**BEREA CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL CALLED MEETING FEBRUARY 2, 2021**

The Berea City Council met in a special called meeting via videoconference, Tuesday, February 2, 2021.

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 PM

DUSTIN HEISER, MADISON COUNTY EMA / CSEPP DIRECTOR

RESOLUTION #06-2021 – EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN

**COUNCIL PRESENT:** Jim Davis, Teresa Scenters, John Payne, Katie Startzman, 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:** Dustin Heiser, Madison County EMA / CSEPP Director; Ashley Hammond, Berea Independent School/ GEAR-UP; Crimson Claycomb, Kendyl and

Friends Foundation Inc.; Dr. Diane Hatchett, Superintendent, Berea

Independent School; Beth Mullins, Principal, Berea Independent School;

Brandi Davis, Elementary PE Teacher, Berea Independent School; Christy

Savia, Casie McGuire

**INVOCATION:** Katie Startzman

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Jim Davis

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Caudill motioned; Payne seconded motion to approve agenda.

Roll Call Vote: All ayes

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES: January 19, 2021**

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

Roll Call Vote: All ayes

**PUBLIC COMMENTS -** D. Gregory

None

**BEREA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL / GEAR-UP UPDATE -** Ashley Hammond

**Hammond** gave an update regarding a Playground Project, which had been active for a year. Fundraising had been difficult for the endeavor during the COVID pandemic. As having a background in Special Education and found it a joy and honor to work with children, she expressed the need for an all-inclusive playground, i.e. for students, students with special needs, and the community.

**Brandi Davis**, PE Teacher, stated as she had seen playground difficulties with children, an all-inclusive playground would serve students and the community with visual, auditory, and other disabilities. The current playground was not okay for all disabilities and/or special needs.

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**Crimson Claycomb**, Kendyl and Friends Foundation Inc., stated this group had received a grant from the State of Kentucky funding 75% of the cost of the playground flooring. A stipulation for the grant was to have the playground completed by December 31, 2020. Due to the pandemic, fundraisers were interrupted and an extension was granted until April 1, 2021. The project remained needing approximately $76,000, for the equipment only. To not lose the grant funding, this amount was to be paid by February 12, 2021. They were hoping the City could assist in suggestions to help fund the project.

**Mayor Fraley** stated although the City could not fund the playground due to legal limitations, he and the City Council agreed to assist in finding ways to publicize the need to obtain donations to help fund the playground.

**BID OPENING - MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAIL PROJECT -** Mayor Fraley

Mayor Fraley opened bids. Two bids received.

Parson’s Construction Services Inc.

Greensburg, KY Received 2/2/21 Total Bid $ 122,136

Rogue Trails

Rogers, AZ Received 2//2/21 Total Bid $ 292,600

Bids would be presented to David Gregory, City Administrator, for review and recommendation.

**RESOLUTION #05-2021 – MUNICIPAL ROAD AID FUNDING**

Corporate Counsel, Gilbert, read Resolution #05-2021 in its entirety.

Mayor Fraley informed the Council that this Resolution was a KLC initiative and explained that all streets within City Limits were not maintained by the City as some were State or County Highways.

Terrill motioned; Little seconded to approve and adopt Resolution #05-2021.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Davis, Startzman, Little, Payne, Caudill, Terrill, Wilson

Nays: Scenters

**RESOLUTION #06-2021 – EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN**

Corporate Counsel, Gilbert, read Resolution #06-2021 in its entirety.

Payne motioned; Startzman seconded motion to approve and adopt Resolution #06-2021.

Roll Call Vote: All ayes

**ORDINANCE #03-2021 – SURPLUS PROPERTY – 1ST READING**

Corporate Counsel, Gilbert, read Ordinance #03-2021 in its entirety.

Per Gregory, City Administrator, two additional vehicles would be added prior to second reading.

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

* The Public Works Department put out new signage on the Stephenson Trail along with pet bags.
* 200 tons of road salt had been ordered. Hopeful this would last the remainder of the year.
* The parking lot near Boone Street, at the end of Boone Trace Trail, would be completed when weather conditions improved.
* Akins Excavating had begun cleaning and camera work of the sewer lines in the O’Donnell, Bluebird, Bridge, Holly Hill, and Cherry Road areas for the Sanitary Sewer/Storm Water Rehabilitation Project. Also, over the next several days, smoke testing would be taking place in the Holly Hill and Cherry Road areas.
* The Walnut Meadow Pump Station Project had been at a standstill over the past few weeks. The Utility Department was working with Buchanan Contracting to finalize the electrical submittals and get firm lead times on the electrical equipment being installed inside the pump station. A Time Extension Change Order would be presented to City Council and the project should be back on schedule in the next couple weeks.
* Phase I Environmental Analysis for the Owsley Fork Dam Project would begin this week. It would begin in the offsite storage location and possible gravesite relocation areas on Radford Hollow Road. This was another important step toward design approval. Optimistic the project would gain approval in the coming months and would begin working toward moving to bid.
* The weather forecast was calling for some of the coldest temperatures that we had experienced over the past few years. The Utility Department added a Facebook post reminding customers of energy saving tips and precautions to avoid frozen water lines in the coming days. Customers could also visit [www.bereautilities.com](http://www.bereautilities.com), City of Berea’s website, and City of Berea’s Facebook page to view the tips and precautions.

**MAYOR’S REPORT / COMMENTS**

* According to the Transportation Department, District 7, the bid letting occurred on January 29, 2021 for the bypass project. The original estimate was approximately $24 million. One bid was received. The next step was for the state to evaluate the bid and hoped to soon send notification of bid award.
* Presented and appreciated Berea’s Business & Tourism Development flyer for Valentine’s Day. In town or out of town, purchases could be made for your Valentine. Flyer could be viewed at visitberea.com.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS**

**Davis** Thanked Dustin Heiser, Madison County EMA / CSEPP Director, for the update within his office and/or the County. Thanked C. Claycomb, Kendyl and Friends Foundation Inc., and others representing the proposal for the playground.

Shared the Galentine’s Day event, Saturday, February 6th, 10:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m., which consisted of nine women owned businesses in Berea who created a fun day of shopping, friendship, laughter, and memories. Participating businesses were White Stitch Boutique, Foley’s Florist, Wildflowers Boutique, Village Life Boutique, Becky Brown Jewelry, Christina Stallard Photography Studio, Happy Jack’s, Native Bagel, and Little Southern Class Florist.

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**Startzman** Recently had the opportunity to meet some Berea Utility employees and was impressed with their work and consideration of her business and the neighboring businesses. They indulged her equipment questions and was grateful when she gets to meet City employees and/or staff. Welcomed back Berea College students.

**Little** Scheduled a Public Works Committee Meeting for March 1stwith the time to be determined.

**Payne** Echoed all previous sentiments.

Had a Parks Committee Meeting on January 28th, elected officers, and set dates for regular meetings as the last Thursday of the month. Had a unanimous vote to ask the Council to amend the budget for the dog park from $5000 to $50,000. The next steps for a dog park would be a needs assessment for the community and a parks master plan.

Shared information regarding the Madison County Health Department’s COVID-19 vaccination waiting list, state of the County, etc. As going into approximately eleven months of the pandemic, felt it was incredibly important to follow the guidelines for wearing face coverings, practicing social distancing, and washing hands often. Hoped to see City Employees following the guidelines and setting examples.

**Scenters** Thanked Mayor Fraley for clarifying City and/or State streets. Appreciated the Berea Independent School organizers for the playground, felt it was necessary, and encouraged donations. Clarified “no” vote regarding Resolution 05-2021 as although she agreed with the Resolution, she did not agree with the language that opened the door for the tax to be raised.

**Caudill** Excited to receive bids for the Mountain Bike Trail. Would be meeting with Tourism Commission to find out if they have an interest in participating in the Mountain Bike Trail Project. Felt this project would have a major impact in the future for the City of Berea, locally and for Tourism. Thanked tonight’s speakers. Thought the special needs playground equipment was a worthwhile endeavor and thought the City should also consider adding these kinds of features to our parks.

**Terrill** Stated the Parks Committee also needed to be involved in equipment decisions for our parks.

**Wilson** Echoed others’ comments. Thanked Dustin Heiser for the Emergency Management Plan update. Thanked Hammond, Claycomb, and Davis for their playground equipment presentation and/or request. Challenged the business community to donate to the playground project. Met a couple, passing through, from Green Bay, Wisconsin, with plans to return to Berea to hike the Pinnacles. We need to make sure we get the trail(s) information out there.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Payne motioned; Wilson seconded motion to adjourn at 7:55 p.m.

All ayes

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Mayor Bruce Fraley

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City Clerk