**BEREA CITY COUNCIL \_ \_\_\_ \_\_ REGULAR MEETING \_\_\_\_ \_ \_\_ February 4, 2020**

The Berea City Council met in a regular session, Tuesday, February 4, 2020.

Mayor Bruce Fraley presiding.

A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

**COUNCIL PRESENT**: Jim Davis, David Rowlette, John Payne, Jerry Little,

 Steve Caudill, Cora Wilson, Ronnie Terrill

**COUNCIL ABSENT:** Emily LaDouceur

**OFFICIALS:** Jerry Gilbert, David Gregory, Robin Adams, Amanda Haney,

 Shawn Sandlin, Susan Meeks, Kevin Howard, Kerri Hensley,

 Eric Scott, Donna Angel, Priscilla Bloom, Daniel Brindley

**INVOCATION:** Kevin Slemp

**PLEDGE:** Donna Angel

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**:

Caudill motioned; Little seconded to approve agenda.

Vote: All ayes

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES: JANUARY 21, 2020**

Davis motioned; Payne seconded to approve minutes as presented.

Vote: All ayes

**RECOGNITION OF VISITORS / PUBLIC COMMENT**

**Tim Taylor,** Berea

The skate park shelter and picnic tables had been vandalized, i.e. picnic tables were missing chairs/stools, tables had been vandalized. This was dangerous for children and requested to please repair and/or replace.

**FORTUNE SOLUTIONS, LLC - LUCAS WITT**

Fortune Solutions, LLC, based out of Lexington, KY, provides consulting services within the real estate market and economic development. In looking at Berea as a whole and its stand on economic development, thoughts to consider are what is Berea doing, where has Berea gone, and where does Berea want to be.

Based on Hyster’s growth, a global company, there is an appreciation of a supporting partnership with the City and State and sharing a future revenue. They are able to secure sales and use tax rebate based upon the new capital investment spent for their expansion, new employees hired, and new generated income.

Other service areas provided are existing industry, assistance in consulting, industrial park growth, and communication with the Cabinet for Economic Development and other state partners as it relates to the existing industries.

Although the previous Economic Development Director, Danny Isaacs, had done a wonderful job of building relationships with the current industries, it was time to revisit the industries showing support and partnership. Meeting conversations involved their pain points, plans for growth, and opportunities where the City could help.

The largest issue in every single company, small or large, is the work force. Things to consider are helpful resources and initiatives from the Cabinet for Economic Development. In anticipation for growth, global companies could expand in Berea or another local facility throughout the country. With this analysis, the need is to help these companies understand why Berea makes sense for them.

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In marketing industrial park growth for Berea, the focus is on Berea’s strengths and weaknesses, restructuring growth, remarketing each individual industrial site, who/what makes sense, who is right to partner with, and how to invest for future growth.

As L. Witt and Mayor Fraley had recently done, communities need to be proactive in talking with the Cabinet for Economic Development to update them with what’s going on in their community/county.

**OPEN BIDS - WALNUT MEADOW PUMP STATION & SOUTH MIDDLETOWN TRUNK SEWER IMPROVEMENTS - UTILITY DEPARTMENT**

Mayor Fraley opened bids. Two bids received.

1. Buchanan Contracting, Inc. Received 2/4/20 $2,280,340.00
2. Norris Brothers Excavating Received 2/3/20 $3,268,330.00

Crossville, TN

Bids referred to the Kevin Howard, Utility Department Director, for review and recommendation.

**ORDINANCE #01-2020 - 2ND READING**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BEREA, KENTUCKY, AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF BEREA, KENTUCKY, BY ADDING SECTION 53.010, PROVIDING FOR AND ESTABLISHING LITTER ENFORCEMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS, AND PROVIDING FOR PENALTIES FOR THE VIOLATION OF THE RULES AND REGULATIONS.**

Gilbert, Corporate Counsel, read and summarized ordinance by title.

Terrill motioned; Wilson seconded to approve.

Roll call vote: All ayes

Ordinance adopted.

**ORDINANCE #02-20 - 1ST READING**

**REVISED ETHICS ORDINANCE**

Corporate Counsel read ordinance by title and summary.

Payne stated as it was not uncommon for Council members to mention events or non-profit entities within the City, i.e. Spoonbread Festival, Public Library, etc., which could technically be deemed as an endorsement and asked how this would fit into the ethic laws.

Mayor Fraley stated a response would be provided from Corporate Counsel at the 2nd reading.

**ORDINANCE #03-20 - 1ST READING**

**ENFORCEMENT OF THE FIRE PREVENTION CODE**

Corporate Counsel read ordinance by title and summary.

**ORDINANCE #04-20 - 1ST READING**

**AMENDED BUDGET 2019-2020**

Corporate Counsel read ordinance in its entirety.

**ORDINANCE #05-20 - 1ST READING**

Corporate Counsel read ordinance in its entirety.

Mayor Fraley stated the ordinance was for surplus property, i.e. vehicles and heavy equipment.

Gregory stated the surplus auction would be scheduled on-line at govdeals.com.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Ad-Hoc - S. Caudill**

Appreciated work of the Ethics Committee on revisiting the Ethics Ordinance.

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**Audit & Finance - S. Caudill**

Appreciated the diligent, difficult decisions made by City Administration on the amended budget to make sure the City is continuing to be financially responsible. Wanted to continue to advertise and make sure the citizens were aware of any fee increases. Thank you to the Council Members for also working through the budget. As Chair of the Audit & Finance Committee recommended to Council to pass amended budget.

**Economic Development - J. Davis**

Thank you to Lucas Witt, Fortune Solutions, LLC, for his work with the City of Berea.

Secondly, called on Donna Angel regarding new businesses in town.

Angel thanked Lucas Witt for an outstanding job in the industrial park.

Regarding Business Development, new businesses in town include Energy Healing, Berea Therapy Group, Kendrick’s of Danville and Harrodsburg (a joint psychology group), and a Quilt Shop. Delighted to welcome businesses to Berea and they will be a great asset and good cultural events.

Scheduled events are the FastTrac classes with MACED, partnering with an Industry Lunch & Learn Session in late February, working with Fortune Solutions on offering a small business summit in March, in the midst of starting a job fair for graduating seniors and others seeking employment, and two companies are currently site selecting in Berea.

**Personnel - C. Wilson**

No report.

**Parks - J. Payne**

Parks meeting last Thursday. Items discussed were:

Graffiti in the park. If you see anyone doing anything unauthorized, let authorities know.

Check the Parks Facebook page for current programs.

Street Department had been working on handicap decks and ramps at the Folk Center.

No scooters permitted at the park.

Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 27th.

**Public Works - J. Little**

Discussions at previous meeting included:

Stop signs at Plymouth Drive intersection.

No parking issues regarding parking on the side of streets.

The center handicap ramp at the Folk Center to be installed after the sidewalk is completed around the side.

Had a good briefing on the MS4 Stormwater Regulations in which had been reduced from approximately 300 pages to 25 pages.

Trees do not need to be set under powerlines as they grow into the power lines causing public safety issues.

Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 2nd.

**DEPARTMENT HEADS**

**Utilities - K. Howard**

Tree Trimming bids (2) received at the January 21st, 2020 meeting had been reviewed.

One contractor did not attend the mandatory pre-bid.

The eligible contractor / bid qualified at a proposed rate of $450/span which was an increase of $120/span on the contract that expired in August of 2019.

An increase was anticipated in the last budgeting process for the tree trimming line item.

Recommendation was for BMU to accept the bid and enter into a contract agreement with Phillips Tree Experts, Corbin, KY, at a rate of $450/span.

Caudill motioned; Payne seconded to accept the recommendation.

Vote: All ayes

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**CITY ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT - DAVID GREGORY**

* Thanked the Council for adopting the Litter Enforcement Ordinance as it compares with the state criminal statutes.
* Looked forward to working with Corporate Counsel on the Ethics Ordinance on clarification of how it involves employees.
* For the sale of property at 103 Meadowlark Drive, bid packages are available on-line and at the Clerk’s office. Bid closing is February 10th, 10:00 a.m., the opening will be at noon in the City Clerk’s office.
* Departments are beginning work on their 5-year capital projections, accomplishments, goals & objectives, and performance indicators on fiscal year 2020-2021 budget.
* Council Work Session scheduled for March 3rd, 5:30 p.m., regarding priorities and funding requests for the next year’s fiscal year budget.
* Plans are to make a recommendation to Council regarding the insurance broker committee on the selection of property, casualty, worker’s comp, and employee benefits for the March 3rd meeting.
* Upcoming:

A resolution to enter into an agreement with the state on our municipal road aid, a cooperative agreement for requesting funding (80%) through state forms in an emergency, disaster, etc.

Information for the 2nd phase of the bypass route by the state had been placed on the City’s Facebook page. He reminded the public that although the bypass is in the state’s plan, the legislatures must approve the budget. Be sure to speak with our legislatures to help get this project completed.

* Been working with Corporate Counsel and Waste Connections on the Solid Waste Contract. Included in the contract are customer complaint resolutions along with fees, litter control, and condition of equipment.

Caudill stated he would like to see a 7-day notice prior to any changes of service included in the contract.

**MAYOR’S COMMENTS**

Regarding the Work Session scheduled for March 3rd to discuss priorities for fiscal year 2020-2021, he encouraged Council to review the Strategic Plan.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS**

**Davis** gave credit to Senator Jared Carpenter and Representative Robert Goforth in assisting with getting the bypass back on schedule.

**Rowlette** thanked staff involved in developing the budget and narratives. Also, the budget came out of the governor’s office including the bypass and is going before the Senate in the next few weeks. Encouraged those who had contacts with anyone serving in the General Assembly to call for support of the Berea bypass project/budget.

**Caudill** thanked staff involved in putting time in on the budget and the solid waste contract.

**Payne** reminded everyone of the State of the City Address, Thursday, Feb. 6th, Glades Christian Church Gathering Place. Also noted this was a slow season for a lot of businesses in town and if citizens want businesses to stay in the community, spend locally.

**Little** requested in looking at the Strategic Plan, regarding wants and needs, for those involved to list 1-2 priority items to get completed.

**Wilson** thanked everyone for coming, thanked staff for work done on budget, and thanked Lucas Witt for an updated informative economic development report.

**Terrill** encouraged those who did not attend the first State of the City Address to attend the second one scheduled for February 6th, 6:00 p.m., Glades Christian Church Gathering Place. Thankful the Mayor is here.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Caudill motioned; Little seconded to adjourn at 7:30 p.m.

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Mayor Bruce Fraley

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 City Clerk