

CITY OF WEST LAFAYETTE
COMMON COUNCIL
MINUTES
FEBRUARY 1, 2021

The Common Council of the City of West Lafayette, Indiana, met electronically on February 1, 2021, at the hour of 6:30 p.m.

President Bunder called the meeting to order and presided.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Present: James Blanco, Peter Bunder, Nick DeBoer [arrived 6:34 p.m.], Shannon Kang, Larry Leverenz, Kathy Parker, David Sanders, and Gerald Thomas.

Absent: *Norris Wang is deceased.*

Also present: Mayor John Dennis, Corporation Counsel Eric Burns, Clerk Sana Booker, Director of Development Erin Easter, City Controller Peter Gray, and Building Commissioner Chad Spitznagle. Other unnamed department heads who did not speak were available on the conference line.

NOTES

► This meeting was conducted electronically, without the physical attendance of any person, due to the public health emergency (COVID-19 pandemic) and per IC 5-14-1.5-3.6 and State of Indiana Executive Order 20-09, Paragraph 4.

REMEMBRANCE OF COUNCILOR NORRIS WANG

President Bunder asked to take a moment to remember Councilor Norris Wang. He spoke about how Councilor Wang was a warm, kind person who was happy to work collaboratively, and he was a faithful public servant. He offered condolences to Councilor Wang's family. Everyone joined in a moment of silence.

Mayor John Dennis stated that Councilor Wang was a very good friend. He agreed that he was an amazing public servant who used to boast that he spent very little time in the public sector. Councilor Wang spent most of his time in the Prosecutor's Office or as an elected official. They worked well together when Mayor Dennis was a police officer and Councilor Wang was in the Prosecutor's Office. Mayor Dennis noted that if anyone ever needed something, Councilor Wang would be the first in line to get it to them.

CITY SUMMIT

State of the City – Mayor John Dennis

Mayor John Dennis stated that since we are in the new Sonya L. Margerum City Hall, he would like to first read first from a biography of former Mayor Margerum. He then read from his State of the City address. Both items are copied below:

Sonya L. Margerum Bio (Abbreviated)

Sonya was born April 13, 1930, in Washington, DC to Lawrence and Helen Pedersen in Columbia Hospital for Women, which was the only hospital in the city that allowed female doctors. Her sister Karen was born in Washington in 1938. Sonya passed away November

3, 2019, at University Place, West Lafayette, IN from the long-term effects of kidney disease.

Sonya's father, Lawrence, worked for the government and went to law school at night while Helen volunteered for the League of Women Voters. When Sonya was 16 the family moved back to Grinnell, Iowa, where her Norwegian grandfather emigrated. Lawrence began building his law firm and served two terms as the county attorney. After finishing high school in Grinnell, where she was active in sports and school groups, Sonya went to St. Olaf College graduating with a BS in Biology and Chemistry in 1952.

Sonya was hired by Iowa State University to work at the atomic Energy Commission's Ames Lab where she worked with Thorium and other materials at the end of the Manhattan Project. While working at Ames Labs, she met her husband Dale, a PhD Chemistry student. As she liked to say, they met working over a Bunsen Burner.

After Marriage in 1953, Dale started as assistant professor of chemistry at Purdue University and they moved to West Lafayette where she had three sons. Larry was born in 1958, Eric in 1959 and Rich in 1965. After living on Wood Street for a few years, they built a house on Seminole Drive along with several other families who became lifelong neighbors, participating in street games and holiday picnics.

Sonya became active in a range of groups, including the Democratic Party, the NAACP, the League of Women Voters, the Red Devils Mothers Club and Cub Scouts. In 1976 she was elected to an at-large seat on the West Lafayette City Council.

Sonya enrolled at Purdue and obtained an MA in Political Science and Government in 1979 and was honored with a College of Liberal Arts Distinguished Alumni Award in 2004. She was elected in 1980 as the first female Mayor of West Lafayette and went on to serve six terms until stepping down in 2004. Her close friend, Marguerite Trachtman served as her campaign manager for all six campaigns with help from countless volunteers including her husband Dale.

As Mayor, she became good friends with Mayor Jim Riehle of Lafayette, noting that Jim was like a big brother to her. This led to a long-standing collaboration between the cities with one of the largest joint projects being the decades long process of railroad relocation. It was a collaborative project among the two Democratic Mayors, Republican Congressmen, State Representatives, and several Governors. In addition, the Mayors worked closely with local and state officials of both parties to recruit and support the opening of the Subaru-Isuzu plant in Lafayette in 1987.

One of her major accomplishments as Mayor was to develop a strategic plan for West Lafayette, one of the first cities in Indiana to do so. The process brought the community together, involving citizens from many different political perspectives to serve on committees that would help set a course for its future.

While serving as Mayor, Sonya also served as President of the Indiana Association of Cities and Towns and was elected to the Board of the National League of Cities. In 1978 she was chosen Women of the Year in Politics and Government. In 1989 she was awarded the Sagamore of the Wabash by Governor Evan Bayh.

STATE OF THE CITY 2020

What a year it has been. I intended to use this forum to discuss how weird 2020 was, but in the light of current events, I'm going to give that course of action a pass.

No, I'm not....

First and foremost, our city is in excellent shape. Financially, operationally and physically. Our citizens are provided services that focus on their wellbeing with the intention of providing a quality of life that promotes public safety, education, recreation and diversity.

But like most cities, we will always share concerns about our fiscal vitality, our quality of life, and the overall feeling of wellbeing for our citizens. We also have a great deal of concern about what our future will be and how our leaders both local and national, will handle the ever-changing needs of a community, wherever it is located, in response to changes in the priorities of the populations we serve and in the priorities of our country. Specifically, with COVID-19.

It is with this understanding that I state what most of us are keenly aware: As a city, West Lafayette is filled with people who are curious and engaged in learning about the multitude of cultures that come together to live and learn here. Examples such as Globalfest, our Naturalization Ceremony, the Holocaust Remembrance Ceremony, Outfest and the countless other events that are held specifically to celebrate our uniqueness and diversity prove that point: EVERY. SINGLE. DAY. They shout out to people from all over the world that we are a place that's open and welcoming.

But, after the events we all witnessed last month, one must ask, who, really, are we? What do we stand for? Who do we love? Who are those in need of help? What IS "America" in Y2K+21? Tough stuff to answer in these tumultuous times.

Anybody with a heart and a brain must have had to have been affected by the images projected into our psyche in early January of this year. The very fiber of our society was being destroyed by citizens who were bent on creating havoc and fear in the most threatening way. Our very form of government was under attack.

The images of people forcing their way into our eyes, OUR halls of congress and the physical attacks on elected officials and those sworn to protect them was one of the greatest obscenities ever projected on our screens. Our historic buildings, our physical structures built to represent our freedom and our democracy were vandalized by an angry crowd bent on generating fear and outrage amongst our elected bodies of government, and the saddest and most damaging point of all of this? This was spurred on by the now former President of the United States of America.

We all will have the disturbing images permanently etched into our minds of an angry crowd of men and women smashing the physical barriers in some of our most historic buildings to disrupt and destroy our democratic process. We all watched and witnessed true fear in the eyes of our elected officials and confusion and disbelief in the eyes of those courageous men and women sworn to protect them.

Now, we all are left with the remains of a government that is divided, broken and in need of leadership and a refamiliarization of what is OUR purpose.

The idea that Americans' value democracy, the rule of law and the defense of human rights has suffered a sustained assault over the past few years. This disconnection has resulted in some of us losing what we value most: our optimism for our future.

We have lost the opportunity to connect with other people due to health concerns with COVID-19. Its more and more challenging NOW to reach out to people and show them that you care. All of us are dealing with fear every day and the exhaustion of coping with those challenges is taking a toll on our collective psyche. We here in West Lafayette are not immune to the negative influences of our nation and our world.

We struggled in dealing with issues of inequality and oppression within our minority populations. We were challenged by the choices of being a bystander or to be an ally and actively disrupt problematic events of overt racism or discriminatory behavior. One of our most debilitating threats this year was a sense of helplessness and its evil twin isolation. COVID-19 was the greatest gift-giver of that enemy. Citizens who could work remotely figured out how to do their jobs at home. But so many didn't have that privilege and lost their jobs. In a college community, when the students are gone, businesses are threatened, and some closed their doors. Were tired and with good reason.

Friendships, family gatherings, people in love, companies, collaboration, hikes, even kids playing in nature-they have all been stained and pulled apart to varying degrees. We watched the fabric of our community get torn apart as we battled and shamed each other over the two sides of the issue that are inherently impossible to resolve: a desire to protect other people verses a desire to have human contact. Heavy sigh....

Instead of mourning and throwing ourselves a "woe is me palooza" for 2020, I think now more than ever it's time to celebrate our wonderful Department Heads and to review their annual reports to see all the positive things we've done this past year and the encouraging things we have put in place to help us survive as individuals and as a community.

As I do every year, I must commend the work of this Council, our City Clerk and our City employees: the women and men in charge of delivering city services with efficiency and integrity. They represent a commitment that runs through this Administration, our shared belief that public service is a noble calling. This dedication helps make West Lafayette special. We help our neighbors live a better, more comfortable and more productive life. The services our department heads and their staff provide every single day throughout West Lafayette have made us one of the safest and strongest large college communities in the country, and you all deserve our deep gratitude and respect.

I am very proud of your hard work and shared commitment to our community. Moreover, this City is what it is because our citizens are who THEY are. I am grateful for the ideas, energy and participation of all West Lafayette residents who have made us a top city in the nation to live, learn, work and play.

As I conclude, I want to leave you with something to think about: Change has become a way of life. We must recall the insight of President Abraham Lincoln, on the brink of Civil War and fighting the near 100-year long tradition of slavery in the United States dating back to George Washington and Thomas Jefferson. Lincoln looked change directly in the eye and said:

"The dogmas of the quiet past are inadequate for the stormy present and future. As our circumstances are new, we must think anew and act anew." And so, we must. We need to

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look at our old issues in a new and positive way, not simply for today, but to make our tomorrows more rewarding, more fulfilling, and more compelling because of the changes we make today. Thank you.

MINUTES

Councilor DeBoer moved for acceptance of the minutes of the January 4, 2021, Common Council Meeting. Councilor Thomas seconded the motion, and the motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

REPORTS OF CITY DEPARTMENTS ON FILE IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE

There were no comments.

REPORT OF THE APC REPRESENTATIVES

Councilor Leverenz announced that Sallie Fahey is officially retiring as Executive Director of the Area Plan Commission at the end of February. However, she will stay on through March to ensure a smooth transition for the new Director, David Hittle.

PUBLIC RELATIONS:

Council Appointment for Approval: Go Greener Commission – Shannon Kang

Councilor DeBoer motioned to approve the reappointment of Shannon Kang to the Go Greener Commission. Councilor Thomas seconded the motion, and the motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Controller Gray stated that as of January, we are 8% through the year and at 7% overall of our budget. Some of the individual funds are higher, but that includes the encumbrances that will be spending throughout the rest of the year as well. Actual spending is at or below the 8%. Controller Gray explained that the 2020 Purchase Order Encumbrances document also available on the agenda is the list of items still open from prior years. The State Board of Accounts (SBOA) has recommended that this be presented to the Council. Currently, we have just over \$14 million of purchase orders. It sounds like a high number, but over \$9 million is related to the Wellness Center completion and expenses. He asked the Council to indicate that they have seen this report and accept it.

Councilor DeBoer moved to note that the 2020 Purchase Order Encumbrances report was received by the Council. Councilor Thomas seconded the motion, and the motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

LEGAL REPORT

This report is on file.

SPECIAL REPORTS:

Joint Board Report

The next Joint Board meeting is April 20, 2021.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Ordinance No. 01-21 An Ordinance Providing For Temporary Loans (NRO to Wellness Center) (Prepared by Controller) [No. of Readings 1 of 2]

Councilor DeBoer read Ordinance No. 01-21 by title only.

COMMON COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES, FEBRUARY 1, 2021, CONTINUED

Councilor DeBoer moved for passage of Ordinance No. 01-21 on first reading, and that the vote be by roll call. The motion was seconded by Councilor Thomas.

Controller Gray stated that the Council is familiar with temporary loans for regular operating expenses. This ordinance is temporary loans for the Wellness Center. We have expenses coming in for the Center before revenue will come in. This loan will be from the Non-Reciprocating Operations (NRO) Fund of the Parks Department for up to \$300,000.00. It is to be paid back by the end of the year. He explained for President Bunder that the NRO fund does not reciprocate back to the General Fund; it stays in this fund as the years go on. The NRO Fund is generated from Parks programs.

There was no further discussion.

Clerk Booker called the roll call vote:

Councilperson	Vote
Blanco	Aye
Bunder	Aye
DeBoer	Aye
Kang	Aye
Leverenz	Aye
Parker	Aye
Sanders	Aye
Thomas	Aye
Wang	-

Clerk Booker stated that the vote was 8 AYES and 0 NAYS.

President Bunder announced that Ordinance No. 01-21 passed on first reading.

Ordinance No. 02-21 An Ordinance To Establish The Cumulative Capital Development Fund And Readopt West Lafayette City Code Provisions Concerning The Fund (Submitted by Controller) [No. of Readings 1 of 2]

Councilor DeBoer read Ordinance No. 02-21 by title only.

Councilor DeBoer moved for passage of Ordinance No. 02-21 on first reading, and that the vote be by roll call. The motion was seconded by Councilor Thomas.

Controller Gray stated that we have had the CCD Fund for several years. It is required that we re-establish the Fund at \$0.05 per \$100 of assessed valuation. This will be for next year, 2022. We have done this annually for several years now. The money comes from property taxes.

There was no further discussion.

Clerk Booker called the roll call vote:

Councilperson	Vote
Blanco	Aye
Bunder	Aye
DeBoer	Aye

COMMON COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES, FEBRUARY 1, 2021, CONTINUED

Councilperson	Vote
Kang	Aye
Leverenz	Aye
Parker	Aye
Sanders	Aye
Thomas	Aye
Wang	-

Clerk Booker stated that the vote was 8 AYES and 0 NAYS.

President Bunder announced that Ordinance No. 02-21 passed on first reading.

Ordinance No. 03-21 To Amend Certain Portions Of The Unified Zoning Ordinance Of Tippecanoe County, Indiana, Designating The Time When The Same Shall Take Effect (UZO Amendment #99) (Solar Energy Systems) (Submitted by Area Plan Commission) [No. of Readings 1 of 1]

Councilor DeBoer read Ordinance No. 03-21 by title only.

Councilor DeBoer moved for passage of Ordinance No. 03-21 on first and only reading, and that the vote be by roll call. The motion was seconded by Councilor Thomas.

Rabita Foley (Planner with the Area Plan Commission) explained that the APC worked on this amendment for over a year with the involvement of many stakeholders. This Ordinance introduced two categories into the Unified Zoning Ordinance (UZO). The first is the solar energy systems as an accessory use. This allows any homeowner or property owner to install a solar energy system as a rooftop system, as a ground-mounted system, or as an integrated system as an accessory. The second use is a primary use category which allows large-scale or wholesale energy production. This includes the introduction of community-scale solar systems, which was designed to be used in an institutional setting for schools or universities that owns multiple tracks of land available to install systems to generate energy using renewable resources. Ms. Foley explained that the fundamental difference between the two categories is that an accessory structure includes more allowance for property owners to install systems for private use in all zones except for flood plains. Of all the solar energy systems included in this UZO amendment, the large-scale system is the most stringent in terms of development standards. Those are only allowed by special exception in Agricultural and Office Research zones, but they are permitted by-right in Industrial zones. The APC staff is optimistic that these inclusions will allow residents and property owners to install solar energy systems to meet their energy goals, and that is the main intent of this UZO amendment.

Building Commissioner Chad Spitznagle expressed appreciation to Ms. Foley who spent a lot of time with the area Administrative Officers to work through regulations. The City has had around half a dozen or so solar energy permits to work through, including a large-scale one off from US 231.

Councilor Leverenz stated that he would like to echo Ms. Foley's comments about the help and comments from people, especially the student organizations. Their input was valuable, and he appreciates it greatly.

Councilor DeBoer asked if there are any trade-offs here or if we are giving anything up. It seems like a win-win for everybody, so he is curious about any downside. He asked if it would restrict more solar than we would want otherwise or is it not expansive enough for greener energy. He asked if it is appropriate for the area, all things considered.

Commissioner Spitznagle stated that one major thing is the decommissioning process. He explained that if we have a large-scale solar energy system in our City limits then they must go through specific steps to be bonded, both with the Administrative Officer and the APC, to ensure that if the installers abandon their use for a 12-month period that we have the ability to decommission it and return it to greenspace.

Councilor Kang stated that she would like to read a statement from the Go Greener Commission which they presented to the APC. She read aloud:

The West Lafayette Go Greener Commission is in full support of the solar energy system development ordinance being presented today. The plan is thorough, addressing residential and commercial installations. It specifies that solar sites be planted with pollinator-friendly native species, which will nourish the soil, discourage field erosion, encourage local flora propagation, and protect and preserve our community's vital natural resources. The ordinance appropriately regulates, yet encourages, solar energy in our county for today and the future. We commend the authors for their thoroughness and detail, and we encourage the adoption of this legislation.

Councilor Sanders noted that in Section 6 the use of the term *setback* is not a verb so should be two words: *set back*. He added that the provisions about decommissioning are incredibly thoughtful and well designed, and he is highly appreciative of them. Counsel Burns advised that the scrivener's error for *set back* be corrected for the final signed version of the Ordinance, and Clerk Booker assured that it would be done.

There was no further discussion.

Clerk Booker called the roll call vote:

Councilperson	Vote
Blanco	Aye
Bunder	Aye
DeBoer	Aye
Kang	Aye
Leverenz	Aye
Parker	Aye
Sanders	Aye
Thomas	Aye
Wang	-

Clerk Booker stated that the vote was 8 AYES and 0 NAYS.

President Bunder announced that Ordinance No. 03-21 passed on first and only reading.

Resolution No. 01-21 A Resolution Approving Use Of Indiana Code § 5-23 Including Build, Operate, And Transfer Provisions Exclusively For The Cason Family Park, Chauncey Avenue, And Salisbury & Grant Redevelopment Projects (Sponsored by Mayor Dennis) [No. of Readings 1 of 1]

Councilor DeBoer read Resolution No. 01-21 by title only.

Councilor DeBoer moved for passage of Resolution No. 02-21 on first and only reading, and that the vote be by roll call. The motion was seconded by Councilor Thomas.

Director of Development Easter stated that the Redevelopment Commission (RDC) has a number of infrastructure or improvement projects on the docket for 2021. We anticipate that three of them may straddle a couple of years for both construction and funding. Those three projects are Cason Family Park, Chauncey Plaza between Margerum City Hall and West Lafayette Public Library, and the Salisbury Street and Grant Street Corridor Project, which will reach from the intersection of Cumberland Avenue and Salisbury down to Northwestern Avenue and Grant. With these projects over around 2 years of construction, we anticipate approximately \$12 million total. We are looking for some cost savings, including reducing mobilization and demobilization within two construction seasons by having one contract with one contractor. The Build, Operate, and Transfer (BOT) model gives us permission to seek proposals from organizations that can construct, operate, finance, and deliver the project back to the City in a timely manner with the required prescriptions we have with our contract, but also to satisfy the needs we have from a qualified firm. Pending approval this evening, we would be prepared to send out a solicitation for proposals. Once we receive those, we evaluate them, and we are able to negotiate those. If we believe we have a project that we can continue down the path of BOT we will do so. If we find ourselves on a path where we do not believe that to be the case, then we can reject all the proposals and switch to a traditional design-build method of delivery. For those who have been through the BOT format for State Street, this is similar but quite a bit smaller. It would help us to complete the entirety of a project within a couple of funding cycles.

President Bunder asked Director Easter to further explain the BOT process.

Director Easter stated that she will use the Cason Park project as an example. Our internal staff is working with our design company for an adequate design. When we get to a point where we are ready to build, we have a couple of options. The first is that we can design it and put it out to bid, and whatever we get back in terms of pricing we can build to that amount. With the second option of BOT, it works a little differently in that once we have our design, we bring in a firm who would be able to help us with the completion of the project. They would interview and hire the construction team. They would be able to negotiate the specifics that we need for that park. Through that process with the design team, both internal and external, we would negotiate the full price of the project. At that point, the chosen BOT company would finance the cost of the project and the City would pay over the course of the two construction years. Once we make our final payment to the BOT firm, full ownership of the property would revert to us. The company would operate it during the time that we are making payments.

President Bunder asked for confirmation that, unlike State Street which runs for 20 years, this will run for 2 years. Director Easter specified that we can define the terms how we see fit, but we do not anticipate longer than 3 years. That would be negotiated and defined with the firm at the beginning.

Counsel Burns added that if the term was going to five years or longer, then it would come back to the Council for further approval. If it is less than five, it can move forward. This is similar to a bond process. He also added that with this process, the marketplace competes to prove how good they are at design, the quality, and the price. That is why there are a lot of projects using BOT, including a lot of jail projects. This will be the second time we are using BOT, and he thinks it will be interesting to see what we get. If we do not like the results, we can change methods.

Councilor DeBoer asked, absent this resolution, how these projects would have gone forward prior to our initial interest in State Street. He asked what trade-offs we are making to accomplish this with a private partner that we would not have to make if we did this ourselves.

Director Easter first clarified in response to another comment from Councilor DeBoer that the Cason Family Park Project is for the park itself and not a roadway. She explained that using the BOT mechanism, we would be able to construct that park over two years with a financing option. If we were to construct the park in a traditional method, we would need to build it in phases to the existing budget that we have for one year. This would render part of the park unusable for about 50% of the year due to how this site must be constructed. One benefit to BOT is that it can help reduce cost because we are not paying for mobilization and de-mobilization efforts of multiple construction teams. In the past, each of two phases would have been bid out separately. There are a lot of cost redundancies to that. Another benefit that provides cost savings is that it helps us plan the site and how we move dirt around with the next phase in mind. We would not need to build something temporary that would need torn out. In addition, when we are able to work with the designer and constructor, she has found that having everyone at the table at the same time helps solve problems early instead of during active construction.

Councilor DeBoer asked what is involved with the operate and transfer provisions that would be associated with a park. Director Easter stated that these are flexible. In terms of operations, it could be operated by the firm for one year, although she anticipates it to be shorter than that. Then the transfer provisions take place when the City has satisfied its financial obligations with the firm.

Councilor DeBoer stated that he might be in favor of this if it only included roads. However, he does not think he can vote for something that would allow a private company to operate public land like a park.

Councilor Sanders stated that he understands that we are not expecting the company to operate the park, but he asked what it would entail. Director Easter stated that we negotiate those terms as we seek the firms who can do the BOT work. If we say that it must be operated for a week or less before transfer, we have that flexibility. However, those are items to identify during the process of a final timeline and budget. She stated that she would voice very strongly that we have no intention of having anyone other than our Parks and Recreation Department operate our park.

Councilor Sanders asked for a list of a few major advantages to this. Director Easter stated that one is the ability to plan the entire project from start to finish and not break it into individual budget years; second is the ability to gain third-party financing; and third is to be able to do phasing in a way that makes sense beyond its monetary value.

Councilor Parker asked what the cons are to this process. Counsel Burns responded that the only con he can think of is that if the market does not react as well as we like and we need to turn them all down. That is a time issue more than anything else along with an opportunity cost and some up-front costs. We do not know how the market will react as this is a tough time to be building with expenses and competitors. However, it will pique some interest because it is not a regular design-build method. We will get to negotiate for a good deal on all fronts of cost and quality. He added that the public participation of this method is more robust than the design-build method because it requires a public hearing, which will be held by the Redevelopment Commission or Board of Works. People will see the proposed operating agreement, which lays out all the terms between the contractor and the City, and this is made public seven days before the hearing. It would not come back to Council if the term were under five years.

Director Easter added that although it is defined as Build-Operate-Transfer, there is not requirement for operate. We previously built a fire station under a similar method that required an operate timeline, but that requirement does not exist for this with current Indiana Code.

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There was no further discussion.

Clerk Booker called the roll call vote:

Councilperson	Vote
Blanco	Aye
Bunder	Aye
DeBoer	Nay
Kang	Aye
Leverenz	Aye
Parker	Aye
Sanders	Abstain
Thomas	Aye
Wang	-

Clerk Booker stated that the vote was 6 AYES, 1 NAY, and 1 ABSTENTION.

President Bunder announced that Resolution No. 01-21 passed on first and only reading.

Resolution No. 02-21 Climate Emergency Declaration For The City Of West Lafayette (Sponsored by Councilor Bunder) [No. of Readings 1 of 1]

Councilor DeBoer read Resolution No. 02-21 by title only.

Councilor DeBoer moved for passage of Resolution No. 02-21 on first and only reading, and that the vote be by roll call. The motion was seconded by Councilor Thomas.

President Bunder motioned to make an amendment to Resolution No. 02-21. He stated that near the end of the Resolution, he would like to substitute the second *Be It Resolved* paragraph with the words, "The City of West Lafayette will establish, in the near future, a central point of contact to help manage the creation of a Climate Action Plan."

President Bunder asked for a second to the motion. Hearing none, he stated that there is no amendment, and we are back to the original Resolution.

President Bunder stated that the reason for the Climate Emergency Declaration is to make it clear to our citizens, to other cities in the State, the State, and the country, that we see the climate emergency ahead of us as a matter of public safety and a matter of great importance. With this, we add our voice to the voices of other cities who are trying to make it clear that this is of the moment and this cannot be postponed much longer—in fact, not at all. Various citizen climate groups have come out in support of cities sponsoring this type of declaration.

There was no further discussion.

Clerk Booker called the roll call vote:

Councilperson	Vote
Blanco	Aye
Bunder	Aye
DeBoer	Aye
Kang	Aye

Councilperson	Vote
Leverenz	Aye
Parker	Aye
Sanders	Aye
Thomas	Aye
<i>Wang</i>	-

Clerk Booker stated that the vote was 8 AYES and 0 NAYS.

President Bunder announced that Resolution No. 02-21 passed on first and only reading.

Resolution No. 03-21 A Resolution To Mandate SARS-CoV-2 Vaccination For City Councilors (Sponsored by Councilor Sanders) [No. of Readings 1 of 1]

Councilor DeBoer read Resolution No. 03-21 by title only.

Councilor DeBoer moved for passage of Resolution No. 03-21 on first and only reading, and that the vote be by roll call. The motion was seconded by Councilor Thomas.

Councilor Sanders moved to amend Resolution No. 03-21 by substitution with a document titled *A Resolution To Prescribe SARS-CoV-2 Vaccination For City Elected Officials*. [This version of the Resolution is sponsored by Councilor Sanders and Mayor Dennis.]. The motion was seconded by Councilor DeBoer.

Clerk Booker called the roll call vote:

Councilperson	Vote
Blanco	Aye
Bunder	Aye
DeBoer	Aye
Kang	Aye
Leverenz	Aye
Parker	Aye
Sanders	Aye
Thomas	Aye
<i>Wang</i>	-

Clerk Booker stated that the vote was 8 AYES and 0 NAYS.

President Bunder announced that Resolution No.03-21 is amended.

Councilor Sanders stated that we have a crisis in this country, which is the pandemic. We have something that will contribute to the solution of that problem, and that is vaccination of the American population. It is not going to solve the problem on its own. We will continue to need to use public health measures until we can get the numbers of infections down. The vaccination will make a major contribution in this. It is extremely important for public elected officials to set an example by getting vaccinated. He confirmed for President Bunder that this Resolution includes all City officials.

There was no further discussion.

COMMON COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES, FEBRUARY 1, 2021, CONTINUED

Clerk Booker called the roll call vote:

Councilperson	Vote
Blanco	Aye
Bunder	Aye
DeBoer	Aye
Kang	Aye
Leverenz	Aye
Parker	Aye
Sanders	Aye
Thomas	Aye
Wang	-

Clerk Booker stated that the vote was 8 AYES and 0 NAYS.

President Bunder announced that Resolution No. 03-21 (Amended) passed on first and only reading.

Resolution No. 04-21 A Resolution To Endorse And Urge The United States Congress To Pass The Healthcare Emergency Guarantee Act Of 2020 (HR 6906, S 2790) And The Medicare For All Act Of 2019 (HR 1384, S 1129), To Provide Universal, Comprehensive Health Coverage With Zero Cost-Sharing During The Covid-19 Pandemic And Beyond (Sponsored by Councilors Sanders, Blanco, Leverenz, Parker, Thomas, and DeBoer) [No. of Readings 1 of 1]

Councilor DeBoer read Resolution No. 04-21 by title only.

Councilor DeBoer moved for passage of Resolution No. 04-21 on first and only reading, and that the vote be by roll call. The motion was seconded by Councilor Thomas.

Councilor Sanders stated that the COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated problems with healthcare inequities in this country. It is extremely important for everyone to have access to healthcare. Therefore, everyone needs access to health insurance. He noted that he has received many communications from members of the community in support of this, and many included personal stories that he thinks are extremely moving. This is an issue that is personal for the people of West Lafayette, but also for the health of the citizens of West Lafayette and for the City of West Lafayette itself due to the costs associated with the way we provide health insurance now. He stated that he is appealing to his fellow Councilors to support this Resolution.

Councilor Thomas stated that he also received many letters in support of this Resolution with some heartfelt stories of people who have had some major troubles with healthcare costs and prescription drug costs. There are stories where it can hurt to listen to them, including from people having to make decisions on whether to have a procedure done or not because they cannot afford it. Healthcare should not be a privilege to have; it should be a right to have it. Everybody in this county should have affordable healthcare. He stated that he was shocked when he had a recent appointment with a cardiologist who wanted to put him on new medication. The doctor asked him how good his healthcare was because he knew it was an expensive medicine. Councilor Thomas stated that it was \$130.00 for his portion to pay for a 30-day supply. Our healthcare system is broken in this country. Something needs to be done. Out of the major industrialized countries in the world, we have the worst healthcare of any of them. This is a sad statement for a country that spends \$800 billion per year on defense that we cannot put the best minds together to come up

with a healthcare plan that work for everyone. He noted that even though this is not a policy-making resolution, he is in support of it to make a statement from the West Lafayette City Council.

Councilor Blanco stated that he wants to speak about his own story. At many points in his life, he was uninsured, including most of the time that he was a student at Purdue. Even when he had health insurance through a job, his co-pay on a root canal was thousands of dollars, which he is still making payments on today. He noted how he could have easily had a broken a bone, for example, that would have left him totally bankrupt. He stated that he is very proud to be a co-sponsor of this Resolution.

Councilor DeBoer stated that he also co-sponsored this, and he thinks there are obvious reasons for this. Many people of his generation, younger, and older see that this is broken and there is not a way to correct the patchwork system in front of us. He wants to underline the point that real freedom means the freedom to leave your employer, the freedom to start a company on your own, or to be able to take time off to care for a relative. Tying health insurance to employment fundamentally erodes our freedom as individuals. The truth is that people who love their employer-based insurance and want to hold on to it constantly lose their insurance every year—all the time, over and over again. The only way we can create a true and just society without health scarcity is to guarantee those provisions of healthcare through our government. He stated that this is probably the most obvious and easiest vote he will ever take on this Council. He thinks that this is a bedrock principle of any kind of sane social justice policy in this country. He presumes that everyone listening in on this call is well aware of both the points for and perhaps some of the more dubious claims against it, so there is no real need to go into 10,000 words of all the failures that we can see in front of us. He thanked everyone for attending and for all the applause icons showing up on the screen. He wishes we could have seen everyone in person as it would have been exciting evening.

Councilor Parker stated that she is pretty sure that the United Nations declared healthcare as a human right a long, long time ago. Our country has done a bad job. The Affordable Care Act (ACA) was a step, but it remains that a lot of people still do not have healthcare. It is cost prohibitive for a lot of people. She does not know of anybody that does not have a healthcare story. Her story involves her daughter being declared as uninsurable at nine years old because of a pre-existing condition. Everybody needs to have healthcare. She will happily support this Resolution. She noted that it is a shame that this is what we must do to make our State and federal legislators understand that all people deserve quality, affordable, and accessible healthcare.

Councilor Kang stated that she is lucky enough to be young and have parents who provide her with everything she needs, but she is absolutely in support of the right to healthcare, and she is happy to be taking this vote today.

There was no further discussion.

Clerk Booker called the roll call vote:

Councilperson	Vote
Blanco	Aye
Bunder	Aye
DeBoer	Aye
Kang	Aye
Leverenz	Aye

COMMON COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES, FEBRUARY 1, 2021, CONTINUED

Councilperson	Vote
Parker	Aye
Sanders	Aye
Thomas	Aye
Wang	-

Clerk Booker stated that the vote was 8 AYES and 0 NAYS.

President Bunder announced that Resolution No. 04-21 passed on first and only reading.

COMMUNICATIONS

► Councilor Sanders stated that at the last meeting, on January 4, 2021, he spoke about the dangers that our Republic faced. We were rewarded with a dramatic presentation of those dangers on January 6, 2021, at our nation’s capital. However, this is not an issue for Washington, D.C., or inside the beltway; this is a local issue. Right after that vandalism, that insurrection, at our capital, the Tippecanoe County Democratic Headquarters what shot up in an act of what can only be called “domestic terrorism.” That is right in Lafayette. That happened. We must face the issue that there has been for a long time, but especially during the last four years, an empowerment, an instigation of white supremacism, and intolerance. It has had repercussions in our own community. It is not the first time we have seen it, but this was a pretty dramatic instance of it. It has to stop, and we need to be hearing from, for example, our local Congress members about the fact that it needs to stop. We need to have statements from our local and State nationally elected officials about why these sorts of insurrectionary incidents must stop now.

► Councilor Parker expressed complements to the Wellness Center. It looks great and she is looking forward to using it. Mayor Dennis agreed and stated it is an awesome facility.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

► Emails that were received to the Clerk email address prior to the meeting are made a part of these minutes.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business at this time, Councilor DeBoer moved for adjournment, and President Bunder adjourned the meeting the time being 7:52 p.m.

From: [James Nolan](#)
To: [WL Clerk](#)
Subject: Resolution No. 04-21
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 4:09:38 PM

External

Hon. Larry Leverenz
West Lafayette City Council, District 4

Dear Mr. Leverenz,

I am a resident of your district and I would like to thank you for co-sponsoring Resolution No. 04-21 A Resolution to Endorse And Urge the United States Congress to Pass The Healthcare Emergency Guarantee Act Of 2020 (HR 6906, S 2790) And The Medicare For All Act Of 2019 (HR 1384, S 1129).

I have been relatively fortunate with respect to healthcare for nearly my entire life. My father had good insurance as a union carpenter. However, since I have been on my own health insurance as a graduate student, I have gone a semester without insurance to save money, and I once unexpectedly lost my insurance for a few weeks when my funding situation changed. I expect many other Purdue students have experienced the same. If I were unlucky during those times, I could not have afforded to pay emergency medical bills. A universal health insurance program would give us graduate workers more peace of mind about our health during our time at Purdue University.

Respectfully,
Jim Nolan
District 4

From: [Kristin Kvaalen](#)
To: [WL Clerk](#)
Subject: Resolution No 04-21
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 3:03:01 PM

External

To Mayor John Dennis and the members of the West Lafayette City Council,

I am writing to urge you not to pass the proposed Resolution No 04-21, which would favor the idea of "Medicare for All" and support the Healthcare Emergency Guarantee Act of 2020.

Our nation is not and does not strive to become a Socialist nation. Rather, our nation, which includes the state of Indiana and the city of West Lafayette, Indiana, is a Republic, from its founding until today.

The men and women who have fought for, and in some cases died, in order to defend the people of our nation have done so, and are doing so, precisely to keep us from the tyrannies of Socialist or Communist regimes.

Sincerely,
Kristin Kvaalen
West Lafayette, Indiana

From: [Christopher Hegarty](#)
To: [WL Clerk](#)
Subject: Comment for WL Medicare for All Resolution (421)
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 2:02:39 PM

External

Good afternoon,

My name is Chris Hegarty (he/him); I work in West Lafayette at Vienna Espresso Bar and Bakery (208 South St). I also organize with Greater Lafayette Indivisible and other local progressive organizations.

I'm glad that the West Lafayette City Council is considering a Medicare for All resolution, and I hope each member of the council will vote for it. Over the years, we've seen many attempts to weaken folx' access to healthcare. I remember marching with Kathy Parker and other now- elected folx in 2017 and 2018 as we fought against efforts to dismantle what little progress we made in healthcare access, and I'm glad that today we have an opportunity to push for Medicare for All.

My own experiences with the healthcare system tell me that even though the Medicaid/HIP expansion helped to cover many more people like me, it still leaves many working Hoosiers without access to quality healthcare, and does little to control out-of-control healthcare costs that can financially ruin all but the wealthiest in our society. I'm grateful to the city council for taking up this resolution, and I hope this leadership will lead to consciousness-raising among our state and federal elected officials. I'm also grateful for the work of the Greater Lafayette Democratic Socialists of America for leading the local movement for Medicare for All, just as I'm grateful for my co-conspirators' great work on this issue at Greater Lafayette Indivisible, and for our allies at the Younger Womxn's Task Force of Greater Lafayette for their work and solidarity.

I hope that we can collectively work toward Medicare for All as a community, and I'm grateful to the city council and the clerk for facilitating this resolution and the comment process.

Regards,

Christopher Hegarty

From: [Margaret Hass](#)
To: [WL Clerk](#)
Subject: Statement from GLIA on Medicare for All resolution before the West Lafayette City Council
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 1:45:30 PM

External

Hello,

Greater Lafayette Immigrant Allies would like to submit the following comment for tonight's West Lafayette City Council meeting:

"GLIA (Greater Lafayette Immigrant Allies) supports the push for Medicare for All. As we have seen through this pandemic, those most affected are frontline workers who are brown, Black, and working class. Often these are immigrants who cannot access any relief provided to non-immigrants. As GLIA, our mission is to support immigrant communities. Universal healthcare will redress life and death disparities."

Thank you in advance for passing this on to the Council members.

Best,
Margaret Hass
President of GLIA

From: [Sheila Rosenthal](#)
To: [WL Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: WL Council Resolution - Letter in Support (UPDATED)
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 11:36:08 AM
Attachments: [Letter in Support for WLC M4A Resolution.pdf](#)

External

Hello,

Attached is Rep Klinker's letter in support of the Medicare for All resolution in the WL Council. Thanks. Sheila

Shelia,

Attached in Rep. Klinker's Letter of Support.

Regards,

Victor C.

House Intern

**STATE OF INDIANA
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

THIRD FLOOR STATE HOUSE
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204

SHEILA J. KLINKER

L633afayette, IN Kossuth 47905street

COMMITTEES:

WAYS AND MEANS
AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT
EDUCATION

Families who are victims of medical debt have reached an unconscionable level in our state, community, and nation. In our own community, St. Andrew United Methodist Church in West Lafayette has made great efforts to eliminate over five million dollars in medical debt for more than four thousand families in Carroll, Clinton, Montgomery, White, and Tippecanoe Counties.

I'm writing this letter in support of the Medicare for All resolution being considered by the West Lafayette Council because it highlights the real concerns of a privatized system that lacks affordability, expanded coverage, and services. Our community members should not live in fear that will have to claim medical bankruptcy due illness or needing to seek medical treatment at no fault of their own.

While St. Andrew United Methodist Church has done great work in alleviating thousands of dollars of medical debt from families, this issue is more prevalent than one organizations can handle. Healthcare for our neighbors and ourselves should not be dictated on if one has pre-existing conditions or their economic status. This resolution helps pave the way for our federal leaders to advance the general welfare of the United States by transitioning to a system that is not only popular with the American public, but it uplifts the tens of thousands of Hoosiers in the shadows unable to find a place in the current privatized healthcare system.

Sheila J. Klinker

From: [Tom Stein](#)
To: [WL Clerk](#)
Cc: [AppleIDrhonda](#); [Jenni](#); [Stein Austin](#); [Tom Stein](#)
Subject: Resolution 04-21
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 10:35:07 AM
Attachments: [.msg](#)

External

I would like to voice my support for resolution 04-21 that advocates for legislation to establish a single-payer health care system that also includes comprehensive coverage for hearing, dental, vision, substance abuse treatment, mental healthcare, reproductive and maternity services, and Rx drug coverage. The cost of health care in the United States is out of control by any measure or standard. For example, in 2018, the cost of health care in the United States was approximately \$10,000/person...which was twice as much compared to people living in Germany, France, UK, Canada, or Australia (approximately \$5,000 per person). Universal health care would reduce the overall cost of health care by controlling prices, lowering administrative costs, and mitigate costly emergency room visits by those without access to preventative care and use the emergency room as their primary care physician because they had nowhere else to turn. A single payer health care system might even improve our pathetic infant mortality rate. Providing quality medical services to all citizens regardless of their ability to pay should be a right, not a company benefit. It is my understanding that the United States is the only one of 33 developed countries that doesn't have universal health care. We should be ashamed of ourselves. Please see attached.

Respectfully,
Tom

Tom Stein CPAg, CCA
Manager Templeton/Boswell
Ceres Solutions Cooperative
6221 E Old US Hwy 52
PO Box 278
Templeton, IN 47986
T: 765-385-2241
M: 765-585-3530
www.ceres.coop

From: jamieneuman@ [REDACTED]
To: [WL Clerk](#)
Subject: I support Medicare For All
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 10:01:19 AM

External

Dear Members of the West Lafayette City Council:

I strongly urge you to vote in favor of the resolution expressing the council's support for Medicare For All. Our existing system for providing health insurance, which ties it to employment, is ridiculously inefficient, wasteful, time consuming, confusing, socially destructive, and, above all, profoundly inequitable. It exists largely to enrich CEO's and shareholders of private health insurers at the expense of nearly everyone else. It adds precisely no value to the actually business of delivering health care.

Medicare For All. Now. Eliminate the parasitic profit-skimmers. Allow health care providers to devote themselves to actually providing health care rather than expending enormous amounts time, effort, and money filling out forms, billing, and seeking approvals from an array of insurers whose only goal, ultimately, is to extract profit.

James Newman
2208 Indian Trail Drive
West Lafayette, IN 47906

From: [Thomas Topping](#)
To: [WL Clerk](#)
Subject: Resolution No. 04-21, Medicare For All
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 9:03:10 AM

External

My name is Thomas Topping. I live in Lafayette and grew up on the Westside, attending Klondike and Harrison schools along with Purdue University. I am a life-long Tippecanoe County resident.

I fully support Resolution No. 04-21, Medicare For All and I encourage the West Lafayette City Council to pass the resolution to let our representatives in the U.S. Congress know our position on this very important issue.

Thank you,
Tom Topping

From: [Nelson, Betty](#)
To: [WL Clerk](#)
Cc: [Nelson, Betty](#)
Subject: Citizen Comment - Resolution No. 04-21A
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 3:13:38 AM

External

Please share my comments related to *Resolution No. 04-21A*, Agenda item #12.g. with the members of the West Lafayette City Council. Thank you.

b

Perhaps it takes a pandemic to highlight dramatically “we’re all in this together.” Is there any doubt the initial illness of a few mushroomed to have enormous negative impact on the health and the economic status of the entire world? Just as clean air to breathe and safe water to drink are basic human rights, access to affordable, quality health care is a basic human right. The health and well-being of **every** community member is better if all members of the community have access to affordable health services. This is one of those situations when promoting and ensuring a service for others is also an example of “it’s all about me.”

It is with enthusiasm I encourage the West Lafayette City Council on February 1, 2021, to approve NEW BUSINESS item 12.g.: *Resolution No. 04-21A – Endorse and Urge the United States Congress to Pass the Health Care Emergency Guarantee Act of 2020 and The Medicare for All Act of 2019*. Our quality of life depends on it.

Betty M. Nelson
Resident of District 5

Betty M. Nelson
967 Westminster Circle, #532
West Lafayette, IN 47906
765-463-3144
bmnelson@purdue.edu

“Culture trumps strategy.”

Adam Gross, principal at Ayers Saint Gross, 10/12/18

“When the wolves of hate are loosed on one people, then no one is safe.”

Ralph McGill, editor of the Atlanta Constitution

“Moral courage is a rarer commodity than bravery in battle or great intelligence.”

Robert Kennedy, University of South Africa, 6/6/1966

From: [Jim Barton](#)
To: [WL Clerk](#)
Subject: Resolution 04-21 Single Payer Insurance
Date: Sunday, January 31, 2021 2:42:33 PM

External

Members of the West Lafayette City Council, I am writing to encourage you not to vote on the resolution supporting national single payer insurance and certainly not to approve such a resolution. Neither would I want you to support as a City Council keeping the current system as it is.

These are highly controversial political issues for state and national political leaders to deal with - not for a City Council. Certainly you each as a citizen have a right to express your opinion and even mention that you are a City Council member, as you contact other leaders. But what are you trying to say by voting as an official City Council on this issue? Are you implying that the majority of the citizens of West Lafayette agree with you? Or that the majority of our citizens agree with the Democratic Socialists of America on this issue? What are you really trying to say as a City Council, representing its citizens on this issue?

I only heard of this issue this morning in the local newspaper and do not know if the newspaper report was even accurate. I tried to look on your website and could not find a copy of the agenda for tomorrow's meeting or a copy of the actual resolution referred to. No one has asked me about this, and I have not heard of widespread discussion of this issue in order to get the actual opinion of the people of West Lafayette. Do you really know that the great majority of people in West Lafayette, including Purdue faculty and staff and other workers, who do have insurance, would be happy to see their insurance disappear and all be thrown into a single national government program? Where is the evidence of that thinking?

I know that this is only a resolution; but passing it as a City Council could give impressions about our community that might not be accurate. It would be much better for you to speak as individual citizens and not as a City Council on such issues, leaving me to speak as I choose, too. You surely have much more important local business to be doing as a City Council, here and now, that you can actually make a difference with, too. Thanks for listening.

James P. Barton
755 Cumberland Ave
West Lafayette, IN 47906

From: [Dustin Beckwith](#)
To: [WL Clerk](#)
Subject: Public comment on Resolution No. 02-21
Date: Sunday, January 31, 2021 2:02:23 PM

External

I noticed that there will be a Climate Resiliency Officer appointed for the City of West Lafayette by December 2021.

Will the city be doing anything prior to then, to reduce our climate impact as a community?

Additionally, will the City Council be pushing for the County Council to take action as well?

Thank you,
Dustin Beckwith

From: [Dustin Beckwith](#)
To: [WL Clerk](#)
Subject: Support for Resolution No. 04-21
Date: Sunday, January 31, 2021 1:58:43 PM

External

I am submitting a public comment in support of Resolution No. 04-21, to be proposed tomorrow, February 1st.

I appreciate seeing the leadership in our community understanding the struggles caused by lack of access to Healthcare, especially amidst a global pandemic.

Thank you all for your service.

Best,
Dustin Beckwith

From: [Trudy Roe](#)
To: [WL Clerk](#)
Subject: Resolution No. 04-21
Date: Sunday, January 31, 2021 10:25:35 AM

External

To David Sanders, James Blanco, Larry Leverenz, Kathy Parker, Gerald Thomas, and Nick DeBoer,

I am NOT a Democratic Socialist and neither are the majority of the residents of Greater Lafayette. Your proposal to support the Medicare for All Act is a betrayal and a misrepresentation of the views of the residents of Tippecanoe County.

A national single-payer health care system would be a disaster for this country. The Federal government cannot efficiently manage such a system—look no further than the rollout of the Covid vaccine and the distribution of funds through the Stimulus Act. No doubt all of you received Stimulus checks—as did my husband and I; people who have no legitimate need for these funds, yet will probably receive more in the future.

Along with the January 31st article in the Journal and Courier on the WL City Council's proposal to support Resolution No. 04-21 is an article on how three virtual charter schools defrauded the State of Indiana of over \$68 million last year. If this happens at the state level, do you not see the opportunity for fraud, corruption, mismanagement, and inefficiency at the federal level with regard to an agency in charge of healthcare for the **entire nation**? Think of the frustration one experiences when going to the Bureau of Motor Vehicles, the Social Security office, applying for Federal Unemployment benefits, or even obtaining educational support for a special-needs child. Imagine what that experience would be like trying to navigate a Federal healthcare system when your child has pink eye. Look at an aerial photo of the Pentagon—that would be the size of the agency heading a single-payer health care system. And it would continue to grow.

What would be the incentive for a student to pursue a grueling and expensive medical education if the government dictates what a rheumatologist, or a pediatric neurosurgeon, or an oncologist can charge for his or her services? When the government is in charge, what happens to the quality of care? Patient choice of healthcare provider? The ripple effect of thousands of employees in the health insurance industry out of a job?

NO THANKS.

If you support Resolution No. 04-21, then do so **as an individual Democratic Socialist**, not as a member of the West Lafayette City Council. You do NOT represent me or thousands of my fellow West Lafayette residents, and you certainly do not have the right to say you represent the Greater Lafayette Area.

Trudy Roe

From: [Don Sanders](#)
To: [WL Clerk](#)
Subject: 04-21
Date: Sunday, January 31, 2021 4:45:45 AM

External

I oppose this legislation. It will bog down the health care system. The pandemic has exposed how fragile the system is currently. The system can't handle the number of people this would involve. I have been on hold since April for a simple life saving screening procedure. Medicare for all will cause rationing and unnecessary death. Very unfair to our brave front line heroes.

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

From: [Nelson, Richard C](#)
To: [WL Clerk](#)
Cc: [Sheila Rosenthal](#)
Subject: Medicare For All
Date: Saturday, January 30, 2021 11:28:57 AM

External

Please pass on my message encouraging the Council to support the resolution concerning Medicare For All.

Through St Andrew UMC, I have contributed to RIP Medical Debt out of concern that Indiana Residents and others are sometimes at risk of losing their homes. Also, some may not seek medical attention for fear of debt and may as a result become virus spreaders. Thank you.

RCNelson

“What I say I choose to say; what I do I choose to do; what I am I choose to be”

From: [Zach Martin](#)
To: [Nick DeBoer](#)
Cc: [Peter Bunder](#); [Shannon S. Kang](#); [Larry Leverenz](#); [Kathy C.F. Parker](#); [James S. Blanco](#); [Gerald Thomas](#); [David Sanders](#); [clerk](#)
Subject: Medicare for All City Council Resolution
Date: Wednesday, January 27, 2021 7:37:00 PM

External

Councilman De Boer,

I hope this email finds you well. I'm one of your constituents and I'm writing to you to urge you to vote for the upcoming resolution which urges Congress to pass Medicare for All and the Emergency Healthcare Guarantee Act.

I'm currently employed as a graduate research assistant at Purdue, but because of the Affordable Care Act I am covered by my parents' health insurance instead of the Purdue employee plan. Because my parents do not live in Indiana, there are a lot of gaps in what is actually covered for me. Last year I managed to get an ear infection, but since I was new to the area, I held off on going to a doctor since I didn't know which hospitals would accept my insurance. Eventually the infection became too painful to hold off and I had to go into the ER. I was charged \$600 for the visit, about half of which I had to pay out of pocket.

Also, I've had to hold off visits to the dentist and optometrist for more than a year because my insurance doesn't cover anyone locally. Passing Medicare for All and the Emergency Healthcare Guarantee Act would lift an enormous worry off the shoulders of people like me who often don't know if they can seek medical care or are left with expensive out of pocket costs.

Thank you very much for your time,
Zach Martin

From: [Nichole](#)
To: [Nick DeBoer](#); [Peter Bunder](#); [Shannon S. Kang](#); [Larry Leverenz](#); [Kathy C.F. Parker](#); [James S. Blanco](#); [David Sanders](#); [Gerald Thomas](#); [clerk](#)
Cc: [Sana Booker](#)
Subject: Public Comment on Resolution No. 04-21 - Medicare for All
Date: Monday, January 25, 2021 10:30:22 PM

External

Councilors,

I wanted to write a letter in support of the Medicare for All Resolution (No. 04-21). I want to note up front that I am writing to you personally instead of how you usually hear from me in my capacity as a City employee. Also, I want to thank you for your time even though I now live across the river.

I became passionate about the United States having some form of universal healthcare in 1995. At that time, I became an early adopter of the Internet at the suggestion of a doctor. He was unable to help me medically but thought I might find a support group of people dealing with the same health issues as me. The support groups ended up being filled with people from all over the world. I was fortunate to make good friends who I still talk to now, over 25 years later. It was from them that I learned how little-to-nothing people in other countries were paying for healthcare.

In more recent years, I have learned that the United States is the **only** developed country without some form of universal healthcare. Most of the other countries have had it for decades. Norway was the first in 1912, and recent additions include Mexico (2012) and Argentina (2016) (https://timelines.issarice.com/wiki/Timeline_of_universal_healthcare). Zero countries have ended it.

Having healthcare without worrying about how much it cost would have changed my life. This is demonstrated by two surgeries I ended up eventually having. Without the combination of the two surgeries, I would have never been healthy enough to work a full-time job. With the first surgery, I was lucky enough to have it covered by my father. With the second I was fortunate to have it covered by the Healthy Indiana Plan (HIP)– a program that I just narrowly got into before they created a waitlist and added restrictions. If I had been able to have the procedures sooner, then perhaps I could have had a normal teenage life, graduated high school on time, gone to college with my peers, and started a career many years sooner.

Now, even with insurance through work, I have not found an *in-network* doctor who can treat my lingering chronic conditions, so I still feel unable to pursue the help that I should. On that topic of insurance through work, we should think about why health is tied to employment anyway. As a country, we in the United States talk so much about the word “freedom” while the matter of health insurance binds us. It binds people to stay with a job (or in a location) even if they aren’t happy. It binds people from pursuing self-employment opportunities. It lessens the number of people who could open their own business. These are all things that people with universal healthcare have more *real* freedom to pursue. The amount of people forced out of work, and therefore their insurance, during the COVID pandemic is another illustration. People need continuous health coverage without worry.

Many people against universal healthcare claim that those in other countries get worse care or have long wait lines. However, in my discussions with those all over the world, the care and wait times are no worse than here. Not a single person I’ve spoken with would trade their healthcare for our insurance woes and bills. Similarly, I know of someone who went to

Mexico for surgery. She stayed for several weeks while her doctors made regular checkups in her hotel room. This was all cheaper than if she had had the surgery in the United States. There is a term for this: Medical Tourism. According to the CDC, thousands of U.S. residents travel to other countries for medical care, including heart surgeries. (<https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/page/medical-tourism>)

Also, contrary to popular belief, health outcomes in the United States are not better than elsewhere, despite the increased money we spend on it. A couple statistical examples (from www.americashealthrankings.org) are that in 2019 the U.S. ranked 33 out of 36 in infant mortality and overall life expectancy was 28th out of 36. Breakdowns of various health conditions can be found online, and the U.S. does not look good.

I could probably write a book on this topic, but I will end by saying that it is embarrassing that the United States cannot manage to provide its citizens with something that the rest of the world figured out long ago.

Thank you for this Resolution and your support of Medicare for All.

Nichole Foster

Lafayette

From: [Chris Campbell](#)
To: [Bryce A. Patz](#); [David Sanders](#); [Erin Easter](#); [Gerald Thomas](#); [Gerald Thomas](#); [Gerald Thomas](#); [Gerald Thomas](#); [James Blanco](#); [James Blanco](#); [John Dennis](#); [John Dennis](#); [Larry J. Leverenz](#); [Michell Lankford](#); [Nick DeBoer](#); [Nick DeBoer](#); [Parker, Kathy](#); [peter bunder](#); [Peter Bunder](#); [Peter Bunder](#); [clerk](#); [Shannon S Kang](#)
Subject: Resolution 4-21 Medicare for All
Date: Saturday, January 23, 2021 6:46:46 PM
Attachments: [Medicare for all Resolution WL city Council.pdf](#)

External

Please find the attached letter in support of City Council Resolution 4-21.
Thank you for your support of improving access and cost of Healthcare for all citizens.

Sincerely,

State Representative Chris Campbell

Indiana House District 26

Indiana House Democratic Caucus

200 W. Washington St.

Indianapolis, IN 46204

317-232-9606 (office)

1-800-382-9842 (toll-free)

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STATE OF INDIANA
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

THIRD FLOOR STATE HOUSE
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204

REPRESENTATIVE CHRIS CAMPBELL
200 West Washington Street
Indianapolis, IN 46204

COMMITTEES:
WAYS AND MEANS
GOVERNMENT AND REGULATORY REFORM, RMM
INSURANCE

January 23, 2021

Dear Members of The West Lafayette City Council,

I write to you in support of resolution 04-21 which urges Congress to act on universal access to healthcare.

More than ever before, this past year emphasized why a universal healthcare policy is urgently needed by all citizens. And, as you know, Indiana has one of the highest healthcare costs compared to other states. Many Hoosiers still don't have coverage. These factors combine to prevent people from seeking early medical care.

A universal healthcare policy would strengthen our negotiating power with health vendors. It would lower costs and increase access. And, in doing so, it would promote early detection and quicker treatment. In short, it would reduce pain and suffering in Indiana.

Beyond that, I ask you to imagine a world where people start businesses or leap at new job opportunities without worrying about how it would impact their family's healthcare. This is a freer world with a more dynamic economy. An individual's healthcare should not be tied to their employer.

I support this resolution because it makes sense, helps people, and grows a better Indiana.

Sincerely,

Chris Campbell

From: [Diane Zaragoza](#)
To: [clerk](#)
Subject: Medicare For All City Council Resolution
Date: Sunday, January 24, 2021 5:47:08 PM

External

Dear City Council members,

Good afternoon to you all.

I am writing as a family physician who is a West Lafayette resident and as a member of the Greater Lafayette Democratic Socialists of America. I am looking forward to the meeting you will be having on February 1st when you will be considering a resolution in support of Medicare For All (The Medicare for All Act of 2019 and the Health Care Emergency Guarantee Act of 2020).

I believe that you share in my hope that the people of West Lafayette remain healthy, so that they can be productive and contribute to the growth of our society.

I have seen numerous patients with no health insurance or are underinsured who delay seeking medical care until they get very ill and can no longer work. The ongoing pandemic has made them even more afraid to seek care because they worry about contracting the COVID-19 virus while waiting in an overcrowded emergency room.

I have also witnessed how the health of some of my patients have declined because they have lost their jobs during the pandemic and in turn lost their health insurance. They are unable to afford to see their doctors and get the medications and other treatments they need to prevent major health complications. Some of these patients are insulin-dependent diabetics or have emphysema who need their inhalers and breathing treatments. These medications cost hundreds of dollars every month for those who will be paying out of pocket. Some of them previously had heart attacks or strokes, but because they had health insurance, they were able to manage their medical issues with medications and prescribed treatments, and had been able to continue working prior to the pandemic.

I have patients who survived COVID-19, but they are now on oxygen all the time. They are being told they cannot go back to work unless they get off their oxygen. They may lose their jobs and may need to go on Medicaid. They may no longer be able to get the same kind of treatments and see the doctors they used to see when they had their commercial insurance.

I believe that going to a single payer health care system such as Medicare For All will fill in these huge gaps in care so that nobody is left behind.

I fervently hope that you will support this resolution. Thank you so much for your service to the community.

Sincerely,

Dr. Diane Zaragoza

From: [Jim](#)
To: [clerk](#); [Nick DeBoer](#); [Peter Bunder](#); [Shannon S. Kang](#); [Larry Leverenz](#); [Kathy C.F. Parker](#); [James S. Blanco](#); [David Sanders](#); [Gerald Thomas](#)
Cc: [Greater Lafayette IN DSA](#)
Subject: Medicare for All City Council Resolution - Petition
Date: Thursday, January 28, 2021 9:56:37 AM
Attachments: [Petition to Support the Medicare for All Act of 2019 - West Lafayette.pdf](#)

External

Dear West Lafayette City Council Members,

Thank you for your considering Resolution NO. 04-21, endorsing and urging the US Congress to pass the Health Care Emergency Guarantee Act and the Medicare for All Act. I am sharing a petition (attached PDF) in support of this resolution with a list of West Lafayette residents who have added their names through its corresponding webpage:

<https://actionnetwork.org/petitions/support-the-medicare-for-all-act-of-2019>

Best Regards,
Jim Nolan

Petition to Support the Medicare for All Act of 2019

To: The Common Council of West Lafayette

We know our healthcare system is broken. Many people face bankruptcies due to medical bills. Prescription drug prices are out of control. People are often afraid to go to the doctor because of high costs.

In Tippecanoe County alone, more than 20,000 people are not covered by any health insurance. The COVID-19 pandemic has worsened this crisis. While insurance companies are making record breaking profits, many people are not getting the healthcare they need which increases the consequences and spread of the pandemic.

That is why we, the residents of West Lafayette, urge our elected officials to support a universal, single-payer healthcare plan, such as proposed by the “Medicare for All Act of 2019” (H.R. 1384, S. 1129). This plan would provide comprehensive healthcare as a human right to every person in Tippecanoe County, the state of Indiana and the United States, without fees, copays, or deductibles.

This plan provides free choice of doctors and hospitals and would reduce overall healthcare costs by eliminating insurance company profits and negotiating prices with drug manufacturers. It provides funds for financial support and retraining of workers who lose their jobs due to the elimination of insurance companies from the healthcare system.

Signed:

Noor Abdullah	Julian Boes	Sarah Clemmons
Clare Adams	Truman Boggs	Helen Coats
Jason Adams	Cory Bonbrake	Ian Coffman
Jennifer Adkins	Emma Bonham	Myles Cook
Devin Allen	Giulia Borriello	Anabelle Cooper
Laura Anthrop	Sarah Boulac	Jill Cornell
Andrew Arndt	Samantha Bradshaw	Gabrielle Cramer
Bridget Arnold	Katherine Brinkers	Brittany Crawmer
Claire Arthur	Alexa Brock	Reese Curtis
Ashley Bagadiong	Kalei Brooke	Darrell Dai
Mimita Bahizi	Ginger Bullis	Layla Dang
Jonathan Banchef	Lana Burnu	Stephen Davis
Logan Bartolome	Megan Cabral	Cindy Ding
Claudia Benito Alston	José Cabral	Kaitlyn Dove
Annie Berger	Deniz Camli	Russell Dulie
Maureen Berry	Chris Campbell	Natasha Duncan
Anusha Bharowaj	Jeremiah Campbell	Macy Duncan
Allison Bistline-East	H Alan Cardenas	Rahul Durai
James Blanco	Jenny Chen	Carl Durkes

Scott Eaker
Andrew East
Jacob Eddy
Robert Eddy
Robyn Eddy
Steve Eisner
Laramy Enders
Mattias Eriksson
Isabella Escamilla
Tom Eyrich
Logan Faircloth
Sophie Fanok
Aaron Farha
Madelina Feister
Michaela Fennell
Lara Fernandez
Amanda Figueroa
Erika Foster
Rich Frank
Denise C Frank
Elisabeth Garland
Robert Geahlen
Eliza Gellis
Alfonso Gerbolini
Nico Ghandhi
Joshua Giller
Siya Goel
Craig Goergen
Benjamin Goller
Jordan Gooch
Fiona Goode
Sydney Greenwood
Alex Griffin-Little
Catherine Grossman
Itzamar Gutierrez
Sarah Haaser
James Haber
Abbey Hackleman
Alexandra Haddon
Daniel Hagedorn
Abbey Hall
Jada Hanshey
Sam Hanshey

Sebastien Helie
Riley Hellwarth
Julio Hernandez
Carmelina Hernandez
Allison Hicks
Kaitlyn Hieman
Molly Hilarides
Kathleen Hill
Reid Hochstedler
Khala Hochstedler
Madison Hodges
Richard Hosler
Louisa Houskamp
Libai Huang
Eshaal Hussain
Henry Hutcheson
Rebecca Irrgang
Dwayne Jengelle
Susan Johnson
Ally Johnson
Robert T Jones
Linda Kampe
Cade Kane
Ahmad Kazem
Rachael Kenney
Grace A Khamis
Megan Khangura
Rajdeep Khangura
Philip Kim
Francesca Kimera
Francesca Kimera
Megan Kiselica
Mikel Kjell
Amanda Klemczak
Vince Koser
Stepanie Koser
Deborah Kull
Essenam Lamewona
Allison Lapcheska
Ha Le
Amy Lee
Sean Lee
Larry Lewis

Zach Lewis
Alexander Lindsay
Adam Lott
Michael Lundin
Bethany MaGer
Cheryl Maier
Mandia Marambe
Zach Martin
Axel Masquelin
David Matz
Ben McCallister
Miki McCallister
Susanne McConville
Rachel McDowell
Jeremy McGrath
Emily McKinney
Mariah Mendoza
Francisca Mercado
Shelby Meyer
Julia Michienzi
Haley Miller
Catherine Miller
Kaden Milliren
Ellie Minogue
James Minogue
David Monroe
Mayzie Moore
Aaron Moralina
Nathan Mueller
Bill Mullen
Kyle Muskat
Jackie Myers
Catty Natt
Katy Nay
Serai Neidigh
James Nolan
Maesa Ogas
Kyra Pagonis
Isani Panigrahi
Jessica Patterson
Emma Penrose
Katheryn Perez
Nicole Perry

Alex Peterson
Christine Petkov
Isabel Petkov
Sawyer Powell
Christin Preuss
Jessica Puente Castro
Ryleigh Qualls
Jubin Rahatzad
Jorge Ramirez
James Ray
Bry Reed
Daniel Reed
Diane Reis
Lucy Reising
Michaela Rice
Emma Rice
Jennifer Richardson
Elena Richardson
Tyteanna Riley
Lexi Ritchie
Sheila Rosenthal
Frank Rosenthal
Julianne Roser
Sydney Runner
Jackson Ryan
Taylor Sabato
Katarine Sacksteder
Jia Sahar
Zahra Sajedinia
Ryan Salerno
Ananya Saxena
Broderick Schipp
Meg Schleter
Claire Schnefke
Derico Setyclorata
Rachel Seymour-
Newton
Farzin Shamloo
Jasmine Singh
Siddharth Sinha
Erin Smith
Carly Smith
Ashley Smith

Jenny Smith
Ariel Smith
Dalton Stanley
Caroline Stapleton
Harry Suddleson
Patrick Sullivan
Emma Summers
Alayne Sundstrom
Pam Szymanski
Vivek Talapaneni
Ben Tally
Lisa Tally
Katelyn Taylor
Cassandra Thatcher
Madison Thomas
Marissa Tilden
Jennylee Torres
Daniel Trapp
Sylvia Tripodi
Zachary True
Jacob Tuell
Isabelle Turner
Grace Ulmer
Albert Urazaev
Angel Valentín
Rajat Verma
Alexis Vesey
Ryan Villarreal
Silvana Villela
Luca von Lintel
Kowan Wallar
Stefanie Walsh
Kate Watkins
Gabriela Weiner
Sam Welsh
Alex Wenning
Abbee Westbrook
Reece Westfall
Kat White
Lora Marie Williams
Jennifer Wilson
Stacy Winter
Maxwell Wolf

Christopher Wood
Margaret Wu
Isaac Wyatt
Mason Wyss
Diane Zaragoza