

The Berea City Council met in a regular session; Tuesday, May 6, 2014 at 6:30 p.m., Mayor Steven Connelly presiding. A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Burnside, Kerby, Little, Farmer, Powell, Hembree, Terrill

**ABSENT:** Wagers

**OFFICIALS:** Lee, Stone, Chasteen, Brumley, Curtis, VanWinkle, McCay, Meeks, Howard, Haney

**VISITORS:** Beth Meyers, Bill Woods, Lloyd Jordison, Robert New, Mitchell Tolle, Jeff Rubin. Denise Hagen, Andrew McDonald, Tim Taylor

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** April 15, 2014

Farmer moved, Little seconded to approve the minutes of April 15, 2014; all ayes.

**OPEN BIDS – GNSS SYSTEM-UTILITY DEPARTMENT**

Four bids were received.

1. James R. Adams & Associates, Inc. - \$12,745.75
2. Precision Products - \$14,176.98
3. Precision Products - \$14,631.61
4. G.T. Construction - \$12,240.00 (wrong bid opening) (bid was for water line replacement on Fairgrounds Road) (Bid packet not marked)

Bids will be turned over to the Utility Department for review and referral.

**ORDINANCE #10-2014; ADOPTING SUPPLEMENT TO CODE OF ORDINANCES – 1ST READING**

Corporate Counsel read the ordinance by title and summary.

**BOARD APPOINTMENTS: MAYOR CONNELLY**

Berea Housing Authority; Emogene Hogg Hartmore's term on the Housing Authority has expired and she has agreed to continue to serve another term. Farmer moved, Little seconded her appointment; all ayes.

Ethics Committee; Katie Heckman's term has expired and she no longer wishes to serve on the committee. Mayor Connelly submitted the name of Robert Struckert to fill the term. Burnside moved, Farmer seconded his appointment; all ayes.

**BUDGET ORDINANCE DISCUSSION – J. LITTLE**

Councilman Little proposed for the other council members to consider separating the budget and voting on the General Fund, the Utilities, and the Tourism as separate entities. Discussion could be held at the next work session. Mayor Connelly stated that by statute the legislative body is required to vote on the budget but if there is something that they don't agree on they can amend it, or vote to delete it. KRS. 91. A.350 requires

a portion of the Tourism Budget be spent for Tourism Activities but the council must consult with the Tourism Commission how to best spend the funds.

**BROWN STREET UPDATE – D. Brumley, Street Superintendent**

The Street Department and the Police Department were asked to monitor the traffic speed and flow of traffic at the intersections of Brown Street and North Powell in Dixie Park. A survey was done to determine the impact of stop signs being installed at the intersections of both Brown Street and Kenway; two stop signs would slow speeding traffic. Councilman Powell disagreed, he feels that the problem is when people enter Dixie Park, people are not stopping at the stop sign to go onto 1016, if an officer would sit there at the intersection, it would slow a lot of the speeders down. Powell moved, Little seconded to install two stop signs on a trial basis to see what the impact of speeding traffic would be, all ayes.

**MORGAN STREET/BEREA HOUSING AUTHORITY INTERSECTION – D. Brumley**

The Street Dept. was asked to address the issue of parents parking at the end of Morgan Street waiting on the bus and blocking the intersection. By city ordinance, vehicles are not permitted to park at any time within 20 feet of an intersection, crosswalk, or sidewalk. Brumley recommended painting the curb yellow to discourage vehicles parking there.

Councilman Powell motioned to go into **Executive Session** for discussion on acquisition of property; Kerby seconded. All ayes. Council convened to **Executive Session** at 7:35; reconvened to **Regular session** at 8 p.m. No action taken.

Kerby moved, Little seconded to schedule a joint meeting with the Tourism Commission and the city council for possible property purchase and uses of the Mitchell Toole Gallery within the next week to ten days. All ayes.

**RECOGNITION OF VISITORS:**

Tim Taylor addressed the council with concerns of the ordinance regarding mobile homes. He is interested in placing a manufactured home on a piece of property he owns in the city limits. Codes Enforcement Administrator, Dale VanWinkle stated currently the zoning only allows mobile home in designated parks, not in residential areas. Mr. Taylor was encouraged to bring this issue before the Planning & Zoning Commission; the ordinance could be changed. Manufactured homes are made much better today.

**AUDIT & FINANCE COMMITTEE –V. BURNSIDE**

No additional report.

**DEPARTMENT HEADS:**

No additional report.

**CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:**

- The Mayor, Mr. Fortner, and I attended a meeting today in Frankfort with K.U.; the city along with other municipalities opted to terminate our contract with K.U.; KU has asked FERC for more time to consider the wholesale fees. They have stated that upgrades will likely not take place to two of their plants.
- The staff is working on their budgets at this time; the May 20th meeting will be a work session to review the budget and will be held earlier in the afternoon. It will be a special called meeting to discuss the budget.
- The Youth League has started playing ball, but is behind due to rain. The pool will be open on Memorial Week-end only, the kids will not be out of school until the end of May. May 30th we will open for the season. The pool is being painted and a new chemical storage unit has been built at the back of the pump house. A new swing set has been ordered for the handicap playground. New tables and chairs are ordered for the folk center, and the fun-brellas at the pool are be replaced this season, as well as a new P.A. system for the pool.
- RFQ's were advertised for an architect to design a Public Safety Building but our focus changed to get an analysis of our needs. We interviewed five (5) firms; Central KY Design, GRW Engineers, RBS Design Group, Murphy, Graves, Trimble and Brandstetter Carroll. Two groups were invited back for a second interview; we are recommending Brandstetter Carroll to perform a feasibility study for our needs at a price of \$23,800.00. Members of the council sat in on the interviews. Powell motioned; Little seconded to enter into a contract with this firm authorizing the mayor to sign an agreement. All ayes.
- The Allen Company is doing an excellent job on Brachter Lane.
- Menelaus Pike project is moving along, a diversion road has been installed while the utility and drainage construction is taking place.
- We are at a December letting for the next phase of the By-Pass and US25; there are still a few Rights-of-Way that need to be completed on both projects.
- A change order needs to take place for continued work on the Sewer Plant house; gutters need to removed and replaced as well as siding and trim installed. The amount of the change order is \$3,650.00 bringing the total to \$22,458.00;

Little moved; Powell seconded to authorize the change order, ayes. This house was built as a care-takers home for the Sewer Plant in 1989. Jake Powell lived there for the entire time of his employment as an agreement for security of the plant. Mr. Fortner has now moved into the house as the caretaker of the plant; he will be responsible for his utilities and will pay a \$6,000 taxable stipend.

- In last year's budget there was a Jet-Vac Truck requested by the Sewer Department; our Utility Department is requesting to purchase a truck from Vi-Conn at a price of \$334,520.00. This truck will better serve our needs and their warranty and repair service is better. Terrill moved, Hembree seconded to approve the purchase by the Utility Department; all ayes.
- Monday morning the Tourism Department had \$447,194.00 in their checking account and \$500,000.00 in a CD; over \$700,000.00 went towards the remodeling of the Depot two years ago, and last year \$100,000 was used for the connector trail. They partner with the city and contribute to a number of our projects, let's remember this during budget time.

**QUESTIONS:**

**Terrill** – do we have a cost estimate yet for the Geo Tech work for the Indian Fort Trail? The Geo Tech work is finished and the design work is being finalized. We received an estimate today of \$461,000.00, the cost is equal to the connector trail. There were a number of steams, crossings, and drainage issues that had to be addressed.

**Powell** – for public information purposes, who owns the building next door, city, or Tourism? The city purchased it from monies in the General Fund, we will discuss the usage of the building next week during the budget review.

**Little** – what is the status of hiring a Parks Director? As of now, the staff is handling the day to day operations, and doing an excellent job, Mr. VanWinkle is helping with the preparation of the pool. We decided to not bring a new person in during the middle of the season.

**MAYOR'S COMMENTS:**

- On June 5th, at noon, The City of Richmond will be hosting the joint government meeting at the Madison County Extension Office; if you have items for the agenda please let us know.
- Discussion was previously held regarding completing the feasibility study for the retirement community; I have emailed the group and ask them to send us the contract so that we can move forward.
- There is a possibility that Berea will become a "Foreign Trade SubZone". Hitachi is proposing to move the electric motor line of the Chevy Volt to Berea from

- Harrodsburg. They have requested a letter acknowledging that the mayor has met with the representative of Hitachi and Berea has approved the ad valorem property tax exemption. Hitachi has plans to add approximately 110 additional jobs by the end of 2016. Terrill moved; Farmer seconded to approve the mayor to generate a letter of agreement with the Foreign Trade Zone Board.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

**Hembree:** miss my friend Billy Wagers tonight; let's remember him this evening.

Meeting adjourned: 8:40

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Mayor

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City Clerk