**BEREA CITY COUNCIL \_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_SPECIAL CALLED MEETING \_\_\_\_ \_ \_\_ APRIL 21, 2020**

The Berea City Council met in a special called meeting via videoconference, Tuesday, April 21, 2020.

Mayor Bruce Fraley presiding.

A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m.

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

Steve Caudill, Cora Wilson, Ronnie Terrill

**OFFICIALS PRESENT:** Jerry Gilbert, David Gregory, Robin Adams, Daniel Brindley, Shawn Sandlin,

Kevin Howard, Amanda Haney, Kerri Hensley

**INVOCATION:** Jim Davis

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Mayor Bruce Fraley

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Davis motioned; Terrill seconded motion to approve agenda.

Roll Call Vote: All ayes

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES: MARCH 31, 2020**

Little motioned; Wilson seconded motion to approve minutes as presented.

Roll Call Vote: All ayes

**BEREA MUNICIPAL UTILITIES ELECTRIC RATE/COST ALLOCATION STUDY - KEVIN HOWARD**

Howard, Utilities Director, stated regarding bids presented at the February 18, 2020 City Council Meeting, after interviews and review of bids, the recommendation was made to City Council to enter into contract and services with Catalyst Consulting, LLC of $30,000.

Little thanked Howard for choosing Catalyst Consulting, LLC and stated it was a good decision.

Little motioned; Terrill seconded motion to accept recommendation.

Roll Call Vote: All ayes; motioned carried.

**BOARD OF ETHICS APPOINTMENT**

Mayor Fraley requested a motion to approve re-appointment of Ernestine Brashear to the Board of Ethics for a three-year term.

Little motioned; Davis seconded motion.

Roll Call Vote: All ayes

**BEREA HOUSING AUTHORITY APPOINTMENT**

Mayor Fraley requested a motion to approve re-appointment of Dr. Althea Webb to the Berea Housing Authority for a four-year term.

Payne motioned; Little seconded motion.

Roll Call Vote: All ayes

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**RESOLUTION #03-2020**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BEREA, KENTUCKY ADOPTING AND APPROVING THE EXECUTION OF AN AMENDMENT TO THE INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH MADISON COUNTY, MADISON COUNTY EMS, KENTUCKY STATE POLICE, MADISON COUNTY SHERIFF, MADISON COUNTY CORONER AND CITY OF RICHMND FOR PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATION SERVICES.**

Corporate Counsel, Gilbert, read and summarized Resolution #03-2020 by title.

Little motioned; Wilson seconded motion to approve Resolution #03-2020.

Roll Call Vote: All ayes; motion carried.

**RESOLUTION #04-2020**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BEREA, KENTUCKY ADOPTING AND APPROVING THE EXECUTION OF AGREEMENT FOR FIRE SERVICES FOR CERTAIN UNINCORPORATED AREAS IN MADISON COUNTY WITH THE MADISON COUTY FISCAL COURT.**

Corporate Counsel, Gilbert, read Resolution #04-2020 in its entirety.

Davis motioned; LaDouceur seconded motion to approve Resolution #04-2020.

Roll Call Vote: All ayes; motion carried.

**RESOLUTION #05-2020**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BEREA, KENTUCKY ADOPTING AND APPROVING THE EXECUTION OF AGREEMENT FOR ANIMAL CONTROL AGREEMENT WITH THE MADISON COUNTY FISCAL COURT.**

Corporate Counsel, Gilbert, read Resolution #05-2020 in its entirety.

LaDouceur stated at last year’s work session, the payment amount was set at $36,000 and asked where the $30,000 amount came from. Also, the Madison County Animal Shelter had been asked to provide data and had any data been provided?

Mayor Fraley stated he did not know the reason for the payment amount decrease and, to his knowledge, no data had been provided.

Caudill stated he thought the payment amount was always based on the previous year’s amount.

LaDouceur, although not opposed, asked why they were approving a Resolution when requested data had not been provided. As the data was more than ‘call data,’ she would still like to receive the information.

Mayor Fraley stated, although no information was received, he did recall a breakdown on information and would request that from the Judge Executive.

Caudill stated the intent was to always have a joint meeting regarding this Resolution, although under the current situation (of COVID-19) he assumed a joint meeting could not take place.

Caudill motioned; LaDouceur seconded motion to approve Resolution #05-2020.

Roll Call Vote: All ayes; motion carried.

**RESOLUTION #06-2020**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BEREA, KENTUCKY ADOPTING AND APPROVING THE EXECUTION OF AGREEMENT FOR MUTUAL AID FIRE SERVICES WITH THE MADISON COUNTY FISCAL COURT.**

Corporate Counsel, Gilbert, read Resolution #06-2020 in its entirety.

LaDouceur motioned; Payne seconded motion to approve Resolution #06-2020.

Roll Call Vote: All ayes; motion carried.

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**ORDINANCE #09-20**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BEREA, KENTUCKY, SUSPENDING THE IMPOSITION AND COLLECTION OF THE TRANSIENT ROOM TAX AND THE RESTAURANT TAX FOR THE PERIOD OF MAY 1, 2020 THROUGH AND INCLUDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2020.**

Corporate Counsel, Gilbert, read Ordinance #09-20 in its entirety.

LaDouceur motioned; Payne seconded motion to table until more information was provided, from Finance and Tourism, on how this Ordinance would benefit the City.

Roll Call Vote: All ayes; Ordinance #09-20 tabled.

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

* Regarding COVID-19, the Parks Department was answering the City’s COVID-19 hotline.
* The City Hall was still closed to walk-in traffic and waiting on guidance from public health officials of when to re-open.
* Continuing to work on 2020-2021 Budget; currently on the second draft.
* Working with Insurance Brokers and hopeful of no increases on Workers Comp or Property and Casualty.
* There had been several meetings with the Employee Benefits Broker and expecting significant savings on health insurance.
* Continuing to work on examining revenue and expenditures for the current year and looking at forecasting for fiscal year 2020-2021. Possible work session to be scheduled in May with the Audit & Finance Committee.
* On April 28th, he and Susan Meeks, Finance Director, will be listening in on a revenue forecasting for overall economic community for this fiscal year 2021. This will be with directors of Northern Kentucky University who specialize in analysis and research.
* As of April 21st, the guardrail project had been started with the George Stone Group which included North & South Dogwood and East Haiti. In October of 2019, approximately $45,000 was received from state funding utilizing state contract pricing.
* The Allen Company is working on the punch list for US 25, hopefully this would soon be completed.
* Still no official word on the Berea Bypass and hopeful it was passed in the state budget.
* Thanked everyone for all they are doing.

**MAYOR’S COMMENTS**

* Sadly, we had the loss of Peg Morrow of our community on April 10th. She was a long-time volunteer for Berea Faith Community Outreach (BFCO) as she was the driving force behind Berea United for Utility and Rent Relief (BUURR). She volunteered for BFCO for over 13 years. Felt it was appropriate to show our appreciation for her service and asked that everyone keep her husband, Chester, and her family in their thoughts and prayers. She will be missed.
* Regarding COVID-19, Mayor Bruce Fraley, City Administrator David Gregory, Police Chief Eric Scott, Social Services Zinnia Hensley, meet three times per week with County Judge Executive Reagan Taylor, Mayor Robert Blythe (Richmond), and other officials throughout the County to stay updated on the statistics. Complimented citizens throughout the City and County of adhering to the guidelines issued by the State and National levels. Thought this had a tremendous impact of keeping COVID-19 to a minimum in Berea and Madison County as a whole.
* Per a Madison County Health Department Official, as of Monday, April 20th, six days had passed without any new reported cases of the COVID-19 virus. Stated we are moving in the right direction as a County.

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**COUNCIL COMMENTS**

**Rowlette** thanked colleagues for input on Emergency Ordinance #09-20 as businesses and residents were beginning to feel the impact of layoffs, furloughs, etc. throughout the County and State.

**LaDouceur** No comment.

**Payne** reiterated the importance of completing/submitting the census**.** Considering the funding we are not getting due to COVID-19, every penny received from the government is important. Funding was acquired by completing the census.

Also wanted to say good-bye to one of Berea’s longstanding citizens, Joyce Henderson, who recently passed away. She was one of the driving forces behind the Public Library in Madison County.

Encouraged everyone to wear COVID-19 masks when in public as they protect you and everyone around you.

**Little** hoped and prayed the citizens of Berea stayed healthy. Hoped everyone could get back to work by working together and getting COVID-19 behind us.

**Terrill** asked if the City Hall lights had been burning green at night, for those lost to COVID-19, as Governor Beshear had requested; yes, per D. Gregory. Everyone be safe and keep your distance.

**Caudill** No comment.

**Davis** brought attention to members of the community and the Council regarding a fund which had been started in Madison County. The fund was known as the Madison County COVID-19 Response Fund that provided critical support to those adversely effected by the COVID-19 pandemic. It provided grants to non-profit organizations within Madison County with services related to food, healthcare, childcare, transportation, and the elderly. All funds raised in the County would be used in the County. For donations contact Mark Robbins of Richmond and/or Tracy Todd Blevins of Berea, both are co-chairs of the Madison County Community Fund. Everyone stay safe and healthy.

**Wilson** thanked those listening in. Stay safe and buy local, they need our support.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Caudill motioned; Payne seconded motion to adjourn at 6:40 p.m.

All ayes.

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Mayor Bruce Fraley

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City Clerk