

**BEECH GROVE CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, AUGUST 3rd, 2015**

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

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

All joined in the Pledge of Allegiance to our flag.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION:

[Indy Connect - Indianapolis MPO Presentation](#)- *Shawn Northern*

Indy Connect, Central Indiana's Transportation Initiative, is a partnership of the Indianapolis Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), Central Indiana Regional Transportation Authority (CIRTA), and Indy Go that is dedicated to providing Central Indiana residents with transportation options in support of the future development of our region.

The Indianapolis Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) is the agency responsible for all transportation planning services for the Indianapolis metropolitan area. The MPO planning process is required for receiving federal funds for airport, transit and highway improvements.

Because transportation improvements cut across municipal boundaries, the MPO is needed to coordinate cooperation and participation from all levels of government. The MPO's plans and recommendations are developed in cooperation with the Indianapolis Regional Transportation Council (IRTC), which consists of leaders from cities, counties and towns within the MPO's planning area. This area includes Marion County and portions of Boone, Hamilton, Hancock, Hendricks, Shelby, Morgan and Johnson counties.

The MPO is responsible for the MPO's Long Range Transportation Plan for the region. The Long Range Transportation plan helps guide the development of the area's transportation system through the year 2035, and is amended and updated annually, or as changing conditions and community needs dictate.

Mayor Buckley commented that the Metropolitan Planning Organization has funded projects for the City of Beech Grove, including, the Main Street Project, Sign Inventory, Safe Routes to School and the Churchman Avenue Sidewalk project. Shawn explained the 5 pots that the MPO has for projects. Mayor Buckley commented that the MPO is coming out Thursday to discuss possible funding of additional projects.

CLEAN Community Challenge- Comprehensive Local Environmental Action Network

is a challenge that IDEM has put out to cities and towns to recognize and award communities that are proactive in managing their environmental impact.

The City of Beech Grove' Quality of Life Plan is complete and the application has been submitted to IDEM. They will be finalizing the application and then submit the application to the IDEM Commissioner to get the City of Beech Grove into the CLEAN Community Challenge.

The Quality of Life Plan Highlight's:

A stakeholder Committee was established that included representatives from Police, Fire, Public Works Parks, a Citizen, Mayor Buckley, and Wessler Engineering.

Listed below are the established environmental goals; which includes five projects that will be implemented over a four year period:

Recycling- plans to educate and encourage recycling by initiating a curbside recycling program through Ray's Trash Service and educate the public on the positive environmental impact of recycling.

Native Vegetation- increase native species of plantings throughout the park and the Greenway Trail could be included.

Recycle Fluorescent Bulbs- throughout the City buildings because these contain mercury.

Collect Unwanted and Expired Prescriptions- this would involve the police department and would dispose of unwanted and expired medications properly.

Shredding Program- this shredding program will recycle the paper it collects.

MAYOR BALLARD LIAISON'S REPORT: -presented by Kelly Foulk

Keep Indianapolis Beautiful- First ever Interactive Bike Library- Saturday, August 15, 2015, 10am to 2pm **at** KIB Headquarters (1029 Fletcher Ave.)The cost is \$20 (receive a FREE t-shirt when you pre-register). Door prizes will be awarded for readers who dress as their favorite literary character; those who stamp their library card at all 12 locations will be entered into a drawing for a grand prize.

The self-guided bike tour will begin at KIB's Fountain Square Headquarters (1029 Fletcher Ave.) where participants will receive their 'library card'—a detailed map of local community greenspaces and pocket parks, organized into different reading genres, and all accessible by bike. Each stop will feature a unique literary activity that highlights the outdoor location and the distinctive neighborhoods that make up Indianapolis. Participants are encouraged to plan their route according to their interests with topics ranging from: Science & Nature, Current Events, Children's Literature, Music, and many more.

[Blue Indy](#)- is the 100% electric car sharing program that is being rolled out and you can request them to look at your city. The survey is available at blue-indy.com/survey

[National Night Out](#)- is Tuesday, August 4th, 2015 and in Beech Grove it will be hosted by the Beech Grove Moose at 3320 South Emerson Avenue. From 5:30 to 8:00. Please check with your local police department to obtain specific details.

[Increase in Storm Water Rate Adjustment for Indianapolis](#)- this link can be used for information on your rate adjustment. Kelly explained that when figuring the ERU it includes air photos, gravel driveways, decks, patios, pole barns, and pool decks. Previously, the ERU was based on an imperious surface of 2500 square feet and the ERU was \$2.25, and that has now increased to 3800 square feet per parcel. The rate is \$1.10 per 1000 square feet. Mayor Buckley commented that he had read \$3.30 is a close estimate. He also said, Greenwood and Franklin is \$5.00 or \$6.00 per ERU. Kelly commented that there is over 300 million dollars in storm water improvements that need to happen because of the failing infrastructure especially throughout Franklin and Perry Townships.

Councilor Jennings commented that he cannot get to the bike ride from his house on a sidewalk. He and Kelly discussed the issue of safety and the need for sidewalks throughout the area.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Clerk Treasurer McMillan presented the July 6th, 2015 meeting minutes to the Council. Councilor Jennings moved to accept the minutes as written. Councilor Davidson seconded the Motion; which was approved by unanimous vote.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: two citizens signed up to speak and they would like to wait to speak when a particular ordinance is presented.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Greenscape Commission- on file.

Redevelopment Commission-on file.

Public Safety –none

Compliance- none

Financial Report: - presented by Clerk-Treasurer Dan McMillan

The month of July we had several bond payments due, they are as follows:

- 2012 Go Bond- \$108,768.75
- 2013 Fire Vehicles Lease/Purchase- \$13,656.95
- 2013 Police Vehicles Lease/Purchase- \$13,354.60
- 2005 RDC TIF Bond-\$138,720.00
- 2007 RDC TIF Bond-\$144,131.25

We completed the lien releases from the spring special collections, so we are up to date. As you may recall, when I took office in 2012 they were backed up to 2009. We have since brought them current and continue to keep them current.

Today I met with Unified and Christian Duncan for our 6 month health insurance review.

I also completed a review of the appropriations and budget for the first 6 months of 2015. Everything looks real good, including salaries. The Fire Department had extra in their salaries so they added a new firefighter who I believe was scheduled to start the classes today.

The Police Department have approximately \$25,000 extra in their salary budget. Of course it would be up to Mayor Buckley and Chief Swartz, but money is available to start a new police officer with the next class, if they would choose to do so.

The month of July has been busy with preparation of the budget. Judge Wells has turned in his budget and there will be a budget meeting with Mayor Buckley and Department Heads Thursday. The Parks Department is working on their budget. Category 1 expenses are almost complete and will include a 2% raise for all full time employees and an increase in insurance expenditures.

The budget hearing is scheduled for Monday, September 14th, at 7:00pm.

The City Website continues to grow and is a great asset to the citizens. Just a footnote, the website had 90,769 page views for the month of July. It is a valuable resource to many.

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	\$3,327,243.22
City utilities/Sewage/Wastewater	\$913,363.87
Main Street Redevelopment/Main Street Loans	\$271,397.61
City Court	\$88,800.50
Criminal Investigations (CIF)	\$280,291.89

Redevelopment Commission (RDC) General	\$296,480.14
Redevelopment Commission (RDC) Debt Service	\$584,842.97
BNY-Mellon 2004 SRF Debt Service Reserve	\$136,178.37
Huntington National Bank	\$64,115.75

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Dan McMillan, Clerk Treasurer
City of Beech Grove

PUBLIC COMMENTS: -none

OLD BUSINESS:

[General Ordinance No. 14, 2015](#)

...authorizes additional appropriations to the Public Safety LOIT (PS LOIT) Fund

Clerk-Treasurer McMillan read the ordinance into the record.

Councilor Bell moved to approve the ordinance. Councilor Stewart seconded the Motion; which was approved by unanimous voice vote. General Ordinance No. 14, 2015 passed on Second Reading.

Clerk-Treasurer McMillan read the ordinance into the record.

Councilor Bell moved to approve the ordinance. Councilor Davidson seconded the Motion; which was approved by unanimous voice vote. General Ordinance No. 14, 2015 passed on Third and Final Reading.

[General Ordinance No. 15, 2015](#)

...amends Article I of the Beech Grove Personnel Manual pursuant to "Employee Classification"

Clerk-Treasurer McMillan read the ordinance into the record.

Councilor Stewart moved to approve the ordinance. Councilor Bell seconded the Motion; which was approved by unanimous voice vote. General Ordinance No. 15, 2015 passed on Second Reading.

[General Ordinance No. 16, 2015](#)

...amends Chapter 78, Schedule (IC) of the Beech Grove Code of Ordinances

Councilor Davidson read into the record the amendment to the ordinance.

Councilor Stewart moved to approve the ordinance. Councilor Davidson seconded the Motion; which was approved by unanimous voice vote. General Ordinance No. 16, 2015 passed on Second Reading.

Councilor Davidson read into the record the amendment to the ordinance.

Councilor Stewart moved to approve the ordinance. Councilor Harrison seconded the Motion; which was approved by unanimous voice vote. General Ordinance No. 16, 2015 passed on Third and Final Reading. General Ordinance No.16, 2015 passed on Third and Final Reading.

General Ordinance No. 17, 2015

...amends the salary ordinance for appointed employees for the budget year 2015

Councilor Davidson read the ordinance into the record.

Councilor Davidson moved to approve the ordinance. Councilor Bell seconded the Motion; which was approved by unanimous voice vote. General Ordinance No. 17, 2015 passed on Second Reading.

NEW BUSINESS:

General Ordinance No. 18, 2015

Amends Chapter 77 of the Beech Grove Code of Ordinances pursuant to traffic schedules

Clerk-Treasurer McMillan read the ordinance into the record.

Mayor Buckley commented that this was prompted by residents on 14th Avenue, where the posted speed limit is 30 MPH. This needed to be amended for all the streets listed, because unless a street is specifically marked the speed limit is automatically assumed to be 30 MPH.

Councilor Jennings moved to approve the ordinance. Councilor Bell seconded the Motion; which was approved by unanimous voice vote. General Ordinance No. 18, 2015 passed on First Reading.

General Ordinance No. 19, 2015

Amends Chapter 153 of the Beech Grove Code of Ordinances pursuant to addresses on public buildings and property

Current Chapter 153: Building Numbering

Clerk- Treasurer McMillan read the ordinance into the record.

Karla Richardson reported that she had an incidence where they had an emergency; which was a cardiac arrest. They began to try to drive to the hospital and within a very short time realized that they were not going to make it, so she pulled into the fire station on Albany Street, where she could not get an answer at the door, so she called 911 who insisted she had to have an address, the fire department did not have an address plate, so consequently 911 dispatched the ambulance to the wrong location, the address has now been corrected and an address plate is now in place. 911 could not figure out how to get them help and where there location was. They told her to drive and to pull into somewhere that had an address. She pulled into a driveway with a garage that had no address, so by this time panic is beginning to set in, because after 2 stops she has been unable to locate an address and 911 is unable to get them help. The current situation with the 911 service and their incidence with 911 is what has prompted her to request this ordinance be amended.

She also posed a few questions regarding the amendment. They are as follows:

How will homeowners be notified that this is now an ordinance?

How many warnings will be given before the “final warning”?

She would like the fine to be re-evaluated, because she is concerned that it is too high.

Karla also commented that Councilor Davidson is working with local hardware stores to try and get discounts for address number/plates at a discount.

Chief Cheshire commented that the address was located on Albany Street but not on the west drive, the sign only read “ if you have an emergency call 911” a new sign has been installed that now reads “ if you have an emergency call 911 and the location 1202 Albany Street”. There was also an issue with the bells where they didn’t ring loud enough into the bay, so now industrial bells have been installed. As unfortunate as the incidence was, it brought forth corrections that needed to be made to the City buildings and dispatch. Mayor Buckley commented that when he was Fire Chief Albany Street in Beech grove and Indianapolis where often confused by dispatch.

Mayor Buckley asked Derek Blice. Compliance, to come forward to explain why he wrote the ordinance the way he has. He explained that there was a home in Park Grove that had a serious incidence and it had no address plate, so it was confusing for police officers to locate the correct address. This would also help the fire and police to locate addresses in the alleys, instead of trying to guess. LaCross, Wisconsin also use a very similar ordinance.

Councilor Stewart thanked Derek Blice for writing the ordinance, great idea and great effort. Councilor bell believes the fine is an eye opener for the homeowner to get it done. Derek Blice explained the fine amounts and timing on those. Karla commented that it could be \$325.00. Her point was she did not want to see people punished, but she just would like to see them comply for safety issues. Discussion continued between Karla, City Attorney, Craig Wiley and Derek Blice.

Chief Cheshire thanked the family for coming forward and he explained she did everything right and did a good job with the 911 call. Even with the frustration, she was experiencing she remained calm.

Councilor Davidson moved to amend the penalty as follows:

153.99 PENALTY

Any registered property owner in the City of Beech Grove who for 40 days from the first warning neglects or refuses to place or maintain the property number on such owned property shall be fined \$40.00 and a further penalty not exceeding \$5.00 per day after 10 calendar days thereafter should the property owner not comply.

Councilor Davidson commented that this fine is more in line with what they have been imposing for ordinance violations.

Councilor Jennings moved to amend the ordinance per Councilor Davidson’s request. Councilor Mobley seconded the Motion; which was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Councilor Davidson moved to amend as follows:

153:01 DISPLAY SPECIFICATIONS

The numbers shall be of color that contrasts with the background on which they are displayed.

Councilor Davidson moved to amend the ordinance per Councilor Davidson's request. Councilor Jennings seconded the Motion; which was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Councilor Jennings asked if it needs to be written into the ordinance how the homeowners will be notified. City Attorney Craig Wiley said, no.

Councilor Jennings moved to approve the ordinance with the two amendments. Councilor Davidson seconded the Motion; which was approved by unanimous voice vote. General Ordinance No. 19, 2015 passed on First Reading with two amendments.

General Ordinance No. 20, 2015

Amends Chapter 77 of the Beech Grove Code of Ordinances concerning streets and stop signs

Current Chapter 77, Schedule II. Through Streets and Stop Streets

Clerk-Treasurer McMillan read the ordinance into the record.

Mac Elder explained that there are a lot of children in the area and they believe the stop sign would get people to adhere to the speed limit. Chief Swartz doesn't think it will slow people down, but he does believe it will cause the street to be safer.

Councilor Bell moved to approve the ordinance. Councilor Jennings seconded the Motion; which was approved by unanimous voice vote. General Ordinance No. 20, 2015 passed on First Reading.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Councilor Dave Mobley- thanked everyone for coming out.

Councilor Jennings- nothing- thank you

Councilor Dave Harrison- . school is back in session and I am taking my grandson to school.

Councilor Anthony Davidson- he commented that Ordinance No.14 was passed this evening; which included money to purchase fencing and a gate at BGPD and he would like for us to make sure that IMPD has access to that. Chief Swartz explained that it will be keypad entry and they will have access to it. He also commented that he would like to see the City stick with the seven items that are listed in the additional appropriation and not steer away from them as they did with the purchases from the 2012 GO Bond. Also, a reminder that tomorrow is National Night Out and it is being held at the Moose from 5:30 to 8:00. It should be a good time. Thank you to the residents from Glengyle for attending and he is glad the Council got that passed. Also, thanks to Karla Richardson for coming out tonight and sharing her story.

He knows it is difficult for her to speak about and he apologizes. It is good to know that the issue has been fixed at least from the City of Beech Grove perspective, not speaking on behalf of Indianapolis dispatch.

Councilor Ed Bell- the Department Heads, Mayor Buckley and Clerk Treasurer McMillan have a budget meeting on Thursday.

Councilor Bell has formed the same budget committee as last year. Thank you all for coming.

Councilor Mary Stewart: thanked everyone for coming.

Councilor Kathy Coates- absent

Mayor Buckley announced the next regularly scheduled Council meeting will be on Tuesday, September 8th, at 7:00 pm, because Monday, September 7th is Labor Day.

Mayor Buckley announced that Monday, September 14th at 7:00pm there will be the Public Hearing on the 2016 Budget and Salary Ordinance.

Mayor Buckley announced that there will be a meeting with an update on the St. Francis Property Tuesday, August 4th at 7:00pm in Council Chambers.

ADJOURNMENT: Councilor Mobley moved to adjourn. Councilor Davidson seconded the Motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:29 pm. The next meeting will be Tuesday, September 8th, 2015 in City Hall Council Chambers.

Dennis Buckley, Mayor

Dan McMillan, Clerk–Treasurer

Minutes prepared by: Dan McMillan