

**BEECH GROVE CITY COUNCIL  
MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY, OCTOBER 6<sup>th</sup>, 2014**

**Mayor Dennis Buckley called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.**

**ROLL CALL:** Present: City Council Members, Dave Mobley, John Jennings, Dave Harrison, Anthony Davidson, Ed Bell, Mary Stewart, and Kathy Coates. Also present were Mayor, Dennis Buckley, Clerk Treasurer, Dan McMillan, and City Attorney, Craig Wiley.

**All joined in the Pledge of Allegiance to our flag.**

**SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:**

**Fire Prevention Week Proclamation**—Mayor Buckley read a statement proclaiming Oct. 5-7<sup>th</sup> as Fire Prevention Week in the City of Beech Grove. This year's theme is Working Smoke Alarms Save Lives. Fire Chief Cheshire accepted the proclamation and thanked Mayor Buckley and the Council members for their continued support of the Fire Department. He also thanked the members of the department for the excellent service that they provide to the citizens of Beech Grove.

**Walk to Remember Proclamation**—Mayor Buckley announced that October is Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness Month. He read a proclamation regarding this subject and presented it to Joanie Cutshaw from St. Francis Hospital. The Walk to Remember will take place on October 11, with registration beginning at 9:30 a. m. The Walk will begin at Holy Name Catholic Church at 11 a. m. and proceed into Sarah Bolton Park. She expects approximately 1,200 people to participate.

**MAYOR BALLARD'S LIAISON:** Indianapolis Mayor Ballard's Director of Community Outreach, Ryan Clem, introduced himself to the Council members and citizens. He oversees the Office of Neighborhood Services and has nine neighborhood liaisons that attend various community meetings in Marion County. There will be a new liaison to Perry and Franklin townships beginning on Oct. 13<sup>th</sup>. Councilor Jennings asked how the I-465/I-65 interchange construction is going, and Mr. Clem stated that he would look into that and respond at a later date.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Clerk Treasurer McMillan presented the September 2, 2014 meeting minutes to the council. Councilor Jennings moved to approve the minutes as presented. Councilor Coates seconded the Motion; which was approved by unanimous voice vote.  
Clerk Treasurer McMillan presented the September 8, 2014 meeting minutes to the council. Councilor Jennings moved to approve the minutes as presented. Councilor Stewart seconded the Motion; which was approved by unanimous voice vote.

**PETITIONS OR COMMENTS BY CITIZENS:**

**Ted Pierson, Beech Grove** – Mr. Pierson spoke regarding the Beech Grove Senior Citizens Center. He pointed out that BG senior citizens who use the Senior Center transportation must pay their way, \$2.00 round trip, for wherever they wish to go. Each trip has a minimum number of riders required in order to make the trip available in regards to expenses, etc. The only transportation available outside of Beech Grove is to St. Francis Hospital. Senior Center members pay for each trip in advance or as they board the bus. Mr. Pierson wanted to make it clear that the transportation is organized into specific trips, rather than staff members just taking the senior citizens wherever they want to go. He stated that the Senior Citizens Center and its services are definitely a blessing to its members. Mr. Pierson shared the current monthly schedule so that Council members could see the types of activities that are available at the Senior Center.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Youth Council** – None.

**Greenscape Commission** – Council members received a printed Greenscape Commission report, which is available on the City website for review.

**RDC** – Council members received a printed RDC report, which is available on the City website for review.

**Public Safety** – Council members received a printed Public Safety report, which is available on the City website for review.

**ABC**-none.

### Clerk Treasurer's Financial Report - Clerk Treasurer Dan McMillan

Dear Councilors,

Our State Board of Accounts audit is complete. Today Mayor Buckley, Councilor Bell and I met with them for our exit interview. As soon as the audit is released for public consumption, I will get a copy to the Council. SBOA has strict guidelines on the release.

This month we received the following wire transfers from Franciscan Alliance:

\$94,904 to the RDC General Fund

\$400,000.00 to the Sewage Fund

Any further questions regarding this matter would need to be directed to City Attorney Craig Wiley.

Tonight, we have several transfer requests. As stated, these do not increase the budget.

In addition to the transfers referred to above, this month I will be transferring from Sewage to Corporate our 2014 ROI payment of \$706,892.00 and our Pilot Payment of \$174,196.00. These revenues were included in the 2014 budget. In the month of November or December, I will also be transferring \$400,000.00 of the \$436,000.00 ROI Payment that we never took. An additional appropriation will be presented to you in November to appropriate that \$400,000.00 to pave streets. Jeff Peters prepared the Additional Appropriations for us. Mayor Buckley can provide you with more detail as to what streets are included with this.

The Insurance Committee will meet again on October 24<sup>th</sup>. I will bring the Council up to date at our November meeting. As stated before, the Committee consists of Aaron Jeannette, B.G.F.D. #416 Representative, David Irwin, Dawn Whalen, and myself.

Tonight we will have the Second and Third Readings of the 2015 Budget. I did want to make a couple of comments on the Police Department Budget. Since 2012, their Budget has increased in the General "101" Fund over \$250,000.00, including \$50,000.00 in overtime. Additionally, in the Public Safety LOIT "170" Fund, we have added \$54,000.00 for 8 new police car leases, \$50,000.00 in overtime for a total of \$100,000.00 in computers. In 2012 and previous years to that, the Criminal Investigation Fund had been used to pay for the majority of Police overtime. I only went back to 2011, but the following amounts are what have been paid from the CIF Fund for overtime:

2011, \$65,717.66

2012, \$66,371.12

2013, \$0

2014, \$0

Since I began as Clerk-Treasurer, and preparing the budgets; which would include 2013, 2014 and 2015, no overtime pay has been taken from the CIF Fund. Any monies spent from the CIF Fund have been appropriated by the Police Department. The City has no control over the CIF Fund. The Police Department Administration appropriates that money, in accordance with state statute, but the Clerk Treasurer's Office of the Council, does not appropriate those funds.

Next month the Council will be presented with Additional Appropriations; which will include an additional \$30,000 for overtime for Police and an additional \$41,000.00 for Fire. The City of Beech Grove does consider Public Safety #1 and it is evident through our budgets.

Tonight's Budget has many good things, including a 2% raise for employees. We have removed the raise for elected officials, per the Council vote, but I still would like to comment that I believe the raise should have been given to elected officials too. I don't agree with raising the salary for some and not for others. As it stands now, for Department Heads salaries, the Senior Center have the lowest pay, the Clerk Treasurer is second lowest and the Mayor is third lowest. It concerns me, because as a Citizen, I want people to hold the positions that have the education or experience to qualify them. Mayor Buckley is fortunate because he has a Fire Pension, I am fortunate because I was a business owner for a number of years. I am concerned that in the future, people raising a family, with the education or experience would be hesitant because of the pay. That is just my opinion. 2% is not a great difference, but a 2% increase over a number of years is significant and I am concerned about the precedent we are setting for the future in not including our elected officials in the raises. If not this year, I hope it is something this Council and future Councils will consider.

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to ask. The complete budget can be viewed on the website by using the following link <http://www.beechgrove.com/2015-proposed-civil-city-budget.html>

The City website continues to be a success and is provided at no cost to the taxpayers. We continue to have wonderful volunteers that assist with updating and posting. Thank you website volunteers!

The homepage on the website has city meetings information that includes links to agendas, minutes, ordinances and more. Financial Reports, City Debt Schedules, Bank Statements and more are available online at [www.beechgrove.com](http://www.beechgrove.com).

The bank account balances as of September 30, 2014 are listed below.

<b>Bank Account Name</b>	<b>Bank Account Balance</b>
City Corporation	\$2,333,733.35
City Utilities/Sewage/Wastewater	\$1,680,469.52
Main Street Redevelopment/Main Street Loans	\$254,590.09
City Court	\$128,780.25
Criminal Investigations (CIF)	\$193,822.83
Redevelopment Commission (RDC) General	\$936,437.12
Redevelopment Commission (RDC) Debt Service	\$584,842.97
BNY – Mellon 2004 SRF Balance	\$136,178.37

Mayor Buckley commented that he served 30 years on the fire department and he is not apologizing to anyone for being on a pension. He deserves it and is taking it until the day he dies. Two years ago, he tried to cut his salary because when he ran for the position, he said he wasn't doing it because he needed money, but because he wanted to fix it and would give half his salary back. However, the Council said no on that item.

**Compliance Division** – Council members received a printed Compliance Division report, which is available on the City website for review

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**[General Ordinance #13, 2014 - 3rd Reading](#)**

*... pursuant to ambulance responses outside the corporate city limits of Beech Grove*

Councilor Jennings moved to waive the rules and read this ordinance by title only. Councilor Mobley seconded the Motion; which was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Clerk Treasurer McMillan read General Ordinance No. 10, 2014 into the record by title only.

Councilor Jennings moved to approve the ordinance. Councilor Davidson seconded the Motion; which was approved by unanimous voice vote. General Ordinance No. 13, 2014 passed on third and final reading.

**[General Ordinance #14, 2014 - 3rd Reading](#)**

*... amends Employee Personnel Manual Article XIV concerning employee behavior*

Councilor Stewart moved to waive the rules and read this ordinance by title only. Councilor Jennings seconded the Motion; which was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Clerk Treasurer McMillan read the ordinance into the record by title only.

Councilor Stewart moved to approve the ordinance. Councilor Davidson seconded the Motion; which was approved by unanimous voice vote. General Ordinance No. 14, 2014 passed on 3<sup>rd</sup> and final reading.

**[General Ordinance #15, 2014 - 3rd Reading](#)**

*... amends Employee Personnel Manual Article XIV concerning Military Leave*

Councilor Stewart moved to waive the rules and read this ordinance by title only. Councilor Mobley seconded the Motion; which was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Clerk Treasurer McMillan read the ordinance into the record by title only.

Councilor Davidson proposed another amendment to this ordinance. He would like the ordinance to read:

“Employees may request time off for travel and or rest periods up to 8 hours before or after a drill weekend *report time plus travel time.*” Councilor Davidson stated that he always has been allowed 5hours travel time to his Air Force Reserve base in Illinois plus the 8 hours rest time. Councilor Jennings moved to approve the amendment to the ordinance. Councilor Harrison seconded the Motion; which was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Councilor Davidson proposed another amendment to the ordinance. He would like the ordinance to read: “Military orders for *annual tour* or deployments will be excused at the request of the employee.” Councilor Jennings moved to approve the amendment to the ordinance. Councilor Harrison seconded the Motion; which was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Councilor Davidson proposed another amendment to this ordinance. He would like the ordinance to read: “Arrangements shall be made at least 30 days if possible in advance or as soon as possible with the respective Department Head ~~and a copy of such orders must be submitted.~~” City Attorney Wiley stated that the Indiana Family Military Leave Act requires copies of orders. Councilor Coates stated that as long as proper notification is given to the supervisor, she has no issue with not providing copies of orders unless it’s required by law. Councilor Jennings asked if it is an issue to show or provide copies of orders, and Councilor Davidson replied that to him it is an issue of veterans’ rights. Councilor Coates said that if it is at the Council’s discretion, she moved to approve the amendment to the ordinance. Councilor Davidson seconded the Motion; which was approved by unanimous voice vote. Councilor Jennings moved to approve the ordinance with the 3 amendments. Councilor Mobley seconded the Motion; which was approved by unanimous voice vote. General Ordinance No. 15, 2014 passed on 3<sup>rd</sup> and final reading.

#### **General Ordinance #17, 2014 - 2015 Library Budget - 2nd and 3rd Reading**

Clerk Treasurer McMillan read the ordinance in its entirety into the record.  
Councilor Davidson moved to approve the ordinance on 2nd reading only. Councilor Jennings seconded the Motion; which was approved by unanimous voice vote.  
Clerk Treasurer McMillan read the ordinance in its entirety into the record.  
Councilor Jennings moved to approve the ordinance on 3<sup>rd</sup> reading only. Councilor Stewart seconded the Motion; which was approved by unanimous voice vote.  
General Ordinance #17, 2014 passed on 3<sup>rd</sup> and final reading.

#### **General Ordinance #19, 2014 - Additional Appropriation - Police Pension - 2nd and 3rd Reading**

Clerk Treasurer McMillan read the ordinance in its entirety into the record.  
Councilor Jennings moved to approve the ordinance on 2<sup>nd</sup> reading only. Councilor Harrison seconded the Motion; which was approved by unanimous voice vote.  
Clerk Treasurer McMillan read the ordinance in its entirety into the record.  
Councilor Stewart moved to approve the ordinance on 3<sup>rd</sup> reading only. Councilor Coates seconded the Motion; which was approved by unanimous voice vote.  
General Ordinance #19, 2014 passed on 3<sup>rd</sup> and final reading.

#### **General Ordinance #20, 2014 - 2015 Salary Ordinance - 2nd and 3rd Reading**

Councilor Bell moved to waive the rules and read this ordinance by title only. Councilor Stewart seconded the Motion; which was approved by unanimous voice vote.  
Clerk Treasurer McMillan read the ordinance into the record by title only.  
Councilor Jennings moved to approve the ordinance on 2<sup>nd</sup> reading only. Councilor Stewart seconded the Motion; which was approved 6-1 with Councilor Harrison voting no.  
Councilor Stewart moved to waive the rules and read this ordinance by title only. Councilor Coates seconded the Motion; which was approved by unanimous voice vote.  
Clerk Treasurer McMillan read the ordinance into the record by title only.  
Councilor Jennings moved to approve the ordinance on 3<sup>rd</sup> reading only. Councilor Stewart seconded the Motion; which was approved 6-1 with Councilor Harrison voting no.  
General Ordinance #20, 2014 passed on 3<sup>rd</sup> and final reading.

## General Ordinance #21, 2014 - 2015 City Budget - 2nd and 3rd Reading

Clerk Treasurer McMillan read the ordinance in its entirety into the record.

Councilor Davidson moved to amend the budget ordinance. He would like to remove the funding for the new car for the Senior Center, the principal payment on the bus lease, interest payment, and the \$6,000 for repairs. \$15,000 would go into the Police Category #1 and \$15,000 would go into Fire Category #1. Clerk-Treasurer McMillan commented that Category 1 for the police department is fully funded. Councilor Coates seconded the Motion; the Motion failed 6-1.

Councilor Jennings moved to approve the ordinance on 2<sup>nd</sup> reading only. Councilor Harrison seconded the Motion; which was approved 6-1 with Councilor Davidson voting no.

Clerk Treasurer McMillan read the ordinance in its entirety into the record.

Councilor Stewart moved to approve the ordinance on 3<sup>rd</sup> reading only. Councilor Bell seconded the Motion; the vote was 6-1 with Councilor Davidson voting no.

General Ordinance #21, 2014 passed on 3<sup>rd</sup> and final reading.

## NEW BUSINESS:

### Resolution #7, 2014 - DLGF

*... Statement of Objection Appealing Tax Rate*

Clerk Treasurer McMillan read the resolution in its entirety into the record.

Financial Consultant Jeff Peters spoke regarding this resolution. Similar resolutions have been passed with all prior budgets. This resolution prevents the City from losing revenue if there is an advertising mistake on the part of the tax adjustment board or county auditor. This is a resolution that is passed every year.

Councilor Jennings moved to approve the resolution. Councilor Mobley seconded the Motion; which was approved by unanimous voice vote. Resolution #7, 2014 was approved.

### Resolution #8, 2014 – County Option Income Tax Rate

Clerk Treasurer McMillan read the ordinance in its entirety into the record.

Financial Consultant Jeff Peters spoke regarding this resolution. In a COIT county, each municipality gets a proportionate share of the COIT funds based on a vote of a council and its population. Because Indianapolis and Marion County is a majority larger than 50%, so even though Beech Grove is part of the COIT Council, your vote will not make a difference one way or the other. Everything depends on whether the county decides to institute the statute. Annual COIT revenue due to this increase going from this point forward is estimated to be approximately \$480,000. This revenue is restricted to public safety needs. Those revenues have not been included in the budget or fiscal plan for the City. Aaron Jeannette commented that this revenue will help with replacing both staff and aging apparatus within the fire department.

Councilor Mobley moved to approve the resolution. Councilor Jennings seconded the Motion; which was approved by unanimous voice vote. Resolution #8, 2014 was approved.

### Resolution #9, 2014 – Concerning the Rockpile and RDC

Clerk Treasurer McMillan read the resolution in its entirety into the record.

The attorney for the RDC stated that this resolution is one of the last steps necessary in the development of the rockpile site. He provided a brief history of the City's involvement and purchase of this particular property.

The title search on the property found that the City is listed as the title owner of the property rather than the RDC, so the property needs to be transferred to the RDC so that the development can move forward. Financial Consultant Jeff Peters stated that once the redeveloped property is back on the tax rolls, it should yield approximately \$180,000 per year in property tax revenue back to the RDC.

Councilor Jennings moved to approve the resolution. Councilor Mobley seconded the Motion; which was approved by unanimous voice vote. Resolution #9, 2014 was approved.

### **Uniform Conflict of Interest Statements**

There are several Uniform Conflict of Interest Statements that need to be approved. Clerk Treasurer McMillan read a list of the statements/individuals into the record.

In response to Councilor Jennings' question, Clerk Treasurer McMillan stated that it is mandated by the State of Indiana that these statements be approved. These statements are annual disclosure statements concerning individuals that have conflicts.

Councilor Mobley moved to approve the Uniform Conflict of Interest Statements. Councilor Jennings seconded the Motion; which was approved by unanimous voice vote. The Uniform Conflict of Interest Statements were approved.

### **Transfer of Funds - Clerk Treasurer**

Clerk Treasurer McMillan read the Transfer of Funds requests in their entirety into the record.

Councilor Jennings moved to approve the first Transfer of Funds request. Councilor Stewart seconded the Motion; which was approved by unanimous voice vote. The Transfer of Funds request was approved.

Councilor Jennings moved to approve the second Transfer of Funds request. Councilor Mobley seconded the Motion; which was approved by unanimous voice vote. The Transfer of Funds request was approved.

### **COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

**Councilor Dave Mobley** – Councilor Mobley thanked the attendees for coming to the meeting.

**Councilor John Jennings** – Councilor Jennings encouraged everyone to support Beech Grove youth.

**Councilor Dave Harrison** – Councilor Harrison thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

**Councilor Anthony Davidson** – No comment.

**Councilor Ed Bell** – Councilor Bell thanked everyone for attending tonight's meeting.

**Councilor Mary Stewart**—Councilor Stewart thanked everyone for attending the meeting. It was a good and productive meeting and the Councilors appreciate the input from the citizens.

**Councilor Kathy Coates**—Councilor Coates thanked everyone for attending the meeting. She also stated that she has observed the City Court in action and is very impressed with its operations. She also recently had the chance to see the fire department in action and was impressed with its operations as well. She thanked all the City departments for their hard work.

**City Attorney Craig Wiley**—City Attorney Wiley stated that next Tuesday, October 14<sup>th</sup> from 1 – 5 p. m., the Indianapolis Bar Association will be providing free legal aid concerning mostly family law, real estate, and bankruptcy issues. This will take place at the Senior Citizens Center.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Councilor Jennings moved to adjourn. Councilor Stewart seconded the Motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

**The next meeting will be November 3, 2014 at 7:00 pm in Council Chambers at City Hall.**

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Dennis Buckley, Mayor

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Dan McMillan, Clerk-Treasurer

Minutes prepared by: Mary Duffer