

Ordinance 16-42 - To Amend Title 2 of the Bloomington Municipal Code Entitled "Administration and Personnel" -Re: Amending BMC 2.04.050 (Regular Meetings) and BMC 2.04.255 (Committees - Scheduling) to Start Common Council Regular Sessions and Committees of the Whole an Hour Earlier - at 6:30 p.m.

[1:13am]

Volan moved that Ordinance 16-42 be postponed until November 30, 2016.

Sturbaum said the Council should just vote on it that night.

Chopra asked if there was a 10:30 rule. Volan asked the chairman to keep order.

Ruff asked for councilmembers to please go through the chair for requests, as well as not show such disgust at other members. He asked everyone to please honor the procedures of the Council and control contempt.

Volan said that the ordinance could just be pushed to the next legislative cycle at the Committee of the Whole on November 30, 2016.

Ruff noted that no one from the administration was there, he had no questions, and thought that the Council could continue with a vote that evening. He said he saw no reason to postpone a vote and that he planned to support the ordinance.

Volan said he would withdraw his motion.

p. 28 Meeting Date: 11-16-16 Ordinance 16-42 (cont'd)

It was moved and seconded that Ordinance 16-42 be introduced and read by title and synopsis only. The motion was approved by voice vote of Ayes: 7, Nays: 1 (Piedmont-Smith), Abstain: 1 (Chopra). It was moved and seconded that Ordinance 16-42 be adopted.

Chopra said that the behavior of councilmembers and effects of the late meeting proved the need for the ordinance. She said that the reason for the ordinance was that meetings often ended very late.

She said that she could not make any guarantees that meetings would not end late, but that the change was a chance to make that less likely to happen. She said late meetings lead to fatigue, insubstantial scrutiny, and shallow deliberations that resulted in poor decisions. She said that several department heads expressed enthusiasm about the ordinance. She said that a good night's sleep was important to the well-being of staff members, who must often stay late and come in early.

Council Comment: Volan said he found Chopra's comments to be quite appropriate. He said he was frustrated by his colleagues who did not show respect for the Council and its processes. He said he was concerned that even the change in start time would not shorten meetings, and urged everyone to show more respect. Ruff said that the 7:30 start time seemed arbitrary. He said an earlier start time would be good for public participation.

Granger thanked Chopra for talking with staff about the issue.

Sherman pointed out that the ordinance would go into effect at the beginning of 2017.

Chopra thanked her colleagues for their input on the ordinance.

Sturbaum thanked God.

Vote on Ordinance 16-42

[1:24am]

The motion to adopt Ordinance 16-42 received a roll call vote of Ayes: 9, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0