

**BEECH GROVE CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
2016 BUDGET HEARING
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14th, 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.

Mayor Buckley opened the Public Hearing on the 2016 Budget for the City of Beech Grove and Beech Grove Public Library.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Susie McMillan signed up to speak, but asked to wait until after the budget was read.

Mayor Buckley asked Clerk-Treasurer McMillan to read the 2016 Budget into the record.

Clerk –Treasurer McMillan read the 2016 budget into the record as recorded on page 2 of these minutes.

2016 City of Beech Grove Budget –presented by Clerk -Treasurer McMillan

MAYOR	\$	96,825.00
CLERK	\$	174,788.00
COUNCIL	\$	58,500.00
COURT	\$	159,778.00
BOW	\$	465,800.00
SENIOR	\$	137,160.00
COMMUNITY	\$	112,061.00
CITY HALL	\$	25,800.00
CABLE	\$	10,000.00
POLICE	\$	3,213,467.00
FIRE	\$	3,428,000.00
PARKS	\$	234,717.00
PST LOIT	\$	1,597,485.00
MVH	\$	883,910.00
LR&S	\$	601,000.00
DEBT SERVICE	\$	215,994.00
FIRE PENSION	\$	360,000.00
POLICE PENSION	\$	603,000.00
CONT. ED	\$	30,000.00
PARKSNON-REVERTIN	\$	21,000.00
RAINY DAY	\$	-
CUM.CAP.DEV.	\$	-
TOTAL AMOUNT	\$	12,429,285.00

Increase \$857,598

Includes a 2% Raise for All Full-time Employees
 Includes 4-5 New Trucks for MVH
 Includes 2 New Trucks for Parks Dept.
 Includes a \$6,000 Increase for Parks Programs
 Includes 3 New Police Cars
 Increases LR & S Approximately \$92,000.00
 Includes 1 Additional Police & Fire Employee

2016 Beech Grove Public Library Budget- presented by Liz Schoettle Library Director

Personal Services- \$372,000.00

Supplies- \$28,500.00

Service & Charges- \$250,900.00

Capital Outlays- \$442,000.00

Debt Service - \$178,000.00

Total Budget- \$1,271,400.00

Jeff Peters- *Financial Advisor for the City of Beech Grove since 2004*

Jeff gave an overall view of the city's financial status. Jeff stated that the tax rate for the city was reduced. The taxes did not go down. The tax rate went down, and the tax levy went up.

Brad Meriwether, DPW Director- listed the improvements that have been made in DPW versus 4 years ago. He is very pleased with the direction the city has taken. He gave an update on the department.

Rob Cheshire, Fire Chief- commented that it is remarkable for a department of their size to have had the improvements they have seen in the past 4 years and he listed the improvements. He also commented that this budget is a good budget and he gave an update on the department. He also recognized Randall Hadler and Aaron Jeannette for their work on the CATS accreditation. There are a lot of procedures that have to be followed and it is a long tedious process. Beech Grove was the first department in the State of Indiana to receive the accreditation.

Mark Swartz, Police Chief- commented that the budget meets all their needs. He also listed the improvements the police department has seen over the past 4 years and gave an update on the department.

Councilor Jennings- asked if the nuisance ordinances that Council had passed are assisting with bringing the troubled businesses into compliance and Chief Swartz said it has and he explained how the ordinances are making a difference.

Mayor Buckley- commented on the increase in the police budget and some of the equipment that has been purchased for the department in the past 4 years.

Councilor Harrison - asked how many "in car" cameras the police department has and Chief Swartz commented they have 1 for each car. Councilor Harrison also asked about body cams and

Chief Swartz explained that he is not in favor of body cams at this time, because they are not citizen safe. Current law requires that all video must be shown, including video of the citizens. Councilor Davidson commented that the current cams do have audio.

Councilor Jennings asked Chief Swartz if the law would change to protect the citizens would the Chief be in favor of body cams at that time and Chief Swartz said, yes, he would.

Clerk Treasurer McMillan- commented on some accomplishments he has seen over the past 4 years as well as explained that he uses the DLGF Budgeting Manual in preparing the budget. He further explained how from reading State Statute he became aware that COIT revenues could be driven to fund the LR & S (paving budget) and PS LOIT could be used for public safety overtime and equipment.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Susie McMillan commented on the budget and she also stated that she had put in a public information request that she has yet to have all Councilors answer. She stated she is putting in another public information request tonight for any information and worksheets the Council used to prepare the budget.

Ordinance No. 25, 2015

...2016 Budget Ordinance for Beech Grove Public Library

Clerk Treasurer McMillan read the ordinance into the record.

Councilor Stewart moved to approve Ordinance No. 25, 2015. Councilor Jennings seconded the Motion; which was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Ordinance No. 22, 2015

... 2016 Salary Ordinance for the City of Beech Grove

Mayor Buckley and Clerk-Treasurer McMillan read the ordinance into the record.

Councilor Davidson moved to amend the ordinance to lower the pay rate of \$13.00 part-time employees down to \$12.00, including the part-time civil employee for the police lobby, not to include the police officer pay rate.

Councilor Davidson moved to approve the amendment. Councilor Mobley seconded the Motion; which was defeated by a 2 to 4 vote.

Councilor Mobley and Councilor Davidson voting yes, to approve the amendment. Councilors Jennings, Harrison, Bell and Stewart all voting no, to defeat the amendment.

Councilor Harrison moved to approve Ordinance No. 22, 2015 as written. Councilor Stewart seconded the Motion; which was approved by a 4 to 2 voice vote. Councilors Jennings, Harrison, Bell and Stewart voting yes, to approve the ordinance. Councilors Mobley and Davidson voting no. Ordinance No.22, 2015 passes on First Reading.

Ordinance No. 23, 2015

...2016 Civil City Budget Appropriations and Tax Rate

Clerk-Treasurer McMillan read the ordinance into the record.

Councilor Davidson moved to amend the ordinance to remove \$5,000.00 from the City Council Attorney appropriation to the Police Department; which an appropriation will be created to fund a police radar trailer. Chief Swartz explained it is a mobile radar trailer that could be moved around the city to possibly decrease speeding. The City Council Attorney appropriation would be decreased from \$10,000.00 to \$5,000.00

Councilor Jennings moved to approve the amendment. Councilor Davidson seconded the Motion; which was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Councilor Jennings moved to approve Ordinance No. 23, 2015 with the amendment. Councilor seconded the Motion; which was approved by unanimous voice vote. Ordinance No. 23, 2015 passed on First Reading.

COMMENTS BY COUNCILORS: none

ADJOURNMENT: Councilor Jennings moved to adjourn. Councilor Davidson seconded the Motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:31pm. The next meeting will be Monday, October 5, 2015 at 7:00pm in Council Chambers.

Dennis Buckley, Mayor

Dan McMillan, Clerk-Treasurer