

General Ordinance # 20, 2016

General Ordinance # 20, 2016 is an Ordinance that establishes a directive towards the establishment of, monitoring of, and including information to the general public concerning social media sites.

WHEREAS, it is important that the City inform citizens as to what is occurring especially when it pertains to their personal safety, and

WHEREAS, facebook and other social media assist the City in solving crimes, and

WHEREAS, a recent lawsuit has caused the City to remove two facebook sites of which one was very useful in solving crimes and keeping citizens informed.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED that the Common Council desires to establish a policy concerning the public's use of social media sites, as follows

We welcome your comments, however, please note this is a moderated online discussion page and not a public forum. Furthermore, while we encourage debate and discussion, we respectfully request that commentators be mindful that this is a family friendly page, and that comments and post be courteous and civil.

Comments or post made by the public to any social media page under the control of the City of Beech Grove will be monitored and while they will not be removed based on their opinion or viewpoint, the City reserves the right to remove comments that include:

- Comments unrelated to the purpose and topical scope of the page.
- Obscenities.
- Personal identifying information or sensitive personal information.
- Incitement to imminent lawless action.
- Speech presenting a grave and imminent threat.
- Fighting words.
- True threats.
- Fraud.
- Defamation (libel/slander).
- Solicitations to commit, or speech integral to, criminal conduct.
- Information that could reasonably compromise public safety.
- Promotion or advertisement in favor of, or in opposition to a political campaign or candidate.

- Apparent spam.
- Content posted by automatic software programs (i.e., "bots").
- Information which may interfere or compromise current investigations, police tactics and the safety of police staff and officers.
- Copyrighted material (if posted without the copyright holder's consent).

The City may take steps to remove a comment if it falls within one of the foregoing categories. By posting or commenting you agree to these terms of use. If a social media user's comment is removed, the moderator will notify the user by social media messenger that the comment was removed and the reason for its removal. You participate at your own risk, and recognize that by posting on this page, you are personally responsible for your comments and any information provided.

The City disclaims liability for advertisements, videos, promoted content, or comments posted by visitors to this page. The responsibility for external content of comments rest solely with the organization or individuals providing them. Any inclusion or exclusion of content or comments does not imply endorsement or opposition by the City of Beech Grove or any of its employees or officers.

For Police Department and Fire Department social media pages:

If you need police, fire, or EMS assistance for an emergency or to report a crime, please DO NOT USE THESE SOCIAL MEDIA PAGES. For emergencies call 911. For non-emergencies call the Beech Grove Police Department or Beech Grove Fire Department at 317 782-4949 or dispatch at 317 327-3811. All persons that appear on this page as suspects or wanted individuals are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that the Common Council desires to establish an Ordinance concerning the public's use of social media sites.

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that this Ordinance shall go into effect immediately upon passage by the Common Council, signed by the Council Pro-Tem, attested by the Clerk Treasurer and signed by the Mayor.