

**BEECH GROVE CITY COUNCIL  
MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY, APRIL 6<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

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

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

**All joined in the Pledge of Allegiance to our flag.**

**SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:**

**RDC Annual Report – *presented by Donald Webb***

The RDC Officers are Donald Webb, President, Ron Mote, Vice President, and Cathy Chappell, Secretary. Donald explained the Board is a volunteer Board, so there are no salaries. They ended 2014 with a bank balance in their general fund of \$1.56 million dollars. He also discussed paving projects that the RDC funded in 2014 and upcoming projects that they will be funding this year; which include additional swing sets for Don Challis Park, a recreational turtle for Sarah Bolton Park, removing the old tennis courts in Sarah Bolton Park and carpet at the Community Center to name a few. They are also working with Crossroads to try to revitalize the Greenway Grant. He also invited everyone to attend the next RDC meeting on Thursday, April 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Beech Grove City Schools- *presented by Dr. Paul Kaiser***

Dr. Kaiser presented information for the upcoming Spring Community Service Day which will be on April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2015. It is mandatory for the students to participate. The students will be going out into the community to help with spring cleaning. Sam Merl is going to assist with the program. The kids will clean gutters, and perform a wide variety of spring cleaning chores. A tree company will assist with trimming trees, and the kids will also be cleaning five local cemeteries. If any Beech Grove Citizen needs assistance they should call 788-4481.

Dr. Kaiser also stated they mailed out “Gold Cards” for anyone 60 years old or older. The Gold card will get them into most school events free of charge. If you are over 60 and would like a “Gold Card” please call 788-4481.

Dr. Kaiser also discussed the property tax loss the schools have suffered which has been over \$3,000,000.00. There are two referendums on the May 5<sup>th</sup>, ballot –

The first referendum is a renewal, so it is 100% tax neutral, meaning it does not increase your taxes.

The second referendum; which will raise your taxes approximately \$3.00 is to provide funding to replace the HVAC system, renovate the auditorium; which has not been updated since the 60’s or 70’s, and construct a new band room. When the band room was constructed it was built to hold 40 kids and the band is now over 100.

If both referendums pass, the property tax in Beech Grove will still be lower than it was in 2007.

Dr. Kaiser emphasized that these are needs, not wants. There are many things the school would like to have, but these things are essential.

He also encouraged Seniors, 65 and older, who make less than \$35,000 a year to apply for the additional property tax deduction they are eligible for. If you would like more information on that please contact Dr. Kaiser

Dr. Kaiser recognized the 1954 undefeated football team. Former Mayor, Warner Wiley was recognized by Dr. Kaiser and Dr. Kaiser also commented that he has plaques he would like give to participants or anyone associated with the 1954 team. He thanked Mr. Wiley for his contribution the schools and the community.

Former Mayor Wiley thanked Dr. Kaiser and he gave a description of the football program and coaches from the 1950's. Football wasn't a high priority for Beech Grove in 1954. His first four years of high school he had four different football coaches including Jim Tate. Jim was actually a football player for the University of Illinois and he played several years for the Detroit Lions. In 1954 he brought his brother Bill with him, and Bill was a running back for University of Illinois and actually was voted the most valuable player in the Rose Bowl. Eventually, Bob Johnson came and brought with him a whole atmosphere of how a whole school and football team should be. From around 1946 to 1954 the school only averaged about two victories a year. The Beech Grove Football Team was small. In 1954 the team beat Pike Township in the Jamboree and then went on to win over Franklin Township, Carmel (32-6), Sacred Heart, Plainfield, Pike Township (twice), Lawrence Central, Knightstown Memorial, and Speedway. Both Beech Grove and Knightstown had a record of 4-0 when they played Knightstown Memorial and Beech Grove beat them 12-7 pushing Beech Grove to an undefeated season that year. Beech Grove had the school bus and cars lined up to watch them play. The team outscored their opponents that season 227-67 and if you break that down the opposing teams only averaged less than 8 points a game. Mayor Wiley played center, linebacker and tackle.

Dr. Kaiser explained that the school is trying to honor the past and teach the children the importance of the history of Beech Grove Schools. His daughter is a 2014 graduate of Beech Grove High School and she now attends Anderson University. She is an honor roll student and she plays two sports. She and Dr. Kaiser both attribute her success to the education she received at Beech Grove Schools.

**Proclamation- City of Beech Grove Does Not Promote Discrimination** – *presented by Mayor Buckley*

Mayor Buckley read the proclamation into the record; which promotes inclusiveness and has no tolerance for discrimination of any kind. Councilors were invited to sign this.

**MAYOR BALLARD'S LIASON REPORT:** *presented by Kelly Foulk*

Kelley gave a brief description of happenings going on in Indianapolis. She reported that there are some very large intersection improvements coming in the future for Franklin and Perry Townships. The City of Indianapolis has received some federal dollars and these improvements will probably begin in 2019.

The Great Indy Clean-up Day is Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup>, and they are still taking volunteers.

IMPD Southeast District has a new Commander and his name is John Mann and he trying very hard to meet people in this area.

IMPD held their Eggstravaganza at Hubler Chevrolet again this year. It was Saturday April 4<sup>th</sup>, and was once again a huge success, which was evident from the cars lined up on US 31.

Indiana Photographic Society, hosted a reception for their Window of the World exhibition.

Kennedy King Commemoration, was Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup>, at Martin Luther King Park

Work One Job Fair will be Wednesday, April 8<sup>th</sup> and Friday April 10<sup>th</sup>.

Virginia Avenue Folk Fest is on May 9<sup>th</sup>, and they are still looking for volunteers.

She also reported on paving projects, Tox Away Day, Indy Snow Force, and Garfield Park's April Programs.

Mayor Buckley reported that the City of Beech Grove is working with MPO to reaffirm funding for the cultural trail here in Beech Grove. Hopefully, the City of Indianapolis will bring it down to Beech Grove and then Marion County would pick it up on the south end of town and run it through southeast Marion County.

## **READING OF MINUTES AND APPROVAL:**

### **Correction of the January Meeting Minutes:**

**General Ordinance No.28, 2015** -REPLACE 130.03 (e) "to the city council", with "by filing a mandate action in the City Court". DELETE 130.03 (f) in its entirety. ADD to page 7, 130.10 (16) any business that requires more than 10 police runs in **9 (a) calendar month** to respond to a report of theft for a value of less than fifty dollars

Clerk Treasurer McMillan asked the Council to amend the "9" to an "a".

Mary Stewart moved to amend the January meeting minutes to change the 9 to "a".  
Dave Mobley seconded the Motion; which was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Mary Stewart moved to accept as written the March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2015 meeting minutes.  
Anthony Davidson seconded the Motion which was approved by unanimous voice vote.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

**Joe Griffin-** played a recording from an RDC Committee meeting when the RDC was discussing the NPR project and Donald expressed his opposition to the NPR group. He asked the Council to take a good look at what the RDC is doing.

**Donald Webb-** rebutted what Joe Griffin had to say and stated that after reviewing the project and educating himself he believes the project is good for Beech Grove. He also reiterated the RDC use to be dysfunctional and is now working in the best interest of the City and completing projects. Councilor Mobley complimented the RDC on their work.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Youth Council:-**none

**Greenscape-** did not meet in March

**RDC-**their Annual Report was already given to Council this evening.

**Public Safety-** did not meet in March due to spring break.

**ABC-**Jim Brooks reported that there were three applications that were presented to the Board.

Payless Liquors- 2511 Albany- License was approved

Loyal Order of the Moose Emerson Avenue – License was approved

D's Taps 704 Main Street- New business that will be opening soon and serving craft beers and wines- New license was approved.

Financial Report-presented by Clerk Treasurer Dan McMillan

Good Evening Councilors,

There is not much to report this month. We closed on the 2015 A Revenue Refunding Bond on March 26<sup>th</sup>, and closed out the 2005A Revenue Bond. We now have a debt reserve account at Huntington National Bank in the amount of \$64,115.75. The monthly statements will be added to the bank statements on the website. It will be tracked in Keystone under Fund #613.

We also have set up Fund # 614; which will be used as the principal and interest fund to make payments on the bond and we have funded it to make the payments due on the bond for June 2015 and January 2016, because we pay the January payment in December 2015.

Before the refinance of the 2005A bond the balance was approximately \$566,000 and the balance is now approximately \$496,000.00- generating a savings to the City of approximately \$70,000.00.

We completed our Workman's Comp Audit this month.

We received notice that another business has filed for bankruptcy on the Main Street Loan Program. That will leave 4 businesses holding 6 loans. One of the businesses that holds 2 loans is severely in the arrears on both loans. I have enclosed in your packets Resolutions from when the program was initially started, Special Ordinance #13, 2012 that was to be tabled for one year, as well as the minutes from that meeting. My opinion has not changed. I still believe the City should get out of the banking business as thousands upon thousands of taxpayer dollars have been spent on attorney fees and bankruptcies. I still believe as I stated in 2012 that if legally possible the program and bank account should be closed and transferred into the Rainy Day Fund.

The City Website continues to grow and is a great asset to the citizens. Community events can be added free of charge by emailing me at [dan.mcmillan@beechgrove.com](mailto:dan.mcmillan@beechgrove.com)

Thanks to the website volunteers who continue to keep it updated at no cost to the taxpayers.

As always, if you have any questions my door is always open. Thank you.

**Compliance Division:** Derek Blice reported that they found 69 addresses with violations and with the exception of four, everyone else had resolved the violations upon re-inspection. Five tickets were issued last month all to the same address; which was a hotel that had not gotten their license. They have now chosen to get a license, so the issue is resolved. They have been identifying empty and abandoned homes; which will help them with grass cutting issues this summer and trying to track down who the homeowners are. Many of the homes are in foreclosure and currently there is no ordinance that allows the City to hold the banks responsible. Councilor Stewart thanked Derek for the job they are doing in the City. Mayor Buckley asked how compliance decides which properties to review. Derek said that compliance responds to complaints by citizens and they also drive around the City to identify problems. Councilor Mobley asked if compliance enters onto private property and Derek said, no, they do not. Councilor Mobley refuted that, stating that he has a door that is against his barn, and is not visible from the street, yet he received a notice from compliance. Derek commented that a neighbor may have complained and invited compliance onto their property to view that.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

### **Green scape Commission Appointment:**

Councilor Bell introduced Mr. Stuart Wilson who would like to serve on the commission.

Mr. Wilson and his family have been members of the Beech Grove Community for a very long time, since the early 70's. He and his wife have lived in Beech Grove for the past 12 years. He has been in the hotel/restaurant business for years and they have traveled a lot. Their daughter graduated from Beech Grove High School and now attends Indiana University Kelly School of Business and is receiving an "A".

He is 61 years of age and his wife is 65 and both attend Indiana University. He is studying for his Masters in Public Affairs. He is an intern with "Keep Indianapolis Beautiful", so he has some things in common with Kelly. He is employed with Conrad Hotel.

He has a desire to contribute and give back to the community of Beech Grove. His parents owned the Wilson Insurance Agency on Main Street for years. He is very involved with many programs. He named several Indianapolis programs that he is personally familiar with that Beech Grove could take advantage of, such as a the Community Force program that has 55,000 trees to give away and the City of Beech Grove just needs to apply for the grant.

He reiterated how important it is to him to give back to the Beech Grove Community and he commented that the future of our children is what the future of our city looks like.

Ed Bell moved to nominate Stuart Wilson to serve on the Greenscape Commission and to close the nominations. Dave Harrison seconded the Motion. Mr. Wilson was approved by unanimous voice vote to serve on the Greenscape Commission as a Council appointment.

### **General Ordinance No. 3, 2015**

*...amends Article IX of the City Personnel Manual Concerning Sick Leave*

Clerk Treasurer McMillan read General Ordinance No.3, 2015 into the record.

Councilor Stewart moved to approve the ordinance. Councilor Davidson seconded the Motion; which was approved by unanimous voice vote. General Ordinance No. 3, 2015 passed on Second Reading.

### **General Ordinance No. 4, 2015**

*...amends Article V of the City Personnel Manual Concerning Health Insurance...*

Clerk Treasurer McMillan read General Ordinance No.4, 2015 into the record.

Clerk Treasurer McMillan commented that the ordinance requires that the employee must have dental insurance in place at the time of the occurrence, but not the health insurance, so that is something for the Council to consider.

Councilor Stewart moved to approve the ordinance. Councilor Mobley seconded the Motion; which was approved by unanimous voice vote. General Ordinance No. 4, 2015 passed on Second Reading.

**General Ordinance No. 6, 2015**

*...amends Article X Special Leaves, Section 2 Funerals of the City Personnel Manual*

**City Personnel Manual Article X, Section 2**

Clerk Treasurer McMillan read General Ordinance No.6, 2015 into the record.

Councilor Stewart moved to approve the ordinance. Councilor Mobley seconded the Motion; which was approved by unanimous voice vote. General Ordinance No. 6, 2015 passed on First Reading.

**General Ordinance No. 7, 2015**

*...amends Article XIV of the City Personnel Manual Concerning Residency Requirements*

**City Personnel Manual Article XIV, Section 2**

Chief Swartz commented that he is favor of the ordinance.

Clerk Treasurer McMillan read General Ordinance No.7, 2015 into the record.

Councilor Stewart moved to approve the ordinance. Councilor Coates seconded the Motion; which was approved by unanimous voice vote. General Ordinance No. 7, 2015 passed on First Reading.

**General Ordinance No. 8, 2015**

*...amends Article IV, Section 6 of the City Personnel Pursuant to Minimum Call-Ins*

**City Personnel Manual Article IV, Section 6**

Clerk Treasurer McMillan read General Ordinance No.8, 2015 into the record.Clerk Treasurer McMillan voiced concern that there is not money in this year’s budget for overtime for civilian employees. Mayor Buckley stated that this does not affect police and fire and it is only changing it from 2 hours to 3 hours. Councilor Coates asked for clarification that this is just regarding comp time not actual overtime money. Mayor Buckley stated that civilian employees only get paid comp time for overtime they work unlike police and fire where either may be offered.

Councilor Bell moved to approve the ordinance. Councilor Coates seconded the Motion; which was approved by unanimous voice vote. General Ordinance No. 8, 2015 passed on First Reading.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

**Dave Mobley-** none

**Dave Harrison-** none

**Anthony Davidson-**baseball is starting up. Opening day is at the end of the month. Beech Grove High School is doing some great things and so are the rest of Beech Grove City Schools.

**Ed Bell-** Dr. Kaiser had left, but Ed thanked him for the presentation and he hopes everyone will get out and vote on May 5<sup>th</sup>, and vote in favor of the referendum. He welcomed everyone and thanked them for coming.

**Mary Stewart-** agrees with Ed and thanked everyone for coming.

**Kathy Coates-** if anyone is interested, Dr. Kaiser left some forms about the clean-up day and information on the referendum.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Councilor Harrison moved to adjourn. Councilor Stewart seconded the Motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:29 p.m.

**The next meeting will be Monday, May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at 7:00 pm in Council Chambers at City Hall.**

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Dennis Buckley, Mayor

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Dan McMillan, Clerk-Treasurer

Minutes prepared by: Dan McMillan