

BEECH GROVE CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, September 8, 2020

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

Roll Call-

Present: City Council Members, Kevin Day, Dave Harrison, Elizabeth Lamping, Kara Ferguson, Robert Ferguson, Buddy Templin, and President Pro-Tem Gary Hall. Also, present were, Mayor Dennis Buckley, Clerk Treasurer James W. Coffman, and City Attorney Craig Wiley. All joined in the Pledge of Allegiance to our flag. Invocation was presented by Pastor Dickinson.

Special Presentations-

Moment of Silence- Marjorie Hill

Constitution Week Proclamation-

Pregnancy Loss Awareness Proclamation-

Crossroads Engineers- Old St. Francis Property- Presentation on plans to build and relocate at this property. Crossroads will ask for a three year tax abatement on property improvements only, not the land. This location will be much larger than their current facilities, which will allow them to bring additional jobs to the City of Beech Grove.

Approval of Minutes-

August 3, 2020- Councilor Robert Ferguson moved to approve the minutes as presented. Councilor Lamping seconded the motion, which was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Public Comments-

Ashley Piland- Discussed the need to install a stop sign at the intersection of 2nd and Albany.

Linda Miller- Discussed parking issues near the intersection of 3rd and Alton and said some houses have too many cars for one address.

Moe Banet- Complimented Councilor Hall and appreciates all he has done to help in his role as a City Councilor. Banet wanted to know where Compliance fines are receipted into. Also, the alley behind him is graded too high and floods his garage.

Bonnie Dickinson- Wants to know if there is a City of Beech Grove master plan. Also, would like to propose a meeting/workshop between the RDC and the City Council.

Susie McMillan- She is there on behalf of her husband, Dan McMillan, previous Clerk Treasurer for the City of Beech Grove. Susie would like to see the budgets remain how they are currently, without dumping everything into the BOPW. There is also no need for the additional appropriation that is being voted on tonight.

Greg Codozer- Greg is one of the partners at the newly opened 5th Avenue Grill and Bar on Main Street. They would like to enhance their setting and see possibility of outdoor seating.

Committee Reports-

ABC – The Grove had their license renewed.

RDC- Met on August 20th. There were discussions on Sanitary Sewer improvements. Lamping defaulted to Councilor Hall, who attended the meeting, and stated there was a need to prioritize their plans.

Financial Report- Clerk Treasurer, James W. Coffman

Current bank balances are listed below-

City Corporation \$3,120,423.92

Utilities \$1,021,871.45

Criminal Investigation Fund (CIF) \$42,656.19

RDC General \$462,243.52

RDC Debt Service (DSR) \$240,000.00

Compliance- Report is in the packet.

Greenscape- Did not meet.

Old Business-

General Ordinance #6, 2020, Second Reading- This ordinance would amend Chapter 77 of the Code of Ordinances for the City of Beech Grove concerning traffic schedules, specifically at the new roundabout that was recently constructed at Churchman Bypass, Arlington Avenue, and Big Four Road. Councilor Day made a motion to approve the ordinance on second reading only, Councilor Lamping seconded the motion, which was followed by a unanimous voice vote.

General Ordinance #6, 2020, Third Reading- This ordinance would amend Chapter 77 of the Code of Ordinances for the City of Beech Grove concerning traffic schedules, specifically at the new roundabout that was recently constructed at Churchman Bypass, Arlington Avenue, and Big Four Road. Councilor Lamping made a motion to approve the ordinance on third reading, Councilor Robert Ferguson seconded the motion, which was followed by a unanimous voice vote.

New Business-

Resolution #7, 2020- Statement of Benefits- Resolution would approve the state of benefits of CRE properties, LLC (for Crossroads Engineers, P.C.) for a three year tax abatement for property located at the old St. Francis property. Councilor Lamping made a motion to approve Resolution #7, 2020, Councilor Harrison seconded the motion, which was approved by unanimous voice vote.

General Ordinance #7, 2020- It has been determined that it is now necessary to appropriate more money than was originally appropriated in the annual budget. The appropriation equals \$899,114.00 and includes the following appropriations for Fire personal services (\$200,000 from PST and \$26,614 from Cares Act funding) \$200,000 for Police personal services (PST), \$52,500 in other services and charges (donations received for the Hornet statue to be installed at the new roundabout), \$400,000 in Capital Outlays (donation received from Franciscan Health for the Franciscan Trail

naming rights), \$10,000 for Capital Outlays (money received from Environmental Management for tank removal), and \$3,800 for other services and charges (donation from the estate of Farris). Councilor Lamping made a motion to approve General Ordinance #7 on first reading only, Councilor Robert Ferguson seconded the motion, which was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Comments-

Mayor Buckley- Reminded the Council of a public hearing scheduled for September 15, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. in regard to the OCRA grant application for sewer repairs, a budget workshop scheduled for September 21, 2020 at 7:00 p.m., the first reading of the budget and salary ordinance scheduled for October 5, 2020, at 7:00 p.m., with second and third readings taking place on October 19, 2020 at 7:00.

Councilor Robert Ferguson asked about the IDEM report. Mayor Buckley said the IDEM plan has been submitted and will be provided for review once it is approved. Councilor Ferguson asked about the Police and Fire contracts in regard to pay raises and why they are not included in the budget for next year. Mayor Buckley said they are not written out for sure, but that we must take into account what Covid 19 has done and will do for this City. Raises have been given each year since 2013 and we would love to continue that, but we need to be careful. There are other things we can provide in their contracts that will be pointed out.

Councilor Harrison – Thanks for coming.

Councilor Day – Thanks for coming. Hope we can do something for our Police and Fire.

Councilor Lamping- Thanks for coming. Thanks to Pastor Dickinson for the prayer.

Councilor Hall- Wanted to clarify, at the last meeting he stated he had lunch with Tom Hannon. It was very casual and was not scheduled. There is a shredding event behind City Hall on September 12th. On October 10th at Southwood Baptist Church, they will be handing out free jackets.

Councilor Kara Ferguson- Nothing to add that wasn't already said. Thanks for coming.

Councilor Templin- Don't forget about the Department of Public works and other employees as well.

Councilor Robert Ferguson- Thanks to those citizens that have spoken. Their concerns have been heard. Thanks to the large outpouring of support from community members during the time when their family members were sick.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Lamping moved to adjourn the meeting; Councilor Robert Ferguson seconded the Motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:38 p.m.

Dennis Buckley, Mayor

James W. Coffman, Clerk–Treasurer