

RDC April 18, 2019 Minutes

The April meeting of the BG RDC took place on the second floor of BG City Hall. It got underway at 7:06 pm (1906 hours).

Members present included President Donald Webb, Vice President Ron Mote, Secretary Cathy Chappell, Ed Bell, Tara Wolf and School Board Representative Dr. Paul Kaiser.

A motion was made by Ed Bell to accept the March 2019 minutes and seconded by Ron Mote. The motion passed with no changes.

Next up were invoices. The expense voucher was not available to the RDC but Ed Bell made a motion to pay Tim Showalter \$300.00 and to pay Kevin Parsons up to \$9500.00. The motion was seconded by Tara Wolf. The motion passed.

Angel McKenna talked about Civic Plus which develops and maintains web sites. This organization already works with the State Board of Accounts plus they are ADA approved. Ms. McKenna passed out a hardcopy of what all this company can do with web sites including taking payments. They continually monitor security. As a city we would have to have someone, perhaps as many as 6 to 8 people to work on the web site. Training would be provided by Civic Plus. The handout provided by Ms. McKenna is available to read through the RDC.

The investment would be \$29,722.00. Anything necessary to get the site up and running would be included in this amount. The following years would be \$9,000.00 per year. If it would be easier, the expense could be made in smaller payments for a longer period of time. The first year would be \$15,907.00 as well as the 2nd and 3rd year. The 4th year and every year following would be \$9,450.00. Angel is asking for financial assistance from the RDC.

Attorney Robert Rund says the RDC can pay for the creation of a new web site, but the RDC cannot pay an ongoing expense to maintain it. Vice President Ron Mote stated he understood the project did not follow the RDC guidelines as far as follow up expenses. Dr. Paul Kaiser stated the school is in the process of redoing their web site and the cost presented to the RDC is not out of line.

It was suggested that Ms. McKenna approach the BG City Council regarding sharing expenses. She stated a meeting took place on April 11 and current elected officials, along with candidates running in the next election were invited.

President Donald Webb said his preference would be for the Mayor and City Council to approach the RDC for financial assistance for a new web site. He would like a long-term commitment for the city's involvement.

John, from Kevin Parsons and Associates, was the next speaker. He presented a new rendition of the "Welcome to Beech Grove" signs the RDC is considering installing on the off ramps of I465 and Emerson Avenue. Some of the changes include: doing away with the monument base and using column bases, removing the flower pots because of the ongoing expense, exchanging the 8-inch limestone caps to 4 inches. The lights would be color controlled. John stated Signcraft has still not contacted the company with a more solid fee for creating the signs. John has tried contacting them and is considering going to another sign company. After meeting with IPL it was determined the cost for adding the needed electricity for the lighted signs would be approximately \$100,000.00. The total construction cost opinion stands at \$445, 535.01. The construction engineering /inspection is \$44,553.50.

The RDC members were concerned about spending almost a half million dollars on signs. It's not that the RDC doesn't have the money, there is a concern that the money could be better spent on other projects. Secretary Cathy Chappell stated she would like signs, just not at such a high price. Ron Mote, Tara Wolf, Ed Bell and Don Webb were in agreement.

Dr. Kaiser suggested we try to find a sponsor to help pay for signs. The school just secured a corporate sponsor. Teacher's Credit Union is committing to 1.2 million dollars over 10 years for the Beech Grove Schools.

Mayor Buckley could not attend the meeting but he did forward the following information to Don: The medical building across 17th Avenue from the old St. Francis Hospital has sold, however, at this time no one is aware of what will be going in this building. On May 10 at 10am at City Hall there will be a meeting regarding the trailhead. Ed Bell will be the RDC representative. Plans are still underway for the ORCA grant application to be sent in early June. CSX is still an

ongoing project and if it comes to fruition, it will be a great addition to Beech Grove.

President Donald Webb discussed the application sent to us from the Speedway RDC. This would be for people to fill out prior to approaching the RDC for financial assistance. Cathy said she would be happy to mail it or maybe it could be on the Beech Grove web site for people to print and fill out.

A motion was made to adjourn by Ron Mote and seconded by Ed Bell. The motion carried and the meeting ended at 8:18 pm (2018 hours).

Respectfully submitted,
Cathy Chappell, Secretary