**BEREA CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MARCH 6, 2018**

The Berea Council met in a regular session, Tuesday, March 6, 2018; 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, D. Rowlette, J. Little, S. Caudill, C. Wilson, R. Terrill

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

\*A work session was held at 5:30 with CPA Jerry Hensley to review the process of budgeting requirements by KRS.91.A.030, and line items by departments.

**INVOCATION & PLEDGE**

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

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

**CHILDREN’S CHAMPION MONTH PROCLAMATION**

Mayor Connelly read the proclamation declaring March as Children’s Champion month in Madison County and Berea. Phyllis Adams received the proclamation and announced a student from Kirksville Elementary was this year’s recipient of the poster award. Many events are planned during the month to encourage adults to help all children and youth have more opportunities to be successful. Chief David Gregory was recognized as a Children’s Champion for 2018.

**RESOLUTION #01-2018; CDBG GRANT – UTILITIES**

Mayor Connelly read the resolution in its entirety. The City of Berea agrees and resolves to apply for HUD Community Development Block Grant funds in the amount of $1,000,000 for use in a project entitled, *City of Berea – Walnut Meadow Pump Station & South Middletown Trunk Sewer Improvements*. Caudill motioned, Schultz seconded to approve the resolution; all ayes.

**HIDTA – 2017 ANNUAL REPORT – RODNEY TUDOR**

Rodney Tudor, of the Madison County High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area Task Force stated that the mission of the task force is to bring down the mid-to high level drug traffickers, in, and around our area. Last year they seized almost three kilos of heroin and crystal meth, along with 14 pounds of marijuana, over 2,000 of Oxycodone pills, and approximately 1,250 Xanax tablets. The task force is made up of officers from both Berea and Richmond Police Departments, the Madison Co. Sheriff’s Department, and the KY State Police Departments. Tips can be left on their tip line anonymously.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Audit & Finance – S. Caudill**

The committee will meet tomorrow at 5:30 p.m.

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**Economic Development – J. Davis**

The Economic Development office will be hosting an information open house for the upcoming Fast Track Business Workshop on March 15th, at 5:30 p.m.

**Parks – T. Schultz**

The next committee meeting will be March 22nd at 5:30 p.m.

**Personnel – C. Wilson**

No report.

**Public Works – J. Little**

The next committee meeting will be April 2nd.

**DEPARTMENT HEADS:**

Project Manager, Dale VanWinkle informed the council that he, and Parks Director Priscilla Bloom, received and opened bids, for the installation of a new Splash Pad at the city pool. He recommended accepting the bid from Bluegrass Recreation, in the amount of $137,400. No objections.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

None.

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

* On March 5th, all offices in City Hall were officially moved in and open. A lot of residents are taking advantage of the drive-thru for dropping off their utility payments. We will plan an open house at a later date, but all the employees will be glad to give anyone directions, or a tour of the building at any time. We will have the loan closing on Wednesday, March 15th.
* The US25 Project has gotten off to a good start; all Rights-of-Way have been marked, the Allen Company is coordinating the project.
* The Pool filter tanks have been moved into the pump house in anticipation for the upcoming pool season; and the pool will receive its annual new coat of paint prior to opening, Memorial Day week-end.
* The Public Works Department will start preparation for the new stadium pad installation, the press box and stadium seating is expected in April.
* The Finance Department has been notified that Moody’s is re-evaluating our credit and bond rating; their report will be released later this month.
* The ordinance establishing our franchise with Waste Connections will be on the next council meeting agenda.
* The police department received a new Dodge Van that will be used as evidence collections on accidents, and crime scenes. The vehicle was purchased and paid for from our drug forfeiture line item.
* General Fund monies this week was; $2,558,027. Tourism had $512,409.

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**COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

**Caudill** – thanks to the presenters this evening; congratulations to the police chief for his recognition of the Children’s Champion Award.

**Rowlette** – he thanked his colleagues for the confidence in appointing him to finish the term of Billy Wooten, he will work hard for our community. The Chamber folks and some of the council members traveled to Frankfort last week and met with our representatives, and members of the transportation cabinet to discuss concerns about our By-Pass, and the need for a Vocational School in Berea. We hope to see the next phase of the Airport expansion to be funded.

**Schultz** – thanks to the presenters this evening, their work is very, very important to our community, please contact the Drug Task force with any tips or suspicions.

**Fraley** – welcome Mr. Rowlette to his first official council meeting, he is looking forward to working with him over the next 10 months. Phase II of the By-Pass was our top priority during our visit to Frankfort, Mr. Stone provided us with historical information about our By-Pass, we shared this information urging our representatives to keep this project in the 6-year plan, and to be funded for Berea.

Several of the council members attended the legislative update sponsored by the Richmond Chamber of Commerce; at the meeting both Richmond and Berea’s Tourism Department received the Economic Engine Award from the Kentucky Tourism Industry Association.

**Davis** – welcome Mr. Rowlette; the trip to Frankfort last week was well received, and well worth it.

Meeting adjourned: 7:29 p.m.