**BEREA CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING JAN. 5, 2016**

The Berea City Council met in a regular session, Tuesday, January 5, 2016; Mayor Steven Connelly presiding. A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

**COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT**: Powell, Little, Farmer, Wagers, Caudill, Terrill

**ABSENT:** Kerby

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

**VISITORS:** Tim Taylor, Steve Wilkins, Bill Suters, Joshua Bills, Andy McDonald, Beth Meyers

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES: DECEMBER 15, 2015**

Farmer moved, Caudill seconded to approve the minutes of December 15, 2015; all ayes.

**ORDINANCE #01-2016; REPEALING GARAGE/YARD SALE PERMITS – 1ST READING**

Corporate Counsel read the ordinance in its entirety.

**ORDINANCE #02-2016; ZONE CHANGE: 300 & 320 NORTH DOGWOOD DRIVE – 1ST READING**

Corporate Counsel read the ordinance in its entirety.

**ORDINANCE #03-2016; DELTA NATURAL GAS FRANCHISE – 1ST READING**

Corporate Counsel read the ordinance by title and summary.

**ORDINANCE #04-2016; WINDSTREAM TELEPHONE FRANCHISE – 1ST READING**

Corporate Counsel read the ordinance by title and summary.

**CHANGE ORDER #1; GROVES CONSTRUCTION – 2015 T & D UPGRADE – UTILITY DEPARTMENT**

Utility Director Ed Fortner informed the council this is a balancing change order; original contract was $716,650.40, with modifications and adjustments, the new revised contract price is $746,435.17. Change order approved without any objections.

**AWARD OF BID – MINI SUB-STATION – UTILITY DEPT.**

Groves Construction was the low bidder at $581,500.00 on this project; all requirements are met and it is recommended to accept their bid. Recommendation approved without any objections.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Audit & Finance – J. Little**

Chairman Little motioned to accept the bid from Shawn Sandlin for the 1983 Fire Truck in the amount of $4824.14; Terrill seconded. All ayes.

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Chairman Little commended Mayor Connelly of his overview of the city during the past year. There was a good article in the Richmond Register yesterday. He is looking forward to a new year ahead of the goals in 2016; if we all work together we can get a lot of things done.

**Personnel – V. Farmer**

No report.

**Public Works– C. Powell**

* Old business items were reviewed.
* The Oak Grove drainage problem will be addressed soon.
* The trail markers are in; weather permitting they will be installed.
* Exit 76 storm drains will be addressed; Adkins Construction will run a camera in the drain to check for breaks and blockage.
* The street signs in the Oaks Subdivision will be replaced, the decorative type that was installed during the development are not up to the standards that are required.
* We have received complaints of speeders on Brooklyn Blvd., residents are requesting extra patrol in this area. Speed limit on city streets is 25MPH unless otherwise posted.
* The State Highway Department will be notified of the water issue on Hwy 21 and Neeley Street.

Public Works Director Dwayne Brumley informed the mayor and council of the new sign regulations now required by the State. In 2012 a mandate came out requiring all street and stop signs to be taller, reflective, and with a break-away type pole. The department is getting all the new signs changed out. Subdivisions can install decorative type signs, but they are required to meet the State specifications.

**Economic Development – C. Hembree**

The next meeting date will need to be moved, it falls on the holiday.

**RECOGNITION OF VISITORS:**

Joshua Bills, representing the Berea Utilities Advisory Board reported the following: the board met this morning with the Utility Consultants; the board is requesting the council to ask the consultants to give a presentation that would compare KYMEA with the existing bidders from the RFP. They also requested a public meeting to hear from other municipals about their decisions to either stay with KU or join KYMEA; this information could better help us with formulating our decision. There are many factors that need to be considered, with competitive options that might benefit Berea. We will have to have a transmission study done and could join in the study with KYMEA at a cost $10,000 or pay $100,000 for our own separate study while continuing to pay the consultant prices. Discussion was held among the council and Mayor Connelly; a consensus was reached to hold a public hearing with the consultants to include an invitation for other

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municipalities to attend. Councilman Little stated his goals as we move forward with our Utility decision.

Steve Wilkins also addressed the council; he was at the meeting this morning and it was stated that KYMEA is tabled for a minimum for 60 days while the city investigates the RFPs from the established electric providers. The consultants have analyzed the proposals and have determined four (4) leading competitors. Berea Energy Efficiency Supporters endorse and support BUAB’s recommendation to the council. He read some of the specifics for prompting their support.

**CITY ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT: R. STONE**

* Had prepared a five-page report of the cities accomplishments, but will address them at a later date.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

**Hembree** – thanked the committee’s that presented reports this evening.

**Caudill** – echo the sentiments, it was a great year, thank you for everyone that made it so. He appreciates the discussions, this is a very important decision.

**Farmer** - Happy New Year, thanked everyone for being here with good information.

**Little** – good discussions and good communications is what makes good outcomes!

**Powell** – he is happy that the other council members understands the utility issue!

Meeting adjourned: 7:55 p.m.