

BEECH GROVE CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, September 6, 2022

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

Roll Call-

City Councilors Buddy Templin, Kevin Day, Dave Harrison, President Pro-Tem Robert Ferguson, Elizabeth Lamping, Ryan Matkins, and Kara Ferguson 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.

Moment of Silence was observed for Jim Huser and Kevin Flaherty.

Special Presentations-

Oath of Office- BYPD- Officers Wilcox, Christy, and Brozyna were sworn in.

Council RDC Interest- Resident Lynn Weathers is interested in filling the RDC position vacated by Pete Piazza. Robert Ferguson made a motion to appoint Weathers to the RDC for the remainder of 2022, Councilor Day seconded the motion, which was approved by a unanimous voice vote of seven to zero.

Public Hearing, OCRA- The public hearing for the OCRA Stormwater project at McFarland Creek took place. The project will cost approximately \$861,664.00 if awarded. There were no public comments during the hearing, but Councilor questions were answered by Wessler Engineers.

Approval of Minutes-

August 1, 2022- Councilor Day made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Councilor Harrison seconded the motion, which was approved by unanimous voice vote of six to zero. Councilor Kara Ferguson stepped out briefly, just prior to the vote.

Public Comments-

Mike Garrett – Resident voiced concerns about Police, cameras, and catching those that speed or run red stoplights in the City of Beech Grove. Also, discussed catching those that run the stop arm on school busses.

Committee Reports-

RDC- RDC member Elizabeth Lamping read the report into the record.

Financial Report- Clerk Treasurer, James W. Coffman- Copies of recent ARPA invoices were attached. Also attached to this report was an excel spreadsheet for ARPA funds. The spreadsheet has all expenses paid to date, pending projects, and estimated unallocated ARPA funds. Pending 2023 budget and salary ordinance were provided in preparation of the budget workshop scheduled for later in the month.

Current bank balances are listed below-

City Corporation \$7,955,883.88

ARPA Fund- \$2,207,007.93

Utilities \$1,988,859.39

Criminal Investigation Fund (CIF) \$1,063,769.40

RDC General \$954,583.44

Old Business-

General Ordinance #5, 2022 Environmental Donation Fund- 3rd Reading- General Ordinance #5, 2022 is an ordinance of the Common Council of the City of Beech Grove, Indiana, establishing an Environmental Donation Fund #617 in the Beech Grove Sewage Works Utility. As part of the Recycling program with Rays, the City receives a percentage back from Rays every six months. The recent financial audit recommended a separate fund be created to better track the funds received from Rays. Councilor Robert Ferguson made a motion to approve General Ordinance #5, 2022 on third reading, Councilor Lamping seconded the motion, which was approved by unanimous voice vote of seven to zero.

General Ordinance #6, 2022 Purchasing Goods and Services- 3rd Reading- General Ordinance #6, 2022 is an ordinance that amends Chapter 35 of the Code of Ordinances for the City of Beech Grove concerning the dollar amount a Purchasing Agency must establish when purchasing goods and services through public bidding. The recent financial audit recommended this process be approved with a City Ordinance that outlines what process the City uses when making purchases. Councilor Day made a motion to read Ordinance #6 by title only, Councilor Kara Ferguson seconded the motion, which was approved by unanimous voice vote of seven to zero. Clerk Treasurer Coffman read Ordinance #6, 2022 into the record by title only. Councilor Lamping made a motion to approve General Ordinance #6, 2022 on third reading, Councilor Harrison seconded the motion, which was approved by voice vote of four to three. Councilors Robert Ferguson, Kara Ferguson, and Kevin Day voted against the ordinance.

General Ordinance #7, 2022 Additional Appropriation- 2nd Reading- General Ordinance #7, 2022 is an Ordinance that approves an additional appropriation for 2022 including salaries and overtime for Police from the PST, additional EMS employee salaries from the PST, Fire pension, and work at the Community Center that will be reimbursed from BG City Schools. Councilor Harrison made a motion to approve General Ordinance #7, 2022 on second reading only, Councilor Lamping seconded the motion, which was approved by voice vote of seven to zero.

General Ordinance #7, 2022 Additional Appropriation- 3rd Reading- General Ordinance #7, 2022 is an Ordinance that approves an additional appropriation for 2022 including salaries and overtime for Police from the PST, additional EMS employee salaries from the PST, Fire pension, and work at the Community Center that will be reimbursed from BG City Schools. Councilor Day made a motion to read Ordinance #7,2022 by title only, Councilor Kara Ferguson seconded the motion, which was approved by unanimous voice vote of seven to zero. Councilor Harrison made a motion to approve General Ordinance #7, 2022 on third reading, Councilor Robert Ferguson seconded the motion, which was approved by voice vote of seven to zero.

New Business-

General Ordinance #8, 2022 Garage/Yard Sales- 1st Reading- General Ordinance #8, 2022 is an ordinance that amends Chapter 114 of the Code of Ordinances for the City of Beech Grove concerning garage/yard sales. Residents recently

voiced concerns about the limit of garage sales the current City ordinance has in place. This ordinance will increase the frequency of garage sales a residence can have each year. Councilor Day made a motion to read Ordinance #8 by title only, Councilor Matkins seconded the motion, which was approved by unanimous voice vote of seven to zero. Clerk Treasurer Coffman read Ordinance #8, 2022 into the record by title only. Councilor Day made a motion to approve General Ordinance #8, 2022 on first Reading only, Councilor Robert Ferguson seconded the motion, which was approved by voice vote of seven to zero.

General Ordinance #9, 2022 Rainy Day Fund/Interest- 1st Reading- General Ordinance #9, 2022 is an ordinance that amends Chapter 38 of the Code of Ordinances for the City of Beech Grove concerning city finance and the Rainy-Day Fund. Recent economic events have drastically increased the interest rates for government investing accounts. Clerk Treasurer Coffman has been in conversation with Regions, the SBOA, and TrustIndiana about government interest accounts. Amending the current Rainy-Day fund ordinance will allow the Clerk Treasurer to receipt interest received into the Rainy-Day Fund. Clerk Treasurer Coffman read Ordinance #9, 2022 into the record. Councilor Lamping made a motion to approve General Ordinance #9, 2022 on first Reading only, Councilor Matkins seconded the motion, which was approved by voice vote of seven to zero.

General Ordinance #10, 2022 Capital Assets- 1st Reading- General Ordinance #10, 2022 is an ordinance that creates new Chapter 41, Capital Asset Capitalization, and Inventory Policy, into the Code of Ordinances for the City of Beech Grove. The SBOA has recently changed how municipalities track and report capital assets on the annual report. This policy will add a depreciation schedule, set the life of assets by category, and set a capital assets threshold of \$20,000. Councilor Day made a motion to read Ordinance #10, 2022 by title only, Councilor Harrison seconded the motion, which was approved by unanimous voice vote of seven to zero. Clerk Treasurer Coffman read Ordinance #10, 2022 into the record by title only. Councilor Robert Ferguson made a motion to approve General Ordinance #10, 2022 on first Reading only, Councilor Harrison seconded the motion, which was approved by voice vote of seven to zero.

Comments-

Councilor Kara Ferguson- Kudos to DPW and Brad Meriwether. Their hard work is noticed and appreciated.

Councilor Matkins – Great to see new Officers, welcome and be safe! Good to see the progress on the new Police Station, although surprised to see wood and not steel being used, it looks good.

Councilor Lamping- Thank you Officer Wilcox. There was an issue with a dog by the middle school and it was taken care of and the owner was found. Happy Birthday, Mayor Buckley!

Councilor Robert Ferguson- Swearing in new officers is great and it is amazing to see so many people want to get into the Police work and great to see their families supporting them as they start their career with Beech Grove. Mr. Garrett, thank you for voicing your concerns, however, the State of IN does not allow red light cameras or speed cameras. It is proven that traffic enforcement decreases traffic fatalities and serious accidents. Our officers are hard at work and it is hard to see everything all the time. Covid changed operations and we are finally coming back out of that.

Councilor Harrison- The Reels show is very impressive. The people on the show often baffle me and I am impressed with the Officers patience. It is good to see all that the Police Officers do.

Councilor Day- Congratulations and welcome to the new Officers! Wish you a successful and safe career.

Councilor Templin – Mr. Garrett, thank you! Welcome to the new Police Officers, our officers are great, and we have great leadership too! Happy Birthday, Mayor!

Mayor Buckley- Fall Festival information, Cars R Us, homecoming, HPCC ribbon cutting or the new parking lot, and leaf pickup will start soon. 2023 Budget Workshop will take place on Monday, September 19th at 7:00. No vote taken and the public is invited to attend.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Matkins moved to adjourn the meeting; Councilor Lamping seconded the Motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Dennis B. Buckley, Mayor

James W. Coffman, Clerk–Treasurer