

The Berea City Council met in a regular business session, Tuesday, August 4, 2026.
Mayor Bruce Fraley presiding.
A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

WORK SESSION

Ordinance #12-2026 Solid Waste Franchise Contract Amendment
Ordinance #13-2026 150 & 171 Seventy-Six Boulevard Right-of-Way Release

COUNCIL PRESENT: Mike Barnett, John Payne, Katie Startzman, Teresa Scenters, Jerry Little,
Barry Poynter, Virgil Burnside

COUNCIL ABSENT: Steve Caudill

OFFICIALS PRESENT: Jerry Gilbert, Shawn Sandlin, Robin Adams, Tommy Horn, Donna Angel,
Priscilla Bloom, Kevin Howard, Amanda Haney, Jason Hays, Nancy Conley,
Charlie Russell

INVOCATION: Barry Poynter

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Barry Poynter

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Payne motioned; Little seconded motion to approve agenda as presented.
Voice Vote: All ayes Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - JULY 21, 2026

Poynter motioned; Scenters seconded motion to approve minutes as presented.
Voice Vote: All ayes Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jaime Morris, Berea, Vice President, Berea Dolphins Board of Directors

Shared the Berea Dolphins placed first in this season's Bluegrass Swim Conference. Their success would not have been possible without the partnership between their team and the City. Thanked Mayor Fraley for his leadership, Brian Reed for his assistance throughout the season and in preparation for hosting the conference, the Parks & Recreation Department with special thanks to Priscilla Bloom, Director, the full-time maintenance staff, pool managers, lifeguards, and Tourism. The season's success demonstrated a turning of the page in Berea's Tourism Department's focus on taxpayer dollar spending. Looked forward to future growth of their team, the sport of swimming, and a more diversified promotion of Tourism in Berea.

LEE'S FAMOUS RECIPE 40-YEAR MILESTONE PROCLAMATION

Mayor Fraley read Proclamation and presented to Steve & Phyllis Carter, Jacob & Caitlin Carter, and Carol Edney, owners, Lee's Famous Recipe.

ORDINANCE #12-2026 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BERE, KENTUCKY, AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 20-2024 AND ORDINANCE 07-2025, PROVIDING FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE SOLID WASTE CONTRACT REGARDING OVERFILL CONTAINERS AND OVERFILL CHARGES TO CUSTOMERS. - 1ST READING

Mayor Fraley stated as Ordinance #12-2026 was subject to a Work Session, consensus of City Council was to have changes made prior to First Reading. Ordinance postponed until next scheduled City Council Meeting, August 18th.

ORDINANCE #13-2026 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BERE, KENTUCKY, VACATING AND CLOSING A PORTION OF A CERTAIN PLATTED RIGHT-OF-WAY WITHIN THE CITY OF BERE, KENTUCKY, KNOWN AS SEVENTY-SIX BOULEVARD. - 1ST READING

Corporate Counsel, Gilbert, read Ordinance #13-2026 in entirety.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

Kevin Howard, General Manager, Berea Municipal Utilities (BMU), Sewer Division Update

Howard presented a slide presentation overview of the Sewer System.

The Wastewater Division consisted of the JC Chambers Wastewater Treatment Plant, seven pump stations, three landfill pump wells, and the collection system. Howard noted Berea Municipal Utilities were one of the few Wastewater Treatment Plants with the Commonwealth of Kentucky Energy & Environmental Cabinet Kentucky Wastewater Certification Program with an onsite certified lab operated by the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) Staff. Howard shared and explained the WWTP Infrastructure, Collection System Infrastructure, Critical Infrastructure, Annual Cost of Infrastructure & Equipment R&M, Capital Improvement Plans, and Manhole Flow Monitoring (measuring rainfall) and how it affected the sewer plant.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

- Thanked Council for their comments and discussion during the Work Session.
- Berea City Pool was scheduled to close, for the summer, on Sunday, August 9th.
- Appreciated Ms. Morris' comments regarding the Berea pool and a successful season.
- Welcomed Mr. Burnside back to Council. It had been good working with him over the past years and again for the next few months. Appreciated him back and willing to serve.

MAYOR'S REPORT / COMMENTS

- Welcomed Virgil Burnside, friend and colleague for many years, and seventeen plus years on City Council. Burnside came with a wealth of experience.
- Encouraged Council Members to drive out to Mayde Road, Astemo Plant #2, to view the renovation. They were expanding the plant by 300,000 square feet, basically doubling the former plant, previously known as Panasonic. The expansion was significant to the City and its future. Great progress in our Business Park.
- A community resource gathering was scheduled for Thursday, August 6th, Bereans Helping Bereans, at the Russel Acton Folk Center, Jefferson Street, 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The event was for adults fifty-five and older, connecting adults and families to local support services and community resources. Several community service providers would be available to talk with citizens that may need help and/or assistance. All were invited.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Little No comment.

Poynter Welcomed his good friend, Virgil, to Council. Good to work with him again. Thanked the 'gang' from Lee's, he was a patron and appreciated what they do for the community. Congratulations.

Burnside Complimented the Carter family, Lee's Famous Recipe, and their contributions. Not only with their food, they had also been an asset in the community with their service, which was very important. Appreciated what all they do, thank you. Burnside was pleased to be asked to complete Terrill's term. Noted he was not capable of filling Terrill's seat, just occupying it. Terrill was a good friend and had known him for many years. They both shared the love and appreciation for the City of Berea, as well as a commitment to its residents. Thanked Terrill for many years of service he had given and wished him the best. Thanked Little and Mayor Fraley for their recommendation and fellow Council Members for the vote of support. As he had not worked with most of the current Council, shared comments regarding himself and how he worked. He was pragmatic, collegial, and would listen very closely and shape his opinions as to not be etched in stone with his thinking. He questions, was not afraid, and prone to asking hard and tough questions. He did not do this as criticism or opposition but more for his education, learning, and how he could work and support the direction they were trying to move the City forward. Do not hesitate to say what is on your mind. Looking forward to serving the City and the citizens of Berea once again. Again, thank you.

Barnett Steve & Phyllis Carter set the example of the way a small business should be, appreciated all the years. Welcomed Burnside.

Payne Welcomed back Council Member Burnside. He looked forward to working with him and hopefully learn from him during his short return. On behalf of Lee's Famous Recipe, not all franchises were created equal. Felt the reason they had been serving for forty years was they were doing a lot of things right. Every time he visited Lee's, they had consistency of product, quality of product, cleanliness, and a high level of customer service. People notice, that is why they come back.

Startzman Felt watching Burnside serve on Council many years ago gave her an understanding of what City Council people could and should do in their roles. A treat to get to serve with him the next few months. As Lee's had catered many meetings, special events, and gatherings, it was shocking to think about the times people had walked into an event and be like, "Oh, good, Lee's is catering." Food service work was a tough way to make money and tough way to be an employer. Admired them as business people and thanked them for making the continued investment in Berea. Hoped there was more event catering to come. Thank you.

Scenters To those in attendance from Lee's, although the chicken was always above and beyond, she treasured their community involvement. They had been involved for as long as she could remember and this was what we get from local people and/or franchises. Bigger franchises were not so prone to pour back into the community as they had done and had done a beautiful job. Knew Burnside was going to add so much to the Council with his experience. Although to have never served with him, watched him from a different seat, he was always fair, had common sense, responsible, and knew this would continue. Appreciated having him. Thanks.

ADJOURNMENT

Poynter motioned; Little seconded motion to adjourn at 7:15 p.m.

Voice Vote: All ayes Motion carried.

Mayor Bruce Fraley

City Clerk