**BEREA CITY COUNCIL \_\_ SPECIAL CALLED MEETING \_\_\_ SEPTEMBER 15, 2020**

The Berea City Council met in a special called meeting via videoconference, Tuesday, September 15, 2020.

Mayor Bruce Fraley presiding.

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

A WORK SESSION WAS HELD AT 6:00 P.M. TO DISCUSS

AIRPORT BOARD – WATER & SEWER LINE EXTENSION

**COUNCIL PRESENT:** David Rowlette, John Payne, Emily LaDouceur, Jerry Little, Steve Caudill,

Cora Wilson, Ronnie Terrill

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

Priscilla Bloom

**VISITORS PRESENT:** Judith Carr, Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR); Patricia Alexander, GEAR UP College & Career Navigator, Berea Community Middle/High School; Ashley Hammond, GEAR UP College & Career Navigator, Berea Community Elementary School; Brayden Thacker, Berea Community School Student; Michelle Thacker, Parent

**INVOCATION:** John Payne

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** John Payne

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Rowlette motioned; Caudill seconded motion to approve agenda.

Roll Call Vote: All ayes.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES: September 1, 2020**

Rowlette motioned; Caudill seconded motion to approve minutes as presented.

Roll Call Vote: All ayes

**PUBLIC COMMENTS -** D. Gregory

Jacqueline Bowling, Berea, KY

Regarding the revised Juneteenth Day Resolution, Bowling stated that Juneteenth was a Texas holiday and nothing to do with Berea. She felt the Resolution had coded language and troubling paragraphs. Her suggestion was to amend the Resolution as being that ‘the City of Berea hereby recognized June 19, 2021 as Juneteenth Day in Berea.’ The Council had spent countless hours and months on the Resolution and had done nothing but further divide the community. Vote it down and move on.

**PROCLAMATION – CONSTITUTION WEEK**

Mayor Fraley read the Constitution Week Proclamation in its entirety recognizing the week of September 14, 2020 through September 20, 2020 as Constitution Week in Berea, KY.

Judith Carr, Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), stated during the entire week, The National Society of Daughters of the American Revolution, which included over 500 chapters all over the world, were celebrating the signing of our US Constitution.

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**PROCLAMATION – NATIONAL GEAR UP WEEK**

Mayor Fraley read the proclamation in its entirety recognizing the week of September 21, 2020 as National GEAR UP Week in Berea, KY.

Patricia Alexander and Ashley Hammond work for GEAR UP, a federally funded program administered through Partners for Education, which is a part of Berea College. The main objective for GEAR UP is to help students complete high school and enter into higher education, whether it would be college, a university, or a trade school. This includes a lot of collaboration with the schools and the community, i.e. educational field trips, student / family engagement events, teach financial literacy, provide school leadership opportunities, etc.

Brayden Thacker, Berea Community High School GEAR UP Leadership Team, enjoyed working with the team and activities provided. Thanked Mayor Fraley and Council Members for supporting GEAR UP and presenting the proclamation.

A video was also presented by fifth grade student, Tiffany James, a second-year student with the GEAR UP Leadership Team. Being a part of the Leadership Team, she enjoyed her friends, it helped her to focus in class, thought GEAR UP was extraordinary, and looked forward to seeing people smile and laugh every day.

Mayor Fraley thanked Alexander and Hammond, wished them and the students success throughout the school year.

**RESOLUTION #12-2020 JUNETEENTH DAY RESOLUTION**

LaDouceur motioned; Payne seconded motion to approve and adopt Resolution #12-20.

Caudill motioned; LaDouceur seconded motion to amend Resolution #12-20 in its entirety.

Caudill read the amended Resolution #12-20.

Payne stated he appreciated the work to create this version of the Resolution. It was nice to see a Resolution that reached out to the African American community. Thanked Dr. Andrew Baskin for his contribution(s) regarding the Resolution.

Return to motion to amend.

Caudill motioned; LaDouceur seconded motion to amend original Resolution #12-20 in its entirety.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Caudill, Little, Terrill, Payne, Wilson, LaDouceur

Nays: Rowlette

Motion carried 6 to 1.

Terrill motioned to postpone Resolution #12-20 until May 2021. No second. Motion died.

Return to motion to adopt as amended.

Payne motioned; Caudill seconded motion to approve and adopt Resolution #12-20 as amended.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Caudill, Little, Payne, Wilson, LaDouceur

Nays: Terrill, Rowlette

Motion carried 5 to 2.

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**ORDINANCE #17-20 AIRPORT BOARD - WATER & SEWER LINE EXTENSION - 1ST READING**

Corporate Counsel, Gilbert, read Ordinance #17-20 by summary and sections 1, 2, 3, and 4.

LaDouceur encouraged the public to view the Work Session prior to the meeting as there was a lot of information regarding Ordinance #17-20.

**ORDINANCE #16-20 AD VALOREM PROPERTY TAX - 2nd READING**

Corporate Counsel, Gilbert, read Ordinance #16-20 by summary and Sections 1, 2, and 8, stating Sections 3 – 7 were standard provisions for the payments and collection of taxes established by this ordinance.

Caudill motioned; Little seconded motion to approve and adopt Ordinance #16-20.

Roll Call Vote: All ayes

**CITY ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT -** D. Gregory

* Bid for the Multi-Use Pavilion would go out this week for advertising. It would also be advertised on Facebook and the City’s website. The bid opening would be Tuesday, October 6th during the City Council Meeting.
* Parks Department had been busy getting the fields ready for fall sports. In working with Berea Community school, a barrier had been placed around the soccer and football fields to comply with state guidelines for fall sports. Thanked the Public Works and Parks Departments for working together in a short time frame to get these items in place.
* Fall baseball league and soccer would begin next week. The Parks Department was preparing the fields for play. Due to staff shortages, this year they were unable to prepare the fields as they have in the past and would rely on the leagues assisting the City. Appreciated the partnership between the City of Berea and Berea Youth League. MUSA and the Parks Staff would be providing the necessary equipment and tools to assist the City in fall sports.
* In light of the COVID situation, Codes & Planning had continued to be steady with building permits (114), commercial building projects (22), mechanical permits (64), mechanical permits (154), plats (12) with three plats being major subdivision plats, complaint & nuisance calls, and Code Enforcement Board hearings. They will have completed the update of the Comprehensive Plan by the end of October (required every five years) and had an ISO audit (required every five years).
* The Fire Department had been busy with hydrant testing and should be finished by late September.
* The Kentucky River Foothills Bus Transit reported 125 bus riders for August compared to August of last year of 546 riders.

**MAYOR’S REPORT / COMMENTS**

* Amazed at the new subdivision developments during COVID. According the Real Estate industry, sales are currently high.
* Donna Angel, Business & Development, provided a list of new businesses opened in Berea as well as those coming soon, i.e. Happy Jack’s, Burger King, Little Southern Class Florist, Buckets & Suds, Bluegrass Composites, Riley Trucking, Becky Brown Jewelry, Crimson Duvall Pottery, Planet Pawn (new location), KFC, Wildflower Boutique, Robert Walker Caterers, and EQI Metal Castings.
* Encouraged everyone to shop local and support local businesses.

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**COUNCIL COMMENTS**

**Rowlette** The Spoonbread Festival had been canceled due to COVID, which was a huge loss to the local economy. Continue to support your local business. Register to vote. Election workers were needed, contact the County Clerks Office for information.

Mayor Fraley commented that drop boxes would be placed for ballots, anticipating locations at the Berea City Annex and the Russel Acton Folk Center.

**Payne** echoed Rowlette’s comments on voting. There were three options for voting, i.e. in person before Election Day, in person on Election Day, and by absentee ballot. Continue to wear your masks, social distance, spend your money locally, and get your flu shot.

**LaDouceur** gave a huge shout out to Steve Caudill, appreciated his work on the Juneteenth Day Resolution, and was pleased with the final result. Invited everyone to a second virtual town hall meeting scheduled for Wednesday evening, September 16th.

**Little** No comment.

**Caudill** October 2nd & 3rd would be the US Highway 25 yard sale, get out and practice social distancing, continue to wear your masks and wash your hands. Asked everyone to have patience as we are all working together. Glad to have the Juneteenth Day Resolution approved and behind us. The goal tohave a document that was not divisive**.** Let us not forget the things the Resolution said.

**Terrill** Be careful around the Indian Fort Trail, at Shortline and HWY 21, due to excessive water.

**Wilson** Shop local, take care.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Payne motioned; Caudill seconded motion to adjourn at 7:24 p.m.

All ayes.

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Mayor Bruce Fraley

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City Clerk