**BEREA CITY COUNCIL \_\_\_ SPECIAL CALLED MEETING \_\_ \_\_\_\_DECEMBER 1, 2020**

The Berea City Council met in a special called meeting via videoconference, Tuesday, December 1, 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, Emily LaDouceur, Jerry Little,

Steve Caudill, Cora Wilson, Ronnie Terrill

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

Donna Angel, Kevin Howard

**VISITORS PRESENT:** None

**INVOCATION:** Emily LaDouceur

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Jim Davis

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Rowlette motioned; Wilson seconded motion to approve agenda.

Roll Call Vote: All ayes.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES: November 17, 2020**

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

Roll Call Vote: All ayes

**PUBLIC COMMENTS -** D. Gregory

None

**BID UPDATE – AQUATIC FACILITY MANAGEMENT -** D. Gregory

Gregory was currently working with staff for a Cost Benefit Analysis and was not ready to make a recommendation. The submitted cost for the RFP was $139,750 per year, which included services provided for water quality, equipment, general upkeep, and winter inspection reports. The proposal would be broken down comparing the City’s cost for operating the pool in 2019.

**ORDINANCE #19-20 FY20-21 AMENDED BUDGET - 2nd READING**

Corporate Counsel, Gilbert, read Ordinance #19-20 in its entirety.

Caudill motioned; Wilson seconded motion to approve and adopt Ordinance #19-20.

Roll Call Vote: All ayes.

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

* Thanked City Council for passing the first amended budget ordinance. In January, they would begin reviewing revenue and expense reports for the first half of the fiscal year for forecasting direction for the remainder of the year.
* A traffic alert had been posted for the closing of Walnut Meadow Road, at the railroad crossing, for repairs and improvements by CSX Railroad. The closing would begin on Monday, December 7th, with plans to reopen on Wednesday, December 9th. Detour signage would be provided.

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* Berea Municipal Utilities (BMU) and the Engineer Team were working with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and the Division of Kentucky Dam Safety to develop an Emergency Action Plan for the Owsley Fork Reservoir. This would need to be in place before beginning construction. They were also working with Cultural Resource Analysts (CRA) to perform additional environmental and cultural survey work required for approval of off-site soil disposal and storage. The goal was to present the final design June 2021 with construction beginning in the Fall of 2021, pending construction funding was available.
* A pre-bid meeting had been conducted for the Sewer Rehabilitation and Chestnut Court/Cherry Road Stormwater Project. Bids would be opened at the December 15th council meeting.
* December 2nd, he would be participating in a Kentucky Government Finance Officers Association (KYGFOA) training conference on an overview of Kentucky League of Cities (KLC) Investment Pool Program, which began with the passing of House Bill 69, giving local governments and school districts expanded investment options.
* In order to provide notice of special called meetings by e-mail, the City was recently advised to have signed consent forms from the City Council, along with other Boards and Commissions. These need to be returned as quickly as possible.
* Continued working with KLC on the Personnel Policy and Procedures. An ongoing process and difficult due to COVID-19.
* Weather permitting this month, Public Works would be moving the City of Berea sign to the Richmond Road & by-pass. They had already obtained the encroachment permit and Richmond Road was finished.
* Regarding the by-pass, utility locates continued to be done. At some point, this project may need to be placed as a federal project.
* Plans were to soon be putting together a committee, which involved City Staff, to begin background work and reviewing the statement of qualifications for professional surveying and engineering services.
* Leaf pickup continued for next week.
* Due to weather conditions, crews (2) provided salt applications last night using approximately 30 tons of salt with plenty still in stock.
* The Police Department’s General Fund Account line item 010-2005-53400, Small Tools & Equipment, had exceeded the 10% threshold but had not exceeded the overall budget. Although it had already been presented to the Audit & Finance Chair, it was required that it be brought before the Council for approval.

Caudill motioned; Payne seconded motion to approve and acknowledge overage for General

Fund Account line item 010-2005-53400.

Roll Call Vote: All ayes.

**MAYOR’S REPORT / COMMENTS**

* Thank you to Jim Davis for consulting with Howard, Director of BMU, and Gregory, City Administrator, on relocating the cemetery/grave sites at the Owsley Fork Reservoir Project.
* To date per Kentucky League of Cities (KLC), the State of Kentucky was expecting its first shipment of the COVID-19 vaccine during the month of December. Approximately 38,000 doses would be provided to the most at-risk people, i.e. long term care facilities and health care workers in Kentucky hospitals. The Governor’s Office hoped the initial vaccine would reduce COVID-19 deaths.

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* Per Dr. David Gilliam, Madison County Public Schools Superintendent, the school board was awarded the contract for the Career Technical Center in Berea, which would be located near the Farristown Middle School. Very exciting and promising for Berea’s future high school students.
* Welcomed a new business to Berea, Becky’s Breads, located in Old Town.
* Complimented Angel, Director of Business & Tourism Development, and staff for the Christmas in the Village virtual program. They did an outstanding job on the program and holiday decorations.
* Old Town, Berea, had a huge crowd on Shop Small Saturday and there was still time to shop small for the holidays.
* Encouraged everyone to support local businesses, especially restaurants as they were currently closed to dine-in services due to the COVID-19 mandate.
* Presented photos of Business & Tourism Development’s marketing / shop local products for the holidays, i.e. flyers listing local restaurants, gift ideas, etc.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS**

**Davis** Visited the AppHarvest construction site this week. The amount of earth & rock being moved and the size of the structure were amazing. Highly recommended Becky’s Bread, it was a good place to go, and show your support. Encouraged everyone to continue to shop small, shop in Berea, and help businesses through the Christmas season.

**Rowlette** Recognized the many years of service for Archie Poff, Public Works, who retired yesterday, November 30th, and appreciated all he had done for the City in the past twenty plus years. Encouraged everyone to check on family, friends, the elderly, and neighbors during the holidays and especially during the COVID pandemic.

**Payne** Reiterated shop local, while also remembering restaurants, helping businesses make it through Christmas. The Public Library was currently offering curbside service only. The COVID numbers had jumped up quite bit, as soon as we could get the numbers down, the quicker businesses could get back to normal. Hoped everyone had a good Thanksgiving, hoped they were looking forward to the coming holidays.

**LaDouceur** Shopping small did help, unfortunately during COVID it was not enough. The Mt. Association, located in Berea, was providing grants for small businesses and/or restaurants.

**Little** No comment.

**Caudill** Thanked Department Heads for their work on the budget. Work continued on the Mt. Bike Course with plans to have an RFP out within the next few weeks and hopefully open in the spring. Appreciated all the work everyone had done and the continued work on the project.

**Wilson** Reiterated others’ comments, i.e. shop local, do what you can to help. Hoped everyone had a good Thanksgiving, be safe, wear your masks.

**Terrill** Suggested the Mt. Bike Course information be shared with the Parks & Rec Committee as he thought they needed to be informed. Agreed with others’ comments.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Payne motioned; Wilson seconded motion to adjourn at 7:18 p.m.

All ayes.

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Mayor Bruce Fraley

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City Clerk