

BEECH GROVE CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
Monday, July 6, 2021

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

Roll Call-

Present: City Council Members Dave Harrison, Buddy Templin, Kevin Day, President Pro-Tem Robert Ferguson, Elizabeth Lamping, Kara Ferguson, and Ryan Matkins were present. Also, present were Mayor Dennis Buckley, Clerk Treasurer James Coffman, and City Attorney Craig Wiley.

All joined in the Pledge of Allegiance to our flag. Invocation was presented.

Special Presentations-

Moment of Silence- Dr. Alig, Tom Lathrop, Mark Beers, and Nancy Messer

Introduction-New Council Member, Ryan Matkins, District 2

Meyer Najem- Police Station Presentation/Approval- A presentation to the Council asks for permission to move forward with the design process for an approximately 17,500 square foot Police Station with a formal agreement being presented to the Board of Works. The exact location and cost are yet to be decided. Councilor Day made a motion to approve the process, Councilor Lamping seconded the motion, which was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Approval of Minutes-

June 14, 2021- Councilor Robert Ferguson made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Councilor Day seconded the motion, which was approved by a voice vote of six, with Councilor Lamping abstaining due to the fact she was absent on June 14th.

Public Comments-

None

Committee Reports-

IFD- BGF D Agreement, City Attorney- Attorney Craig Wiley said there are a couple issues that need addressed, but that a formal agreement will be ready for the Council to vote on in August.

ABC – None

RDC- No Meeting.

Compliance- Report is in the packet.

Greenscape- No meeting.

Financial Report- Clerk Treasurer, James W. Coffman

Current bank balances are listed below-

City Corporation \$4,811,497.19

Utilities \$1,797,078.64

Criminal Investigation Fund (CIF) \$82,720.79

RDC General \$730,957.54

RDC Debt Service (DSR) \$240,000.00

Old Business-

None

New Business-

General Ordinance #5, 2021, 1st Reading- General Ordinance #5, 2021 is an ordinance that adds a new Federal Holiday to the City of Beech Grove's Personnel Manual. June 19th of each year is now proclaimed as Juneteenth and a Federal Holiday as President Biden recently signed legislation into law. Councilor Templin made a motion to approve General Ordinance #5, 2021 on first reading, Councilor Day seconded the motion, which was approved by unanimous voice vote.

General Ordinance #5, 2021, 2nd Reading- General Ordinance #5, 2021 is an ordinance that adds a new Federal Holiday to the City of Beech Grove's Personnel Manual. June 19th of each year is now proclaimed as Juneteenth and a Federal Holiday as President Biden recently signed legislation into law. Councilor Day made a motion to approve General Ordinance #5, 2021 on second reading only, Councilor Robert Ferguson seconded the motion, which was approved by unanimous voice vote.

American Rescue Plan- Clerk Treasurer Coffman informed the Council that the City of Beech Grove will receive \$3,372,469.37 as our portion for the American Rescue Plan. This money will be divided up into two and deposited in the City bank account. The first half will come within 30 days, with the second half being deposited 12 months later. Discussions on the different areas of expenditures that are allowed is discussed and information was provided to the Councilors to review. Mayor Buckley presented several ideas of areas where money could be spent. No vote was taken, but the following were discussed. The list provided would eliminate the need for a 2023 Bond Issue. A committee will need to be formed and a formal plan submitted and approved by Council.

- Hornet Park Community Center- The drainage is poor, and the parking lot is eroding. Redoing the lot would fix the drainage issue while also increasing parking spots from 95 to 114.
- Sanitary Sewer Manhole Rehabilitation- Spending approximately \$250,000 in 2021 and again in 2022 would allow approximately 30 to 35% of the manholes in the city to be repaired or replaced.
- Essential Employee Stipend- This is one of the most important aspects of the American Rescue Plan, which specifically lists essential employee pay as one of the allowed uses. The Mayor recommends a \$2,500 stipend for each essential employee.

Comments-

Councilor Templin- Thank you to the Promoters Club for July 3rd. Thanks also to the Police Department, Fire Department, and the DPW. It was a shame several church lots around the City were left in a mess after the events. We should look for additional insurance for injury or sickness for our employees.

Councilor Day – Thanks for coming and congratulations to new Councilor Matkins.

Councilor Dave Harrison- Thanks for coming. The Little League had had a great year and the fireworks were great. Thanks to the Police as well.

Councilor Robert Ferguson- Asked for an update regarding the Franciscan Trail. Mayor Buckley explained how INDOT projects, bids, and timelines work. Work is being done and they are on schedule. Thanks to Ryan Matkins for being here and stepping up. Hope to leave the City in a better place.

Councilor Lamping- Thanks for coming. Congratulations to Mr. Matkins. It is good to hear the City is in a much better financial position than last year. Work as a team and move forward.

Councilor Matkins- Thanks for the support. Look forward to helping.

Councilor Kara Ferguson- Welcome to Mr. Matkins. Welcome to daughter Ellie Ferguson for being interested in seeing how City Council meetings work.

Mayor Buckley- Sewer pictures for sewers at 403 Main Street Hornet Park Community are in your packets.

Clerk Treasurer Coffman- In your packets are two Citizens Energy bills for May and June. The May bill was \$12,122.62 more than last year, and the June bill was \$19,470.61 more than last year.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Kara Ferguson moved to adjourn the meeting; Councilor Lamping seconded the Motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

Dennis B. Buckley, Mayor

James W. Coffman, Clerk–Treasurer