

RDC April 2018 Minutes

The monthly meeting of the Beech Grove RDC was held on Thursday, April 12, 2018. The meeting got underway at 7:07 pm (1907 hours) and ended at 7:50pm (1950 hours). Members present included: Vice President Ron Mote, Secretary, Cathy Chappell, Tara Wolf and Mark Rihm. President Donald Webb was absent due to a prior commitment. Also absent was school rep, Rick Skirvin.

First order of business was voting on the March 2018 minutes. A motion was made by Mark Rihm and seconded by Tara Wolf. The minutes were approved.

The next order of business was payments for outstanding invoices. The total amounted to \$21, 470.79. Those companies included: Borgmann, Tim Showalter, BG sewer bill, Peters Consultants, Lewis & Kappes and CrossRoads Engineers. A motion was made by Cathy Chappell to pay the above total and seconded by Mark Rihm. Tara Wolf abstained from voting.

Next on the agenda to speak was Mayor Buckley.

1. He stated that paving began today, April 12, on Adelaide Street near the high school. A new process treatment was being used. Nothing goes to a landfill. The waste is recycled. This process could go for years without potholes.
 2. New paving on 21st Avenue
 3. New sidewalks on South 6th.
 4. There will be a major sewer project in Park Grove Addition.
 5. A drainage problem on Churchman is going to be addressed.
6. Sometime in May the city will know if they will be receiving federal funding for new sidewalks on Thompson Road from Emerson to 9th Avenue, on the north side. The project is estimated at a cost of \$850,000.00.
7. Mayor Buckley stated a company has been hired to maintain the grass and pick up trash at the interstate exchange.
 8. Drainage problems will also be addressed on Killian Drive
9. The city is getting ready to do another road assessment. The rating is designated a poor, fair or good.
 10. The city council froze the storm water rate at \$3.75.

11. Franciscan Health reports by the end of June 2018, demolition will be completed on the former hospital on Albany Street.

Vice president Ron Mote asked the Mayor his opinion of the pothole problem in Beech Grove. The mayor replied that any road that starts in Indianapolis, continues through Beech Grove, and then picks up again in Indianapolis is considered a thoroughfare, and is to be maintained by the city of Indianapolis. Beech Grove has only had 36 complaints of potholes. He believes the repairs have been done quickly and efficiently.

Cathy Chappell mentioned the RDC has not voted to pay for half the Borgmann fee for maintaining the landscaping. However, the commission voted to pay the first \$1100.00 and table a final vote until the April meeting.

The funding for Elm Street was not approved.

Secretary, Cathy Chappell asked the mayor if there was any news regarding Next Stop Beech Grove. They will be presenting information at the May 7 City Council meeting. He stated in the beginning, 12 businesses signed up to participate and the number is now at 20.

Cathy Chappell asked Mayor Buckley if he would elaborate on the definition of public nuisance. The purpose was simply to go out and clean up the city. There are two types of nuisances: public and environmental. Environmental included abandoned cars, tall grass and weeds, trash, etc. Compliance does a plain sight inspection. The property owner is notified and given a set amount of time to fix the issues. If the property owner does not comply the first fine is \$100.00, the second fine is \$250.00 and the third is \$2500.00. A judge has to agree the owner is not doing what they were ordered to do and in addition to the fine, the property owner has to pay court costs. Following the fines, compliance can go back every single day and fine the homeowner. This is if the home owner does not take care of the problems.

A public nuisance can amount to too many runs by the police to the same location. Five public nuisances had been issued the previous week. If the fire department has to go back a second time and administer Narcan, the owner can

be fined. Narcan is the brand name of a medicine used to block the effects of opioids.

Ninety percent of the declared nuisances are renters and not home owners. There is a Rental Code Ordinance on the books, but the mayor will not enforce because it is too intrusive. The new ordinance will require homeowners to register their rental property with the city. The home owner will be given a checklist with guidelines. A letter will be sent to the home owner with issues that need to be fixed. If those issues are ignored, the property will be declared a nuisance. Sewer bills will be compared to the name listed as owner. The rental unit will have to be licensed in the amount of \$250.00 every two years. That fee is waived if the property owner can prove attendance at the Marion County Prosecutors Office Rental Property Program.

Also, if a home is sold in Beech Grove it cannot change the intent of the residential property without a variance. In other words, a single family dwelling cannot be changed to a double or even boarding rooms.

April 16 there will be a meeting to talk about new ordinances. No questions will be answered. The workshop is at 7pm. The public is welcome.

A motion was made by Tara Wolf and seconded by Mark Rihm to adjourn the meeting. The vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,
Cathy Chappell, Secretary

