**BEREA CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING FEBRUARY 16, 2016**

The Berea City Council met in a regular session, Tuesday, February 16, 2016; Mayor Steven Connelly presiding. A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

**COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:** Powell, Kerby, Wagers, Caudill, Hembree, Terrill

**ABSENT:** Farmer, Little

**OFFICIALS**: J. Gilbert, R. Stone, C. Chasteen, D. Gregory. S. Sandlin, D. Brumley, D. VanWinkle, K. Hensley, P. Bloom, D. Isaacs, E. Fortner, E. Campbell

**VISITORS:** Tim Taylor, Steve Wilkins, Jason McClure, Carl Towne, Todd Hopper, Ali Blair, Brett Hetzell, Josh Bills, Irvin Lowenstein, Reid Connelly, Lauren Skiles, Sandy Crum, Susan Jordison, Beverly Ellison, Deborah, Murrar, Lori Sliwa, Crystal Barrett, Chesity Roberts, Tami Gentry, Virginia Brannan, Connor Runyan

\*A work session was held at 5:15 to review and discuss the amended budget; department heads presented their justifications; capital project funds were reviewed. The utility department has increases for legal fees/services for the pole attachment fees.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES: FEBRUARY 2, 2016**

Caudill motioned, Kerby seconded to approve the minutes of February 2, 2016; all ayes.

**BEREA FARMERS MARKET OUTREACH – DREW ELLIOTT AND KATRINA REID**

Ms. Reid, the Outreach Coordinator of the Berea Farmers Market informed the council and citizens that the grant they received from the USDA, (the Farmers Market Promotion Grant) benefits the Berea Community directly. They are a producer only market; any money spent at the farmers market is spent on food that has been grown in KY, no foods are imported, or brought in. Any leftover produce is allowed to be donated to either the Housing Authority, and/or the Berea Food Bank. The Outreach programs have touched many other groups and organizations in Berea; children’s programs, senior programs, and assistance with low income families. There are many ways the community can be involved with the group.

Drew Elliott, President of the Berea’s Farmers Market added that the group recently performed a feasibility study. (He passed around the questionnaire and surrounding markets information they gathered) The Berea Market is requesting a partnership with the city; the most important need is a permanent location; the market has grown and will continue to do so, and he would like to see our market grow regionally. The food grown locally helps Berea and helps our local farmers. He recently met with our Business Development Director and he sees a lot of promise in working with the city. The market has been at various locations throughout town, and Berea College has partnered with them in the past. A free lunch program is planned for the summer in the grassy area across from Peoples Bank. Mr. Elliott would like to come back and bring the results of the study to the council, once it is completed.

**BEREA CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING FEBRUARY 16, 2016**

Page 2

Mayor Connelly informed the council the agenda would need to be amended to add an Executive Session at the end of business, to hear a report on possible litigation. Little motioned, Caudill seconded to amend the agenda, all ayes.

**MT. VAPORS OF BEREA – THERESE STACHOWIAK**

Ms. Stachowiak recently opened the MT Vapors on Chestnut street, she came to ask the city council to consider amending ordinance #20-14; the Smoking Ordinance. Her store is not asking to smoke, the shop doesn’t sell tobacco products; it is vapors, which offers an alternative to smoking cigarettes. She would like to have her customers to be able to try the e-cigarette in her store and keep this type of business here in Berea, many people drive to Richmond or Lexington to buy these types of products. The vapors doesn’t produce second hand smoke like cigarettes do. Can the language be changed for a partial exception for e-cigarettes retail businesses? Mayor Connelly stated the city passed the ordinance at the request of the Madison County Health Department; he read some of the definitions listed in the ordinance. Council could hold a work session to discuss the request of Ms. Stachowiak. She invited everyone to come visit her shop.

**BID RECOMMENDATION – CHERRY ROAD COURT – WATER MAIN UPGRADE.**

Utility Director, Ed Fortner stated five (5) bids were received and opened at the last council meeting; one bidder did not met the requirements and therefore is rejected. The engineers and the utility department personnel reviewed the bids and recommends to award the bid to the low bidder; Johnson & Johnson Builders in the amount of $40,934.20. There were no objections; bid awarded.

**RESOLUTION #01-16; AMENDED RESOLUTION #10-13**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BEREA, KENTUCKY, AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 10-2013 TO REFLECT THE NAME CHANGE FROM STEMCO PRODUCTS, INC., TO ENPRO ASSOCIATES, LLC.**

Corporate Counsel read the resolution by title and summary. Hembree motioned, Little seconded to approve and adopt the resolution; all ayes.

**SOLID WASTE FRANCHISE CONTRACT EXTENSION**

Corporate Counsel read the contract extending the franchise for collection and disposal of solid waste in the City of Berea for an additional two years with Waste Connections of KY, Inc. inclusive of rate increases. Little motioned, Powell seconded; all ayes with Wagers voting no, motion approved.

**MADISON COUNTY AMBULANCE BOARD – RE-APPOINTMENT SUNDAE PARK**

The Ambulance Board has notified the city that the term of Ms. Sundae Park has expired; she does seek re-appointment. A recommendation has been received from the county judge, and the council will make the appointment. Powell motioned, Kerby seconded to re-appoint Ms. Park to another term; all ayes.

**BEREA CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING FEBRUARY 16, 2016**

Page 3

**HOUSING AUTHORITY BOARD RE-APPOINTMENT – BETTY OLINGER**

Mayor Connelly stated the term of Ms. Olinger on the Berea Housing Authority has expired, she is willing to continue. Wagers motioned, Little seconded her re-appointment; all ayes.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Audit & Finance** – Chairman Little reported the council met prior to the business meeting to review the Amended Budget; there were very little changes, our revenues are up and most all expenses were within our line items. We appreciate our employees, department heads and administration, it takes everyone working together to make things work this well.

**Public Works** – Chairman Powell reminded everyone to be very careful during the snow events, some people do not stop at the intersections, crosswalks, and traffic lights because they fear they won’t be able to take off again. Snow removal has been running very well, and we have received very few complaints.

**Economic Development** – Councilman Caudill reported the committee met Monday evening with Danny Isaacs, Business Development Director. They had a very productive meeting; Mr. Isaacs shared information of a “Needs Assessment” he recently conducted that involved much of local industries needs which including training, workforce, demographics, etc. Discussion was held about a possible future technology center, and the current technology center in Richmond that students are currently bused to. We will continue to look at helping our industries and businesses locate and stay in Berea. The cities web-site needs some work to provide more information for Economic Development.

**RECOGNITION OF VISITORS:**

Steve Wilkins passed out a fact sheet prepared by the Berea Energy Efficiency Supporters (BEES) concerning factors they felt important when choosing our possible future Wholesale Power Provider. He also read a letter that was provided with the fact sheet highlighting concerns and questions that he believes would be helpful to ask the consultants during the special called meeting on the 17th.

**CITY ADMINISTRATORS REPORT: R. STONE**

* Appreciates the time and dedication of our council, staff, and Finance Director, Ms. Meeks, in preparing and reviewing our Amended Budget. The ordinance will be on the next council meeting’s agenda.
* On Monday, February the 22nd at 9am, a group of our staff members along with the Mayor will meet with the Department of Local Government to receive our CDBG Grant for the new police/fire/city hall building. We will meet with the building consultants to finalize the building plans Thursday morning at 9am. We will bring a calendar of our process before the council prior to our next meeting.
* The Utility Consultant’s will be here for tomorrow evening at 5pm to review the materials that were sent out today and to discuss the RFP’s for our Wholesale

**BEREA CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING FEBRUARY 16, 2016**

Page 4

Power Supply Contract. We will meet with KU on the 24th at 5pm to review their proposal; in the near future we will invite Utility Directors to give their statements/reasons for leaving, or staying with KU. This is a good opportunity to gain more information for this big decision.

* We commend our Public Works/Streets Department for their work on the snow removal during the recent events. We do want it known publically that one of our large trucks went into the ditch; the first available and next on the list was Powell’s Towing.

**Questions:**

**Terrill** – requested Codes Director, Dale VanWinkle to clarify the news in the paper regarding mobile homes and manufacturing homes.

Mr. VanWinkle explained a few months ago the City Council asked the Planning Commission to look into the possibility of allowing manufactured in the city. Mr. VanWinkle stated a modular home is brought in-in parts and assembled on sight, on a permanent foundation; these are approved in the state of KY and meet the building code, and can be placed anywhere a single family unit can be built. A mobile home is on wheels, and completely assembled, they are usually set up on blocks and can be moved. The Planning Commission questioned if the mobile homes were compatible with other homes in a specific area, they have to have the hitch and the wheels removed, they have to have brick or vinyl siding and be placed on a permanent foundation. We have talked to the PVA and were told the owner must request the mobile home become real estate, not a licensed vehicle. We are not trying to create “Ghetto’s”, we are making sure these units are compatible with the surrounding homes. At this point we are gathering information and will see if the Planning Commission wishes to hold a public hearing on this issue. One main question is the property values in the area, once we have gathered all the facts, we will bring this information to the council; manufacturing homes are much different than they were years ago, and better made.

Kerby motioned, Little seconded to go into Executive Session to discuss a legal matter. Utility Director, Ed Fortner was asked to remain for possible questions or comments.

Adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Reconvened at 7:42 p.m; no action taken.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

**Hembree** – nice to hear from the Farmers Market Group; I’ve enjoyed them being in the Churchill Building.

**Caudill** – thanks to the Public Works Department for doing a great job during all our snow events.

**Kerby** – thanks to all the city employees for keeping the lights on and the streets cleared.

Meeting adjourned: 7:45 p.m.