**BEREA CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING APRIL 19, 2016**

The Berea City Council met in a regular session: Tuesday, April 19, 2016; Mayor Steven Connelly presiding. A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 6:35 P.M.

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

**ABSENT:** Hembree

**OFFICIALS:** J. Gilbert, Stone, L. Sams, Meeks, Sandlin, Bloom, Isaacs, Brumley, Fortner

**VISITORS:** David Rowlett, Jennifer Napier, Wes Napier, Steve Watkins, Reid Connelly, Bill Suiters, Andy McDonald, Tom Black, Dr. John Fox, Tom Schultz, Dr. Louisa Summers

A Council Work session was held prior to the meeting with Chris Bowling of Civic Finance Advisors. Mr. Bowling presented the mechanics of the total financing package for the City Hall project including RD’s financing package and the interim financing package. Four banks bid on the interim financing but his recommendation was to wait until construction bids are received and reviewed before any final decision is made. Each bank will be given the opportunity to refresh their bids.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES: April 5, 2015:**

Kerby motioned, Farmer seconded to approve the minutes of April 5, 2016; all ayes.

**BEREA TRAIL TOWN; LOUISA MARIE SUMMERS, PH.D.**

Dr. Summers and Dr. Fox came before the Council to request the permission of the council in the form of a resolution giving the Trail Town Committee and the Boone Trace group the support to apply to the state Bicycle and Pedestrian Program to begin the planning process for Bike/Hike trails through Berea and the County. Especially recognizing Boone Trace as a road of historical significance worthy of being further identified, preserved, protected, marked and made accessible to the public. Dr. Summers also spoke of the health benefits of well-planned and marked trail systems. Dr. Summers also requested the support of Council to apply to the state and national Scenic Byway Program to receive their designation for our trails that qualify for their programs. Dr. Fox encouraged the City to mark the portion of the Indian Fort Trail that is associated with Boone’s Trace.

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Caudill moved that the City Council join in the Resolution to support the application for the Bike and Trail planning process and the application to apply with the state and national Scenic Byway Program to receive their designation. Farmer seconded. All voted ayes.

**ORDINANCE #O7-2016; AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BEREA, KENTUCKY, VACATING AND CLOSING A PORTION OF PARKWAY FROM ITS INTERSECTION WITH CHESTNUT STREET FOR A DISTANCE OF 287.5 FEET MORE OR LESS. – 2ND READING**

Corporate Council read the ordinance in its entirety. Kerby motioned, Farmer second to approve the ordinance. All members voted aye. Ordinance adopted

**RESOLUTION # 12-2016;** **A Resolution of the City Council of Berea, Kentucky, accepting an additional grant from the Commonwealth of Kentucky, Transportation Cabinet in the amount of $ 111,585.00 For the design of the roadway, sidewalk and Bike path on U.S. 25 between Ellipse Street to Glades Road and continuing to the Berea Bypass, and authorizing the Mayor to execute all related documents.**

Corporate Council read the resolution in its entirety. Farmer motioned to accept the resolution, Little seconded, all voted aye.

The Mayor requested the indulgence of the Council as he called for a voice vote on Ordinance #07-2016 instead of a roll call vote. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting aye.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Audit and Finance**, **Personnel**, **Public Works**

**Economic Development: Caudill**. The Economic Development Committee met earlier this evening. Discussion was centered on the development of the Farristown Industrial Park. Possibilities for marketing the park included a pad ready site, shovel ready site, or whether to just market the property as is. Mr. Isaacs is working on a website on which he will continue to market our industrial park. The committee also considered the possibility of doing a feasibility study for attracting a new grocery store to

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Berea. Caudill acknowledged the work for the past six months that has been accomplished by Mr. Isaacs. Caudill announced a Main Street Clean-Up that will be take place on Friday, sponsored by Park Federal and St Joe Berea.

**RECOGNITION OF VISITORS:** None

**DEPARTMENT HEADS:** No additional reports.

**CITY ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT:**

* The City and the First Christian Church continue to negotiate concerning the matter of the parking lot connection between the two properties. The elevation of the City property will be raised by more than two feet causing the elimination of the connection between the two parking lots. The City needs a utility easement and a construction easement from the Church. To obtain that easement we have worked out a plan to move the shared drive nearer to the communications tower fence. We will meet with the trustees of the Church later this week to try to agree on the connection in exchange for the needed easements.
* A representative from Rural Development will meet with the staff early next week to review our completed forms. From this meeting we hope to establish a firm bid date for the building.
* Dale and I will meet with the architects tomorrow reviewing the energy efficiency measures being taken in the design and construction of the new city hall.
* The remodeling of the Higgins building will be complete by the end of this week. The Food Bank should be moving by the first week of May.
* Both the Police and Fire will do training in the present location of the Food Bank prior to it being demolished.
* The facility for the Madison County Clerk’s office will be completed within the next two weeks.
* The Staff continues to work on the presentation of the 2017 budget.

**MAYOR’S COMMENTS:** The Mayor reported that he continues to work on a proclamation in honor of George Oberst at the request of Mr. Powell.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

**Terrill:** Commented on his disappointment that no one from the City reached out to the Chamber to salvage the Spoonbread Festival in the past two weeks. Based on these actions he believes the Mayor should step down.

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**Powell:** Stated that if the Mayor steps down he would like the job. He further stated that a solar farm is being built in Mercer County that has the potential of suppling 1500 homes. He emphasized that we should consider our position.

Meeting adjourned at 7:20

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Mayor Steven Connelly \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

City Clerk