

RDC February Minutes 2019

The February 21st, 2019 RDC meeting was held on the 2nd floor of the BG City Hall. The meeting started at 7:07 PM (1907 hours). All members were present: President Don Webb, Vice President Ron Mote, Secretary Cathy Chappell, Tara Wolf, Ed Bell and Dr. Paul Kaiser.

Ed Bell made a motion to accept the January minutes and seconded by Ron Mote. The motion passed.

The next order of business was outstanding bills. The bills totaled \$11,096.95. The first bill was regarding CrossRoads Engineering in the amount of \$7915.00. A motion was made by Ron Mote and seconded by Ed Bell to pay this amount. A second bill for \$2700.00 also for CrossRoads was submitted. Cathy Chappell made a motion to pay this amount and it was seconded by Ron Mote. Both motions carried. Member Tara Wolf did not vote on payments to CrossRoads Engineering. The balance of the bills totaled \$481.95. A motion was made by Tara to pay the balance and seconded by Ron Mote. The motion carried.

Angel McKenna spoke on behalf of the Parks Department regarding playground equipment. She stated there is enough money for the equipment at Sarah T. Bolton Park, but no money for Don Challis Park. Angel approached the RDC in hopes of the Commission helping to pay for some of the equipment, if not all. The Parks Dept. would like to have the equipment installed in time to be enjoyed this upcoming season. Angel also said to order the equipment for both parks at the same time, is a savings of nearly \$39,000.00. The amount of money for Don Challis Park playground equipment totals \$78,556.56 which includes the products, installation, and freight.

The following motion was made by Ed Bell. The RDC finds the replacement of the playground equipment in the amount of \$78,556.56 for Don Challis Park will support and enhance the consolidated TIF area in Beech Grove. This motion was seconded by Tara Wolf. The motion carried.

In addition to talking about the parks Angel also asked if the RDC would be interested in discussing a new web site. The design company is called Civic Plus.

The cities of Zionsville and Chesterton already use web sites designed and operated by this company. Angel stated she would do a little more research regarding this matter.

Jim Coffman, treasurer of Next Stop Beech Grove was the next speaker. He was present to update the RDC on OCRA. The application is due to OCRA on June 28, 2019. There are 12 businesses on the list. Last year 3 businesses dropped out. The grant is in the amount of \$600,000.00. The businesses have to match 25%. That gives a balance of \$150,000.00 due from businesses. Jim presented the RDC with paperwork listing various amounts of money needed to proceed with applying for grant money: construction cost budget for buildings \$17,000.00 above grant award, grant administrative cost \$48,000.00, environmental review \$5000.00 (this portion paid by the city), labor standards \$5000.00 and architectural final design and inspections \$75,000.00.

Businesses which have made a commitment include: The Studio, Mader Design, Henthorn, Hair Snips and BG Chamber (same area), 5th Ave Grill and Bar, Dr. Jordan, 1949 Tavern, Wine and Local Artists, Masonic Lodge, Eckstein Shoes, Tea Room of Rustic Root, The Vault, Victory Rolls, D Taps, (same area) and Napoli Villa.

Jim said Next Stop Beech Grove would be happy with any financial help from the RDC.

The Mayor's Report:

1. Housing prices are up 11%.
2. Bids for the roundabout at Arlington and Churchman go out on July 10. Construction will begin approximately 60 days later.
3. The city applied under HSIP for funding for the roundabout at Churchman and 25th Avenue. It must be approved by MPO and INDOT.
4. Greenway is progressing. Almost through the environmental stage. They are working on right a ways and private properties. There are approximately 10 properties.

5. The Thompson sidewalk project is being bumped up to perhaps 2021.
6. INDOT determined the intersection of Victory Drive and Emerson went from the 50th most dangerous intersection in Marion County and the donut counties to the 19th. It is now available to request Federal Funding.
7. INDOT will do an extensive study in 2024 regarding I65 and I465.
8. There were 6 parcels of land at the Big Four and Arlington. That have been completed.
9. Mayor Buckley, Jeff Mader and a representative from Franciscan Alliance have been meeting to discuss design options from the trailhead. As soon as the exact location and size are determined, Franciscan Alliance will deed that section of property over to the city. By doing so, it will make it easier to maintain.
10. 16th Avenue from Albany to Main will become more pedestrian friendly. 15th Ave leading into the park will be redone, Byland from 12th to 9th will be redone.

Mr. Jeff Mader passed out a couple of design concepts for the trailhead. Franciscan Alliance has saved some cornerstones from the hospital. There will be seat walls, bike racks and signage perhaps telling the history of the hospital.

Secretary Cathy Chappell asked Mr. Mader if there was a possibility of selling bricks purchased by the public that can be engraved. Jeff said that was something that could be discussed. Dr. Paul Kaiser asked about the possibility of historical markers.

RDC Attorney, Robert Rund, asked permission from the commission if he could have Financial Consultant Jeff Peters prepare a report for June 15th. The RDC members agreed.

Robert also discussed two bills have been presented that if passed, would allow the school board representative to become a voting member of the RDC. It is out of the Senate bill, but still in the house bill.

Alex, assistant to Robert, discussed how some of the big box stores are challenging their tax assessments. They are successful in getting

assessments well below values. Both the Beech Grove Lowe's and Walmart have been successful and the RDC is losing TIF money.

A motion was made by Cathy Chappell to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Ron Mote. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Cathy Chappell, Secretary