

## RDC Meeting March 17, 2016

The Beech Grove RDC met on March 17, 2016 on the second floor of City Hall. The meeting began at 7:00pm (1900 hours).

Those present included President Don Webb, Vice President Ron Mote, Secretary Cathy Chappell and members Jannis King and Tammy Storey. Member Mac Bellner was unable to attend.

Jannis King made a motion to accept the February 2016 minutes, seconded by Ron Mote.

First order of business was the outstanding bills. The total was \$1387.35. Cathy Chappell made a motion to pay the amounts due and Ron Mote seconded the motion. Checks were approved for Lewis & Kappes, Beech Grove Sewer Bill and Tim Showalter.

The next order of business was election of officers. Jannis King made a motion to nominate Donald Webb for President and Ron Mote seconded the motion. Cathy Chappell made a motion to nominate Ron Mote as vice president and Donald Webb seconded that motion. Donald Webb made a motion to nominate Cathy Chappell for secretary and the motion was seconded by Jannis King. The vote was unanimous for all three candidates. Those elected will serve until the end of 2016.

Attorney Robert Rund stated he was still unaware if the law changed to allow the school board liaison member to now vote on motions. It is something he plans to check into.

President Webb asked Cathy Chappell and Ron Mote to give a brief outline of what has been discussed at the combined meetings with the BG Chamber of Commerce members and local business owners. The purpose of the meetings is to discuss grant money for Main Street businesses. Cathy mentioned a guest from the city of Franklin talked about the process they went through regarding obtaining grant money and how it was used. Krista said it was a long process and not without problems. She made us aware of hiring the right companies and how plans need to be very specific on how to proceed. Cathy said organizations are required to register as a 501C3 before even applying for grant money. Council member Ed Bell used to live in Franklin and has visited recently and said many improvements were made.

Ron spoke about the meeting he attended in Greenwood, IN. He mentioned what a struggle it was in Greenwood to get the process going. Even the mayor of Greenwood was not in favor of doing any improvements on Main Street. Instead, he wanted to tear down several old buildings to widen Main Street. Cathy stated Amy Masterson asked the Greenwood speaker Brad about the committees formed to select design requirements, façade paint colors, etc. He stated the businesses made their own design decisions. Cathy and Ron both reiterated the BG RDC could not commit to financial assistance at this point. Perhaps in the future, depending on the tax revenue from St. Francis, Walmart and Lowes, maybe the RDC can play a bigger roll.

Ed, Cathy and Ron all agreed the Beech Grove Chamber of Commerce has taken the lead on the committee becoming a 501C3 and applying for grant money. The grant money will come from OCRA. A blighted area has to be declared to even apply for the grant money.

Ron mentioned several local business owners felt like the schools should spend their funds in a more responsible way and not rely on the RDC. However, attorney Robert Rund stated had the RDC not been given TIF money, the schools would have been awarded more funds.

Cathy said at this point no future meetings regarding Main Street businesses have been scheduled. Cathy also said to look up the website for OCRA and perhaps it would answer some questions about grant money.

Attorney Robert Rund discussed the landfill. He said the RDC has to have permission to either sell or give away the property. It was once again mentioned how Mr. Moorehouse would like to have back the 18 acres. Mr. Moorehouse will not commit to concrete plans for developing the property. He has mentioned greenhouses and also solar panels.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting all were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,  
Cathy Chappell, Secretary