**BEREA CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING SEPTEMBER 18, 2018**

The Berea City Council met in a regular session, Tuesday, September 18, 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, D. Brumley, K. Howard, P. Bloom, S. Meeks

* A work session was held at 5:45 p.m. of the Audit & Finance Committee. Martina LaForce gave a report on the 2017 Berea Summer Food Service Program.

**INVOCATION AND PLEDGE**

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Fraley motioned to add Municipal Order #02-18 to the agenda; Little seconded, all ayes. Caudill motioned to approve the amended agenda, Davis seconded; all ayes.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES: SEPT 4, 2018**

Caudill motioned, Fraley seconded to approve the minutes of September 4, 2018; all ayes.

**BEREA HUMAN RIGHTS UPDATE – MIM PRIDE**

Ms. Pride gave a brief update of the past year’s achievements and of events in which the Berea Human Rights Commission sponsored; they held educational workshops, and various training events. The commission also participated in several community events sponsored by the Berea College Carter G. Woodson Center for Interracial Education. Six total incidents were reported to the commission during the past year, one was religious, two were racial, and two were of sexual orientation, and one was out of jurisdiction. A full report will be presented after the first of the year.

Three nominations were received for the 2018 John G. Fee Award; Virginia Bland, nominated by Jaquelyn Bowling; Kentuckians for the Commonwealth, nominated by Susan Haddix, and Dr. Kenarian Brown, nominated by David Gregory. This year’s recipient in the adult category was Virginia Bland. In the youth category, Ms. Brielle Masters was nominated by Virginia Bland. She was awarded for her help in the community garden’s, and she is an example to other children in our community. Mayor Connelly presented both awards.

**KYMEA & AMP FINDINGS – J. LITTLE**

Councilman Little reviewed some the changes and problems he feels the city has experienced during the change from KU Electric, to our new providers, KYMEA and AMP Ohio. In 2014 the council was asked to give KU a 5-year notice to cancel our electric contract. He voted to leave KU but thought we would ask other wholesale companies to bid our power or re-negotiate a new contract with KU. In 2015 the council was asked to sign the Interlocal Agreement for a new start-up agency, KYMEA. We tabled it asked for RFP’s, and the council voted in 2016 for AMP Ohio to provide all our power needs, delivered to our power points, and to decide if we wanted to buy capacity and planning reserves. The council was never told we had 25 megawatts of capacity from the AMP Proposal. Why wasn’t we told we already had 25 megawatts at .82, not to exceed a $1.50 by the end of the 5-year contract with AMP. When he looked at the transmission contract, he discovered we were being charged more than the contract stated, are we going to be refunded on our over-payment? “Why did Mr. Mark David Goss have to find these problems, wasn’t our consultants looking out for us, or were they wanting us to go with KYMEA”? “I guess so, when Mr. Connelly said last week, we are KYMEA, at the last council meeting”? He hopes in the future that our city attorney gets the opportunity to review all

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million-dollar contracts before the administration signs them, and he hopes he never has to say anything else about the electric!

**ORDINANCE #14-2018; AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BEREA, KENTUCKY, PROVIDING FOR THE LEVY OF AD VALOREM TAXES FOR CITY PURPOSES UPON ALL PROPERTY, NOT OTHERWISE EXEMPT, IN THE CITY OF BEREA, KENTUCKY – 2ND READING**

Corporate Counsel read the ordinance in its entirety. Caudill motioned, Little seconded to approve and adopt Ord. #14-18. Roll call vote; all ayes.

**MUNICIPAL ORDER #02-2018; AN MUNICIPAL ORDER OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BEREA, KENTUCKY, ESTABLISHING A POLICY AND PROCEDURE FOR ADJOURNMENT OF ALL MEETINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL.**

Corporate Counsel read the order in its entirety. Rowlette motioned, Schultz seconded to approve the order; all ayes.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Audit & Finance – S. Caudill**

The committee met prior to the business meeting to hear a presentation from Martina LaForce requesting funding for the Berea Kids Eat Summer Food Service Program. The committee approved the request; the program is in part with a USDA Grant.

**Economic Development – J. Davis**

The committee met last evening to discuss and to update current items. New business, recently opened in “Hole and Corner Doughnut Shop”. The Native Bagel has moved to their new location on Chestnut St.

**Parks – T. Schultz**

Next meeting will be Thursday, Sept. 27th at 5:30 p.m.

**Personnel – C. Wilson**

No report.

**Public Works – J. Little**

Next meeting will be October 8th at 5:30 p.m.

**DEPARTMENT HEADS:**

No additional reports.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Shane Morris expressed his displeasure with the “Bee Kind” signs, he feels the signs are put out by an extremist aut-left group by the dog whistle note on the sign that says, “Don’t get your facts from Facebook hate groups”. The signs are directed towards the “Berea Moderates”, a civil rights group that he is a part of. Tourism department has been distributing the signs, he was under the impression that city government is to be conducted in a non-partisan fashion. He suspects Tourism was following the lead of the mayor, who had a photo opt with the flamboyant Jim Grey, as he was making his run at the democratic nomination for the 6th congressional seat, and who was defeated by Amy McGrath. It has now been exposed the Amy McGrath has piloted zero combat missions. He proceeded to fold up his yard sign and asked for a trash receptacle for his sign.

Sandy Rowlette said things are getting underway for the “Annual Spoonbread Festival”, the festival starts in three days. Many student volunteers have stepped up to help this year, and students at Madison Southern are working on some phot booths. T-Shirts will go on sale during the Balloon Glow, which begins at 6:30 pm, and many food vendors will be there. Many new vendors have signed

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up to attend this year, and there are lots of free things for people to see and do, including many concerts; please pray for good weather!

Randy Coffey thanked the council for their service and congratulated the John G. Fee Awards winners. He asked about a lost document that went missing from city hall? The nomination letter for the Human Rights award letter from last year was missing, it concerns him that documents are going missing, do we need to get a sixty or seventy-thousand-dollar study or do some re-training. Also, he has concerns that the Tourism Department doesn’t know all the attractions on the Berea College Campus. He wants to know why we have people on the council who decides what Tourism is, who have no clue where the attractions are to the number one draw in the city? \*(note from the city clerk) (nominations letters for the award are not presented in the city clerk’s office to be kept as a permanent record). (I will speak with the KY Records and Achieves Division to see what the retention record for nomination letters are).

Ellie Workman stated that she just lately became interested again in coming to city council meetings because she has lived here a long time, and she hears people say they don’t know what is going on, and that’s our fault. She hopes Berean’s of which she is a moderate, will always be kind to each other, and to the people who come into town. The mayor is not responsible for who sits on council, the citizens of Berea votes in who sits on the council, if people don’t like things, they should vote when it comes around. There will be candidate forum on Oct. 9th at the Folk Center starting at 5 p.m.

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

* Both Berea Community, and Madison Southern High Schools are having their home coming parades this Thursday afternoon.
* The Allen Company is finishing the work on the walking trail along Short Line Pike, the final punch list will be completed, so we can close out this project.
* Friday, Sept. 28th from 11 am – 2 p.m., we will hold the 50th year dedication of the original City Hall building.
* Tax bills will be mailed out Sept. 28th.
* The Splash Pad passed the inspection by the State last week, we will be incasing everything on concrete, in anticipation of being up and running for the 2018 pool season.
* The Tourism Dept. is holding hospitality training at Boone Tavern, this evening, and tomorrow morning.
* Bell Engineering held the final sewer trunk line design review for the Hwy 1016 Project today. We hope to place it out for bid in the next few months.
* Utility Director, Kevin Howard and I, visited Fox Creek Dam in Fleming Co, along with our design engineers. We are looking at different designs for our Owsley Fork Dam Project. Our dam is classified as a high hazard dam.
* We will be advertising for the Economic Development Director’s position.

**MAYOR’S COMMENTS:**

None.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

**Terrill** – Mr. Abrams, out on Short Line appreciates the bike path, but someone has tried to break in his barn and a trailer. We might need to have a police officer on the trail.

**Davis** – reminded everyone to support the Spoonbread Festival, it’s the largest festival, and brings more people to Berea. Congratulations to the John G. Fee award recipients.

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**Fraley** – he also encouraged everyone to attend the festival and encourage your friends and neighbors to attend, it’s a great time, support our local businesses as well. A city-wide Clean-Up day will be held on Saturday, Oct. 20th starting at 9 am; we will assemble in the city hall parking lot. Five different sites, are in the plans to be cleaned-up.

**Rowlette** – congratulations to the award recipients. Thanks to the Public Works Dept, and the Parks crews for helping get things set-up for the festival, we started a day behind due to the weather. Pray for good weather and big crowds, this a tremendous economic impact for our community. Thanks to everyone who attended the meeting this evening, it is important that everyone votes. A 20% or 30% turn-out is pathetic, we can do much better!

**Schultz** – thanks to everyone who showed up this evening; he encouraged everyone to be like Ellie Workman and be involved in city politics. He thanked the citizens who spoke at the microphones about their concerns. He encouraged everyone to attend the festival.

**Caudill** -he alsoencouraged everyone to attend all the festival events, traffic will busy with the parades and homecoming events. Be safe, be careful, and allow time to get there. Congratulations to the John G. Fee award recipients.

**Wilson –** congratulations for the award to Virginia and Brielle. Thanks to everyone who came and spoke, this is your city; Ms. Workman is correct, this is your city, it’s not the mayor’s or the eight of us, get out and vote.

Fraley motioned, Schultz seconded to adjourn; all ayes. Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.