**BEREA CITY COUNCIL \_\_\_ SPECIAL CALLED MEETING \_\_ \_\_\_NOVEMBER 17, 2020**

The Berea City Council met in a special called meeting via videoconference, Tuesday, November 17, 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, Priscilla Bloom

**VISITORS PRESENT:** LTC Edward E. Williams, Commander, Blue Grass Chemical Activity; Angie Messinger, Blue Grass Chemical Activity

**INVOCATION:** Jim Davis

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Jim Davis

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Caudill motioned; Wilson seconded motion to approve agenda.

Roll Call Vote: All ayes.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES: October 20, 2020**

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

Roll Call Vote: All ayes

**PUBLIC COMMENTS -** D. Gregory

None

**BLUE GRASS CHEMICAL ACTIVITY UPDATE -** LTC Edward E. Williams, Commander

LTC Ed Williams, Commander, shared the Blue Grass Chemical Activity (BGCA) Mission Statement explaining they worked closely with the Blue Grass Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant (BGCAPP) for the elimination of the chemical weapons stockpile located at the Blue Grass Army Depot (BGAD) near Richmond, KY. They safely secure, store, and monitor the chemical stockpile to protect the workforce, the public, and the environment.

The original stockpile consisted of 523 tons of nerve agents, which constituted about two percent of the United States’ chemical weapons stockpile. Thus far, 77.5 tons of the overall stockpile had been destroyed and sixteen percent of the Blue Grass stockpile had been destroyed.

CDC and Army guidelines continue to be followed while conducting their mission during the pandemic, protecting the workforce, community, and environment. In addition to the pandemic safety measures they are also follow other safety protocols. It was important to know that the BGCA would not conduct any operations that would put the community at risk. A work plan was created to communicate regularly with Madison and the surrounding counties.

A quarterly response exercise was conducted with partnered agencies to ensure responders were prepared to handle a stockpile emergency, i.e. local hospitals, fire departments, etc.

BGAC’s safety record was on the 25th year of star site status with the Occupational Safety Enhancement Administration. Workforce safety and protection was their number one priority.

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The nation’s plans were to have the entire chemical weapons stockpile destruction completed by the end of 2023.

If there were any specific questions regarding the status of chemical dematerialization, listeners were encouraged to contact the BGCAPP Outreach office, located near Lake Reba.

Commander Williams extended his gratitude for the opportunity to share with the City of Berea and thanked Mayor Fraley for his invitation.

**2020 SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY PROCLAMATION**

Mayor Fraley read the 2020 Small Business Saturday Proclamation in its entirety recognizing November 28, 2020 as Small Business Saturday. Encouraged residents of the community, and communities across the country, to support small businesses and merchants on Small Business Saturday and throughout the year.

**LUNG CANCER AWARENESS MONTH PROCLAMATION**

Mayor Fraley read the Lung Cancer Awareness Month Proclamation in it entirety recognizing November as Lung Cancer Awareness Month and the need for research in lung cancer affecting women and lung cancer health disparities, and encouraged all citizens to learn about lung cancer and early detection through lung cancer screening.

**BID OPENING - AQUATIC FACILITY MANAGEMENT -** Mayor Fraley

Mayor Fraley opened bids. One bid received.

* Professional Aquatic Facility Management of Kentucky Lexington Received 11/16/20

As bid summary total was unavailable, Council Members would be updated at a later date.

**ORDINANCE #19-20 FY20-21 AMENDED BUDGET ORDINANCE - 1ST READING**

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

Before 2nd Reading, LaDouceur requested quotes on the breakdown of costs for the body cameras/equipment for the Police Department. Chief Scott to provide request to Council Members, Mayor Fraley, and David Gregory, City Administrator.

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

* Gave a shout out to the Parks & Public Works Departments on getting the athletic fields ready for spring and working together on a drainage project to improve the athletic fields in that area.
* Leaf collection began this week. Keep leaves behind the curb and storm drains clear.
* Terrill asked if vandalism had reduced in the park.

Chief Scott stated vandalism had reduced and encouraged parents to know where their children were and what they were doing.

Gregory stated the City was also working on lighting improvements for the area.

**MAYOR’S REPORT / COMMENTS**

* Donna Angel, Business & Tourism Director, sent out a reminder for Christmas in the Village, on Saturday, November 28th (Shop Small Saturday).

The Tree Lighting Event Ceremony would be hosted virtually on the grounds of “The Cabin” in Old Town, beginning at 5:30 p.m. on Facebook.

Encouraged everyone to join us on Facebook.

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* Village Life Boutique would be hosting an Open House on Saturday, November 21st.
* Boone Tavern would be hosting a wine pairing dinner on Saturday, November 28th, 7:00 p.m.
* Today, the Madison County Health Department reported 144 new COVID-19 cases, a single day of record for our county. Encouraged everyone to follow the CDC and the Kentucky Department of Public Health guidelines.
* Berea was recently recognized as the 13th Safest City in the State of Kentucky. A great accomplishment and tribute to the Fire and Police Departments.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS**

**Davis** Berea’s pavilion underway was featured on WKYT and in the Richmond Register. Thanked LTC Williams for his update at Blue Grass Chemical. Reminded everyone to shop small, shop local this Christmas season. Wished everyone a happy and safe Thanksgiving.

**Rowlette** shop small, seek out and support small businesses. Hoped families got to spend some quality time together, Happy Thanksgiving.

**Payne** echoed Davis’ and Rowlette’s comments.Continue to wear your masks, social distance, wash your hands often. Hoped everyone had the chance to have a happy Thanksgiving. Take every moment you can to connect with family members. Noted an article on the progress for a vocational center for our community and felt it would really benefit our community.

**LaDouceur** stated Thanksgiving was considered by many as having a large gathering. If you can stay home and avoid the large gathering this year, it would benefit everyone. Happy Thanksgiving.

**Little** hoped everyone stayed healthy and safe during these uncertain times. Prayed everyday it would end soon. Hoped everyone had a good Thanksgiving.

**Caudill** stated the Chamber of Commerce had cancelled the Christmas parade. Encouraged everyone to keep an eye out for different events in town during the holidays. The COVID virus does not seem to be going in a good direction, do what you can, respect one another. Thanksgiving is coming up, be smart, follow the CDC guidelines. The more we work together, the faster this will all be over. Happy Thanksgiving to everyone. Hoped to get the Mt. Bike Trail plans going soon.

**Wilson** echoed others’ comments. The Chamber of Commerce had asked the store fronts, throughout town, to decorate for Christmas….go all out! Everyone have a happy Thanksgiving, be healthy, stay safe, do not go out if you are sick, wear a mask, and God bless you.

**Terrill** agreed with all previous comments.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Payne motioned; Wilson seconded motion to adjourn at 7:19 p.m.

All ayes.

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Mayor Bruce Fraley

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 City Clerk