

**BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS AND SAFETY MEETING MINUTES**  
**MONDAY February 4th, 2013**

**Mayor Dennis Buckley called the meeting to order at 6:13pm.**

**ROLL CALL:** Board of Works Members Ed Bell, Sandra Seward and Mayor Dennis Buckley present. Also in attendance, were Clerk Treasurer Dan McMillan and City Attorney Craig Wiley.

**MEETING MINUTES:** The meeting minutes from the January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2013 were presented to the Board. Sandra Seward moved to accept the minutes as presented. Ed Bell seconded the Motion; which was approved by unanimous voice vote.

**APPROVAL OF CLAIMS:** Mayor Buckley gave a brief description of these claims.

- **Corporate Manual Claims** – claims that do not require Board approval before payment is made.

Manual claims in the amount of **\$555,397.02** were presented to the board for approval. Sandra Seward moved to accept the claims as presented. Ed Bell seconded the Motion, which was approved by unanimous voice vote.

- **Corporate Regular Claims** - claims that require Board approval before payment is made.

Regular claims in the amount of **\$51,811.03** were presented to the Board for approval. Sandra Seward moved to accept the claims as presented. Ed Bell seconded the Motion; which was approved by unanimous voice vote.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Under old business Sandra wished Dan a Happy Birthday!

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Conflict of Interest Statement-** On behalf of Lynn Rekeweg, Dan presented the Board with a Conflict of Interested Statement. Lynn is a Lieutenant on the BGF D and IT person for the City of Beech Grove. Lynn performs IT services for the city at a rate of \$40.00 per hour. Sandra moved to accept the statement as presented. Ed Bell commented that Lynn does a fine job and he seconded the motion; which was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Chief Swartz presented the following report:

Officer Mark Parker School Police- Officer Parker is a lot busier than anyone thought he would be. His law enforcement duty has almost been overwhelming. He has not been able to assist or provide instructions to classes, on programs such as D.A.R.E. because the law enforcement portion of the job has kept him so busy, especially during lunch; which seems to be when most of the fights break out. The school has allowed other police officers to assist during lunch. Mayor Buckley commented that while speaking with Dr. Paul Kaiser, Superintendent of Beech Grove Schools, Paul stated with everything going on nationwide in schools, they are going to open up funding for this type of program. Mayor Buckley is hoping to get another police officer in the schools. Mayor Buckley stated he was stunned when he read Officer Parker's report because he had made 19 arrests of students and his dog completed 25 sweeps. Chief Swartz commented that not everything creates a report and Officer Parker does a lot of counseling that prevents additional problems and creates good will amongst the students. Mayor Buckley stated that he believes this is one of the better decisions that the Board made last year when they approved this. Chief Swartz agreed and he said it helped the schools, the city and the police department.

Chief Swartz had nothing additional to add, except to say the detectives and officers stay very busy with the crime that occurs in the city.

Chief Robert Cheshire presented the following report:

Apartment Fire on Thompson and LaSalle- BGFDF assisted Indianapolis on extensive apartment fire. They did not experience any equipment problems and temperatures were extremely cold with the wind chill factors. They did a very good job and chief is very proud to be their chief.

Alice Avenue- BGFDF assisted Indianapolis with a good size fire. When they arrived they had a multiple patient scenario and one gentleman was in cardiac arrest. They were able to multi task with the personnel they had and achieve their objectives until assistance arrived on the scene. Chief was very proud of them.

315 North 13<sup>th</sup>- BGFDF arrived at a single story residence with fire showing from the front of the structure. The initial tach that entered experience a flashover and a firefighter received burns from that. Her protective clothing burnt. She was transported to Methodist Hospital with second degree burns. Chief Cheshire wished her well and a speedy recovery. Beech Grove was very fortunate today that they did not lose a firefighter. It makes chief mindful of how dangerous their jobs are and just what the firefighters risk to protect life and property for the citizens of Beech Grove. Chief is very proud of all of them and very much honored to be their fire chief. They do a fine job of serving the citizens of Beech Grove 24/7.

Pike Township Recruit Class - Several Beech Grove crews have assisted with this class and the training is very important. Beech Grove has 3 firefighters in this class.

Ed Bell dittoed the chief's comments. He stated it is dangerous out there and he is sending prayers out to the firefighter that was injured in today's flashover. Ed also said that Beech Grove Fire Department does an excellent job and he knows that personally, because he suffered from a fire a couple of years ago.

Sandra asked how the old fire equipment held up over the busy weekend. Chief stated there were large maintenance bills at the end of December on the equipment, but it has held up so far this year without any maintenance issues.

Chief also stated that due to the nature and extent of today's fire he has asked IFD to do an independent investigation to evaluate their performance and gear. The gear that the firefighter was wearing today experienced temperatures of over 100 degrees. That gear will be sent back to the manufacturer to be examined and then will be used in training.

Ed Bell asked if there have been any frozen hydrants. Chief said no. They had a water main that broke on 13<sup>th</sup> and Citizens Energy repaired the problem. Citizens are also responsible for testing the hydrants. During the summer the fire dept. does inspect and open the hydrants as a courtesy and safeguard.

New Fire Engine-Tomorrow chief will be going to Appleton, WI to take a look at the new fire truck and do the final inspection. Because of today's fire, Chief Pierce will not be able to go; he has a lot of work to complete. No one will be going in his place. Once the final inspection is complete Beech grove will be ready to take possession of the new fire engine.

**COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS:**

Sandra commented that fires are dangerous and she is glad we did not lose any lives. We can always replace equipment, we cannot replace people. She wished the firefighter a speedy recovery.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Sandra moved to adjourn. Ed seconded the Motion. The meeting was adjourned at 6:30pm.

Next Board of Public Works & Safety meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 19<sup>th</sup>.

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**Dennis Buckley, Mayor**

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**Dan McMillan, Clerk Treasurer**

**Prepared by: Dan McMillan**