

**BEECH GROVE CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES
FEBRUARY 7, 2011**

Mayor Dilk called the meeting to order at 7:03 P.M.

ROLL CALL: City Council members Gregory Allison, Ross Barton, Ed Bell, John Jennings, Mike Pence, Mary Stewart and Buddy Templin were present at the meeting. Also attending was Clerk Treasurer Chris Duffer.

Mayor Dilk introduced himself and stated, he vowed to keep public safety the number one priority of this administration. He also promised to work with business leaders and businesses, such as, Amtrak and St. Francis. He stated he was busy developing financial strategies, meeting with department heads. He further stated that he has moved the mayor's office back to City Hall on Main Street.

All joined in the Pledge of Allegiance to our flag.

MEETING MINUTES: The January 3rd council meeting minutes were read into the record and were approved by voice vote.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS: None

COMMENTS BY CITIZENS: Dan McMillan of 81 S. 13th St., spoke and congratulated Mayor Dilk on his appointment and stated if there was anything he could do to help, he would. He challenged the Council and the administration to perform a study on the city court to determine if it is profitable. He further stated his concern during a conversation with a Beech Grove Fire Department retiree, who expressed concern about the financial state of the city to the extent that the retiree worried if he would receive his next check. To Mr. McMillan's concern about the court, Mayor Dilk responded that he had plans to set up committees that would do discovery to examine the operation of various city entities.

Joe Griffin, of 65 S. 17th St., reiterated his challenge to the Council to get together to find solutions for the city's problems. He stated that, at the budget meeting, the Fire Chief stated that fire consolidation was a serious consideration and maybe quite a likelihood. He stated the last time the fire department had problems the Fire Union Stewards were very involved talking to many people. These days however, their lack of participation is deafening, we hear nothing, in a time with real serious problems. He further cautioned the citizens to be mindful of from where their next leadership is getting their advice; saying a leader is who he surrounds himself with.

REPORTS: Tim Latimer gave the Greenscape Commission report. Chief Witmer gave the public safety report and wanted to commend several of the dispatchers for their years of service and their perseverance on the job in spite of the knowledge that the department was being eliminated. He requested those individuals and their years of service be included in the meeting minutes to honor their service. They include:

Anthony Connor hired on March 23, 2008,

Beth Dobbins hired on April 20, 2002,

Nikohl Failor hired on April 6, 2008,
Kathy Hook hired on April 10, 1998,
Mark Spitz hired on June 5, 2000,
Buddy Templin hired on November 17, 1980
Sandy Wakefield hired on March 1, 1999,
Andy Wells hired on August 8, 1988.

Rob McNevin gave a report for the RDC. He stated that the 17th street and Albany St. roundabout project is now fully funded. In order for the project to move forward the RDC had to acquire a small parcel of land for the sum of \$15,000. Mr. McNevin stated the project should begin late spring or early summer. He further stated the other RDC projects were on hold until there were more funds available to proceed. He then gave a financial report showing the RDC's financial situation. Included was a plan that would cause the RDC not to have to participate in the tax anticipation warrant in 2012. Councilor Templin commented that it would appear that RDC funds were going to be fairly tight this year and that \$15,000 might be needed, more urgently elsewhere. Mr. McNevin responded that he and the RDC members thought that spending \$15,000 to bring a \$1 million project, for which the council had originally appropriated funds, to our city were funds well spent.

The Clerk-Treasurer gave a financial report for the city. Included in this report was a fund report with balances as of January 31, and a long and short-term debt schedule. This enumerated the city's debt in its various bonds including the RDC.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: Councilor Bell motioned to nominate Warren Whittaker to the RDC. Councilor Templin seconded the motion. Councilor's Templin and Jennings each declared their approval of Mr. Whitaker's nomination. The motion was approved by a voice vote of 7-0. Mayor Dilk asked for a motion to reappoint Janet Logan for another year on the RDC. Councilor Jennings made said motion; Councilor Stewart seconded the motion, which was approved by a voice vote of 7-0.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS: None

COMMENTS: Councilor Templin congratulated Mayor Dilk and his appointment. He reiterated how important he thought the Main Street project and sidewalks on Churchman Avenue are. He also stated his desire for a plan to help retirees with their health care costs. He also hoped that South Grove Park and the plan to rename it the Don Challis Park would be moved forward.

Councilor Bell congratulated the mayor on his appointment. He reminded everyone of his town hall meeting that is going to be held on February the 16th at 7 p.m. at the Senior Citizens Center.

Councilor Stewart offered her congratulations on the mayor's appointment. She also thanked Clerk Treasurer Duffer for his work on the financial reports. She also thanked Mr. McNevin for his report on the RDC and expressed her surprise that the roundabout project was going to move forward.

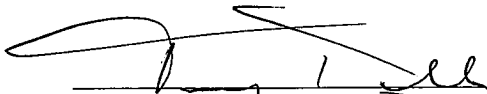
Councilor Pence stated he was against the roundabout project. He lamented the RDC's history of not involving the Council in their decisions. He also stated that Mr. Tom Hannon was awarded the honor of Citizen of the Year by the Beech Grove Promoters Club and if you see him, give him congratulations.

Councilor Allison congratulated the mayor on his appointment and thanked Mr. Duffer for his efforts in compiling the financial reports and debt schedule.

Councilor Jennings again enumerated and thanked the dispatchers for their years of service. He further stated that he was in favor of the roundabout, that there were good reasons for it to proceed that included safety and efficiency and thanked Mr. McNevin for his report.

Councilor Barton wished to recognize the volunteers at the ISSMA contest this past weekend at the Beech Grove High School.

Councilor Stewart made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilor Jennings seconded the motion, the meeting adjourned at 8:16pm.



Terry Dilk, Mayor



Chris Duffer, Clerk-Treasurer