

**BEECH GROVE CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES
August 3, 2009**

John Jennings called the meeting to order at 7:05 P.M.

ROLL CALL: City Council members Ross Barton, Ed Bell, John Jennings, Mike Pence, Mary Stewart, and Bud Templin were present at the meeting. Also attending were Clerk Treasurer Sarah Kincaid and Deputy City Attorney Tricia Leminger.

All joined in the Pledge of Allegiance to our flag.

Minutes from the July 6, 2009 meeting were read. Mike Pence motioned to accept the minutes as read. Ross Barton seconded the motion. Bud Templin motioned to amend the minutes to include the following items: 1) that under unfinished business, the minutes specifically reflect that the issue at City Hall is a mold problem, and; 2) Under new business with regard to resolution 5, 2009, that Mr. Bell's agreement to not having the resolution amended was based on the principle of saving money by not having city legal review and rework the resolution. Mary Stewart seconded the motion, which was approved by majority vote. Mary Stewart motioned to approve the minutes as amended. Bud Templin seconded the motion, which was approved by voice vote.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: John Jennings introduced under unfinished business the Hearing and Consideration of the Rezoning Petition for 10 South 17th Ave/1819 Main Street. Tricia Leminger read in the rules of procedure and John Jennings swore in all giving testimony at the hearing. Wayne DeLong of Bingham McHale, representing the petitioner provided plans to visually demonstrate the concept of the rezoning petition and provided information to the council. No remonstrators were present. Linda Ahlbrand of Indianapolis DMD summarized the recommendation of Staff which was to approve the rezoning petition for the property given that only the D-8 and D-5 areas were to be rezoned and that logical lines for C-3 boundaries were presented in the site plan. Tricia Leminger advised the board that a recommendation of approval or denial needed to be made. Ed Bell motioned to approve the rezoning petition for 10 South 17th Avenue/1819 Main Street. Mary Stewart seconded the motion, which was approved by voice vote.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS: None.

COMMENTS BY CITIZENS: 2 citizens signed in to speak on non-agenda related issues. Bud Templin motioned to allow the citizens to speak. Ed Bell seconded the motion, which was approved by voice vote. Ross Barton motioned to allow the speakers 3 minutes. Mike Pence seconded the motion, which was approved by voice vote. Joe Griffin spoke on Resolution 5, 2009. Gerry McLaughlin spoke on the mold issue at City Hall.

REPORTS: There was no report for the Youth Council. Tim Latimer gave a report for the Greenscape Committee. Tim Showalter gave a report for the Cable Authority. Chief Witmer gave a report for the Public Safety Committee. Rob McNiven gave a report for the Redevelopment Commission.

BEECH GROVE CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Page 2

August 3, 2009

NEW BUSINESS: Tricia Leminger introduced the Consideration of Rezoning Petition for the Property Located at 3305 S Emerson/176 Schaff/161 Garstang, and explained that the council has the authority to act as the hearing examiner if they so choose. Should the council not act as the hearing examiner, the county and Department of Metropolitan Development would then be in charge of the hearing. She also clarified that the council would need to hear the petition within 23-30 days, and that dates from August 31st to September 2nd fall into this timeframe. Mary Stewart asked if the council could postpone the decision and consider the issue at the next regular council meeting. Ms. Leminger stated that due to statute this meeting technically qualifies as the next meeting due to when the petition was received and recommends action be taken this evening to prevent any problems. May Stewart motioned to execute council authority to sit as the hearing examiner for the rezoning petition for 3305 S Emerson/176 Schaff/161 Garstang on August 31, 2009. Ed Bell seconded the motion, which was approved by voice vote.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS: Bud Templin stated that with 2 citizens speaking up on City Hall this evening he hopes to see a push from city government to fix City Hall. While he has seen the Mayor's plan for renovating City Hall, he is concerned about the high cost of the plan. He feels that City Hall could be repaired for around \$400,000 and encouraged the Mayor to use freed up stimulus money to fix this and to do so soon. He encouraged citizens and government to reach out and tell the Mayor this is a priority. He also hopes as a council this issue can become a priority. He stated that the city should not put city employees in the position to fix this, and that professionals should be the only ones remediating the situation. He also thanked Gerry for coming and sharing her comments.

John Jennings stated he had recently been in City Hall and that Mr. Templin's lower cost plan is not enough money and will not fix the need at City Hall. He stated that the road must be regarded. He has seen the \$1.6 million plans and dollar figure and feels this is the best way to fix the problem at City Hall. He also stated the Axis report does not address the issues of street grading, walls, roof, etc, which he feels add value to the plan he supports.

Ed Bell stated that he felt there can be cheaper alternatives to the Mayor's plan, and would support placing sandbags at City Hall to avoid the cost associated with regarding temporarily as an example.

Ross Barton stated that the major problem with City Hall is mold related and has recently been in the building as well. While there he noted 65% humidity with a device and suggested that this level of humidity is a large cause. He suggested dehumidifiers be placed in City Hall in the interim, but would like to see something done. He feels it is time to figure out what should be done and how it will get done.

Ed Bell added that in the time the city waits that fines can build up, which is not a good thing when the city and any remediation would need money. Tricia clarified that no fines have been established to date.

COMMENTS: Councilman Templin thanked the recent city employees to retire for their

BEECH GROVE CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Page 3

August 3, 2009

service and stated that they will be missed. He also noted the passing of Benny Stratton and sent condolences to his family and friends. Mr. Templin asked for clarification of a rumor that Southport residents may start also using the Beech Grove court. Tricia Leminger replied that while she is aware of initial discussions on this issue, she not sure on the process or any final decisions.

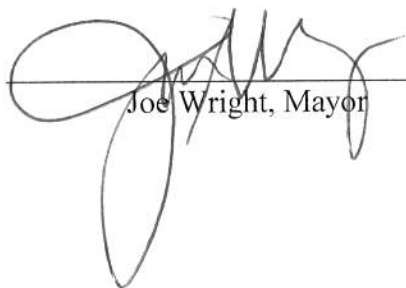
Councilman Bell reminded citizens that his next town hall meeting will be on August 11th at 7pm at the Senior Center, and will be on the topic of the referendum. Superintendent Dr. Kaiser will be present. He personally wanted to be sure to invite the Mayor to this meeting. He also thanked Chief Witmer for his recent information provided on the crime reports website.

Councilwoman Stewart recently had an opportunity to visit the dog park and found it very fun and enjoyable. She thanked Public Works and Sam Merl for the work they do everyday. She also thanked the Police Department for keeping peace in the city. She has had many constituents ask, and also asked where the mayor has been for recent meetings. She stated that many citizens are aware of his absence.

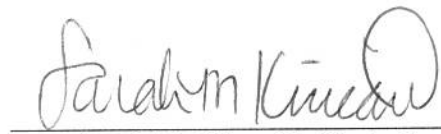
Councilman Barton noted that after 5 years of meeting with Seantors Bayh and Lugar, and recently with Representative Carson, the Community Center has recently received \$237,000 to be invested in youth initiatives. These funds require zero matching dollars from the city. He also noted that as a result of the city's investment in Digital City over \$100,000 in grant money in 2009 and again in 2010 will be used to purchase computers, cameras and other equipment for the public safety side of Digital City. He finally stated that a recent meeting with Mr. Carson the Mayor has received promising news that Mr. Carson has submitted a \$20 million request to be used for infrastructure improvements.

Councilman Jennings invited citizens to Mr. Bell's town hall meeting on August 11th. He also reminded citizens of National Night out, which takes place on August 4th all evening.

Mary Stewart motioned to adjourn. Ed Bell seconded the motion, which was approved by voice vote. The meeting was adjourned at 8:37 P.M.



Joe Wright, Mayor



Sarah M. Kincaid, Clerk-Treasurer