**BEREA CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING JULY 2, 2019**

The Berea City Council met in a regular session, Tuesday, July 2, 2019; Mayor Bruce Fraley presiding. A quorum being present the meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

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

**ABSENT:** D. Rowlett

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

**INVOCATION:** Pastor Kenny Davis

**PLEDGE:** Steve Caudill

* Council work session was held at 5:30 to review talking points of the recent joint government meeting. Topics were: The Madison Co. Airport, The Madison Animal Shelter, and the Hwy 52 connector road. Council requested a detailed report from the county regarding contribution request for the Animal Shelter.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Caudill motioned, Little seconded to approve the agenda. LaDouceur motioned, Payne seconded to remove Ordinance #11-2019 until council reviews with Tourism; all ayes on the amended agenda.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES: JUNE 18, 2019:** Caudill motioned, Payne seconded to approve the minutes of June 4th, 2019; all ayes.

**RECOGNITION OF VISITORS - PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mim Pride, representing the Berea Human Rights Commission announced the “2019 John G. Fee” award is open to nominations. Nominations can be submitted by mail, email, or at the office. The application is on the HRC’s web-site, and on face-book. There are two categories; a youth application and adult application. She recognized Mary Startzman for her amazing garden being featured in the “Southern Living Magazine, and on KET.

Ethan Connelly, Berea resident informed everyone that he had attended the Richmond “Pride” event, held last week-end. It was a great family event, and a good community event with many food vendors and business vendors. He hopes to see Berea support this event someday.

**BEREA COMMUNITY SCHOOL ANNUAL REPORT: Dr. DIANE HATCHETT, SUPERINTENDENT**

Dr. Hatchett distributed hand-outs to go along with her up-date presentation. She thanked the city and college for their support of the school. There are approximately 1,100 students enrolled in classes, of which 73% receive free, or reduced lunches daily. The school has a 97% graduation rate with at 93% average daily attendance. The average ACT scores for the school is at 22nd in the state and is listed as 10th in the district. Homecoming will be held September 27th and 28th, everyone is invited to attend.

**ROOM IN THE INN SEASONAL REPORT: SIERRA MARLING**

Ms. Marling thanked councilperson Emily LaDouceur for taking the initiative to start the “Room in the Inn”. During the first season of holding the “Inn”, 1212 meals were served, and 268 beds were occupied in the 59 days the “Inn” was open. 65% of the homeless they served were from Madison County. 325 volunteer shifts stepped up to help, with many expressing interests in coming back next season. Many community partners offered donations in food and health supplies, and the police department assisted in implemented safety measures. They hope to have a permanent spot next season for the “Room in the Inn”, and they hope to improve volunteer mobilization efforts, and improve their communications to get information out. The group utilized social media to get the word out; they spent no money on advertising by utilization of free press. The group will be seeking non-profit status in the up-coming season.

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**ACCEPTANCE OF INFRASTRUCTURE OF STREETS IN STONEY CREEK**

Public Works Director, Dwayne Brumley informed the council that city staff have received and reviewed a request from the developer, Rodney Short, to bring certain streets in Stoney Creek into the city’s maintenance program. The streets requested are: Winding Branch-1903’: $475,750; Southfork-1401’; $350,250; and Stoney Creek Way -1000’; $250,000; total $1,760,000. This does not include any off-street drainage systems. Payne motioned, LaDouceur seconded to approve the acceptance of streets; all ayes.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Ad Hoc – S. Caudill**

No report.

**Audit & Finance – S. Caudill**

The committee met with the auditors last week; audit work began last week, they will return in October to present at the first council meeting.

**Economic Development – J. Davis**

No report.

**Parks & Rec.- J. Payne**

The committee met last week and reaffirmed the committee meets the “last” Thursday of the month. He reminded everyone to attend the 4th of July festivities beginning at 6 p.m. at the city park. Next meeting will be July 25th at 5:30 p.m.

**Personnel – C. Wilson**

No report.

**Public Works – J. Little**

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

**DEPARTMENT HEADS:**

Tourism Director, Kerri Lee Hensley reminded everyone of two major events coming up:

* The Berea Craft Fair will be held the week-end of July 12th – 14th.
* The Berea Learn Shops begin July 12th and will run through Aug. 3rd.

Visit the web-site for more information.

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

* The US25 is still progressing, the completion date is moved to Sept. 1st due to some conflicts with the utilities at the corner of Glades Road, on the McDonalds side.
* The By-Pass Project is still in the talks; hopefully the funds will be released by the end of the year.
* The paper-work for the Ellipse Street TAP Grant has been sent to the Transportation Office, once approved, it will then go to the governor for approval. This is for the Ellipse Street sidewalk to become a trail from Hwy595 Trail to the US25 Trail.
* General Fund monies this week was $1,121,000.
* The Short Line-Indian Fort Trail is completed, the state will pay a grant portion of $5,000.
* The Utility Department is preparing for the Owsley Fork Damn Project: water will begin being drawn from the Cowbell Hollow Lake.
* The Fire Department was able to raise the ISO rating from a 3 to a 2, effective Oct. 2019. City and some county residents will benefit on their home owner’s insurance bills.
* Paving will begin in Dixie Park on Powell Street on July 8th; Glades Road will not be paved until the US25 Project has been completed.
* City Hall will be closed on the 4th.
* In the 2019 budget there was a line item for a purchase of property involving a lawsuit, it has not been settled, the line item will go over in the new budget.

**MAYOR’S COMMENTS:**

Mayor Fraley thanked Dr. Hatchett and Ms. Marling for their presentations this evening, we hope to hear back from them again.

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**COUNCIL COMMENTS**:

**Davis** – thanks to Dr. Hatchett and Ms. Marling for their presentations this evening; congratulations Chief Sandlin on the ISO rating; hope everyone has a happy and safe 4th of July. Keep David Rowlette in your thoughts.

**Payne** – echo what Davis said; residents need to be mindful on the requirements for allowing fireworks to be shot. Chief Gregory stated a notice was placed on the city’s web-site; please be mindful of pets and your neighbors.

**LaDouceur** – thanks to Dr. Hatchett for the report; she has two kids who attend Berea Community School, and is very pleased with the school. The Richmond Pride was a very successful event. Thanks to Sierra for the update report on the “Room in the Inn, she is very proud of the group. Congratulations to Chief Sandlin. Happy 4th of July everyone!

**Caudill** – thanks to Dr. Hatchett and Ms. Marling for their presentations; he appreciates Dr. Hatchets enthusiasm for the children, and he appreciated Ms. Marling’s good work. Congratulations to Chief Sandlin, this is an example of a department heads service to our community. Continue to remember David Rowlette in your thoughts and prayers.

**Wilson** – thanks to the presenters, and congratulations to Chief Sandlin; everyone have a great 4th of July; keep David Rowlette and his family in your thoughts and prayers.

**Terrill** – agrees with everything that has been said this evening; everyone be safe shooting their fireworks.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY**

Little motioned, Caudill seconded to convene in to an executive session at 7:35 p.m.; all ayes. After discussion was held the business meeting reconvened at 7:53 p.m. Caudill moved, LaDouceur seconded approval for the mayor to negotiate a purchase of property for the Cherry Road Drainage project not to exceed $60,000; all ayes.

Meeting adjourned at 7:54 p.m.