

BEECH GROVE CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
Monday, December 7, 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, Buddy Templin, and President Pro-Tem Gary Hall. Also, present, 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 by Pastor Bailey.

Special Presentations-

Moment of Silence- Jim Newport/2020 Year

Clean City Proclamation- Tree City

Police Station Request- Several individuals spoke regarding this topic.

Rick Snyder, INDPLS FOP President- Fully supportive of this request.

Deputy Chief, Robert Mercuri- A new police station shows the City is viable and open. Thank you all for your continued support of the BCPD.

Judge Andrew Wells- The Beech Grove Court currently shares a space with the BCPD. Space is very tight, and he is full support of a new station and including the Court if possible.

City Attorney, Craig Wiley- Our department needs this. A new station would show our commitment to our department and that we fully support them.

Jane Henry, 701 Churchman- Letter was read into the record stating that a brand-new building is not needed, there are several old buildings that could be used and made to fit their needs.

Councilor Day made a motion to begin the process of investing in a new Police Station, Councilor Lamping seconded the motion, which was approved by unanimous voice vote. The committee will include council members Day, Templin, and Robert Ferguson. They will help decide options for location, design, layout, and more, then present to the Council at a later date.

Approval of Minutes-

October 19, 2020, Continued November 2, 2020- Councilor Lamping moved to approve the minutes as presented.

Councilor Robert Ferguson seconded the motion, which was approved by unanimous voice vote.

November 2, 2020- Councilor Harrison moved to approve the minutes as presented. Councilor Lamping seconded the motion, which was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Public Comments-

Anna Ottinger- Wants to know why we are looking at building a new police station when we are in the middle of a pandemic. How do we know what will happen next year? What if there is no money or if layoffs are needed?

Committee Reports-

ABC – Two renewals were approved.

RDC- Met last month, claims docket was approved. Voted on the new TIF resolutions. Member Dickinson will be working on getting a comprehensive plan for the RDC.

Compliance- none.

Greenscape- No meeting.

Financial Report- Clerk Treasurer, James W. Coffman

Current bank balances are listed below-

City Corporation \$1,384,979.96

Utilities \$966,074.06

Criminal Investigation Fund (CIF) \$34,318.54

RDC General \$337,248.72

RDC Debt Service (DSR) \$240,000.00

Old Business-

None

New Business-

Transfer of Funds- Clerk Treasurer- Will be heard at the January 2021 meeting.

2021 Salary Ordinance Amendment- City Court- Request by Judge Wells to amend the salary ordinance as was originally requested since 2019 and is in the budget. The request would raise part time salary from \$14.61 to \$15.67 per hour.

Councilor Lamping made a motion to approve the Salary Ordinance amendment, Councilor Day seconded the motion, which was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Comments-

Councilor Harrison – Good luck to the Police Station committee on getting the numbers together.

Councilor Day – Merry Christmas! Stay safe.

Councilor Lamping- Thanks for coming. Stay safe, follow CDC guidelines, and Merry Christmas.

Councilor Hall- Today is the anniversary for Pearl Harbor. Leaf pickup ends on December 18th. Those interested in serving on the RDC, please email your council person.

Councilor Kara Ferguson- Merry Christmas! Stay safe and enjoy your time with others, however that may be.

Councilor Templin- There are many citizens in Beech Grove that go unnoticed. Mike Fisher and wife, Cheryl recently sold their home and are moving away. They have served this community for years and will be missed.

Councilor Robert Ferguson- Thanks to those that came out to this meeting that was open to the public. Today is Pearl Harbor and we need to remember it.

Councilor Harrison- My wife works part time at the high school. In only one week, they delivered 12,000 meals to students!

Mayor Buckley- The OCRA grant application was submitted and word will be received December 17th, on whether it is successful or not. RDC appointments will be decided in January. The latest bill from Citizens Energy is in your packet. The City entered into an agreement with IPL 2/3 years ago to replace all the streetlamps with LED lights. This work will begin early 2021.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Robert Ferguson moved to adjourn the meeting; Councilor Harrison seconded the Motion. The meeting was adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

Dennis Buckley, Mayor

James W. Coffman, Clerk–Treasurer