**BEREA CITY COUNCIL \_\_ SPECIAL CALLED MEETING \_\_\_ APRIL 6, 2021**

The Berea City Council met in a special called meeting via videoconference, Tuesday, April 6, 2021.

Mayor Bruce Fraley presiding.

A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 6:33 p.m.

A WORK SESSION WAS HELD AT 6:15 PM

DEPARTMENTAL OVERVIEWS

FINANCE

**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, Eric Scott, Donna Angel,

Amanda Haney, Susan Meeks, Kevin Howard, Priscilla Bloom

**VISITORS PRESENT:** None

**INVOCATION:** Teresa Scenters

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Teresa Scenters

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Caudill motioned; Wilson seconded motion to approve agenda.

Roll Call Vote: All ayes

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES: March 16, 2021 & March 23, 2021**

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

Roll Call Vote: All ayes

**PUBLIC COMMENTS -** D. Gregory

None

**BID OPENING - ROBERTS FILTER & AQUA DAF INTEGRATION UPGRADE AT WATER TREATMENT PLANT**

Mayor Fraley opened bids. One bid received.

Rawdon Myers Inc. Received 4/5/21 Total Bid $59,401

Milford, OH

Submittal would be presented to Kevin Howard, Berea Municipal Utilities General Manager, for review and recommendation.

**RESOLUTION #07-2021 - CDBG BLOCK GRANT FOR UTILITY ASSISTANCE**

Corporate Counsel, Gilbert, read Resolution #07-2021 in entirety.

Wilson motioned; Davis seconded motion to approve and adopt Resolution #07-2021.

Roll Call Vote: All ayes

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**ORDINANCE #07-2021 - ANIMAL CONTROL AND SANITATION - 1ST READING**

Corporate Counsel, Gilbert, read Ordinance #07-2021 by summary.

Second Reading scheduled for April 20, 2021.

**ORDINANCE #08-2021 - WINDSTREAM COMMUNICATIONS - 1ST READING**

Corporate Counsel, Gilbert, read Ordinance #08-2021 by summary.

Second Reading scheduled for April 8, 2021.

**ORDINANCE #09-2021 - CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS - 1ST READING**

Corporate Counsel, Gilbert, read Ordinance #09-2021 by summary.

Second Reading scheduled for April 8, 2021.

**ORDINANCE #10-2021 - METRONET COMMUNICATIONS - 1ST READING**

Corporate Counsel, Gilbert, read Ordinance #10-2021 by summary.

Second Reading scheduled for April 8, 2021.

**ORDINANCE #11-2021 - REVISED MEETING PROTOCOLS FOR CORONAVIRUS - 1ST READING**

Corporate Counsel, Gilbert read Ordinance #11-2021 in entirety.

Second Reading scheduled for April 8, 2021.

**TREE TRIMMING DISCUSSION -** Jerry Little

Little thanked the Berea Municipal Utilities and Public Works Departments for their tree trimming work in the past couple of years. He expressed concern regarding the Jefferson Street and HWY 21 East areas. The trees looked terrible for a City, i.e., cut out in the middle, hanging over the streets, and some even dead. Would like for Utilities to set aside additional funding for tree trimming in the 2022 budget in these areas.

Payne suggested the tree trimming issues and/or responsibilities be discussed in a Public Works meeting to get a clear definition of regulations before moving forward.

Startzman agreed on the importance of trees not competing with electric lines but also wanted to be mindful of the assets in old trees as they relate to urban forestry standards.

Terrill stated there is an easement for every electric line. He asked if an ordinance was required to trim trees in the easements. Also, for future consideration, no tree trimming service would be needed to clear the electric lines if the trees were cleared out.

Gregory stated the City’s website Code of Ordnances, Chapter 33, City Tree Board, provided information regarding trees.

A Public Works meeting and/or work session for discussion would be scheduled for a later date.

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

* Parson’s Construction had begun work on the Mountain Bike Trail.
* Fencing had begun at the dog park, signs had been purchased and ready for posting, bottle filler was in place, benches had been placed, and should soon be read to open.
* The Procurement Policy Manual was ready for the Council’s review and would be placed on a future agenda for approval via a Municipal Order.
* The Berea Bypass was moving along.

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* The Pavilion project continued. Drawings had been sent to the architect for the cupola for review, a gas line had been installed, and conduit had been installed for the EV stations.
* Working with Waste Connections on Spring Clean-Up, scheduled for the week of April 19th – 23rd.
* Working with Roy Curtis, Public Works, to meet the accommodations for meetings in the Council Chambers, i.e., determine the placement of temporary plexiglass, signage, hand sanitizer, etc.
* Should soon be starting work on the stormwater with the Chestnut Court Project. Per Kevin Howard, Utilities General Manager, completion date may be approximately one month.

**MAYOR’S REPORT / COMMENTS**

* Executive Order #2021-11 was signed on March 19th, which Implemented Emergency Procedures for Payment of City of Berea, Kentucky Occupational License Fee on Net Profits and extended the filing deadline and due date for payments from April 15, 2021 until May 17, 2021.
* Berea Municipal Utilities (BMU) was commended by the American Public Power Association and American Municipal Power (AMP) for achieving exceptional electrical liability in 2020 and rated in the top 25%. They received a certificate for 2020 Excellence in Reliability. Congratulations to Kevin Howard, Adrian Isaacs, and the entire team.
* Donna Angel, Business & Tourism Development Director, along with Scharme Price and the Tourism Staff, developed a flyer on the downtown Berea commercial and residential historic district. The Old Town area and Chestnut Street were designated as a historic district on the National Register of Historic Places.
* A joint proclamation with Madison County, the City of Richmond, and the City of Berea, was signed declaring March 31st as COVID-19 Memorial Day to respectfully honor the lives of those passed away due to COVID-19 who resided in Madison County.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS**

**Caudill** Congratulated BMU’s Excellence in Reliability award. Excited about the projects going on in town. Looking forward to in-person meetings. Excited about the Parks Department’s Master Plan.

**Scenters** Thanked Susan Meeks for the Finance overview and the Finance Department for their hard work. Congratulated BMU on their award. Glad we are going to be moving toward some sense of normalcy and looked forward to seeing everyone in person. Pleased with how quickly the dog park project had gone and under budget.

**Startzman** Grateful for and commended the Finance Department on working toward achieving the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Certification as it was a high bar of best practices.

There was an article in the recent Kentucky Living Magazine about the Levitt AMP series. She received an e-mail from Ali Blair, Levitt AMP Organizer, stating the music series would be happening this year. For more information, see the Kentucky Living article and visit the First Friday Berea website.

**Payne** Excited about the City’s and the Nation’s progress they were making through the COVID pandemic as things seemed to be going in the right direction. The dog park project had moved along tremendously. It had been a splendid Spring so far and looked forward to great things in our community.

**Wilson** Thanked Susan Meeks for the Finance presentation and ladies in the Finance Department for the great job they do. Big shout out to Utilities on their award, great job.

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**Davis** Announced the opening of Commonwealth Hand & Physical Therapy, 127 Clay Drive, owned and operated by Berea Native, Greg Pitts. Thanked Susan Meeks for the Finance presentation. Congratulated BMU on their award. Looked forward to meeting face to face for City Council meetings.

**Little** No comment.

**Terrill** Commended the Street Department on a great job during the winter storms.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Caudill motioned; Wilson seconded motion to adjourn at 7:35 p.m.

All ayes

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Mayor Bruce Fraley

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City Clerk