**BEREA CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING DECEMBER 19, 2017**

The Berea City Council met in a regular session, Tuesday, December 19, 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, J. Little, S. Caudill, C. Wilson, R. Terrill

**OFFICIALS:** J. Gilbert, R. Stone, C. Chasteen, D. Gregory, S. Sandlin, S. Meeks, D. Isaacs, D. Brumley, P. Bloom, A. Haney, D. VanWinkle

**VISITORS:** Kelly McKinney, Anthony Carpenter, Virginia Bland, Jacqueline Bowling, Danny Barnes, Angie Barnes, Lynn Carter, Mike Park, Allen Livingood, David Rowlette, John Steinmetz

**INVOCATION & PLEDGE**

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Caudill motioned, Little seconded to approve the agenda; all ayes.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES; DECEMBER 5, 2017**

Schultz motioned, Fraley seconded to approve the minutes of December 5, 2017; all ayes.

**BEREA POLICE DEPARTMENT – RECOGNITION OF NEW OFFICERS – CHIEF DAVID GREGORY**

Chief Gregory announced the two new hires in the Police Department; Doug Paquin, and Jacob Barnes. Mayor Connelly read the Oath of Office officially swearing in the new officers.

**ORDINANCE #16-2017; AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BEREA, KENTUCKY, DECLARING CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 202 AND 208 SOUTH BROADWAY STREET AS UNSUITABLE FOR PUBLIC USE AND AUTHORIZING IT TO BE SOLD TO TRI-STATE WHOLESALE, INC., FOR $35,000, BASED ON THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT WHICH WILL RESULT FROM SALE, PURSUANT TO KRS.82.083. – 2ND READING**

Corporate Counsel read the ordinance in its entirety. Little motioned, Caudill seconded to approve and adopt the ordinance. Roll call vote, all ayes.

**JANUARY 2, 2018 CITY COUNCIL MEETING – CONSIDERATION TO CANCEL**

Fraley motioned, Terrill seconded to cancel the meeting due to Christmas/New Year’s holidays; all ayes.

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**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Audit & Finance; S. Caudill**

The committee met last evening to discuss the pension plans, and the new rates for CERS; the committee will continue to monitor what changes we may have to make affecting the city employees, and the future of the city. There will a decision coming from the committee soon.

**Economic Development – J. Davis**

The sewer project in the Industrial Park is moving along nicely, and the grocery feasibility study has been completed; we should have the information back by the end of January. The Economic Development office will hold a one-day insurance class at the Tolle Bldg. Jan. 4th. Four new businesses have recently opened; Urban Uprising, Women’s Care Center, Old Town Fabric’s, and Cooper Candle Company. The next meeting of the committee will be Jan. 15th at 5:30 p.m.

**Parks – T. Schultz**

Next meeting will be Dec. 28th at 5:30 p.m.

**Personnel – C. Wilson**

The committee meet Dec. 12th; next meeting will be Monday, Jan. 8th for further discussion on Department Head Evaluations.

**Public Works – J. Little**

Next meeting will be Feb. 5th at 5:30 p.m.

**DEPARTMENT HEADS:**

No additional reports.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

None.

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

* General Fund this week had; $2,355,969, Tourism had $486,843.
* The materials for the pool filtration system has been ordered, expected to arrive in February.
* The GIS Department is working on the preparation for the bleacher area, we expect work to proceed in early March and have it ready in early spring. We are also working with Berea Community School to get a cost to re-pave the parking lot.
* We will begin work on plans for remolding/renovation of the current Berea Police & Municipal Building.
* There are a number of good things taking place in Berea; Stoney Creek has opened up 43 new building lots, and another new street will be installed for the new area. Central Park has 22 lots to build; building is also going on in Walker Branch and in the Vineyard. Homestead and Edgewater is seeing residential construction. The Shell station at Exit 77 has submitted a remolding plan for their

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* building, and a car lot has been approved at this exit, along with a new Barbecue Restaurant going in there. A building plan has been approved for a lot near

Central Bank on Jill Avenue. A new bus garage will be built near Farristown School, and Apollo Pizza has turned in their plans for their location on Adams Street. We have received plans for 2-eight-plex buildings for Beaumont, and Berea College is talking to us about two new dorms on campus. There is a lot of activity and investment in our community at this time.

* The US25 North Project has been bid, the engineers are reviewing the bids at this time.
* The City Hall project is moving along well, the extra work in the basement is 90% complete. Our staff has been installing equipment and monitors throughout the building. Our final walk-thru and punch list is expected to be completed after the first of the year, with the final change order be ready to close-out. We have received the audit concerning the CDBG Grant for the Fire Department. There are a lot of good and positive things that happened in 2017, and we look forward to another good year in 2018. Merry Christmas to everyone.

**MAYOR’S COMMENTS:**

Mayor Connelly expressed his personal thanks to Mr. Stone, all the department heads, and all of our city employee’s for a good year; from his family, he wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS**

**Terrill** – Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

**Wilson** – Merry Christmas; hopes everyone remembers the true reason we celebrate Christmas, keep that in your heart.

**Caudill** - Merry Christmas to everyone; echo to what the mayor said, thanks to all the employees for they do for the city, and thanks to his fellow city council members for a good 2017, looking forward to 2018.

**Little** – thanks to all the council, mayor, Randy and the city employees for making 2017 a good year; Merry Christmas and Happy New Year; looking forward to 2018.

**Davis** – Merry Christmas echo what Mr. Caudill said, and thanks to our employees for helping to move our city forward, and thanks to the council for all their work.

**Fraley –** he encouraged everyone to continue in supporting our Economic Development Director, Danny Isaacs, and the Economic Development Committee for their work in marketing our current businesses, as well as helping our industries to grow, and to attract new industrial partners to our city. During the year of 2017, we heard from six industrial prospects, which compares to two in 2016. Our larger industries expanded in staffing during the past year. He also challenged his fellow council members, the mayor, Mr. Stone, and anyone else to do the following; do something kind, and demonstrate compassion for someone in need this holiday season. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all.

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**Schultz –** Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, and thanks to everyone for their hard work in making the city what it is today, and thanks to the citizens for coming out and being involved in the city proceedings. Thanks to the former council in helping the new

members in their guidance, and thanks to everyone for their leadership, he hopes more people in the community will step up and be leaders, without leaders there can’t be followers. Remember the reason for the season.

**Wooten** – Echo, Merry Christmas from his family to yours. It has been an honor to serve on the city council this first year. He has tried hard this year to help bridge the gap between the college and the community; there were several good projects that were accomplished this past year, and he is looking forward to more good things taking place in the New Year. He urged the citizens to email him with any ideas of engaging the students on behalf of the city to please do so.

Meeting adjourned: 7 p.m.