

The Berea City Council met in a regular session, Tuesday, April 4, 2017; Mayor Steven Connelly presiding. A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

**COUNCIL PRESENT:** J. Davis, B. Fraley, T. Schultz, B. Wooten, S. Caudill, C. Wilson, R. Terrill

**ABSENT:** J. Little

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

**VISITORS:** Bill Robinson, Beth Meyers, Carla Gilbert, Emerson McAfee, Richard & Cheyenne Olson, Tevin Shouse, Annette Dangerfield, Julie Struck, Jordon Hutchins, Reid Connelly, John Fox, Laura Wick, Randy Coffey, Ken Berry, Carol Brooks

- A work session was held at 5:45 to hear a presentation from Tourism Director, Kerri Hensley.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES; March 21, 2017**

Caudill moved, Schultz seconded to approve the minutes of March 21, 2017 as distributed; all ayes.

**PROCLAMATION: MONTH OF THE CHILD**

Mayor Connelly read the proclamation declaring April 2017 as Month of the Young Child. Carol Brooks came forward to accept the proclamation.

**PROCLAMATION: RECOGNITION FOR NATIONAL SERVICE**

Mayor Connelly read the proclamation declaring April 4, 2017 as Recognition Day for National Service. Cody Elliott and a group came forward to accept the proclamation.

**BOONE TRACE TRAIL – DR. JOHN FOX**

Dr. Fox informed the council that approximately a year ago a resolution was passed to allow the organization (Friends of Boone Trace) to apply to the Scenic Bicycle and Pedestrian Walking Trail Program. He invited the council to attend a workshop/meeting on Monday, May 1 at 6pm at the Perkins Building in Richmond to develop and preserve the Boone Trace Trail that runs through Madison County. The workshop will be the first steps in seeking recognition for listing this as a National Historic Trail; the meeting is open to the public. The trail will go all the way down to the Cumberland Gap, and will run through five counties and ten cities. Daniel Boone came through Berea in 1775; there was “zero” population in KY in 1774; Kentucky became a state in 1792.

Councilman Fraley shared the website address for people to get more information about the trail, and see the map; BoonesTrace1775.com.

**US25 YARD SALE – RANDY COFFEY**

Mr. Coffey announced the 6th annual US25 Yard Sale will be held the first week-end of June this year; the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd; it will start in Ridgewood, KY and run to Rocky Top, TN. The yard sale goes through nine counties, and covers 265 miles we expect lots of visitors coming through our area; Tourism will help get the word out, and the Public Works Department will place the reader boards out. There is a Facebook page that people can get more information from.

**BEREA MAKERS MARKET – LAURA WICK**

Ms. Wick announced a new event (a Modern Craft Fair) that will be held in the Folk Center on May 13th from 10am – 6pm. She suggested the council consider to waiver the net profit license fee for the new vendors selling their wares this first year. Councilman Caudill, chair of the Finance Committee stated he and his committee would look into her request.

**OPEN BIDS: CARBON CYLINDERS – FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Three bids were received:

1. Bluegrass Fire Equipment - \$28,253.00
2. 911 Fleet & Fire Equipment - \$30,390.00
3. Orr Safety Corporation - \$31,525.00

Bids will be turned over to the Fire Department for review and recommendation.

**OPEN BIDS: STREET RESURFACING**

One bid was received:

1. The Allen Company – \$109,269.90

The bid will be turned over to the Public Works Department for review and recommendation.

**ORDINANCE #06-2017; AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BEREA, KENTUCKY, PROVIDING THAT THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, CHAPTER 22, ARTICLE VII, CODE ENFORCEMENT BOARD, SECTIONS 22.500-22.611, BE AMENDED BY ADDING DEFINITIONS TO SECTION 22.600; BY ADDING SECTION 22.604 PROVIDING SPECIFIC ENFORCEMENT POWERS FOR THE CODE ENFORCEMENT BOARD; BY ADDING SECTION 22.605 PROVIDING FOR CODE ENFORCEMENT ORGANIZATION, MEETINGS, AND QUORUMS; BY ADDING SECTION 22.606 PROVIDING FOR DISQUALIFICATION OF CODE ENFORCEMENT BOARD MEMBERS FOR CONFLICT OF INTEREST; BY AMENDING SECTION 22.608 PROVIDING FOR APPEALS FROM FINAL ORDERS OF THE CODE ENFORCEMENT BOARD; BY ADDING SECTION 22.610 PROVIDING FOR LIENS ON PROPERTY SUBJECT TO A FINAL ORDER OF THE CODES ENFORCEMENT BOARD; BY ADDING SECTION 22.611 PROVIDING FOR A LIENHOLDER NOTIFICATION SYSTEM; AND BY ADDING SECTION 22.612 PROVIDING FOR**

**IMMEDIATE ACTION TO REMEDY A VIOLATION OF ORDINANCES WHEN A SERIOUS THREAT TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY OR WELFARE EXIST – 2ND READING**

Corporate Counsel read the ordinance by title and summary. Caudill moved, Terrill seconded to approve the ordinance. Fraley questioned how then is a lien removed; suggested to amend the ordinance by adding language giving a time line to comply with the orders. Caudill moved, Terrill seconded to table approval of the ordinance until the corporate counsel can add the appropriate language; all ayes.

**ORDINANCE #07-2017; AMENDING TARIFFS ON NET METERING – 1ST READING**

Corporate Counsel read the ordinance by title and summary.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Audit & Finance – Caudill;** a meeting will be schedule for next week to review the building project, and if time allows we will look at the process for the license fees.

**Economic Development – Davis;** on Monday, March 27th, he, Mr. Caudill, Mr. Fraley, Mr. Terrill and Mr. Stone, along with Danny Isaacs had a lunch meeting with Commerce Lexington to show them what Berea has to offer as possible sites for business and development, and overall what we have to offer as a town. On March 29th the committee met, with Tanner Jones and Brian Ramsey, both of these gentlemen work remotely from their homes, as do many other people in town. Good internet service is a must for this type of work; they listed many other qualities that remote workers require for when looking for a town to locate to. They suggested a remote business, or technology center that would be highly desirable for remote workers to plug in to, along with conference, or meeting rooms. The Public Works Department is cleaning up the area around the Menelaus Road Industrial Park; we are actively marketing this area. Mr. Isaacs will attend the Bluegrass Alliance Marketing trip in Detroit soon, and will be meeting with companies there, that have a presence in Central KY. Native Bagel will open soon, Clementine's Bakery opened this week; Smoking Jack's Bar-Be-Cue will be opening soon; Novelis is expanding their facility; Pittsburg Glass Works has a new owner, Vetro; and Delta Gas will become People's Gas of Pittsburg, Pennsylvania. The next meeting will April 26th at 5:30 p.m.

**Parks & Rec. – Schultz** – the committee meeting was held on the 24th and was well attended; we discussed many good ideas; the dog park, demolition of Duerson Stadium; and a new baseball tournament. Tourism will hand out visitor's packets during the tournaments to our out of town guests. The committee talked about the summer food program to help provide food options for the kids participating in the tournaments. Billy Wooten recently met with Berea College President Lyle Roelofs on possible land expansions to add more ball fields. We discussed a drug task force headed by the city, partnering with the county and city organizations to talk about drug clean-up activities, and programs to help in prevention and awareness; Mr. Wooten will work on a

resolution to address this at a later date. The next meeting will be the 4th Thursday at 5:30 p.m.

**BEREA CITY COUNCIL**

**REGULAR MEETING**

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**Personnel – Wilson;** there are many job openings with the city at this time; anyone interesting in applying can visit the city’s web-site. The committee will be meeting next Tuesday at the BMU building at 5:30 p.m.

**Public Works – Caudill;** the committee met last evening and reviewed some old business, and the Parking Ordinance; work will begin soon the South Cumberland/Hughes Avenue drainage project; curbs and sidewalks are being monitoring for needed repairs. The Public Works Department received a “No Parking” request on the east side of Water Street to Rockcastle due to cars blocking the bus turn around. The committee looked at the issue and determined immediate action needed to take place; Caudill moved to place “No Parking Between the hours of 6am – 6pm. Monday thru Friday”, within 30 feet of each side of the sign; all ayes.

- Fraley suggested to allow residents input when changing parking issues on their streets or areas.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Emerson McAfee is still working on the Vietnam Veterans Casualty Memorial Road Signs; he has not heard back from the City of Richmond. He has spoken to the county judge and received information that the Fiscal Court is planning a Veteran’s Memorial Park at White Hall. He wanted signs along the road honoring the eighteen (18) Veterans that lived in Berea, Richmond, and Madison County. Seven sign locations were identified in the Berea area. Caudill reported the Public Works Committee has addressed Mr. McAfee’s request and are still in process to make sure the signs can be placed on the highways legally. Mayor Connelly stated the city will continue to take his request into consideration.

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

- CDP’s estimate for the US25 North re-design change order request is \$172,296.00. He will be sending a letter to Frankfort tomorrow for our request, if we get a confirmation from them, we will possibly front the money to get our engineering work accomplished; the State will then reimburse us. This project will end at Highland Drive, bringing the cost just under six million dollars as requested by the State.
- He and Utility Director Mr. Fortner, attended a long meeting with the US Core of Engineers, and Bell Engineering last Friday. They are giving us the opportunity to fill out our permit for additional water storage for the Owsley Fork Dam Project, but they are requiring more alternatives, and are still considering a pipeline from the Kentucky River. If we can enlarge the capacity of Owsley Lake, for another one million gallons of water, then it will be a cost sharing effort between the Federal Government and the City of Berea, anything else that they request us to do, will be from our own money. We will continue to fight for Berea, and get the paperwork submitted as soon as possible.

- A petition was submitted from the property owners of North Broadway asking for the traffic control planters be reinstalled; it will be turned over to the Public Works Committee.
- A request was received about a “Mobile Friendly Web-site; the cost to do this will be \$31,020; we will get this in process.
- We will meet with a bleacher supplier this Friday to look at a replacement cost for the Duerson Stadium bleachers.
- We have placed on order, two pet waste stations.
- General Fund monies this week was \$1,182,156, and Tourism had \$236,372; we placed \$100,000 in a CD for the Tourism Commission.

**Questions:** Davis asked if the Core of Engineers is aware of any wildlife endangered with our possible damn expansion. Stone stated we will have to wait to hear from them, we do not know at this time.

Will Duerson Stadium retain the name? Stone stated it would be fitting to do so.

Wooten asked who will be responsible for maintaining the pet waste stations; Stone stated this will be discussed at the next staff meeting.

### **MAYOR’S COMMENTS**

Mayor Connelly announced Berea College and the City of Berea is hosting a visit from a delegation from Lindsborg, Kansas, they are in town this week. Their town is comparable to Berea, with a college and craft/tourism interest similar to ours; they are here to study our tourism. Their mayor is a former graduate of Berea College.

- The Madison County Fiscal Court is requesting proposals for a “Healing Center” as an alternative to incarceration, and a solution to the expanding jail population that exceeds 400 inmates, in a facility that was built to house 184. The Healing Center envisions taking people in the early stages of substance abuse by providing recovery and training and transitional housing, and long term help after discharge. He encouraged the council to read the 28 page proposal; all Madison County leaders should consider this rehabilitation center/program, it represents a major challenge to this county going forward that will affect us all.

### **COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

**Fraley** – he fully supports Judge Taylor’s vision for the “Healing Center”. We need to work together and do something about the drug problem and seize the moment. He encouraged everyone to attend the meeting scheduled for April 24th for more information.

- The Strategic Plan meeting was a brain storming session with many good ideas shared and exchanged, in looking forward for the city. There is also a good write-up on the cities Facebook page.

- The Boone's Trace Trail is a potential tourism opportunity for us; the trail runs through Brushy Fork, Silver Creek, and even includes the Indian Fort Trail. It can

attract visitors to Berea; we have a huge potential to bring people here; no other town has this. Mayor Connelly added Joe Lick Knob can be seen just outside the Utility Building; Joe Lick Knob was a guidepost for the Daniel Boone travelers as they came through Kentucky many years ago.

**Schultz** – he thanked the presenters this evening, and thanked the visitors for attending this evening.

**Wooten** – he thanked Ms. Hensley for her presentation; he understands Tourism a bit more than he did, and ways the city can work together to increase Tourism efforts.

- Echo's what Mr. Fraley said in terms of the "Healing Center"; now is a critical time that the city government to take part in this issue. Two city committees have discussed in forming an Anti-Drug Task Force; he will be working on a resolution to present soon. The task force is envisioned after the "Not in Our Town" initiatives that other municipalities have developed. Many key players in our community will be involved, along with the college, our first responders, and our industrial park leaders to focus first, on clean-up and education; and second, what can we do to enhance awareness and prevention awareness in our community.
- In regards to the recent vandalism/hate crime that happened two weeks ago to a same-sex couple living just outside of the city Berea; he would like to propose a resolution that addresses all forms of hate crimes, and all forms of discrimination. Berea is his home and it conflicts him to hear this happens in our town. He will draft the wording that will go further than the previous resolution that was passed by an earlier council. He encouraged the council to support standing against all forms of discrimination, and to encourage the Madison County Fiscal Court to develop a Human Rights Commission to support and address issues that happen in the county.

**Caudill** – The next Public Works Committee will be May 1st at 5:30 p.m. Spring Clean-Up will be held the week of April 17th. He also agrees that the Strategic Plan meeting was very production; it was a great meeting of everyone expressing their feelings and ideas. Thanks to everyone that attends the Economic Development meetings; these meetings are very informative and educational. We do need to support the Healing Center.

**ADJOURN: 8:25 P.M.**