

**BEECH GROVE CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, MAY 2nd, 2016**

Mayor Dennis Buckley called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

ROLL CALL: Present, City Councilors, Buddy Templin, Jim Brooks, Dave Harrison, Ed Bell, Elizabeth Lamping ,Chris Duffer and Kevin Day. Also present were, Mayor Dennis Buckle and City Attorney Craig Wiley. Absent, Clerk-Treasurer, Dan McMillan. Debbie Springer served as Clerk.

All joined in the Pledge of Allegiance to our flag.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:

Beech Grove High School Wrestler, Ethan Smiley- Mayor Buckley recognized Ethan as Indiana Conference Champion, Regional Champion and State Qualifier ,120 pounds. Ethan expressed his pleasure with qualifying for state two years in a row.

Ethan also reported on the science program at the high school. Mr. Bane allows them to work at Purdue with a professor and create independent biology research projects and in March he presented his projects at the Central Indiana Science Fair and won a couple awards.

Beech Grove High School Wrestler, Eli Shockley- Mayor Buckley recognized Eli Shockley as County Champion, 160 pounds. Eli is a freshman at Beech Grove High School. Eli reported that he started at JV and then moved up to Varsity; which proved to be a positive move since it allowed him to compete with bigger opponents.

Samaritan Properties Flag Donation Recognition: Mayor Buckley recognized them for their contribution of \$3,000.00 for American, State and POW, flags and lights at Centennial Park.

CIRTA-Lori Kaplin, Representative for Central Indiana Regional Transportation Authority. Cirta is represented by a 17-member board. Lori passed out information and gave a brief description of the services they provide; which includes, **County Connect-** this program assists citizens with transportation from one county to another for health services and other needs. They also have an electronic service online that assist people with identifying what the different county agencies are that can help them do that.

Workforce Connectors- which gets people from downtown Indianapolis to Plainfield and Whitestown (Amazon) and a few other places.

Ride Share- is a program that encourages people to get to work anyway other than driving by themselves to reduce congestion on the roads and it reduces air pollution. The program is promoted primarily through employers and is a free service. They also have a database to match people to ride together to work. They also have a van program; which provides a van that 7 to 10 people can ride share together. There is a charge for this. They also offer a free emergency ride home service which can be used up to 5 times a year. The employer and employee must both be signed up for the service.

May is Commuter Challenge month.

Lori also gave a brief update on [the Marion County Transit Plan](#). Councilor Lamping asked if they have a language line assistance and yes, they do. They also discussed flex spending accounts and what the costs and restrictions are.

Indianapolis Power and Light-Rate Increase- Greg Fennig, Vice president of Public Affair, Fred Mills, Director of Government Affairs, and Teri Tillery, Community Relations Director. Information was passed out to Council.

Greg Fennig reported that in December of 2014 IPL filed for a base rate increase from the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission. It was the first base increase they have asked for since 1995. It is a long and judicial process. The Commission made its decision earlier this year and new base rates were implemented on March 31st, 2016. Residential customers can expect to see an average increase of \$6.00 per month. Commercial accounts will vary based on what their rate classification is and what their load is. Representatives from IPL have been out in the neighborhoods and municipalities to explain the increase and answer questions. IPL still has one of the lowest rates in the country. He also explained the free programs IPL offers to assist customers in reducing their bills. They can be found at [Power Tools for Homeowners and Renters](#).

Fred Mills reported on the reduced tariffs of street lights and he presented a presentation to Council. Street lights reduce crime and promote safety. With the reduced tariffs the city should be able to add 30 to 40 street lights without increasing the monthly bill and remaining within the budget.

Councilor Lamping asked if IPL has any plans to use the resources of solar. Greg Fennig cited that IPL ranks 2nd in the nation to Honolulu on the amount of solar per capita. Greg gave a further description of the uses of solar, coal and gas.

MAYOR HOGSETT'S LIAISON'S REPORT: none

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Meeting minutes from the April 4th, 2016 were presented to the Council. Councilor Day's name was omitted on the row call in April. Councilor Brooks moved to approve the minutes as presented. Councilor Lamping seconded the Motion; which was approved by unanimous voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: none

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Youth Council- Principal Beech Grove High School reported that they are in testing season. Next year they are offering a dual credit speech class and 1 to 2 students will report every month to the Council. They just completed the Community Service and they do that twice each year. Students are required to complete 20 hours of community service each year. Baccalaureate is June 3rd and Graduation is June 4th. Next year, they will be focusing on wrap around services, such as social and behavioral learning that will assist them with their life skills.

Councilor Harrison asked if the building project is about done and she commented that the completion date is expected sometime in August. Councilor Duffer asked what form the dual credit speech class will take. Will it be a speech or will they petition. She stated that it will be a speech highlighting information regarding the school.

Greenscape Commission- on file

RDC- none

ABC- *presented by Ashley Piland, Beech grove Representative for Marion County Alcohol*

Ashley reported that two licenses were up for approval- D's Taps on Main Street was approved for renewal. Nite Owls was up for approval, but they did have a violation for gaming on May 5, 2015 and the owner did not appear, so it was continued until June 6, 2016.

Financial Report- none

Compliance- presented by Derek Blice

Derek reported that they have had a huge increase due to the storms. The neighborhoods have been inundated with contractors coming out and working on roofs. Several contractors were found to be soliciting and none of them have a license for door to door soliciting in Beech Grove. One citation was issued to a contractor out of Illinois because they are not licensed or bonded to do work in Beech Grove. Several contractors were found to be doing work that were not licensed or bonded in Beech Grove. All cases except for one came in and took care of the proper paperwork. One was issued two citations and one was issued a citation for continually doing work without a permit. If you would like to verify that a contractor is licensed and bonded in Beech Grove you can call 784-3003.

Most violations last month were for tall weeds and grass. Most have been mowed already.

Derek thanked the high schoolers for their help cleaning up vacant properties in Beech Grove on Community Service Day.

Beginning May 4th, 2016 compliance will begin towing abandoned vehicles off the streets.

Councilor Lamping asked who to contact about stray cats on 15th Avenue. Derek said to contact Steve Durbin from animal control.

Debbie Springer reported that in March they issued 35 permits April 4th through April 29th they issued 204 permits and today they issued 12 permits. She will not recommend a company, but if a citizen calls in she will tell them if they are licensed and bonded. Councilor Brooks asked how long the permit is good for; which is 180 days. Debbie gave a brief description of the permits, license, and bonds.

Public Safety-

Fire- on file

Police- on file

OLD BUSINESS:

[General Ordinance No. 7, 2016](#)

...Public Nuisance

Councilor Duffer moved that the ordinance be read by Title only. Councilor Templin seconded the Motion; which was approved by unanimous voice vote

Clerk Springer read the ordinance into the record.

Councilor Brooks moved to approve the ordinance. Councilor Day seconded the Motion: which was approved by unanimous voice vote. General Ordinance No. 7, 2016 was approved for Third and Final Reading.

[General Ordinance No. 8, 2016](#)

...Sick Leave

Councilor Duffer moved that the ordinance be read by Title only. Councilor Harrison seconded the Motion; which was approved by unanimous voice vote

Clerk Springer read the ordinance into the record.

Councilor Brooks moved to approve the ordinance. Councilor Lamping seconded the Motion: which was approved by unanimous voice vote. General Ordinance No. 8, 2016 was approved for Second Reading.

General Ordinance No. 9, 2016

...Drop

Councilor Duffer moved that the ordinance be read by Title only. Councilor Templin seconded the Motion; which was approved by unanimous voice vote

Clerk Springer read the ordinance into the record.

Councilor Duffer moved to approve the ordinance. Councilor Brooks seconded the Motion: which was approved by unanimous voice vote. General Ordinance No. 9, 2016 was approved for Second Reading.

General Ordinance No. 10, 2016

...Separation of Employment

Councilor Templin asked to amend the length of resignation be changed from 30 days to 14 days. Councilor Bell explained that the city works within a budget and it gives them time to prepare. Councilor Lamping asked if the timing of the meetings affects the length of time and Mayor Buckley said it does not. Councilor Harrison stated that employees retiring probably know when they're retiring. Councilor Duffer asked for the thoughts from the Chiefs. Chief Swartz stated that they are not penalized so it really doesn't matter, because when people decide that they are leaving they just leave. Chief Cheshire commented that he likes to have as much notice as possible, especially in their profession.

Councilor Templin moved to amend from 30 days to 14 days. Councilor Day seconded the Motion; which was approved by a 4 to 3 vote.

Councilors, Templin, Day, Lamping and Duffer all voted yes to approve. Councilors, Bell Brooks and Harrison voted no. The amendment passed.

Councilor Duffer asked if there are provisions for retrieving city property if an employee terminates employment and does not return city property that they may be in possession of. Mayor Buckley said, no there is not. Councilor Duffer asked to add a provision to deduct the money from their final pay. City Attorney, Craig Wiley stated that it is not allowed by law. There are certain procedures that can be taken, but only certain deductions are allowed from employees pay and you are not allowed by law to withhold pay.

Clerk Springer read a portion of the ordinance under "Resignation" that reads" it is important to note that final payment of wages and benefits will not be distributed until the resigning employee has turned in all issued property under the control of Beech Grove'. City Attorney, Craig Wiley stated that needs removed as it is in direct violation of Indiana Wage Payment Statute.

Councilor Templin moved to remove the above sentence. Councilor Bell seconded the Motion; which was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Councilor Lamping asked if a person has a will does that dictate how benefits are paid. Mayor Buckley, explained PERF has very specific rules on how they pay. Councilor Brooks explained that forms are completed with PERF and beneficiaries are designated on the form.

Councilor Duffer moved to approve the ordinance with the amendments. Councilor Brooks seconded the Motion: which was approved by unanimous voice vote. General Ordinance No. 10, 2016 was approved for Second Reading.

General Ordinance No. 11, 2016

...Pay Periods

Councilor Duffer moved that the ordinance be read by Title only. Councilor Templin seconded the Motion; which was approved by unanimous voice vote

Clerk Springer read the ordinance into the record.

Councilor Harrison moved to approve the ordinance. Councilor Duffer seconded the Motion: which was approved by unanimous voice vote. General Ordinance No. 11, 2016 was approved for First Reading.

General Ordinance No. 12, 2016

...Internal Controls

City Attorney, Craig Wiley explained that a State Statute was passed that requires internal controls be established for people who control monies, department heads to maintain proper payroll records, inventory records, and job descriptions throughout the City.

Councilor Duffer read a portion of the ordinance that refers to the employee manuals and suggested that the manual needs updated. Mayor Buckley stated that it will be accomplished. Councilor Duffer expressed his confusion with the ordinance and the way it is written. Councilor Duffer expressed concern with how this will be implemented since there is only 1 full time employee in the Clerk-Treasurer's office. Councilor Lamping commented on page 11 referring to the State Board of Accounts- she believes that a log must be kept on communications.

Councilor Duffer moved to read by Title only. Councilor Templin seconded the Motion; which was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Clerk Springer read the ordinance into the record.

Councilor Templin moved to approve the ordinance. Councilor Brooks seconded the Motion; which was approved by unanimous voice vote. General Ordinance No. 12, 2016 was approved for First Reading.

Conflict of Interest Disclosure for Angel McKenna:

Councilor Bell moved to approve the disclosure. Councilor Lamping seconded the Motion; which was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Nepotism Certification- Angel McKenna:

Councilor Templin moved to approve the certification. Councilor Duffer seconded the Motion; which was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Update on HUD Grant- presented by Mayor Buckley

Last week 3 portions of the project were advertised,

Rooftop HVAC Replacement

Electrical and Light Bulb Replacement

Exercise Equipment

IPL came out and did an assessment at Hornet Park and that is what the City is bidding. When they came out they accessed the four highest electrical bills that the City has; which are, Hornet Park, Police Station and both Fire Stations. All the lights will be switched to LED and will result in a savings to the City of approximately \$3,000.00 per year. Clerk Springer noted that the advertisement appeared on April 27th and will appear again May 4th.

Bids are being received and will be opened at the May 16th Board of Works meeting. Councilor Lamping asked if the City can get more street lights with the savings. The painting doesn't meet the threshold for advertising, but carpeting does and when those come in Mayor Buckley will present those as well. 2016 paving projects were advertised today and the bids will be opened at the May 16th Board of Works meeting. There will also be round two of paving because the Governor released funds for infrastructure improvements. The City of Beech Grove will receive an additional \$620,000.00 for paving. A map is enclosed of paving projects. There will be two rounds of paving this year. The first will be a project where the City is going to split the costs of a paving Butler Street with the City Schools.

For the second round, INDOT controls the money and offers grants up to \$500,000.00, but certain requirements must be meant, including hiring a company to access our City streets. Approval for that process will be brought before the Board of Works at the May 16th meeting. After completion, the City will apply for a grant that could potentially turn \$500,000.00 of paving money into \$1,000,000.00,

In 2010 the City entered into an agreement with Citizens Energy Group that is approximately \$85,000.00 per year and continues until 2033. All our wastewater is treated at the Southport Road plant. We agreed in 2010 to pick up partial cost of the improvements to the plant and increases are going to be coming for this.

COMMENTS BY COUNCILORS:

Councilor Templin: thanked Mayor Buckley for the examples he brings in and for his support when the City needs it during storms and emergencies. He also thanked City employees for resolving the problems that come with a City. He also thanked Ashley Piland, Cathy Chappell and Beth Berg for the reports they produce for Council and Patty Buckley and Mayor Buckley for representing the City well.

Councilor Brooks-the Arbor Day Celebration was very nice and thank you to everyone for coming.

Councilor Harrison- he would like for Councilors to review General Ordinance #12 and make any final amendments. Councilor Harrison asked that the City consider renaming the Little League Field after Ron Eck. He put over 25 years in at the Little League Fields and he thinks it would be nice way to honor him. He also said that when a kid couldn't pay Ron Eck paid a lot. He and Councilor Templin both spoke highly of Ron Eck.

Councilor Bell- sent prayers out to Sandy Seward and family she is a Board of Works Member and just lost her father.

Councilor Lamping- expressed how they serve proudly because of the people in the community and she gave examples of kindness and good happenings in Beech Grove.

Councilor Duffer- no comment.

Councilor Day-thanked everyone for coming.

Mayor Buckley -commented that Councilor Harrison and Mr. & Mrs. Sheets were inducted into the Little League Hall of Fame. He also agreed with what Councilor Templin and Councilor Harrison said about Ron Eck.

ADJOURNMENT: Councilor Bell moved to adjourn. Councilor Brooks seconded the Motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:46. The next Council Meeting will be Monday, June 6, 2016 at 7:00pm in Council Chambers.

Dennis Buckley, Mayor

Dan McMillan, Clerk-Treasurer

Minutes prepared by: Dan McMillan