

The Berea City Council met in a regular session, Tuesday, June 20, 2017; Mayor Steven Connelly presiding. A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

Invocation and prayer.

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

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

**VISITORS:** Beth Meyers, David Rowlette, Pauline Olmer, Virginia Farmer, Opal Taffler, Emogene Hogg-Hartman, Tim Wade, Ed LaFontaine, Virginia Bland, Rebecca, Jacqueline Bowling, Ken Berry, Tiana Moorer, Ali Blair, Jr. & Lynetta Chasteen, Mike & Donna Anderson

- Emogene Hogg-Hartman and a group of ladies representing their Sunday School Class of Berea Baptist Church presented each of the council members, and mayor, with a candy bar as a blessing from their group. She thanked them each for their time and dedication to the city.

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:**

Caudill moved, Little seconded; all ayes.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES: JUNE 6, 2017**

Caudill moved, Little seconded to approved the minutes of June 6, 2017; all ayes.

**AUDIT ACCEPTANCE LETTER – RFH CONSULTANTS**

City Administrator Randy Stone and Finance Director Susan Meeks stated this is the basic letter provided prior to annual audit each year; the agreement for services will include a special audit for the construction of the new building.

**RESOLUTION #06-2017; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF BEREA ACCEPTING THE AGREEMENT, APPROVING THE MOA,(KIA) AUTHORIZING THE AMENDMENT OF THE LOCAL BUDGET AND AUTHORIZING A REPRESENTATIVE TO SIGN ALL RELATED DOCUMENTS.**

Corporate Counsel read the resolution in its entirety. Davis motioned, Fraley seconded to approve the resolution; all ayes.

**RESOLUTION #07-2017; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BEREA, KENTUCKY, ACCEPTING AN ADDITIONAL GRANT FROM THE COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY, TRANSPORTATION CABINET IN THE AMOUNT OF \$190,000.00 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 BY-PASS, AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE ALL RELATED DOCUMENTS.**

Corporate Counsel read the resolution by title. Davis motioned, Fraley seconded to approve the resolution; all ayes.

**ORDINANCE #09-2017; AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BEREA, KENTUCKY, ADOPTING THE ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL PERIOD JULY 1, 2017, THROUGH JUNE 30, 2018, BY ESTIMATING REVENUES AND RESOURCES AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE OPERATION OF CITY GOVERNMENT AND PROVIDING FOR A LONG RANGE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT AND PUBLIC FACILITIES IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM BUDGET AND PLAN. – 2ND READING**

Corporate Counsel read the ordinance by title and summary. Fraley motioned, Caudill seconded to approve the ordinance. Roll call vote all ayes; ordinance adopted.

**ORDINANCE #10-2017; AMENDING LAND MANAGEMENT ORDINANCE ADDING SECTION 406.7 – 1ST READING**

Corporate Counsel read the ordinance by title and summary.

**JULY 4TH MEETING**

The first meeting in July falls on the fourth; meeting cancelled, no objections.

**US25 YARD SALE – RANDY COFFEY**

Businesses in town reported increased visitors and sales, and many local organizations sat up sales during the week-end, and reported excellent sales. The US25 Yard Sale is the same week-end as the US68 Yard Sale. This is a good event for Berea and the money stays in our community.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Audit & Finance** – S. Caudill; thanked the entire council for their input and passing of the budget; would like to schedule a joint meeting with Tourism during the next quarter.

**Economic Development** – J. Davis; the committee met yesterday. The group heard a report about the survey that Billy Wooten's class recently conducted; results will be published on the cities web-site in the near future. The Menelaus Industrial Park Geo-Technical testing is complete and is suitable for building. Business Development Director, Danny Isaacs is working on the web-site, it will go live July 1st. Next meeting will be on Monday, July 17th, the group will travel to Somerset to visit Station 211, a co-working facility we are interested in gaining information about.

**Parks & Rec.** – T. Schultz; the committee is working on language for an animal solid-waste ordinance for the proposed dog park; it will be presented to the council to review soon. The group heard from residents of Harrison Court with concerns of the location of the proposed city dog park. Mr. Wooten will invite all the residents of Harrison Road for

a listening session to hear their concerns and praises as we move forward. Concerns from parents of the Berea Youth League were heard regarding field conditions, we will work with Berea College to secure permission to use the Alumni Field this summer for the league to practice. The committee is working on ways to attract outdoor adventure tourism to Berea; more information will come later. Next meeting; Thursday, the 22nd at 5:30 p.m.

**Personnel** – C. Wilson; one fire fighter has been hired; Ryan Ballinger. Two police officers hired, Doug Paquin and Jacob Barnes. Byron Smoot was hired as the school resource officer. A meeting will be scheduled with the committee soon.

**Public Works** – J. Little; the July 3rd meeting is cancelled, will be rescheduled for July 31st, at 5:30.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

**CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT; R. STONE**

- Thanks to the council for their input working on the annual budget preparation; and thanks to our department heads and Ms. Meek's work on getting everything ready for review. Financially we are strong going into the New Year.
- General Fund this week has \$2,283,865, and Tourism has \$334,000.
- Resolution #06-2017 was passed for the improvements to the Central Park Sewer Project, the second resolution is for the US25 North Project. In meetings this week, things have changed on this project, hopefully we will be able to keep in the bike lanes and keep the drainage patterns. We are scheduled for the September letting.
- The building project is moving along with 85-95% of the masonry work complete; the panels along the top are about 40% complete, and the footer for the generator is nearly complete. The electrical, and sprinkler work is nearing completion. Drywall is going up this week also.
- The new boom truck is in for the Public Works Department, they are learning the many uses it can provide.
- The Public Works Dept. is working on a drainage problem on Cope Lane.
- The Cumberland/Hughes Avenue Project is moving along well.
- The month of June is review time for all departments, everyone is very busy at this time closing out the 2016-2017 Fiscal Year.

**MAYORS COMMENTS:**

Mayor Connelly commended the council for their responsible way in handling the 2017-2018 budget, this was the first budget since 2011 that received a unanimous vote. It reaffirms important long term polices; for an example, by adopting this budget, the council acknowledges that Tourism, when adequately funded, can be an important economic development strategy. Our city will indeed be financially stronger, more diverse, and more dynamic because of the continued support for Tourism. This budget recognizes the restaurant tax as an essential mechanism to fully fund an active Tourism

Program, because it utilizes a fifty-cent dollar to prevent the general fund from having to subsidize Tourism programs like the city did in 2006, when the general fund transferred \$186,000 to Tourism operations before enactment of the tax. State Law requires all restaurant tax revenue be used only for tourism purposes; that the Tourism Commission be the ultimate arbiter of what constitutes a proper tourism purpose, and that the Tourism Commission set the priority for tourism spending. The reaffirmation of these policies by the council in this budget, will pay dividends to the city as future budgets are formulated, adopted, and administered.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

**Wilson** – thanked Ms. Emogene and her Sunday School Class for the candy bar, and the prayers. Thanks to everyone for the good job on the budget.

**Caudill** – echo the thanks to Ms. Emogene and the very nice card, we often don't hear the positives. Thanks to all of the council members for all their hard work on preparing the budget, it shows we have embraced the process and will continue to do so; in just a few weeks we will start to be thinking of the 2019 Budget.

**Little** – echo what Steve said.

**Wooten** – thanks again to Ms. Hogg-Hartman for the candy bar, echo what Mr. Caudill said. He is excited about the possibility of a joint committee to work with Tourism; looking forward to it. He met with Dylan Bogard from Tourism last week concerning a survey his Public Relations class will conduct regarding Tourism overall. An internal campaign is being planned to get information out about the citizen's benefit from Tourism efforts and tax dollars. Another idea that has been brought to his attention is to look at developing a Friday night movie series at Phelps Stoke, the students will take care of cleaning-up afterwards, and will provide student labor.

**Schultz** – he thanked everyone for the Thank-You notes; thanks to Tourism for working with the council to make some additions to the budget. Thanks to the Sunday School Class for the candy bar and prayers. The new venture in the Cabin in Ole Town will be open this Thursday at 1:00; two people from Arts Accelerator Program will be selling their wares.

**Fraley** – thanks to the Sunday School class for the act of kindness, it is good to spread joy throughout the community. He is happy to see the budget approved by a unanimous vote; compliments to Steve Caudill for his leadership through the process by guiding the "new comers" in the council. There was a high degree of constructive dialog during the budget process with very productive discussions among the entire council, the mayor, the city administrator, and department heads. The end result is a budget that invests and allocates tax payers funds for the good of the community as a whole. In working together as a team, the council members demonstrated success by honoring our State motto; "United we Stand, Divided we Fall".

**Davis** – thanks again to the Sunday School Class and candy bar, the prayers, and support. Thanks to Mr. Caudill for his guidance and support during the budget process.

The new blacktop at the corner of Brown and Kenway Streets is coming up, the Public Works Committee will need to have a look at this area.

Meeting adjourned: 7:09 p.m.