

The Berea City Council met in a regular session, Tuesday, March 7, 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, E. Fortner, D. Brumley, D. Isaacs, K. Hensley, P. Bloom, D. Brindley, D. VanWinkle

VISITORS: Over fifty-five (55) people were in attendance

MUNICIPAL ORDER #02-2017; AN ORDER OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BEREA, KENTUCKY, ESTABLISHING POLICY AND PROCEDURE FOR OPENING WITH INVOCATIONS AND THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE BEFORE CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS.

Corporate Counsel read the order in its entirety. Little motioned, Davis seconded to approve the order. Discussion was held among the council; all ayes. Order adopted.

INVOCATION: Bethel Baptist Church pastor, Kenny Davis gave the invocation.

PLEDGE: Mayor Connelly led the pledge.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: FEB. 21, 2017

Fraley moved, Caudill seconded to approve the minutes of Feb. 21, 2017 as prepared; all ayes.

POLICE DEPARTMENT PROMOTION – CHIEF DAVID GREGORY

Chief Gregory announced the recent promotion of police officer Aaron Boykin to a police sergeant. Sergeant Boykin has been a police officer with the city since 2012, he is a graduate of ECU and holds a bachelor's degree.

PROCLAMATION – CHILDREN'S CHAMPION

Mayor Connelly read the proclamation declaring the month of March as Children's Champions of Madison County. Phillis Adams distributed information of the events taking place throughout the county during the month. She introduced Cayden Gibson, a Kirksville elementary student who won this year's poster contest.

CHEMICAL DEMILITARIZATION UPDATE – CRAIG WILLIAMS

Craig Williams, Madison County Host Community Liaison distributed, and gave a slide presentation/update of the \$5.4 billion dollar project taking place at the Blue Grass Army Depot. The construction phase of the project is complete, with systemization now more than 68 percent complete; they are on schedule and are expected to be completed by the year 2020. \$170 million dollars has been spent with Kentucky companies, and \$102 million spent locally in Madison County and surrounding counties. The council will receive an invitation to tour the facility soon.

BID OPENING – WALNUT MEADOW SANITARY SEWER REHABILITATION PROJECT – UTILITY DEPT.

Four (4) bids were received.

1. Lane Inliner \$493,663.00
2. Akins Excavating - \$497,433.00
3. Leak Eliminators - \$454,652.00
4. Robinson Pipe Cleaning - \$464,973.50

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

BID OPENING – DUERSON STADIUM

Three (3) bids were received; two were opened at the business meeting, one bid was inadvertently left at the office, it was opened by the mayor in the presence of the city administrator and city clerk, Wednesday morning.

1. Rock Trucking - \$38,000.00
2. Grant Excavating - \$55,000.00
3. Scott Excavating - \$67,000.00

Bids will be turned over to the Public Works Department for review and a recommendation.

MADISON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT PRESENTATION – NEEDLE EXCHANGE PROGRAM – NANCY CREW

As a follow-up to the community forum the Health Department recently presented, Ms. Crew distributed information and urged the city council to pass a resolution in support of the Syringe Exchange Program. SEP's have proven to prevent the spread of diseases such as HIV, and hepatitis. SEP's are cost effective and prevent much costlier treatments associated with blood-borne diseases and is a tool to protect the health and safety of police, fire fighters, and EMS by helping to reduce the risk of transmission of diseases. Ms. Crew also reviewed the facts and myths from the SEP forums. Our police department is in full support of this program and many other counties in KY have already become part of this program.

RESOLUTION #03-2017; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF BEREA, KENTUCKY, REGARDING THE CREATION OF A SYRINGE EXCHANGE PROGRAM (SEP)

Mayor Connelly read the resolution in its entirety. Fraley moved, Schultz seconded to approve the resolution; all ayes.

ORDINANCE #03-2017; AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BEREA, KENTUCKY, CHANGING THE ZONING CLASSIFICATION OF PROPERTY DESCRIBED OWNED BY ALEXANDER QUALITY CONSTRUCTION, LLC HEREIN FROM I-2 (INDUSTRIAL PARK DISTRICT) TO B-2 (MAJOR BUSINESS DISTRICT) – 2ND READING

Corporate Counsel read the ordinance in its entirety. Little moved, Terrill seconded to approve the ordinance. Roll call vote; all ayes. Ordinance adopted.

ORDINANCE #04-2017; AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BEREA, KENTUCKY, AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF BEREA, KENTUCKY, BY REVISING SECTION 20.050 TO PROVIDE FOR REGULAR COUNCIL MEETINGS TWICE MONTHLY AND ELIMINATING ONE WORK SESSION – 2ND READING

Corporate Counsel read the ordinance in its entirety. Schultz moved, Caudill seconded to approve the ordinance. Roll call vote; all ayes. Ordinance adopted.

ORDINANCE #05-2017; AMENDED BUDGET – 1ST READING

Corporate Counsel read the ordinance by title and summary.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Audit & Finance – Caudill; the committee and members of the council met March 3rd and reviewed the amended budget with the department heads. The council will begin looking at the 2017-2018 budget very soon.

Economic Development – Davis; on Feb. 9th, he along with Mr. Fraley and Mr. Isaacs, attended a meeting in Frankfort sponsored by Commerce Lexington. The committee Feb. 20th and discussed several items including the best strategies to bring and keep businesses to Berea and help them succeed. There is a meeting next week with Bluegrass Area Development, and on March 27th there is a meeting with Commerce Lexington for Industrial Development and marketing. Two new businesses opened in town; Inside Out Chiropractic and Body, Mind & Soul Yoga Studio. Wings Etc. is now hiring, and the Native Bagel Company is planning an opening soon. Next ED meeting will be on March 20th at 5:30 p.m.

Parks – Schultz – the committee met Feb 23rd and discussed a feasibility study for the need of an indoor recreation facility in town; discussion was held on the Duerson Stadium; much discussion was held on Dog Park, the funding would come from next year's fiscal budget; location and requirements were reviewed. Many good ideas were brought up, including a Rainbow Bridge in memory of passed pets. The Berea Youth League Board attended our meeting and are willing to help with our programs. Our next meeting will be the fourth Thursday of March.

Personnel – no report.

Public Works – Little; the committee met yesterday and reviewed the need for this year's street paving, we will place out the bid soon to help get a better price. We discussed the parking issue on Boone Street as requested for the new business that will be locating there soon; 2-hour parking will be marked. Discussion was held regarding streets being approved but not holding up, this includes the curbs, gutters, and drains. Once we have a new city engineer on board we hope to have all our new streets inspected for long terms, to help save on repairs for the following years. Our next meeting will be April 3rd at 5:30p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Craig Williams reminded the council that the City of Berea's representative on the Citizens Chemical Advisory Board is Chester Powell; a former city council member. Williams contacted him to confirm that he is still interested in serving on this board; he stated he is, with the city's approval. The representative does not have to be a council member to serve, the current council can determine who they wish to serve.

Miriam Pride, Berea Human Rights Commission; the Lexington Fair Housing has reached out to several entities in the community about the possibility of them sponsoring an historic tour of Berea. They take care of the motor coach and the advertising, if anyone would like to help put the tour together, contact her.

Randy Coffey; questioned 16 plats of property located in the Industrial Park; are we continuing to farm it, or mow it in 2017. Mayor replied the property is being aggressively marketed at this time.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT; R. STONE

- Thanks to the council and the Finance Committee for meeting with the staff last week to review the amended budget. Our finances remain strong; as of this past Monday, monies in our General Fund was \$1,205,252, and Tourism had \$330,540,000. In passing our amended budget we do not plan on changing any of our financial standards, we have \$4,914,860, of un-budgeted money. We commend our department heads for their daily work with the budget, this is money that is not included in any line items in our budget. We did have an amendment in December to our administrative budget; we are hiring an additional IT Tech to cover all the technical needs of the city. All the projects underway at this time are completely funded between now and June 30th. Our Indian Fort Trail connection for the trail will be our next large project, we hope to all Rights-of-Way purchased by April. The US25 Project has been resubmitted to Frankfort for a notice of change order so we can perform some re-engineering on this project. The original estimated construction of this project was a little over six-million dollars 5 years ago, it is now estimated to be around eight-million; they have asked us to get the cost back to around the original estimate.
- The department heads are now compiling their five-year capital spending plan, and will be working on the 2017-18 budget.
- The construction of the new building is going well, we are still on target for the September opening date.

Questions: Wooten asked when the Summer Food Program/Martina LaForce will be making a presentation to the council. Stone stated she will be on the next agenda to present. Once the new budget is approved and passed by council and published, a request can be submitted and the mayor will prepare an agreement/contract for the disbursement of funds. Her request is a match program to get federal funds.

Little moved to approve the additional parking and time allowance change on Boone Street; Caudill seconded, all ayes.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Schultz – thanks for everyone that attended the meeting this evening, it's good to see a full house.

Meeting adjourned: 8:04 p.m.