut and then people come back saying now it is time to measure. That is not the appropriate way to handle this. Everybody agrees that a new fire station is needed. If the Council votes on this, the firefighters are not going to be staying in a brand new station as soon as tomorrow night. He is not asking them to postpone this for months or years but just until a little bit more due diligence can be done for the public's sake. They are not voting up there on behalf of their own thoughts or on behalf of the thoughts of the firefighters. They are voting up there on their thoughts, the firefighters, and the citizens of Muncie. Multiple citizens have asked to be informed of what they decide to do before they move forward. Simply put.

Wayne Scaife was born and raised in Whitely and everyone knows there is a need for this. The consensus is that the fire station looks horrible. We all know that we need a new one. However, back in October, this issue was sent to the Public Works Committee. Selvey confirms. The reason was to get more feedback or knowledge of what was going on. There were still unanswered questions from the people that attended that meeting so there was supposed to be a second meeting before going any further but that meeting never occurred. There were questions about the finances that could not be answered and other questions that remained without an answer. Again, the consensus is we need a new fire station. That is a given. The problem is we need to be fiscally responsible. Instead of building an \$8 million fire station through this BOT program maybe we can build a \$6 million fire station by taking in bids. We are just complaining about the process of building it and that \$8 million price tag is a little high compared to what has been built in other cities. He is not talking about 10 years ago, either, referring to just last year. He is asking the Council to be fiscally responsible. We do not need the BOT. We just need to bid it out and come up with a better price.

Audie Barber comments that there is a motion on the floor and he does not think that it was ever voted on to take it off the Table claiming these discussions are occurring illegally until the vote is taken to Take it Off the Table.

Gary Moore, Principal at Longfellow Elementary School, is looking at the fire station as an opportunity to invest in our children. There are 330 kids in that building and two recent fires have occurred there. Many of the kids have an interest in becoming firefighters. In a convocation the school held today, he told them this is an opportunity to for them to be part and show love for the their city and one of the children raised their hand telling him he wanted to become a firefighter. He told that little boy that is a great thing. He would love to be able to take the elementary children to a place to experience what a fire station actually looks like or have the opportunity to be on a great and powerful fire truck so they can understand Muncie is a place where you can stay, become a part of and belong. This is home. Part of that is investing in a new fire station and he is just looking at it from the view of our babies eventually growing up and saying, "I want to stay in Muncie." Please keep that in mind. Mr. Moore knows there are other parts in which he is not privy to nor does he want to get involved with but can guarantees our elementary-aged children are asking for something that they can be proud of. In their vision statement, it talks about being aesthetically pleasing and he understands there is some need for that at Station #6. Anytime we take our kids somewhere we want to let them know that this is an opportunity for you to see this is a thing you can participate in. However, it needs to be something that is pleasing and valuable to them. This new station is needed. He wants the Council to think about not just tomorrow or next week but years from now when our 10-year olds will be 25-year-olds. We want them to stay here in Muncie.

Mayor Dan Ridenour welcomes the new Council and wants to explain a few things. They can go about the BOT process which stands for build – operate – transfer or they can use design build. There is a reason that using a BOT on the higher end developments is helpful for a city, especially a city where the finances are a little tight. The Mayor provides a few examples: Ball State and the City of Muncie have been working on an Arts and Cultural Trail for several years and it is planned to go down University. Money was raised from Ball State and several foundations came together with what the City was told through the part of the design process (which is hiring somebody and, by the way, the City had to pay for that) being told it would cost “X” amount. It was then put out to bid. This all occurred in 2023. When the bid came back, it was \$2.9 million more and the end result was not being able to do it at all. That is the risk of the City doing a design build. They design it and spend the money. The City spent money to design it and received estimates on what it would be but came back much higher when it went out to bid, so much higher that the project is no longer being done in that format. Mayor Ridenour admits they have since put it in READI 2.0 but have no guarantee those funds will come in. If they do come in then some of that may get done. Another example the Mayor wants to mention is relating to collaboration with a group of skateboard enthusiasts for a skate park. Years ago a design that was put together work was being established to raise money off that quote. The City (the previous Council and Mayor Ridenour) worked together and put money aside based on what they were informed it was going to cost to build. That money is still set aside for a skate park but it was determined that it was several hundred thousand dollars more when the designs were updated to new standards. What they initially thought was a \$300,000 quote came back to well over \$600,000. Another challenge was spending \$30,000 for that design. They then had to get it redesigned for another \$30,000 to scale it down within budget of the funds set aside for it (noting they put additional funds in as well). The current status of the Muncie skate park is it is waiting for a DNR permit. The funds are available and the price is known but the City will still have to put that out for bid. If the bids come back higher than what the City has the money for, it may follow the same fate as the Cultural Trail, which means it may not be able to be done. He assures they are hopeful that it can but since it was not done as a BOT it is at a risk and money has been spent in both cases. Again, the City spent money getting it designed. There are advantages and reasons that the Mayor feels a BOT was the way to go. It was voted on before to accept a BOT as an option. This here is the final stage of accepting that BOT. He assures we don't know what this is going to cost yet but there is a general idea. What this vote the Council is being asked to do does nothing more than move forward to the scoping period to where final design and final budget can be determined. The final budget is still unknown. There will still be two more Council meetings to discuss all the finances. If there is a problem with a fire station then it is his responsibility as Mayor (and in his mind the Council's responsibilities as Council members) to attend to that problem. The finances will be discussed at the next meeting or whenever the budget gets complete (because, again, it is not yet known what that is going to be) and then the following meeting. The reality is the neighborhood wants this, the public knows it is needed, the councilmembers who have visited the location know it is needed, the Mayor himself has visited all fire stations and a few firefighters are going to come up next and talk about those needs. There are plenty of needs. This is not about the financing. It is not known what those dollars are or will be but they cannot put together the final scoping to come up with a final budget in which this Council will vote on at a future meeting until they vote yes to this part of the process. That is all this vote is. It is not about the money today. That is another day and another month. It is about doing the right thing for the citizens of Muncie.

Jason Chaffin, President of Local #1348, congratulates the new faces of Council. He first wants to go over a little bit about the process from a firefighter standpoint. A few years ago, the City Council passed an ordinance that allowed a BOT agreement to be an option here in Muncie. Many cities and

counties have used BOT agreements but we (Muncie) had never used one before. It gives us another option in the toolbox. Shortly after that ordinance passed, the Committee formed to study our fire stations. That Committee made up of then Fire Chief David Miller, then Deputy Chief Alan Richards, Lieutenant Mark Greenburg, Lieutenant Kelly Morey, Sergeant Shane Sites, Firefighter Justine Hill, the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and then Councilman Aaron Clark. That is 10 members, 7 of which were firefighters. As the process in the ordinances says, they called for bids or a “request for proposals” for this job. After the studies on the stations they looked at locations, ones that are in the worst conditions, wat ones are the most important to the community and other deciding priorities. That was the first part of that Committee’s work. The request for proposals is just asking the world who wants to build a fire station in Muncie. They received 9 requests back: Envoy Companies, RQAW Corporation, Meyer Najem Construction, GM Development, CORE Construction, Shive-Hattery Company, Access Builders, Sabris Architects, and TLZ Architecture.* All these companies said they would use Union labor as well as all other important things the Fire Department wanted as firefighters. The firefighters on that Committee then took all those bids and narrowed it down to three companies: Envoy, RQAW and GM Development. They then interviewed and allowed those companies come in and give in-person proposals on how they would do this. Hence, instead of handing the decision making over the Board of Works to do, a group of firefighters (men and women who live in these stations) are deciding which company out of these 3 they are going to go with. They used charts and diagrams to come up with a rubric on which company had the best proposal and ultimately voted for GM Development to be the company. At that point, GM Development went out and created the schematics based on firefighter issues at the stations and different data on cancers, etc. GM is aware of that information because they build fire stations and many constructions companies do not and was one of the reason his colleagues picked them was because they had such a great history throughout Indiana building fire stations. The firefighters made it known that Station #6 was the priority so GM began schematics for that specific fire station. The preliminary architecture was provided but would have had to be bid out if it were done the other method. Part of that architecture came to the previous Council in October. As the Mayor said, this is just the first step. The Council will have many months to go over and decide factors on the cost and other financial questions. Maybe they scale things back down and making it a \$6 million or \$5 million station; that decision is a few meetings away. Chaffin refers to the email he sent the Council detailing the pros and cons. One pro is the firefighters spending two years doing this all by themselves. They did not rely on the Board of Works, lowest bid, or rules and regulations. They had the controlling votes on that Committee and picked all the way through. They spent time touring stations in other cities and really did their homework. The ending result was the proposal of this ordinance that came in October. Again, there are pros and cons to BOT agreements just as there is with the standard bid process. Do you end up paying a little bit more for a BOT? Possibly, with the whole fixed mortgage versus variable rate mortgage because just like the Mayor's 2 examples, the variable rate mortgage has a good chance that it has overruns, costs and change orders and more money ends up being spent anyway and maybe the job wasn’t even done up to standard. That is why the firefighters felt strongly about this process because they have been involved in it since day 1 for the last 2 years.

Lawrence Robinson has sat in the audience for the past 4 years and has heard a lot of conversation about this fire station over the last year. He has no doubt that we need a new fire station at that location. He has a brother-in-law that worked there and knows another man that still works there. Before going any further, he wanted to throw some figures out there. In March of last year at the Mayor's State of the City, he said he was going to build 2 fire stations costing \$13 million. By July, the amount had jumped to \$18 million, which was actually negotiated down from \$21 million. The difference between \$18 million

and \$13 million is 38%. They said that was because of the cost and interest rates going up but interest rates shouldn't have anything to do with the cost of building. Actual prices went up in 2022 when the average building cost went up 14%. Average building costs went up in 2023 for 4.1%. That is 18.1% in 2 years (2022 and 2023). There was a BOT project built in 2023 that had a building within 13,500 square feet but built for \$518 a square foot, or \$7.1 million. That included the property it went on. This property was in the Geist area and typically pricing is on property in the Geist area is not cheap. The one planned at Station #6 has 11,500 square feet in it and 11,500 square feet times \$518 is \$5,927,000. If you want to put that 4% in increase from last year in that gets it up to \$6,201,000. That is a far cry from \$8 million. The Administration is telling the Council that they are just starting at \$8 million. If he was a builder that started at \$8 million assuring he would not go over it, it will ultimately cost the entire \$8 million. His opinion is that it could be built for about \$6.5 million and they really need to look at the numbers because the numbers the Administration is throwing out there do not add up.

Dan Burford, Muncie Fire Chief, congratulates everyone and lets them know he is looking forward to working with them. He was not part of the Administration when this process started. He came in as Deputy Chief almost 2 years ago and was excited to build new fire stations. With the Deputy Chief Job, he was tasked with taking care of capital improvements and maintenance on the stations and whatnot. They came in and did a needs assessment when they took office and started working on stations with the limited funds they had. Currently, they still have limited funds but have not made many improvements to the stations slated to be replaced in that period. There are 7 stations that need numerous capital improvements on. The Muncie Fire Department has greatly expanded its services since the stations were built, 2 in the 1950's, 4 in the 1960's, and one in the 1980's, in which some improvements have been done there. The stations were built to operate the Fire Department as it operated at that time with really no room for expansion or growth. Station #6 was the same way, being built to house only 3 firefighters and a very small fire apparatus. It was updated in the early 1990's adding two truck bays with one bay being converted over to office and utility space. Referring to the any questions about the stations and how things work to come up to it, he can honestly say that since he took over as acting Chief in September he has not heard from very many members of the Council, or the public, in all reality. He did spend some time with Councilman Mason the other day and thanks him for calling him up and asking to meet out there the other day. They spent some time walking and looking at the station and he is aware President Dishman toured and visited the station along with previous councilmembers. They still encourage them to come and look but the Fire Chief doesn't want them to just come look at one station but to look at *all* the stations. Knowing that a station can be built and the Fire Administration does not have to worry about investing a ton of money in because it is a new facility is extremely important to them but they need to have the room for the growth. That station is right next to the City Garage where all vehicles are maintained so being able to eventually store a spare apparatus in that area would be wonderful for them. The big thing here is that they have been working on this for a long time so he asks the Council to have some motion on this and not drag it out anymore, honestly. If they truly believe in their hearts that this is not something that they want to go for then at least vote and let the Administration/Fire Administration know what the plan is to move forward from here. That is what he employs. If more meetings need to happen to have questions answered then feel free to reach out because he would be happy to try to answer those questions. If he cannot answer them at the moment, he will dig, search and find the answers needed. However, let's not keep kicking the can down the road if that is all we are going to do is keep kicking the can. This has been going on for a long time and he realizes that the BOT and this agreement was brought up later last year but most of the new Council has been around this community for a while and been involved in politics in one way or another (not necessarily sitting on Council but have been

involved). They know what is going on and if they truly feel that they have already made up their mind then just move on. As the people who control the funds, they can let the Administration know how they can proceed at this point. That is what he asks. Please reach out if there are any questions. His office is on the second floor of City Hall and he is willing to give out his personal phone number to be reachable at any time.

Carl Malone, Parks Superintendent, tells the Council they have an opportunity to be great and do great things with the team before them. When thinking about history, regardless of how they view things, they are going to go down in history (either when they vote tonight or next month) as a team that was great at listening to their heart and all the people that came approached tonight. He does not know all the particular details about what goes into building a fire station but recalls many trips to different fire stations as a kid through school. Being that Longfellow and some other schools are in close proximity to the new station, he would love to have our children be able to go through and visit a new fire station. Like the public speaker before mentioning careers, maybe our kids may want to become firefighters one day due to the fact they toured this great and amazing new fire station that this Council helped put in place. He wants them to think about the long term goals that go into it. Let's be great and be a part of history.

Andrew Popp attended the Public Works Committee (not to be confused with the Firehouse Assessment Committee) meeting back in October. It was Chaired by Councilwoman Selvey with fellow members former Councilman Roger Overbey and Aaron Clark (who was not in attendance). Many questions were asked and many were answered. He recalls the Fire Chief coming in with maps, schematics, facts and data and it was all very good information. However, many questions were left unanswered such as about the language in the resolution. Mr. Martz with GM Development gave what Popp would believe to be a satisfactory answer but it was really for the new Council (now that it is in their lap) to maul and decide they are going to do about the particular language. There were questions about who the "City Financier" was going to be because it was mentioned in the resolution 3 times. That could be somebody that is not appointed yet and will not be until this entire process begins. About 10 questions he had weren't answered. At the end of that meeting, the members decided to schedule a second Public Works Committee meeting, which has yet to take place. He can only assume it hasn't taken place was due to the new Council coming in and 2 of those Committee members were rotating off that Committee. Popp has visited that fire station. He attended the meeting and nobody in the meeting or in the public has questioned the need for a fire station. There are just some questions that the public was told they would get answers to and have not. Maybe a BOT agreement is the greatest thing ever and certainly the way to go. Maybe when it is time for the financing it comes to find that the financing is \$8 million on the nose or maybe comes in less. Maybe we find out later it was decided to go to bid. However, there are questions that haven't been answered and this is a Council that has officially been on the job for 8 days. While he appreciates the need, he would hope that 8 days into the term they are not ready to spend \$8 million dollars on a project that we're just digging our teeth in to. It has been mentioned that this has been ongoing for 2 years but this Council, specifically, has only been on the job 8 days.

Now that public comment on res. 17-23 has concluded, Council Attorney Dan Gibson informs there is a motion on the floor to Take res. 17-23 Off the Table so the Council cannot have any debate until a vote is taken on that motion. If it passes, it is officially off the Table and the last motion made on it will be up for consideration. Councilwoman Powell asks if they vote to Take it Off the Table then they could have discussion about Taking it Off the Table. Attorney Gibson answers no, the vote now is to Take it Off the Table and that needs to occur (to further discussion) or be withdrawn (ending all discussion). If it is Taken Off the Table they would then debate and discuss the adoption of the resolution itself which has

already been moved and seconded at the original meeting. A roll call vote showed 1 absent (Garrett), 5 yeas (Selvey, Dishman, Mason, Green, Basham) and 3 nays (Powell, McIntosh, Gullion). MOTION CARRIED. Res. 17-23 is Brought Off the Table.

President Dishman recalls being on Council about 12 years ago when that Station was shut down because of a flood. It was deplorable. There was muck, mold and stagnated water left for 2 to 3 months. Instead of the coming in with the sanitary vacs to suck up the water, they just closed it down and let it sit which was neglect on the City in his opinion. He saw it for himself. He remembers sticking up for that fire station at the public meetings at the Buley Center and expressing opinion top open that fire station back up. It ultimately opened back up but not after sitting over 2 to 3 months (it's been so long he can't remember). He does remember the deplorable smell and all the crap in that place. He just wanted to mention the City did not bring in sanitary vacs to suck the water out of that building and just let it sit there for months. President Dishman opens discussions because he is sick and tired of playing around with this. He is in favor of getting a new fire station and hopes this Council can move in that direction tonight. It has been said that it is not about the financing tonight, and it is just about getting the ball rolling.

Councilwoman Selvey is emotional about this. She might get in trouble for what she is about to say but is going to just be herself. She wonders if they still would have sat here having this discussion over and over and over again if that fire station just so happened to be in another location in the City. She thinks the community deserves every bit of it. It will help with everyone's homeowners insurance and hit him or her in the pocket for the better. What are they sitting here talking about? Spending \$8 million? Look at the last couple of years because they have been spending money, not like they are sitting here doing nothing. The people deserve it. There are people from the community saying this is what they want. A fire station that looks like a barn? No. It will be beautiful because it will help that area economically. Enough is enough. From the beginning, it was all about politics and she is not going to do this anymore. If it were in another part of this City, they would not have sat here for a year or two talking about this. It would not have been a conversation, nobody would have known about it, they would have spent the money and moved on. This is for the people's safety and the safety of the kids at Longfellow Elementary. Money will be put where it belongs. The public voted for the Council to support the citizens and do what they want. It is a yes vote for her. To everyone else on Council, it is on his or her conscience. They need to quit thinking about the money because they spend that like crazy and then all of a sudden everybody tonight wants to be financially responsible. Get over it. That is all she has to say and apologizes for being so emotional because the community supported her like nobody's business and she is letting them know she here for the citizens.

Councilman McIntosh knows the community put him here as well but his gut feeling wanted to know the facts of what was going on. He knows we need a new station over there. He has lived there for 30 years and knows what we need. However, it has been 8 days and he has to make a decision on a big money deal and doesn't know what is all involved in it. He has asked for information but they have not gotten all of it, only bits and pieces. Councilwoman Powell agrees. It is not against not having a new fire station. He has been here in politics long enough to know that he does not play politics. He is very transparent. He speaks from the heart and will do whatever he can for the community. He just wanted some more information.

Councilman Basham thanks them for the comments and the passion but asserts he requested the feasibility study long before 8 days ago. The feasibility study is a 340-page document thoroughly describing the process that has taken place over the last several years. It goes over details from firefighters, City officials, notes of different tours and schematics, etc. This 340-page document is available to all and he assumes probably other councilmembers have read it. He was just asked today if

he had any questions and responded no. In fact, the 340 pages was his holiday reading in which he found all the answers to his questions. Again, he appreciates the passion but the answers to many of those questions are found right here in this document. He assumes those who are asking the questions most vehemently have already read the report and are just making a point; however, he has read the report and is ready to vote.

Councilwoman Gullion corroborates they have that report (she does as well) but what they are voting on is this resolution and she is not clear on this resolution which they have talked about. Throughout this document, there is mention of transaction documents that they say were along with this (as she holds up a copy of res. 17-23) but she has not seen any documents that go along with this and doesn't know what that means. Again, she knows this has gone on for a while and how frustrating it is because they all know it is needed but she (speaking for herself) has not been through this process. She doesn't have everything she needs to know what *this* is that they are actually voting for. She understands they are not talking about the amount of money in this particular resolution and is aware that is a separate process. What she does not know is *exactly* what they are doing. They have been given simplified answers but in all reality, she is just not clear on this. She wonders if they can get more clarification from their Council Attorney because, again, she is not clear what these transaction documents are or what it is they are voting for. It is not the fact that it is necessarily a BOT agreement either, as she has been trying to do as much research on that as she can. She cannot say because she does not know if BOT is a bad process or not. Mainly, what are the transaction documents it is referring to in the resolution? She just needs to know what they are voting on.

Councilman Mason recalls it has been said that that there isn't anyone of them that doesn't agree we don't need a new fire station. It has been said that they have only been on the job for 8 days... He voted to Bring it Off the Table so that they can have this discussion and mentioned visiting the fire station with Chief Burford. In his opinion, it is deplorable and needs to be replaced. To vote on a on a document that they have no knowledge of only 8 days on... He asserts they need more time to learn the language of the document and to see exactly what it entails. With that being said, he voted to Take it Off the Table but now wishes to make a motion to Table it for further discussions. A motion is made by Mason to Table.

Councilwoman Selvey disagrees. Councilwoman Powell calls point of order. President Dishman gives Selvey the floor. Selvey thinks they should just vote and let people know where they stand. Quit playing with this and just do it. If one of them still has an excuse then they are going to find excuses repeatedly and she and many other people are tired of it. Just vote and say yes or no, the way their conscience is telling them. Councilman Mason assures he is going to vote his conscience but tells her she has been dealing with this. President Dishman calls point of order. Attorney Gibson asks if there was a second to the motion Mason made to Table. There was not. Gullion asks if there was a second to the motion to Table then would they have to stop discussions. Attorney Gibson answers yes. Gullion seconds Mason's motion to Table. A roll call vote showed 1 absent (Garrett), 4 yeas (Mason, McIntosh, Gullion, Powell) and 4 nays (Green, Dishman, Basham, Selvey). MOTION DEFEATED. No action and res. 17-23 is still on the Table. Gibson informs they have their original motion made at the initial meeting when it was sent to the Public Works Committee. He wasn't at that meeting so cannot recall but assumes there was a motion made to Adopt the resolution prior. If there wasn't then there was some sort of motion that was made before there was a motion to Table. That motion is now defeated so they would go back to that original motion. The Council Secretary informs it was Tabled and Sent to the Public Works Committee in the same motion. After looking at the records from those previous meeting, Attorney Gibson states it was not that clear so if someone on the Council wants them to vote then he recommends

(especially since it is a new Council) making a motion to Approve and/or to Table. Councilwoman Selvey clarifies she has to make another motion. Gibson informs it is off the Table.

Councilwoman Powell appreciates everyone that got up to talk because it is very important to have all those voices. Fire Station #6 was in horrible shape in 2011 when she recalls running for office. That hasn't changed and has only gotten worse. Her District houses Fire Station #5, also involved in this BOT, and is currently is not large enough to house the apparatus which would provide fire suppression to the hospital and Ball State, which both are in District #5 and protected by that fire station. However, a second Public Works Committee meeting was promised (that did not happen) where they would have gotten answers to some of these very important questions. The impassioned plea should have translated into that follow-up meeting. They have been reaching out to other communities to learn about BOT and she personally talked to the Mayor of Westfield this morning to try and find out more information she can make the best decision for the community. As Councilwoman Gullion said, this is not about whether or not we need that fire station because we absolutely do. We absolutely need the fire stations improved but we need to make sure that the best decision is being made financially. Unfortunately, because they haven't had those meetings and those conversations, they really don't know if that's the best thing. Chief Burford mentioned he was not part of the Administration when this project started. Well, neither was Powell. Yet, he is asking her to come in only after 8 days and make a decision on something that all these other players are already informed on and the new members are not. Unfortunately, it falls in their laps to make the monumental decision that is not based on emotion because we all know that we need that fire station. Our firefighters deserve a healthy environment to work in and they always have. She completely supports that and wants to see that happen as soon as possible. She wants to see a source of pride for that area and for our community to move forward but also wants to ensure they are making the best decisions. Just this evening there has been information that has contradicted itself in regards to deciding and dictating how much local union labor is being used and does not know if that is possible under the law. Throwing this back on Attorney Gibson, she asks him if they pass this tonight if they will be locked in to something they will have to follow through with. She does not know. There is information in here (holding up resolution 17-23) that is missing yet they are being asked to cast a vote. This is a hugely emotional issue and there is not anyone arguing that we do not need that fire station or other stations improved but unfortunately, they are not voting on whether or not we need those fire stations, they are voting on this document. They have been waiting for meetings so she suggests she might make a motion to send resolution 17-23 in the Public Works Committee for further exploration to follow up and answer questions that were asked at the last Public Works Committee Meeting with the hope to gather the information they need to cast this vote. A motion was made by Powell and seconded by McIntosh to send to the Public Works Committee. A roll call vote showed 1 absent (Garrett), 4 yeas (McIntosh, Powell, Gullion, Mason) and 4 nays (Selvey, Green, Basham, Dishman). MOTION DEFEATED.

Council Attorney Dan Gibson assumes many of the concerns here is not being completely understanding of what this resolution is asking them to do. This is very similar with what happened with the solar project a few years ago with the original BOT resolution. He just went back to confirm with the Mayor (and asks him to correct him if he is wrong) that in this they are just looking to take the next step to prepare documents for consideration by the Council. It would then bring financing. He recalls last time with the solar resolution the Council made some revisions and is happy to explain what those revisions were to see if that would help answer any questions. The last time he talked through it with the City Attorney and the Developer (of that project) but, obviously, has not yet done that in this case. However, he believes this would accomplish what he thinks they are asking to do and then the Council can vote on what the (Administration) thinks the Council is asking to be voted on. Aware that statement

probably does not make any sense, he goes on to talk about what those revisions were. “Section 1... the Transaction Documents that would be approved in a form to be provided by the Developer and reviewed and approved by the City Attorney and Mayor.” In the solar project amendment, they put ‘Attorney, Mayor and City Council.’ “Section 2. The Council hereby finds that the execution of the Transaction Documents” and replaced ‘execution’ with ‘*Project contemplated by the Transaction Documents.*’ “Section 3... the Council hereby approves the execution of the Transaction Documents...” came a replacement of ‘execution’ with ‘*negotiation and drafting*’ and down after ‘Mayor’ the addition of ‘, *subject to final approval by Council at future meeting,...*’ The second sentence was struck in its entirety. Selvey asks Gibson to read the sentence that was struck. Gibson reads, “The Mayor is further authorized and directed to execute and deliver each of the Transaction Documents on behalf of the City with such changes as the Mayor, upon the advice of the City Attorney, deem appropriate and consistent with this Resolution, their approval to the evidence by the execution thereof.” Gibson further elaborates that the sentence is not necessary with the change that was made in the sentence before making everything come back to the Council. Section 4 makes it very clear that the financing is brought back to the Council for consideration at a later date. In Section 5, before ‘the Mayor’ it was added ‘*With the exception of the Transaction Documents, and any other action that requires further approval by Council pursuant to applicable law, the Mayor and any other officer of the City are hereby authorized to take any and all actions and execute any documents or certificates...*’ Selvey requests Gibson define the term “Officers of the City.” Attorney Gibson states it is not defined in the agreement and is one of the more vague terms. His guess would be that would probably encompass appointed officials. Although, again, they are still having to follow applicable law and at the end of the day documents are still going to have to be approved by the Mayor. With that first change, it is allowing (Mayor) to do everything he can do without having to come back before Council for approval. That consists of all the changes the previous Council made to the solar resolution. The Developer approved and recommended the same changes because it was clear that the BOT agreement itself was going to come back to Council later along with the finance proposal. He thinks this is just making it clear and again, asks the Mayor to correct him if he is wrong, but thinks that is all they are wanting done. The BOT agreement itself has not been prepared. Mayor Ridenour confirms this from the back of the auditorium gesturing a thumbs up. Gibson continues explaining the BOT agreement will come before Council for approval and thinks with those amendments that all would be clear. Selvey asks of the recommendations made to the solar resolution if they can make the same amendments to this resolution for the fire station tonight. Gibson answers yes but there would have to be a motion to amend. A motion was made by Selvey and seconded by Green to amend in accordance with Attorney Gibson’s announced revisions. A roll call vote showed 1 absent (Garrett) and 8 yeas. AMENDED. A motion was made by Selvey and seconded by Green to Approve as Amended. A roll call vote showed 1 absent (Garrett) and 8 yeas. APPROVED AS AMENDED.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Belinda Munson, City Clerk, mentions having a discussion with Councilwoman Selvey last week about the tablets the councilmembers use. They are about 8 years old and she is under the impression that Councilman Garrett’s does not even work. Some other members have had trouble accessing their email, which makes it hard when the Clerk’s Office sends documents. The IT Department has helped research and provided 5 different quotes on options. It being the Council’s equipment, they get to decide and pick. The other issue is there was no money budgeted for any new equipment and nobody mentioned until after the election that the tablets were probably in dire need of replacement. She is just giving this information

over so they can review it. There are a couple Chromebooks listed with prices as well as schematics and such. An additional appropriation would have to be made if they decide to replace what they have. Councilwoman Selvey requests for the city Controller Craig Wright to approach and further explain where that money can come from. President Dishman informs they are in Public Comment under Other Business. Mr. Wright refers to that conversation and it was figured out that there is plenty of money. The Council did not accept raises this year and those funds would accommodate any equipment needed. Any of them can contact him at his office to figure out what everybody would like so they can move forward with that. Secondly, Clerk Munson left a uniform Conflict of Interest disclosure statement on everyone's seat prior to the meeting. (Gullion had already filled one out.) If there were a specific conflict then it would be listed under 4. Section A. These are actually supposed to be completed annually and submitted to Gateway so please take some time, look over and get them back to her. It is just saying that, as a public servant, they do not have any interesting or driving any profit from a contract or using the position to generate some income. She mentions Councilwoman Powell might need to fill one out due to her son being a police officer. Munson doesn't know what the connections are with everyone but assures they can contact her with any questions. Referring to the Boards and Commissions, Munson compiled a list of current expired appointments and everyone should have gotten a copy of that. Some of those appointments consist of the Police Merit Commission, Parks & Recreation Board, Redevelopment Commission and River District Board. She is going to keep reviewing it because it is a little confusing when there are City and County combined boards and Mayor and City Council appointment nominations. There are many different entities when it comes to these boards so they are always in flux and updating and part of that is communication.

President Dishman takes a moment to let everyone know that they are going to allow each public speaker 3-minutes to speak and request no personal attacks.

Elizabeth Edgell, Ethics Advisory Committee, is here to remind the public and Council that the next meeting of the Ethics Advisory Committee will be on January 11, 2024 at 7:30 PM at the Marion Hunt Library, located at 2005 S. High Street. The Committee would love for the public to come and actually had people show up last meeting. There is a Facebook page titled Muncie Ethics Advisory Committee that posts updates and the City Clerk has been uploading the Agendas and Meeting Minutes on the City Website.

Stephen Brand, Muncie Sanitary District, congratulates all the new councilmembers and Mr. Gibson on his appointment. He wanted to reinforce the commitment of the Muncie Sanitary District to work directly with the City Council. Being the new Council, he informs them the last two direct appointments assigned to the Sanitary District are no longer on the Council so asks if they could appoint a couple of key points of contact to work directly with them as he would appreciate that.

Kristopher Bilbrey recalls reaching out to the Council today via text. In the next couple of days, he would like to find a way to get all of the email addresses they are going to be doing business as, as councilmembers. He is aware the City will provide an email but knows sometimes Counselors have not used that email in the past and instead used others. Out of the 9, Councilman Garrett and Councilwoman Selvey responded so would appreciate a response from the rest of them at some point. Lastly, he is a little disheartened by the admonishment of no personal attacks. He doesn't know what a personal attack would be but sometimes when citizens step to the podium it is necessary for them to speak against a

councilmembers actions or the actions of others within the City. He asks the Council to understand that they work for the citizens. They have been doing great tonight and everything started well but encourages them to not to try to limit the first amendment of the folks here. Everyone should be respectful and we should be able to conduct meetings but it just does not send a good message. The prior Council before them did not start out, "hey, we have some things we don't want you to say beforehand." He advises them to be careful with that.

Audie Barber hopes that the Council tonight has not tied any hands to where the City is forced to do this BOT. He thinks it is a big deal and wishes they could have Tabled it for voted it down. The bid process would have been the better way of doing this. With that being said, another problem is the solar farms coming up. The County passed an ordinance but that ordinance does not count incorporated areas (like the City of Muncie, Town of Gaston, Yorktown) so none of those people have to abide by those rules that the County passed (and some of the Council members here are on that Board). He recommends adopting an ordinance for the solar panels that are going to be put in the City of Muncie because if they don't then officials can put them on any street corner they want to and not have to have setbacks or anything like that. He believes Councilwoman Powell and a few others were on the Board or even attended the meeting. It is very important that we keep our City beautified. He is not against solar panels but thinks there is a place for them and that within city limits is not the place. He hopes for a decent year and is aware the Council are all pretty ambitious to make their points. As he said, he hopes the Council has not just locked in the BOT agreement.

Brandon Murphy wants to thank the Council for the opportunity to have served as Council Attorney over the last 7 months. He wishes them all the best of luck. They are in good hands with Mr. Gibson and he wishes him luck as well.

Amanda Dunnuck, City Court Judge, explains she did not make it on to the Agenda due to missing the deadline but wanted to provide a heads up of what will be coming in February. The State Rules Committee met last year and enacted new rules that took effect January 1. In that, the part that affects City Court is where it states, "If a defendant is unrepresented and has not waived the right to counsel, the state must not engage a plea negotiations or diversion agreements and the court must not accept a plea of guilty." How that affects Muncie City Court is over half of the defendants that come through are unrepresented and they meet one-on-one with the Prosecutor. That doesn't happen when the Judge has to have a 10-minute meaningful conversation with them about the dangers of self-representation, which the meaningful conversation is what is required now under the rules. She has had 2 sessions of court and ended up with 7 people who represent themselves out of about 120 cases through those sessions. The rest of the defendants are asking to hire private counsel or for a Public Defender, most of which are the latter. City Court has 1 Public Defender and there is no way that he could have handled that with the current session of court that he handles so she has had to add a session of court to accommodate this new rule. Instead of requesting for a new Public Defender, she is going to be requesting to just increase the current one's salary to compensate the additional session. That saves the City on fringe benefits and other employment related expenses. Moreover, Mr. McKinney, the City Court Public Defender, does a great job with the defendants. She has already been talking with Craig Wright, the City Controller, as well as new Council Attorney Gibson and previous Council Attorney Murphy. She just wanted to make them aware of that request coming in February, which was due to a rule change that came to effect on January

1. They have been working it out trying to figure out how it the best way to address it and have decided it is going to be to ask for an increase because of the increase workload.

Carl Malone, Park Superintendent, provided some information to Council prior to the meeting on park programming. When they first came in Office 4 years ago, The City Council was supportive of allowing them to seek a Park Program Director for the City. They were able to bring one in that allowed them to start focus on the 5-Year Plan. The second 5-Year Plan is getting ready to start this summer. The information on that flyer was a direct result of George Foley's work in conjunction with many City Partners including Jason Donati and several others. They are really looking forward to continue working with the Council in doing what they can to make the City great going forward.

George Foley, Program Director Parks Department, is looking forward to another 4 years of further programming in our parks. The last 4 years were successful and they have been working hard during this winter season. One thing they would like to do is make the Intern Program year round. He along with Dr. Powers have been writing multiple grants and is hopeful those will be approved. Their budget as it is now won't allow them to do it year round but they do want to further invest in the youth. People want to keep kids off the streets but there is not any opportunities out there for them. We need to give opportunities to learn, grow, and find out about new types of jobs and careers. With the new program, kids will be interning at some businesses here in Muncie. In conversations with those businesses, they are very interested in hiring those kids. Details are still being worked out with the financing. In general, they want to do more activities in our parks. There is a new baseball field, Gainbridge Field, so they are planning for some baseball and softball programs as well as working with the NFL to continue doing flag football. There is also a possible NFL grant they may secure to renovate the field at Ball Corps to make it a football field/park altogether. There is a lot of work going on right now, not only to improve our parks but also to have more activities in our parks.

Corbin Malchow first congratulates the members of the Council on their election and re-elections. He is a member of the Indiana Legislative Youth Advisory Council appointed by the senate leadership and one of his big things is mental health awareness especially for the youth and high school students. One of his friends on the Council in Fort Wayne informed him they do a mental health conference for students. About 250 students sign up for it and they get to meet for about half day and a bunch of Mental Health Specialists come in and talk about how we can break down the stigma around mental health for students and what we can do to improve in schools. He thinks that would be a cool idea for Muncie and actually has a couple ideas for it. He will be sending them all an email on further details about it. Again, it is just a cool idea that would be good to do in Muncie.

Andrew Popp thanks the Council for reappointing him to the Muncie Edit Building Corp. While that board only meets once a year, it does have a lot of purpose. They serve the Horizon Convention Center in managing their bond and finances through the year. Also, through that board, he serves on DAC and the Horizon Convention Center Board itself. There is many challenges facing the Horizon Convention Center and it is nice he will be able to return and continue working on those, both on the capital projects side (different venues, hosting and revenue streams for the Convention Center) and the economic development work of DAC. Again, he appreciates the reappointment. Secondly, he wants to reiterate what he said last month. This Council has a unique duty that it should not have, admittedly. The last 4 years the Muncie City Council and many iterations of it as people came and went was the flagbearer for transparency for a moral compass and for doing the right thing by the citizens. It is his deepest desire

that the 8 councilmembers here tonight along with Councilman Garrett continue to do that. It is also his deepest desire to see changes from upstairs (the Administration) in this next 4 years to add to that. It is critically important, as they did tonight, to listen to the citizens making the changes that are needed. He points out that changes were made to the solar ordinance and the finances did not go through but, yet, somehow, the City owns the property that the solar field was going to go on and we may now see a solar project coming. It is interesting enough that was in the newspaper last month. This Council is going to have several issues come before them such as financing for a fire station and a Crisis Center that currently looks like a 'center in crisis' up for remodel. There are many other issues on top of their regular duties and if tonight is very telling, it was a very short Agenda that turned into a 2-hour long meeting. He looks forward to the next 4 years.

ADJOURNED:

A motion was made by Green and seconded by Gullion to Adjourn. A vote by acclamation showed 9 yeas and 0 nays. ADJOURNED.

Jerry D. Dishman, President of the
Muncie Common Council

Belinda Munson, Muncie City Clerk
of the Muncie Common Council