

BEECH GROVE CITY COUNCIL  
MEETING MINUTES  
Monday, October 19, 2020  
Meeting Continued Monday, November 2, 2020

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

Roll Call-

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

Special Presentations-

None

Approval of Minutes-

**October 5, 2020-** Councilor Day moved to approve the minutes as presented. Councilor Lamping seconded the motion, which was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Public Comments-

NONE

Committee Reports-

None

Old Business-

Councilor Day asked about voting Salary and Budget on second reading only and delaying third readings until the next meeting so the public can share their voice. Clerk Treasurer informed the Council the Budget can be voted on second reading tonight and third reading on November 2. Even though Form 3 and Form 4 have October 19<sup>th</sup> as the date of adoption, the DLGF can amend those documents with the new date. The meeting should not be adjourned tonight, however, continued until November 2<sup>nd</sup>. The salary ordinance must be approved no later than November 1<sup>st</sup>. Councilor Kara Ferguson asked what would happen if it wasn't approved on time. Statute says it would revert back to the current salary ordinance that is being used. Discussion was made that no one has emailed, called, or stopped by City Hall to discuss or review the budget. Councilor Hall has received lots of emails and calls. Hall discussed how budgets were done before with committees and how the process was done and explained some of his concerns and even the possibility of layoffs if we continue the way we are headed. Clerk Treasurer Coffman confirmed the first budget he presented had no raises, but that the 2% pay increase was then added based on what the City Council decided.

Councilor Harrison shared how some things operated over the last 9 years. Councilors said they would have liked more say and to have been part of the process. Clerk Treasurer Coffman said he would have accepted any help, but that none was offered. Covid has changed everything and the budget process was no different. Councilor Robert Ferguson discussed his opposition to the public not being allowed to attend the Budget meeting. Councilor Hall discussed concerns about the amount of money many constituents make compared to what we are agreeing to pay our employees, while now agreeing to give them all raises with our limited amount of money. Mayor Buckley emphasized the need to pay our employees what they deserve and that we must remain competitive. Councilor Lamping stated a budget is an estimate, so, based on the Covid numbers and where they are headed, she suggests we continue to vote the salary and budget tonight, as planned.

**General Ordinance #8, 2020- Salary Ordinance- Amendment-** Councilor Day made a motion to amend General Ordinance #8, 2020 section 9 to state the CDL is not included in the salary and can only be added if the employee has the CDL license, Councilor Harrison seconded the motion, which was approved by unanimous voice vote.

**General Ordinance #8, 2020- Salary Ordinance- 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading-** Clerk Treasurer Coffman read Salary Ordinance #8, 2020 into the record. Councilor Lamping made a motion to approve General Ordinance #8, 2020 on second reading only, Councilor Robert Ferguson seconded the motion, which was approved by a 5 to 1 vote. Councilor Hall cast the nay vote.

**General Ordinance #8, 2020- Salary Ordinance- 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading-** Councilor Day made a motion to read by title only, Councilor Harrison seconded the motion which was approved by unanimous voice vote. Councilor Lamping made a motion to approve General Ordinance #8, 2020 on 3<sup>rd</sup> reading, Councilor Harrison seconded the motion which was approved by a 5 to 1 vote. Councilor Hall cast the nay vote.

**General Ordinance #9, 2020- 2nd Reading-** Councilor Lamping made a motion to approve General Ordinance #9, 2020 on second reading only, Councilor Harrison seconded the motion, which was approved by a 5 to 1 vote. Councilor Hall cast the nay vote.

**General Ordinance #9, 2020 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading-** Councilor Robert Ferguson made a motion to continue the meeting and vote until November 2, so the public can be heard. Councilor Day seconded the motion which was approved by a 4 to 2 vote. Councilors Harrison and Lamping cast the nay votes.

#### New Business-

**2021 RDC Budget-** Councilor Lamping read the RDC budget into the record. Discussion about work the RDC has completed and some of the problems that have come up. Discussions on whether the RDC is worth its weight or not were made. There are lots of arguments and they have to come together. There is plenty of work that needs to be done and we must spend the TIF money to improve the city. Councilor Harrison made a motion to approve the RDC budget, Councilor Lamping seconded the motion. Councilors Harrison, Lamping, and Robert Ferguson cast yea votes.

Councilors Day, Hall, and Kara Ferguson cast the nay votes. Mayor Buckley broke the tie, with a yea vote. The 2021 RDC Budget passes.

**General Ordinance #10, 2020-** Will be introduced on November 2, 2020.

Comments-

**Councilor Harrison** – None.

**Councilor Day** – Stay safe and healthy.

**Councilor Lamping-** St. Luke’s Episcopal Church will be having an ongoing vigil for the pandemic along with many churches across the country.

**Councilor Hall-** Thanks to the many constituents for voicing their concerns.

**Councilor Kara Ferguson-** Thanks to the constituents, your voice and concerns have been heard.

**Councilor Robert Ferguson-** Publicly disagrees with having the meeting closed to the public. We have to give our constituents a chance to be heard and can have safety measures in place to do so.

**Mayor Buckley-** Passed out the Pavement Asset Management Report for the City of Beech Grove. This report gives a grading of all streets and their condition in the City of Beech Grove. This document is available on the City website. This is required to receive any funding for paving.

Continue

Councilor Harrison moved to continue the meeting to November 2nd; Councilor Lamping seconded the Motion, which was approved by unanimous voice vote. The meeting was continued at 8:22 p.m.

**Continued Monday, November 2, 2020**

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

Roll Call-

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

Public Comments

NONE

Old Business

**General Ordinance #9, 2020- 2021 Budget 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading-** Councilor Lamping made a motion to approve General Ordinance #9, 2020 on third reading, Councilor Day seconded the motion, which was approved by a 6 to 1 vote. Councilor Hall cast the nay vote.

**General Ordinance #10, 2020 1<sup>st</sup> Reading-** General Ordinance is an ordinance that amends Chapter 77 of the Code of Ordinances for the City of Beech Grove pursuant to Through Streets and Stop Streets. The Ordinance would place stop

signs at the intersection of 2<sup>nd</sup> and Alton, the intersection of Grovewood and Gerry Drive, and the intersection of Grovewood and Edwards Drive. Councilor Day made a motion to approve General Ordinance #10, 2020 on first reading only, Councilor Robert Ferguson seconded the motion, which was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Adjournment-

Councilor Lamping made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Councilor Day seconded, which was followed by unanimous voice vote. Meeting was adjourned at 7:11 p.m.

---

Dennis Buckley, Mayor

---

James W. Coffman, Clerk–Treasurer