**BEREA CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING JUNE 18, 2019**

The Berea City Council met in a regular session, Tuesday, June 18, 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. Rowlette

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

**INVOCATION:** Pastor Steven Hobbs

**PLEDGE:** Shawn Sandlin

Mayor Fraley asked for everyone to keep David Rowlette in their prayers; he is hospitalized with a possible stroke.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Caudill moved, Little seconded to approve the agenda; all ayes.

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

**RECOGNITION OF VISITORS - PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

**BEREA COLLEGE UPDATE – PRESIDENT LYLE ROELOFS**

President Roelofs thanked everyone for attending the council meeting, civic engagement is one of the crucial elements for effective local government and all citizens should be eager participants in the governance of our city. He is very excited about the new trail development along the Brushy Fork Creek, it will benefit all our citizens. Berea College will be implementing a new tobacco free campus, target date is July 1st, 2019. Applauds to the mayor and tourism for partnering and promoting the visitor experience here in Berea, we are much stronger in working together than as individuals. The Berea College Forest has been a part of the school for about 100 years old, and mountain day has been celebrated since 1878. The forest covers over 9,000 acers which is mostly around Indian Fort and Owsley Fork areas. The forest is managed sustainably so that each year there is more wood available for harvest than the year before. The forest provides much recreation for all and the Indian Fork Trail to the Pinnacles was recently recognized as one of the best hikes in KY. Approximately two years ago the college shifted to horse and mule logging as a better way to remove logs, and it is an Appalachian tradition. The college owns two draft horses and recently a new foal was born and will become part of the team in four year’s to also pull logs out of the forest.

**BUDGET CONCERNS – JACQUELINE BOWLING**

As a citizen, tax payer and supporter Ms. Bowling stated she felt the need to respond to the best use of our restaurant tax. Advertising is a luxury and Tourism has been allowed to spend at will. The essential city departments do an excellent job with the money they have, tourism, not so well. Advertising is too expensive for the results; five consultants from the agency come to present. One speaks, one holds the laptop, one bakes cookies and two just sit. How much consulting is needed to continue the same event year after year? Maybe a more effective use of the restaurant tax would be to help fund events that would bring tourists to Berea. Use available funds to promote the festivals, markets and our natural resources. During a recent HRC meeting involving money, she witnessed disrespect for the mayor and watched manipulation designed to punish the HRC for following the mayor’s request by an event organizer to gain money for herself. There are areas of the budget that need improving, Berea deserves more bang for the buck. She asked the council to represent the majority of the citizens and not to cater to the minority.

**PROCLAMATION – POLLINATION WEEK**

Mayor Fraley read the proclamation declaring the week of June 17-23, 2019 as “Pollinator Week” in Berea. Wendy Warren and Jim Embry accepted the proclamation and thanked the mayor and council for their support. Madison County is the only county in KY that is called the “Pollinator Habitat Working Group” organized three

**BEREA CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING JUNE 18, 2019**

 Page 2

years ago. Mrs. Roelofs is part of their group, she and President Roelofs will be hosting this year’s recognition event at the Berea College Forestry Outreach Center.

**BEREA CRAFT FESTIVAL PARKING AGREEMENT WITH RICK TERRILL**

Mayor Fraley stated the Berea Tourism Commission have requested use of the lot at 2006 Big Hill Road for three days, July 12th, 13th, and 14th for parking in the amount of $1,000; property is owned by Rick Terrill. Our Ethics Ordinance requires that we must make a public disclaimer as to having any type of contract with an official of the city, any elected official, or family member of that official who could gain monetary improvements from any action taken by the city. Mayor Fraley referred to the Ethics Ordinance, Chapter 27, article 2. Four requirements for the disclosure purposes of the contract. Little moved, Caudill seconded to approve the agreement for the additional parking during the Craft Festival in the amount of $1,000; all ayes, with Terrill abstaining. LaDouceur suggested the city should consider bidding out for another parking option next year.

**ORDINANCE #09-2019; AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BEREA, KENTUCKY, ADOPTING THE ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL PERIOD JULY 1, 2019 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2020, BY ESTIMATING REVENUES AND RESOURCES AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE OPERATION OF CITY GOVERNMENT AND PROVIDING FOR A LONG-RANGE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT AND PUBLIC FACILITIES IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM BUDGET AND PLAN. – 2ND READING.**

Corporate Counsel read the ordinance by title and summary. Approval of the ordinance comes as a recommendation from the Audit & Finance Committee. Davis moved to reduce the allocation for the Human Rights Commission; Fund 1010, line item 5100 from $8,000 to $2,000. Little seconded the motion. LaDouceur asked for a reasoning for the reduction. Davis replied they have not spent what was allocated as of April 1, and they have not presented a budget in the past three years. Motion to amend approved. Little moved to reduce the allocation in Tourism; Fund 028, line items 54100 from $379,000 to $300,000. Terrill seconded the motion. LaDouceur asked the city attorney if the council has the legal ability to dictate Tourism’s budget line items; according to KRS the funds are designated restaurant tax. Corporate Council will research and report back. Caudill added the council received a legal opinion last year and it was understood the council can reduce the line item, but we can’t reallocate the funds. The Tourism Commission worked very hard on their budget this year to get it approved. Tourism is planning on sending out an RFP for the upcoming year for their advertising and that should weed out a lot of questions of the cost. Payne attended the last Tourism Commission meeting; the commission went through their budget line item by line item, he is not certain the council should micro-manage their budget without specific reasons. Little stated that Tourism does not have to cut one program, the reduction does not change anything; the reduction of $79,000 is to evaluate advertising to see what works and what doesn’t. LaDouceur asked what part of advertising the reduction is going to cut, digital marketing, printing, consulting, etc.? Little replied just advertising, they will learn how to spend it, it’s not his right to tell them what to do with the money. Mayor Fraley called for a vote on the amendment, roll call vote; Terrill- aye, Wilson-aye, Caudill-no, Little-aye, LaDouceu- no, Payne-no, Davis-aye. Motion carries on the amendment. Roll call vote on the motion to approve Ordinance #090-2019 as amended; LaDouceur-aye, Payne-aye, Davis-aye, Little-aye, Caudill-aye, Wilson-aye, Terrill-aye. LaDouceur requested the legality of doing said approved. Ordinance #09-2019 as amended adopted.

**ORDINANCE #10-2019; AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BEREA, KENTUCKY, AMENDING THE PERSONNEL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES, ORDINANCE #12-18 BY AMENDING ARTICLES XIX, COMPENSATION RANGES FOR PART TIME TOURISM AND PARKS, AND POLICE AND FIRE UNIFORM ALLOWANCES. – 2ND READING**

Corporate Counsel read the ordinance by title and summary. LaDouceur moved, Caudill seconded to approve and adopt the ordinance. Roll call vote all ayes, ordinance adopted.

**RESOLUTION #09-2019; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BEREA, KENTUCKY, APPROVING AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF BEREA, KENTUCKY, AND THE COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY TRANSPORTATION CABINET, DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAYS, FOR CONSTRUCTION OF THE OR THE DESIGN PHASE OF THE MAIN STREET AND BEREA COLLEGE CORRIDOR (SCAFFOLD CANE TRAIL), AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE SAME.**

**BEREA CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING JUNE 18, 2019**

 Page 3

Corporate Counsel read the resolution in its entirety. Payne moved, LaDouceur seconded to approve the resolution; all ayes.

**RESOLUTION #10-2019; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BEREA, KENTUCKY, APPROVING AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF BEREA, KENTUCKY, AND THE COUNTY OF MADISON, KENTUCKY, FOR AT TRAFFIC ENHANCEMENT GRANT PROGRAM AT US BR 21 BIKE ROUTE, AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE SAME.**

Corporate Counsel read the resolution in its entirety, Little moved, Wilson seconded to approve the resolution; all ayes.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Ad Hoc – S. Caudill**

The committee met last evening, the community reviewed the current Ethics Ordinance, the current Ethics Board has already been considering changes/updates that the Ad-Hoc committee were discussing. The board will bring their revisions to present to council soon. The committee motioned and seconded to not recommend for the entire council to attend the KLC Ethics training.

**Audit & Finance – S. Caudill**

The committee will meet with the auditors on June 26th at 5 p.m.

**Economic Development – B. Davis**

A meeting will be scheduled soon.

**Parks – J. Payne**

The committee will meet on June 27th at 5:30 p.m. Reminder of free family swim Tuesday evenings, 6-8.

**Personnel – C. Wilson**

New hires will be introduced.

**Public Works – J. Little**

The July 1st meeting is cancelled, next meeting will be August 5th at 5:30 p.m.

**DEPARTMENT HEADS:**

Police Chief David Gregory introduced new school resource officer, Todd Johnson, he will be starting in August at Farristown and Foley.

Utility Director, Kevin Howard introduced new hires; Pablo Fernandez who is 7-year employee was promoted to the electric division as an apprentice Lineman Class 1. Zack Williams was hired to fill the position as a water-sewer maintenance operator, Class 1. Kyle Baker was hired as an apprentice lineman Class 2

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

* This is a busy time of year as we close out the end of our fiscal year, part of the end year work is evaluation of all our employees, we have several very dedicated employees and it shows in the goals they set for themselves going forward and preparing their futures with the city.
* We are looking at different alternatives for the Cherry Road Drainage Project; also, in talking with our Utility Department, we will be bringing a 6” water line replacing a 2” from the Chestnut Court to US 25 bringing better water pressure on the west end of town, and on Holly Hill a sewer line will be replaced.
* We have submitted our BOCA grant for the Social Service Coordinator for the Police Department.
* The police department have completed “Diversity Training” with Dr. Brown from Berea College.
* Six fire fighters attended State Fire School this past week-end.
* General Funds money this week is; $1,359,000. All city insurances are due at the end of the month.

**MAYOR’S COMMENTS:**

The Public Works Department recently installed a covered bus-stop cover at the Glades Village bus stop, this was a joint effort between the property owner and the city.

Thanks to the department heads, Susan Meeks, Mr. Stone, the audit & finance committee for their hard work on the 2019-20 Budget. An application will be required for grant requests in the new budget year.

**BEREA CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING JUNE 18, 2019**

 Page 4

He, and Chief Gregory attended a drug summit meeting at the extension office in Richmond. The purpose of the meetings was to bring the many Madison County organizations involved in combatting the drug abuse throughout our county, the city will support this effort.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS**

**LaDouceur** – thanks to President Roelofs for the update, and congratulations to Virgil Burnside for his upcoming retirement, and congratulation to the new hires. She does not approve of her colleagues’ amendments to the budget, these cuts are largely about power and control, not physical responsibility. She highlighted conservation efforts; there are only four ways to handle plastic at the end of its life; plastic waste can be recycling, destroyed, or converted to fuel or energy, disposed of at managed waste systems, or discarded where it ends up in the natural environment. An Eco-Brick is a plastic bottle packed with plastic to a set density to create a re-usable building block used to make furniture, garden spaces and full-scale buildings. During the past two weeks she has worked with young Berean’s at the art camp, the camp utilizes the “Berea Kids Eats” program. The food program provides lunch and a power snack for children under 18 during the camp. The packs of foods often involve a lot of waste. After learning about the Eco-bricks, one of the campers was very inspired, Eli Winlyn; he came to camp with five filled bottles and petition to call for action. She challenged her fellow Berean’s members to make their own Eco-Brick for create their own raised beds. For more info about the brick, a google search will teach residents all about it.

**Payne** – the library will be doing a “Couch to 5K” race that will be held during the Spoonbread Festival; more information is on the library’s web-site. Runners will begin training in the next several weeks.

**Davis** - thanks President Roelofs for being here this evening, congratulations to Pablo on his promotion and welcome to the new employees. Wishes for a speedy recovery to David Rowlette.

**Little –** thanks to Dr. Roelofs for the colleges wiliness to work with the city, we all have to work together for a better Berea.

**Caudill** – echo what Jerry said about Dr. Roelofs; we also appreciate the college updates. Berea College is a part of the city, and we commend them for their work in growing our city. Congratulations to the promotions and welcome to the new hires to the city, our employees are the backbone of the city. Thanks to everyone for the work on the budget process, the entire process is very important. A budget is an example of the organization’s priorities, he is proud of out city and the continued dedication and vision for our future. Everyone should be mindful of calling out or harassing people on our walking paths, our trail system is amazing and a jewel for our city.

**Wilson** – echo what Steve said. Please don’t say mean things to people out walking on the trails. Thanks to President Roelofs for the for partnering with the city; welcome to the new employees, and Pablo on his new adventure. Zack Williams’ dad retired from the sewer commission; he ran the waste-water treatment plant. Thanks everyone for coming tonight.

**Terrill** – agrees with everyone; suggested for Tourism to place the $79,000 towards the trails, then the city could use the trail money for a dog park.

**ADJOURN**

LaDouceur moved, Caudill seconded to adjourn at 7:48 p.m.