

**BEECH GROVE CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 3RD, 2014**

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

ROLL CALL: Present: City Council Members, Dave Mobley, John Jennings, Dave Harrison, Anthony Davidson, Ed Bell, and Kathy Coates. Also present were Mayor, Dennis Buckley, Clerk Treasurer, Dan McMillan, and City Attorney, Craig Wiley. Absent was Councilor Mary Stewart.

All joined in the Pledge of Allegiance to our flag.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:

None.

MAYOR BALLARD'S LIAISON—Liaison Kelly Foulk is the new liaison for Perry and Franklin townships, which includes Beech Grove. She may be reached at 317-429-7807 or at Kelly.foulk@indy.gov. Kelly and her boss recently met with Laura Barnard from the Beech Grove Chamber of Commerce. Kelly looks forward to working with the Council and the citizens of Beech Grove.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Clerk Treasurer McMillan presented the October 6, 2014 meeting minutes to the council. Councilor Jennings moved to approve the minutes as presented. Councilor Mobley seconded the Motion; which was approved by unanimous voice vote.

PETITIONS OR COMMENTS BY CITIZENS:

Mike Jarvis, Beech Grove – Mr. Jarvis requested that a light be shone on the American flag that flies over City Hall at night.

Ted Pierson, Beech Grove – Mr. Pierson thanked the DPW for putting up the American flags purchased by the Beautify Beech Grove committee. He also praised Tom Hannan and the Parks Department for the wienie roast held in the park. The City furnished a fire pit, firewood, and roasting sticks so that the event could take place.

Donald Webb, Beech Grove – Mr. Webb spoke regarding General Ordinance No. 22, which concerns speed limits in the Carrington and Park Meadow subdivisions. He requested that the ordinance be amended to read 25 mph because he believes this is a safe speed limit for those subdivisions and this will save taxpayers the expense of City employees having to replace the current 25 mph speed limit signs. He doesn't believe that lowering the speed limit will change the behavior of speeders; the only way to do that is to allocate public safety resources to those areas to issue speeding citations.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Youth Council – Youth Council representatives shared that the football team just won their second round sectional game 46-0 against Pendleton Heights. They will move on to the sectional championships vs. New Palestine. FFA students attended a convention in Kentucky last weekend; one group of students placed 14th out of 17 and will move on to national competition. Over fall break, students attended a biology camp at Purdue University where they performed research projects. The drama department will be putting on a play, Julius Caesar, on Nov. 20-21, and will be performing The Nutcracker on Dec. 20-21. Girls' basketball begins on Nov. 11, and boys' basketball starts on Nov. 20. The Community Service Project was postponed until Nov. 12 because of weather and safety conditions. There will be a VIP Breakfast for hard-working student leaders and teachers. Councilor Jennings confirmed with the representatives that this week's football game will be a home game and encouraged the citizens to come out and support the football team and the Beech Grove youth in all their activities. Councilor Jennings also asked for more details about the Purdue biology camp.

Greenscape Commission – Tim Latimer reported that their last meeting was October 20th. They discussed the Arbor Day Tree Ceremony, a sidewalk policy put together by Dave Miller that deals with trees that conflict with City sidewalks (the policy has been submitted to Brad Meriwether), and whether or not the City has a storm response plan. He believes that the next time the City applies for the Tree City certification, we will be asked if there is a storm response plan and what that plan involves. Mayor Buckley stated that there is a storm response plan through the police and fire departments but that it probably needs to be updated. The application for Tree City is ready to be sent out. Not only will Beech Grove receive the Tree City award again, but we will also receive a growth award this year for some extra things that we have done this past year. The next meeting will be Monday, November 17th.

RDC – Council members received a printed RDC report, which is available on the City website for review.

Public Safety – Council members received a printed Public Safety report, which is available on the City website for review.

ABC-none.

Clerk Treasurer's Financial Report - Clerk Treasurer Dan McMillan

Dear Councilors,

Tonight, we have transfer requests that do not raise the budget and additional appropriation requests that do raise the budget. The \$400,000.00 is for paving and that will be funded by transferring the 2012 ROI payment from sewage to corporate, per Jeff Peters. We also have the following additional appropriations:

\$19,000 Public Safety/PERF, I am asking for this.

\$15,000 Council/Professional/Attorney Fees to fund the Ogletree invoice related to the investigation of the Clerk-Treasurer's Office, Council is asking for this.

\$41,000 Overtime/Fire for the remainder of the year, I am asking for this.

\$15,000 Repair & Maintenance/Police, Chief Swartz is asking for this.

\$15,000 Computers/Police, Chief Swartz is asking for this.

\$20,000 Overtime/Police for the remainder of the year, I am asking for this.
\$11,000 for Medical supplies/Fire, Chief Cheshire is asking for this.

The 2014 budget increased over a quarter of a million dollars from 2013. Category 1 Personnel Expenses (with the exception of overtime) and Category 4/Debt Services have stayed within budget.

We also have on the agenda tonight an ordinance for First Reading for the 2015 TAW. As in years past this ordinance will be approved before the Indiana Bond Bank determines the amount needed for the 2015 TAW. We are fortunate to have the credit rating to be able to use the Indiana Bond Bank, because of the low interest rate they offer and they determine the amount needed and the ability to repay.

The Insurance Committee met on October 24th. As stated before, the Committee consists of Aaron Jeannette, B.G.F.D. #416 Representative, James Baughn, B.G.P.D., F.O.P. Local #86 Representative, Rodney Giffin, Civilian Employees Representative, David Irwin, Dawn Whalen, and myself. Christian Duncan is working to review different scenarios we can use to keep the cost down for the city and the employee. We will be meeting again as soon as he has the figures firmed up.

Also, I have been working on the renewal for the liability insurance for 2015. That will go before the BOW for approval in December.

We made our first of 10 lease/purchase payments for the Skid Steer and the amount of the payment is \$7,892.73. We make two payments per year.

SBOA still has not released the audit for public consumption. As soon as they do, I will email a copy to all of you. I am expecting that very soon, but until that time, I cannot release the results.

The City website continues to be a success and is provided at no cost to the taxpayers. We continue to have wonderful volunteers that assist with updating and posting. Thank you website volunteers! The website had a total of 38,000 visits this past month, which is exceptional.

The homepage on the website has city meetings information that includes links to agendas, minutes, ordinances and more. Financial Reports, City Debt Schedules, Bank Statements and more are available online at www.beechgrove.com.

The bank account balances as of October 31, 2014 are listed below.

Bank Account Name	Bank Account Balance
City Corporation	\$2,566,753.27
City Utilities/Sewage/Wastewater	\$858,334.12
Main Street Redevelopment/Main Street Loans	\$258,244.85
City Court	\$154,374.65
Criminal Investigations (CIF)	\$189,929.23
Redevelopment Commission (RDC) General	\$920,983.18
Redevelopment Commission (RDC) Debt Service	\$584,842.97

BNY – Mellon 2004 SRF Balance	\$136,178.37
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As always, my door is open if you have any questions. Thank you.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dan McMillan, Clerk Treasurer
City of Beech Grove

Councilor Coates asked if there is any way to track what people are looking at on the City website. Clerk Treasurer McMillan responded that he will get a copy of the report available to him each month that concerns the website. He said the busiest day on the website was October 31st, with people checking on Halloween times and if it had been cancelled.

Compliance Division – none.

OLD BUSINESS:

[General Ordinance No. 18, 2014 - 2nd Reading](#)

... Amends Chapter 96: Garbage and Refuse Collection, pursuant to "Heavy Items"

Clerk Treasurer McMillan read the ordinance in its entirety into the record.

Councilor Davidson moved to approve the ordinance on 2nd reading only. Councilor Harrison seconded the Motion; which passed by unanimous voice vote. General Ordinance No. 18, 2014 will be heard on 3rd and final reading at the December 1st meeting.

[General Ordinance No. 22, 2014 - 2nd Reading](#)

... Amends Chapter 77, Schedule IV Speed Limits

Clerk Treasurer McMillan read the ordinance in its entirety into the record.

Councilor Harrison asked if there are currently speed limit signs in Park Meadow, and Mayor Buckley was not sure if there are.

Councilor Coates moved to amend the ordinance from 20 mph to 25 mph. Councilor Harrison seconded the Motion; which passed 4-2, with Councilors Jennings and Davidson voting no.

Councilor Bell moved to approve the amended ordinance on 2nd reading only. Councilor Coates seconded the Motion; which passed by unanimous voice vote. General Ordinance No. 22, 2014 will be heard on 3rd and final reading at the December 1st meeting.

General Ordinance No. 23, 2014 - 2nd Reading

... Amends Chapter 96: Garbage and Refuse Collection, pursuant to "Charges for Heavy Collections"

Clerk Treasurer McMillan read the ordinance in its entirety into the record.

Councilor Coates stated that she is not against this ordinance. However, she feels that it is nebulous on how it will be enforced, how long the citizen has to agree to the price decided upon by the DPW Director, and just how this will work in general. Mayor Buckley stated that this type of activity goes on every day and we don't want the City to be taken advantage of, neither financially nor time-wise. This is our attempt to update the ordinance to include pricing.

Councilor Jennings moved to amend paragraph A, number 4 to read "... Sewage Works *bill*." Councilor Davidson seconded the Motion; which passed by unanimous voice vote.

Councilor Jennings moved to approve the amended ordinance on 2nd reading only. Councilor Harrison seconded the Motion; which passed 5-1, with Councilor Davidson voting no. General Ordinance No. 23, 2014 will be heard on 3rd and final reading at the December 1st meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

2015 RDC Budget

RDC President Donald Webb presented the proposed 2015 RDC Budget. Under state law, the RDC must submit this proposed budget to the Council for approval. St. Francis Hospital was placed on the property tax rolls and we should receive money from that; however, St. Francis has appealed this. The appeal process can go on for a long time. If the St. Francis property is sold and a 5-year property tax abatement is given, that would cause a loss of revenue until approximately 2021. The proposed 2015 RDC budget focuses on the needs of the Parks Department and the citizens who use the parks. There are also amounts included for a project signage grant for Main Street, bond payments, lawyer fees, the schools, the master development plan, and the streets in Beech Grove. The RDC is turning the corner and trying to make inroads into making Beech Grove a better community. In the future, Mr. Webb would like to see sidewalks extended along Emerson Avenue and sidewalks added to Thompson Road. The total amount for the proposed 2015 RDC Budget is \$972,100.00. Mr. Webb also thanked the members of the RDC for their dedication and service to this committee and the City of Beech Grove.

Councilor Mobley moved to approve the 2015 RDC budget. Councilor Jennings seconded the Motion; which was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Resolution #10, 2014

... clarifies the monies dispersed to the Beech Grove Police Department

Councilor Davidson read the resolution in its entirety into the record.

Clerk Treasurer McMillan commented that he spoke with the SBOA and that in fact the monies are being distributed into the correct accounts. Councilor Harrison asked which accounts the money is going into, and Clerk Treasurer McMillan stated that the money is going into the General Fund.

On a similar note, the fire department's ambulance revenue, or any revenue from the Parks Department or Senior Center or any other department all goes into the General Fund. These monies from the General Fund, fund the annual budget. Clerk Treasurer McMillan believes that this resolution is reckless in that it sets a precedent for other departments to ask for its revenue to be given back. If the monies in the General Fund were not available, how would the Council fund the budget? Councilor Davidson disagreed, saying that the police monies for special assignments is a totally different thing. Councilor Bell stated that he did not recall the SBOA having a problem with this during the audit. Clerk Treasurer McMillan confirmed this. Councilor Jennings requested that City Attorney Wiley research this issue and report back to the Council at the December 1st meeting. Councilor Jennings moved to table the resolution until the December 1st meeting. Councilor Coates seconded the Motion; which passed 5-1, with Councilor Davidson voting no. Resolution No. 10, 2014 will be heard at the December 1st meeting.

General Ordinance No. 24, 2014 - 1st Reading

. . . Amends Chapter 33 concerning the Police Chief and the Criminal Investigation Fund

Clerk Treasurer McMillan read the ordinance in its entirety into the record.

Clerk Treasurer McMillan stated that this situation has arisen when the police chief has needed money to make an undercover drug buy while working on a case, etc. The SBOA has no problem with this; however, up until now, there has not been an ordinance in place to allow this to happen. This proposed ordinance will protect both the Clerk Treasurer and the Police Chief when the Police Chief requests a check for this type of situation.

Councilor Coates asked how the requested amount of money is accounted for after it is taken by the police department. Clerk Treasurer McMillan stated that the Police Chief must have some method of tracking this money as directed by federal regulations. This particular question is outside the realm of the Clerk Treasurer's knowledge of the police department operations. Deputy Police Chief Maurice stated that he does a report annually every February that itemizes each purchase. This report gets sent to the federal government and our figures must match their figures. This ordinance will not change how things are done, but is just a formality to make the process official.

Councilor Jennings moved to approve the ordinance on 1st reading only. Councilor Harrison seconded the Motion; which passed by unanimous voice vote. General Ordinance No. 24, 2014 will be heard on 2nd reading at the December 1st meeting.

General Ordinance No. 25, 2014 - 1st Reading

. . . Authorizes a Tax Anticipation Warrant for 2015

Clerk Treasurer McMillan explained that this ordinance is for our annual Tax Anticipation Warrant. The Indiana Bond Bank gives the Council very little information as to how much we're borrowing and what the interest rate is, but it's always been very advantageous for the City to do this. The current interest rate for 2014 is 0.76%. Previous administrations got their TAWs through Regions Bank, but this (Indiana Bond Bank) is the best deal out there. The ordinance must be passed in order to move forward with the TAW.

Under the Tax Anticipation Warrant, we borrow funds to last us for next year. We do not have enough cash on hand to operate without this, so the TAW is the only way the City can operate at the present time.

Councilor Mobley moved to waive the rules and read by title only. Councilor Jennings seconded the Motion; which was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Clerk Treasurer McMillan read the ordinance by title only into the record.

Councilor Mobley moved to approve the ordinance on 1st reading only. Councilor Jennings seconded the Motion; which passed by unanimous voice vote. General Ordinance No. 25, 2014 will be heard on 2nd and 3rd reading at the December 1st meeting.

General Ordinance No. 26, 2014 - 1st Reading

... Authorizes Additional Appropriations for 2014

Clerk Treasurer McMillan explained that this ordinance is asking for additional appropriations to meet the budget. There is a total of \$19,000 from the Public Safety LOIT Fund, and \$517,000 for the General Fund. The \$400,000 for BOW/Capital Outlays/Street Projects was a ROI from 2012. Those funds were not available in 2012 so we did not take them then; the funds are available now, so we are taking them in 2014, which is completely legal to do.

Clerk Treasurer McMillan read the ordinance in its entirety into the record.

Councilor Coates asked if these amounts were accounted for in the 2015 budget so that we don't end up in the same spot a year for now. Clerk Treasurer McMillan replied that he hopes that these amounts were accounted for, as the budget is usually a guesstimate on what is needed and he cannot guarantee it. These additional appropriations will keep us from going into a deficit situation. We do have the money to cover these additional appropriations. Financial consultant Jeff Peters sees no problem with this, and the DLGF will have to approve it as well. This has to be submitted by Dec. 15th to the DLGF.

Councilor Bell moved to approve the ordinance on 1st reading only. Councilor Jennings seconded the Motion; which was passed 5-1, with Councilor Davidson voting no. General Ordinance No. 26, 2014 will be heard on 2nd and 3rd reading at the December 1st meeting.

Transfer of Appropriations – Clerk Treasurer

Clerk Treasurer McMillan read the Transfer of Appropriations requests in their entirety into the record.

Transfer up to **\$2,900.00** from **201900381.000** MVH/Skid Steer Lease Principal to **201900220.021** MVH/Fuel.

Transfer up to **\$1,100.00** from **201900382.000** MVH/Skid Steer Lease Interest to **201900220.021** MVH/Fuel.

Transfer up to **\$13,189.12** from **214900361.000** Insurance Reimbursements to **205900310.001** Road Sign Grant.

Transfer up to **\$5,000.00** from **202900390.920** BOW/Crossing Guards to **205900310.001** Road Sign Grant.

Transfer up to **\$3,000.00** from **201900381.000** MVH/Skid Steer Lease Principal to **205900310.001** Road Sign Grant.

Transfer up to **\$50,000.00** from **606900380.000**/Sewage Trans. to Grant & Debt Accounts to Main Street Redevelopment Grant **368900440.000** for Sewage/Stormwater Work Completed.

Transfer up to **\$75,000.00** from **607900383.000** Sewage/M.O.U. to **606900310.160** Sewage/IDPW.

Transfer up to **\$3,000.00** from **606900124.000** Sewage/Unemployment to **606900322.000** Sewage/Postage.

Transfer up to **\$4,000.00** from **606900135.004** Sewage/Ret. Ins. to **606900322.000** Sewage/Postage.

Transfer up to **\$15,000.00** from **606900124.000** Sewage/Unemployment to **606900333.000**

Recording Fees.

Transfer up to **\$17,000.00** from **606900113.000**/Reg.Salaries to 606900390.940 Sewage/Landfill Charges.

Transfer up to **\$11,000.00** from **606900113.000**/Reg.Salaries to **606900590.000** Sewage/Refunds.

Transfer up to **\$4,000.00** from **606900135.004**/Sewage Health Savings to **606900590.000** Sewage/Refunds.

Councilor Jennings moved to approve the Transfer of Appropriations request. Councilor Mobley seconded the Motion; which was approved by unanimous voice vote. The Transfer of Funds request was approved.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Councilor Dave Mobley – Councilor Mobley thanked the attendees for coming to the meeting and encouraged everyone to support the football team at their next game.

Councilor John Jennings – Councilor Jennings commented that the request to put a light on the flag at City Hall should be done quickly. It is obvious that it needs to be done. He suggests that we take donations to fund the project after a price quote is received and he will be the first person to make a donation. He thanked City Attorney Wiley in advance for doing the research for Resolution No. 10, 2014 prior to the next Council meeting in December.

Councilor Dave Harrison – Councilor Harrison thanked everyone for attending the meeting. He also thanked the Youth Council for attending, as he enjoys hearing about the activities at the high school. He hopes to see everyone at the football game on Friday.

Councilor Anthony Davidson – Councilor Davidson congratulated the football team on their successes. He also appreciates all the feedback he has received over the past few months and wants to continue hearing from the citizens.

Councilor Ed Bell – Councilor Bell thanked everyone for attending tonight's meeting.

Councilor Kathy Coates—Councilor Coates thanked everyone for attending the meeting. She mentioned that with it now being November, the holidays are just around the corner.

Mayor Buckley—Mayor Buckley announced that there will be a small ceremony on the steps of City Hall on Veteran's Day, Nov. 11. The public is invited and the ceremony is sponsored by local ministers.

At the next Council meeting on Dec. 1st, there will be a presentation from the Department of Metropolitan Development concerning their changes to the zoning rules. Their project is called Indy Rezone.

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilor Jennings moved to adjourn. Councilor Harrison seconded the Motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

The next meeting will be December 1, 2014 at 7:00 pm in Council Chambers at City Hall.

Dennis Buckley, Mayor

Dan McMillan, Clerk–Treasurer

Minutes prepared by: Mary Duffer