**BEREA CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING FEBRUARY 5, 2019**

The Berea City Council met in a regular session, Tuesday, February 5, 2019; Mayor Bruce Fraley presiding. A quorum being present the meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

**COUNCIL PRESENT**: J. Davis, D. Rowlette, J. Payne, E. LaDouceur, J. Little, S. Caudill, C. Wilson, R. Terrill

**OFFICIALS:** J. T. Gilbert, R. Stone, C. Chasteen, D. Gregory, S. Sandlin, S. Meeks, D. Brumley, K. Howard, K. Hensley, A. Haney, P. Bloom, D. Brindley

**INVOCATION:** Pastor Allen Livingood

**PLEDGE**

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Davis motioned to amend the agenda by adding the council convene to an Executive Session after the business meeting; seconded by Payne, all ayes. Caudill motioned to approve the agenda, Little seconded; all ayes.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES: JAN. 15, 2019**

Motioned by Davis, seconded by Caudill to approve the minutes of Jan. 15, 2019; all ayes.

**RECOGNITION OF VISITORS:**

Ethan Connelly questioned why “Public Comment” was changed to “Recognition of Visitors” and moved to the beginning of the meeting, he asked for more awareness to the citizens. He also asked about the committee selection process; on Jan. 7th, there was an Audit & Finance Committee meeting, and on Jan. 15th the Audit & Finance Committee approved a change order; it was reported that Caudill was reelected as Chair at the Jan. 7th meeting. e He as Why was meeting held before the order to place members on the committees on the 15th? In addition, he asked who selects the council committees; do they have a preference; and why the two women sit on three committees? Can the committees represent more perspectives?

**VETERAN’S PARKING & ROAD SIGNS PROCLAMATION – EMERSON MCAFEE**

Mr. McAfee, representing the local Vietnam Veteran’s Chapter presented a proclamation to Mayor Fraley supporting parking signs, and KVHOF road signs in our community. Any business in town that would like to purchase a “Veteran Parking Sign”, can do so by contacting him, the cost for the sign is $35.00. Mr. McAfee is nominating Chess Ed Elkin for the “2019 Honorable Veteran” road sign for Berea, Mr. Elkin served in the Army Air Corp from 1941-46, and was in Okinawa when the Japanese surrendered in 1945. Mr. Elkin was born in Wallaceton and attended Berea High School. During his lifetime in Berea, Mr. Elkin has contributed to our local Economic Development by owning many properties and having many businesses in town. He is truly deserving of this nomination to the Kentucky Veteran’s Hall of Fame.

**UPDATE ON CHARITABLE WORK BY LIGHTHOUSE PENTECOSTAL CHURCH – PASTE DAVID FRYMER**

Pastor Frymer reported his church is working towards a full-time homeless shelter or a facility, that would also offer job rehabilitation, and offer encouragement to get the homeless back on their feet by helping in finding them a job. 75% of the homeless they are seeing, are drug addicts; 20% are down on their luck, and the other 5% is that way because that’s the way they want to live. The “Room in the Inn” is good, but it will not fix the problem, there needs to be more resources for help. Jennifer Whittemore, a recovered addict and a former homeless person herself, stressed the need for a safe place for the homeless to go to get help. She feels a personal connection to the homeless because of her experiences. Currently their church is feeding the homeless, and giving them warm clothing, but there needs to be a shelter, or location to help the homeless in our community.

**OPEN BIDS – BACK-UP GENERATOR – WASTE WATER TREATMENT PLANT – UTILITIES**

Seven bids were received:

1. Judy Construction Company - $301,000
2. B3 Electric, LLC - $304,000
3. Roberson Group - $218,051.99

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1. R. E. Cook Electric Inc. - $298,798
2. Glenwood Electric Inc. - $404,500
3. Herrick Company, Inc. – $293,000
4. D & B Electric - $205,548

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

**OPEN BIDS – JANITORIAL SERVICES – BMU/PUBLIC WORKS BUILDING**

Two bids were received:

1. Parkers Absolute Best Cleaning – amounts were listed for types of service, including floors (types)
2. Eastern Kentucky Carpet Cleaners – amounts were listed for types of service, including floors (types)

Bids will be referred to the Utility Director and Public Works Director for review and a recommendation.

**ORDINANCE #01-2019; AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BEREA, KENTUCKY, CHANGING THE ZONING CLASSIFICATION OF PROPERTY DESCRIBED OWNED BY MARGARET E. WOOD HEREIN FROM A-1/B-2 (AGRICULTURE/MAJOR BUSINESS) TO B-2 (MAJOR BUSINESS) – 2ND READING**

Corporate Counsel read the ordinance by title and summary. Little motioned, Terrill seconded to approve and adopt the ordinance. Roll call vote, all ayes.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Audit & Finance – Caudill**

The committee met prior to the business meeting to review the 2018-2019 amended budget.

**Economic Development – Davis**

The committee will meet on Monday, Feb. 18th at 5:30 p.m. in the community room.

**Parks – Rowlette**

The committee will meet on Thursday, Feb. 28th at 5:30 p.m. in the community room.

**Personnel – Wilson**

The committee will tentatively meet Monday, Feb. 11th at 6 p. m. in the community room.

**Public Works – Little**

The committee met last evening to discuss off street parking and placing “No Parking Signs” in some locations. On-going drainage projects were also discussed. He was elected chairperson of the committee. Next meeting will be on Monday, Mar. 4th at 5:30 p.m. in the community room.

**DEPARTMENT HEADS:**

Police Chief David Gregory stated “The Richmond Register” recently reported that Berea is the 11th “Safest City” in KY. “Coffee with a Cop” will be held on Thursday morning, Feb. 21st at 8 a.m. at Cracker Barrell; citizens are encouraged to attend and talk to the officers about any issues they might have.

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

* Department Heads are working on the 2019-2020 budgets; they will be working on their 5-year capital needs to have turned-in to me by Feb. 15th.
* The staff met with representatives from KLC to discuss the city’s Strategic Plan process. A public meeting will be held Thursday, March 7th at Madison Southern’s cafeteria at 5:30 p.m.
* The Allen Company reports the US25 Project is currently on schedule. There are a few more utilities that we will need to be re-located.
* A Utility meeting was held at District 7 Highway Department last week; there are some utilities that the city will be responsible for moving during the 2nd Phase of the By-Pass. We will do so during the construction process.
* We received three (3) new police vehicles in December, they should be fitted with the needed equipment and be on the road soon.
* General Fund this week has $1,268,367; Tourism has $304,070.

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**MAYOR’S COMMENTS:**

* Congratulations to the Berea Community School Girls Basketball team for winning the All A State Tournament. We will recognize Coach Stepp and the team at our March 5th city council meeting.
* Thanks to the “Berea Chamber of Commerce”, and “Churchill’s” for hosting the “State of the City” address on Jan. 31st, and thanks to Pastor Rick Fulton for hosting the address last evening at Glades Christian Church’s Gathering Place.
* Kentucky River Foothills will be offering “Free Rides” on the bus service, Thursday, Feb. 14th.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

**LaDouceur –** she wanted to recognize Mr. Connelly’s comments about the placement for the public comment on the agenda. She encouraged all the council members to be more respondent to citizens concerns and questions. The committee structure troubles her; she wasn’t asked which ones would best fit her preference; she feels there is a conflict of interest for Rowlette to serve on the Parks Committee considering the contracts the city holds with the Chamber of Commerce; she would like to see the Ethics Committee re-visit some of the “Open Meeting’s Laws”, and/or conflicts of interest. We need to tidy up a bit on our procedures, so the public feels confident in our transparency.

**Caudill –** the recognition of visitors was moved to the beginning of the meeting to allow people to comment before the council votes on agenda items, it is a tough call of where to place it; we can modify the naming of it, there wasn’t any ill intent. Concerning the committee placements, we can discuss it further. Congratulations to Berea Community.

**Payne –** thanks to everyone to came and spoke; he agrees we could add the public comment to the wording on the agenda. He appreciated the opportunity to attend the KLC training for city officials. Thanks to the I.T Department for setting up the city council emails. He is currently working on digitalizing the minute books of 1908-1925; they are on the Madison County Libraries web-site, anyone can visit their web-site and access those.

**Wilson** – thanks for everyone who attended, and thanks for the comments from Ethan; she does agree to give people the opportunity to speak before the council discusses items on the agenda. Congratulations to the Berea Community Girls Basketball team!

**Rowlette** – today was Leadership Madison County Day in Frankfort; many from Berea and Richmond Chambers attended; we were able to speak to some of our local elected officials, and we were able to visit with Governor Bevin, as well as other elected officials while we were there. Thanks to Randy and the KLC representatives for the work on the Strategic Planning, he is looking forward to the public comments on it.

**Terrill** - thanks to all attended this evening, and thanks to the Mayor for having the State of the City Address for the Chamber of Commerce, it has been missing for a few years.

**Davis** – he agrees with having the recognition of visitors/public comment on the agenda where it is, for the reasons stated. The agenda is posted on-line on Friday’s before the council meetings, its not like people wouldn’t have the opportunity to ask or know what is going on prior to a meeting. When he was elected to council, he was asked if there were any committees he would like to serve on, he did mention one, and he was assigned to serve on the others, but he wasn’t aware who did the assignments.

Adjourn to closed session: 7:28 to discuss legal matters.

Reconvened at 7:39; no action taken.

Caudill motioned to adjoin the business meeting at 7:40, Little seconded; all ayes.