

**BEECH GROVE CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, JULY 10th, 2017**

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

ROLL CALL: Present: City Council Members, Bud Templin, Liz Lamping, Dave Harrison, Chris Duffer, Vito Mascari, and Jim Brooks. Also present were, Mayor Dennis Buckley, Clerk Treasurer Dan McMillan and City Attorney Craig Wiley. Absent, Councilor Kevin Day.

All joined in the Pledge of Allegiance to our flag.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:

GAI - Round-a-bout and Thompson Road Sidewalks Update

Marine Center of Indiana -Construction Permits – Councilor Duffer moved to allow them to receive their permit for a total of \$1,000.00. Councilor Harrison seconded the Motion; which was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Merit Board Council Appointment- Will be on the August 7, 2017, Council Agenda.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilor Brooks amended the minutes from June 5, 2017 – Councilor Brooks was absent. Councilor Duffer seconded the Motion; which was approved by unanimous voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Tammy- Spoke in support of General Ordinance No.7, 2017.

Leah - Spoke in support of General Ordinance No.7, 2017.

Linda - Spoke in support of General Ordinance No.7, 2017.

Ed Bell – Spoke to General Ordinance No.7, 2017, including the permit costs, inspection cost and encouraged the Council to review the ordinance thoroughly.

Charlene- Spoke in support of General Ordinance No.7, 2017

Melody – Spoke to the difference between store bought and home raised eggs and the advantages to raising chickens and gardens

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mayor's Youth Council: None

RDC: No June meeting

ABC: None

Greenscape Commission: No June meeting

Compliance Division: Report in the packet.

Public Safety: Report in the packet.

Financial Report: Clerk-Treasurer Dan McMillan.

Good Evening Councilors,

On June 13th, we paid our payment on our TAW. I wanted to pay it in full to save the interest for the remainder of the year, but they would've still charged us the interest, so we just made a payment of 656,318.00 of which \$8,818.00 was interest.

We also made the following lease/purchase payment:

Senior Bus - \$5,630.98

Our property tax money came in on June 28, 2017. The City received \$2,465,033.77, Sewage Special Collections were \$63,987.10 and the RDC received \$443,294.62.

Also, I have heard that the city will receive an approximate 20% increase in LR & S. Right now, we get approximately \$14 to \$15,000.00 per month, so the 20% increase will equal approximately, 2,800.00 to 3,000.00 monthly. The majority of the LR & S is funded through our monthly LOIT or COIT tax dollars. After studying state statute my first year in office, I learned that you could use a percentage of those tax dollars to fund LR & S. Previously only funds specific to LR & S were budgeted for paving and that was approximately \$200,000.00, hence why there wasn't much money for paving. In 2012, there was \$205,000.00 budgeted for paving and in 2013 I increased the budget on that to \$490,000.00. Since that time, it has never dropped below the \$490,000.00.

A reminder to everyone that in Peter's fiscal plan he only called for an increase in revenue of approximately \$200,000.00. It will take every bit of that to fund payroll raises and increases in insurance and taxes.

The City Website continues to grow and is a great asset to the citizens. It is a valuable resource to many. It still has not cost the taxpayers one penny since its inception.

Community events can be added free of charge by emailing me at dan.mcmillan@beechgrove.com

Thanks to the website volunteers who continue to keep it updated at no cost to the taxpayers. Financial Reports, Debt Service, Bank Balances and more can be found on the City Website at www.beechgrove.com.

The bank balances are listed below:

City Corporation	\$5,057,568.31
City utilities/Sewage/Wastewater	\$1,185,037.69
City Court	\$62,614.50
Criminal Investigation Fund (CIF)	\$222,966.17
Redevelopment Commission RDC General	\$578,423.19
Redevelopment Commission (RDC) Debt Service Reserve (DSR)	\$240,000.00
Huntington Bank 2015A Debt Service Reserve	\$63,997.12
BNY-Mellon 2004 SRF Debt Service Reserve	\$136,602.39

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Dan McMillan, Clerk Treasurer
City of Beech Grove

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

General Ordinance No. 3, 2017 – Continues to be tabled.

General Ordinance No. 5, 2017

Additional Appropriation

Clerk-Treasurer McMillan read the ordinance into the record. This is for the Churchman Avenue Sidewalk Project.

Councilor Brooks moved to approve the ordinance. Councilor Harrison seconded the Motion; which was approved by unanimous voice vote. General Ordinance No.5, 2017 was approved on Second Reading.

Clerk-Treasurer McMillan read the ordinance into the record. This is for the Churchman Avenue Sidewalk Project.

Councilor Harrison moved to approve the ordinance. Councilor Duffer seconded the Motion; which was approved by unanimous voice vote. General Ordinance No.5, 2017 was approved on Third Reading.

General Ordinance No. 6, 2017

*Amends Chapters 94 and 98 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Beech Grove
-Open Burning – Sponsored by Councilor Vito Mascari*

Clerk-Treasurer McMillan read the amended ordinance into the record.

Councilor Mascari moved to amend:

L.2 of the ordinance to read, special small fires for the purpose of wiener roasts, hog roasts and other specialty cooking with open flame is permitted provided the open fire is contained in an approved container with access to a lid or is in the ground “6” depth, surrounded by a brick or cement block/ barrier extending a minimum of 6” in height.”. The fire pit may not exceed an internal diameter of 48 inches.

L.4 of the ordinance to read, the fire pit needs to be 15 feet from any residential structures, including houses, garages and barns and must also be 15 feet away from any overhead utility lines, this is determined by measuring the point on the ground which the utility crosses and measuring to the fire pit.

L.5 of the ordinance to read, an operable garden hose and, or a 5-gallon bucket of water must be readily available to extinguish the fire if necessary.

L.6 of the ordinance to read, a person over the age of 18 must be present at the residence when a bon fire is lit.

Councilor Lamping moved to approve the amendments. Councilor Duffer seconded the Motion; which was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Councilor Duffer moved to read by Title only. Councilor Mascari seconded the Motion; which was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Councilor Lamping moved to approve the ordinance with the amendments. Councilor Brooks seconded the Motion; which was approved by unanimous voice vote. General Ordinance No.6, 2017 was approved on Second Reading.

General Ordinance No.7, 2017

Amends Chapter 90 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Beech Grove -Animals – Sponsored by Councilor Vito Mascari

Councilor Duffer moved to read by Title only. Councilor Lamping seconded the Motion; which was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Clerk-Treasurer McMillan read the ordinance into the record.

Councilor Lamping moved to approve the ordinance as amended. Councilor Mascari seconded the Motion; which was approved by a 5-1 voice vote. Councilor Harrison voted no. General Ordinance No.7, 2017 was approved on Second Reading.

Parks Board 2018 Budget Presentation – John Park, Dan Norris and Joe Grant

Beech Grove Police Department 2018 Capital Improvements – Chief Swartz

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Bud Templin: Councilor Templin thanked everyone for coming and everyone for the department presentations. He also thanked the people who spoke to the ordinance involving chickens. I heard something the other day from a WWII Veteran, he said, it might not hurt once in a while if we have a great depression that only last three or four months, because we don't appreciate anything and I'm not referring to anyone or anything in particular, but when I do look at new people that are trying to be hired, it's not just Beech Grove, it's the whole world is that way and back then people couldn't even find a job and didn't know what they were going to eat. Things are better off in the world today, but a lot of people don't know it because that is just the way it is and they think what is bad to them wouldn't have been bad to people in the 1920's and 1930's. I do want to congratulate the Mayor and Dan when we have something happen in the city, we are proactive and don't just say, oops, that is the way life is, we say we care and you can see the Mayor's habits that way. We get involved, just like with the Marsh deal. One thing about Dan, I do enjoy the fact that you always know where he stands. He is perceived to be the bad guy of all of us sometimes. I don't agree with everything he says, but you do know where he stands and that is the nicest word, I had on the list and ultimately it is up to the City Council to make the decisions. I would also appreciate it if the Mayor would reduce the items that are put on the agenda.

Jim Brooks: Thanked everyone for coming. He appreciates all the ideas that were brought forward and the Council is going to have to do some studying, thinking and praying to figure out what to do.

Dave Harrison: Thanked everyone for coming. During Little League, I kept the book for my son's team and you're dealing with 8 ,9 and 10-year-old kids that are learning to pitch and throw to each other and it's a fun deal. I had this little boy that sat next to me all year long, his name was James and this little kid he was so smart. All these other kids they would always come up to you and you would tell them the line up ten times, you're batting 6th, your batting 7th. This continued and after about the 6th game or so it got to the point where I would say, did I call your name, I'll let you know, so after one game James looked at me and he said, you know you would think they would know by now. He said that because the order was pretty much the same order every game. James improved and got to be a pretty good little ball player and he got a real big hit for us one game and he hit it to the outfield. Chris Duffer came to a game and I know he told me who his grandson was and I didn't remember who he was, it was James. Chris came to a game at the end of the year and I said, is this your grandson and he said yes. That is the best kid I have ever seen. He sat there all year and he was a good kid. It was a fun year.

Councilor Mascari: Thanks to everyone for coming out. It's fun to see people get involved in the process. People standing up and speaking to support it or against it, that is why I was interested in doing this. Tammy, thank you for your help.

Councilor Lamping: Progress is not easy, but it's fun to be part of. I want to thank the Parks Department for all they do and Lifebride for giving out backpacks on Saturday, you're talking 450 to 500 kids. Mrs. Buckley, Mayor, we were there working, having fun, talking, laughing, that's who we are and that is what we have provided for our community and when you see that, that is what we can brag about. That's good stuff.

Councilor Duffer: Asked Mayor Buckley to look into a grant writer. We hear about people talking about Carmel, Greenwood or Fishers, any of those and they can just go pave over a cornfield and bring in another business and we can't do that, we have to get creative, it's not going to be easy. We're 4.4 square miles and that is how big we are and how big we are going to get. To the individuals that spoke, that is not an easy thing to do and I appreciate that. That's good that you come and do that and thank you to Dave for the kind words about my grandson. I want to tell a quick story about him, when he was about three years old, a fire truck came screaming by sirens and red lights and he said, that was a big damn fire truck. I said, what, and he said, that was a big fire truck, so he knew what word was the wrong word right away.

Councilor Day: Absent

Mayor Buckley: The Board of Works approved a contract with INDOT and Amtrak for the Hoosier State Passenger Service and that takes effect, July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018. This is the first time in a long time that INDOT has funded a budget of three million dollars to service that train, before they have not done anything. This is good for Beech Grove Amtrak. Also, this Wednesday in these chambers at 1:00 we will have a press conference regarding the history of Marsh and what we are working on toward the future.

Councilor Brooks - Thanked everyone for supporting Relay for Life on June 16th and June 17th. They raised over \$50,000.00 for the fight against cancer.

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilor Lamping moved to adjourn. Councilor Mascari seconded the Motion; which was approved by unanimous voice vote. The meeting was adjourned at 10:19pm.

Dennis Buckley, Mayor

Dan McMillan, Clerk-Treasurer