

## **RDC Minutes – August 19, 2021**

The Beech Grove RDC met on Thursday, August 19, 2021, on the second floor of Beech Grove City Hall. Those members attending included Matthew Kochevar, President, Liz Lamping, Vice President, Cathy Chappell, Secretary, Nathan Rinks, James Siegman and Rob Challis. The meeting got underway at 7:01pm (1901 hours.)

First order of business was the minutes from June 2021. A motion was made by Liz Lamping to accept the minutes as presented and seconded by Nathan Rinks. The motion was unanimous to accept.

The docket was next on the agenda. Those companies listed included AES, Regions Bank, Peters Consultants, and Lewis Kappes. The outstanding invoices total \$176, 876.43. A motion was made by Nathan Rinks to approve the amount and seconded by Cathy Chappell. The motion carried.

Liz Lamping discussed the RDC balance with BG Clerk Treasurer, Jim Coffman and at the time of this meeting the amount was \$554, 081.11.

Mr. Trent Newport, President of CrossRoads Engineers and Andrew Wolf gave a presentation regarding a possible amphitheater for Beech Grove. Andrew presented renderings of possible locations in Sarah T. Bolton Park. Trent talked about CrossRoad's involvement in the construction of the Franklin, IN amphitheater which is part of Franklin Park. The entire park, which includes a farmer's market, pickle ball courts, and two restrooms flanking the amphitheater. The entire park comes in at 5 to 6 million dollars. The amphitheater and restrooms come in at 1.5 million dollars. Nathan Rinks asked about sponsorships and means of funding the Amphitheater. Trent stated Hubler car dealership donated \$250,000.00, and the Franklin RDC is still looking for more sponsorships and naming rights.

Secretary, Cathy Chappell printed off photos of various amphitheaters around Indiana, Ohio, and Illinois. The purpose was just to give an idea of various designs.

Mr. Newport wanted to say a few words about the trailways. It is moving right on time and is expected to be completed in November 2021. When Phase 1 is done, conversations will start on Phase 2 which begins on Emerson Avenue. He plans to meet with the school superintendent to make sure the plans have not changed regarding the layout.

Vice President, Liz Lamping provided information regarding the 3<sup>rd</sup> and Main Street Project. She stressed the owners are willing to work with us on this project but it's clear the billboard will stay. One of the main concerns is the liability issue. Mr. Ben Easley could not attend the August RDC meeting but will be at the September meeting. RDC attorney Robert Rund

expressed a concern over someone getting hurt on the property as well as not having any say so in what is displayed on the billboard.

Police Chief Michael Maurice talked about the new police station. Nothing has been finalized but he is confident plans will work out. He would like the RDC to consider purchasing property to develop additional parking. The area he has in mind would make space for approximately 50 vehicles. Member Nathan Rinks asked if the RDC would simply be purchasing the property, or also develop the parking area. Chief Maurice said the RDC would be buying and developing the land and would be totally funded by the RDC.

Mayor Buckley briefly updated the RDC on the following: police department, Franciscan Trail, Thompson Trail, peanut roundabout, the former Safeway Grocery, and the CSX property. He did also describe the issue with the parking lot at the Community Center. Mayor Buckley said he would go into more detail at a later date.

President Matthew Kochevar discussed the need to prioritize future projects and we need to be thinking about and working on a comprehensive plan. Something that could go well into the future and at least into the next 5 years. He mentioned the possibility of a special meeting to discuss the RDC future.

Member Nathan Rinks mentioned a new business in BG. The name is The Local Radish, and the former Vault will become a Silver Linings Coffee Shop.

Nathan Rinks made a motion to adjourn and seconded by Liz Lamping. The motion carried and the time was 8:13pm (1311) hours.

Respectfully submitted,  
Cathy Chappell, Secretary