

**MUNICIPAL ORDER NO. 02 - 20**

**AN ORDER OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BEREA, KENTUCKY, REPEALING MUNICIPAL ORDER 02-17 AND REVISING THE POLICY AND PROCEDURE FOR OPENING WITH AN INVOCATION AND THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE BEFORE CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS.**

**RECITALS:**

1. The City Council approved Municipal Order 02-17 establishing a procedure for invocations and the pledge of allegiance at City Council meetings.
2. Municipal Order 02-17 began a tradition of solemnizing Council proceedings by allowing for an opening prayer before each meeting, for the benefit and blessing of the Council, and for a recital of the pledge of allegiance.
3. The Council intends to revise the policy by affording council persons to open council sessions with a short invocation.

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** by the City Council of Berea, Kentucky, that the Council hereby adopts the following written policy regarding opening proceedings before business meetings of the Council:

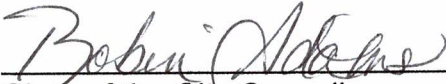
1. In order to solemnize proceedings of the City Council of Berea, Kentucky, it is the policy of the Council to afford each Council member, on a rotating basis, to open sessions of the Council with a short invocation based on the dictates of his or her own conscience, for the benefit of the Council.
2. Beginning at the April 7, 2020, meeting, a Council member may offer a short invocation consistent with the provisions of this Order. Council members shall be afforded this opportunity in alphabetical order. This policy shall remain in full force and effect at each City Council meeting thereafter; provided that the order shall "reset" at the first Council meeting of each calendar year. In the event a Council member declines, the next Council member in alphabetical order may offer the invocation; provided, however, that the council members may establish any procedure that the majority of council members may desire that is not inconsistent with this Order.
3. In addition to the foregoing, after the meeting of the Council is called to order, the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag shall be recited.
4. This policy is not intended, and shall not be implemented or construed in any way, to affiliate the Council with, nor express the Council's preference for, any faith or religious denomination. Neither other Council members, nor the Council as a whole, shall review or approve the content of any invocations.

5. Other than as set out herein, the provisions of Municipal Order 02-17 are repealed and of no further force and effect. The terms of this Municipal Order shall remain in effect until revised, amended, or repealed by the City Council.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER ORDERED** that this policy shall become effective immediately upon adoption by the Council.

Approved this 31<sup>st</sup> day of March, 2020.

CITY OF BERE A, KENTUCKY

  
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Clerk of the City Council