

Muncie City Council approves rezoning for northside apartments

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Written by DOUGLAS WALKER

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"Mom, are they going to take our swing set?" Ryder said one of her youngsters asked.

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The manager of another local apartment complex and a man who owns several local rental properties also urged the council to deny the zoning change.

Council member Linda Gregory, who said she had spent "some sleepless hours" mulling her decision, voting against the request, as did fellow Democrat Alison Quirk and Republican Brad Polk.

Voting in favor of the zoning change were Democrats Julius Anderson, Mary Jo Barton, Sam Marshall and Jerry Dishman and Republican Mark Conatser. Democrat Mike King, in his last regularly scheduled council meeting, abstained, citing a conflict of interest.

Quirk suggested the apartment complex was "too much for that property."

Conatser said failing to allow for its construction would be a "terrible, wasted opportunity."

When Dishman cast his "yes" vote, a few project opponents began angrily shouting, prompting the council's president, Marshall, to ask for silence.

The Muncie-Delaware County Plan Commission had voted 6-3 against the proposed rezoning.

Contact Douglas Walker at 213-5851.

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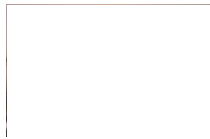
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