**BEREA CITY COUNCIL \_\_ \_ \_ SPECIAL CALLED MEETING \_\_ \_\_\_\_\_JUNE 1, 2021**

The Berea City Council met in a special called meeting / business session, Tuesday, June 1, 2021.

Council Members and Staff met in person continuing CDC Guidelines for COVID-19 with meeting televised live for public viewing.

Mayor Bruce Fraley presiding.

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

**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,

Shawn Sandlin, Eric Scott

**VISITORS PRESENT:** Billy Ackerman, Madison County Property Valuation Administrator

**INVOCATION:** Steve Caudill

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Steve Caudill

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Caudill motioned; Payne seconded motion to approve agenda.

Vote: All ayes

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES: May 18, 2021 & May 21, 2021**

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

Vote: All ayes

**PUBLIC COMMENTS -** D. Gregory

None

**PROPERTY ASSESSMENT NOTICES -** Billy Ackerman,Madison County Property ValuationAdministrator

Ackerman gave an overview of the property reassessment process.

For those who did not agree and/or felt their property assessment was too high, he encouraged them to schedule an appointment to review their property.

The office could be contacted via phone (859.623.5410) or website (www.madisoncountypva.com).

**BID OPENING - TELECOMMUNICATIONS FRANCHISE**

Mayor Fraley opened bids. One bid received.

OpenFiber Kentucky Company, LLC Received 5/28/21

Louisville, KY

Submittal presented to Gregory, City Administrator, for review and recommendation.

**BEREA CITY COUNCIL \_\_ \_\_ \_ SPECIAL CALLED MEETING \_ \_\_\_\_\_JUNE 1, 2021**

**RESOLUTION #11-2021 - A RESOLUTION ADOPTING AND APPROVING THE TRANSFER OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT AND POLICE DEPARTMENT FROM THE EXISTING NON-HAZARDOUS COVERAGE DESIGNATION TO A TIER I HAZARDOUS EMPLOYEE DESIGNATION AS DEFINED BY THE KENTUCKY RETIREMENT SYSTEM**

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

Fire Chief Sandlin and Police Chief Scott, both stated that all of firemen and police officers were aware of and agree with the CERS Hazardous Retirement process.

Terrill motioned to table Resolution until a representative came from Frankfort (KY) to discuss hazardous retirement.

Motion died due to lack of second motion.

Caudill motioned; Payne seconded motion to approve and adopt Resolution #11-2021.

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

Nays - Terrill

Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION #12-2021 - A RESOLUTION ADOPTING AND APPROVING THE TRANSFER OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT AND POLICE DEPARTMENT FROM THE EXISTING NON-HAZARDOUS COVERAGE DESIGNATION TO A TIER II HAZARDOUS EMPLOYEE DESIGNATION AS DEFINED BY THE KENTUCKY RETIREMENT SYSTEM**

Corporate Counsel, Gilbert, read Resolution #12-2021 in entirety.

Fire Chief Sandlin and Police Chief Scott, both stated that all of firemen and police officers were aware of and agree with the CERS Hazardous Retirement process, which included an additional 3% participation rate.

Terrill motioned to table Resolution until a representative came from Frankfort (KY) to discuss hazardous retirement.

Motion died due to lack of second motion.

Caudill motioned; Payne seconded motion to approve and adopt Resolution #12-2021.

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

Nays - Terrill

Motion carried.

**ORDINANCE #12-2021 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BEREA, KENTUCKY, AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF BEREA, KENTUCKY, BY REVISING CHAPTER 24, ARTICLE II, SECTIONS 24.100 – 24.108, TO PROVIDE FOR THE ADOPTION OF A PURCHASING POLICY AND MANUAL - 2ND READING**

Having been subject of a Work Session and placed on the City of Berea website, Corporate Counsel, Gilbert, read Ordinance #12-2021 by summary.

Little motioned; Caudill seconded motion to approve and adopt Ordinance #12-2021.

Roll Call Vote: All ayes

**BEREA CITY COUNCIL \_\_ \_\_ \_ SPECIAL CALLED MEETING \_ \_\_\_\_\_JUNE 1, 2021**

**ORDINANCE #13-2021 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BEREA, KENTUCKY, DECLARING A CERTAIN FIRE ENGINE TO BE SURPLUS AND AUTHORIZING THE VEHICLE TO BE DONATED TO THE BEREA VOLUNTEER FIREMAN’S ASSOCIATION, INC. - 2ND READING**

Corporate Counsel, Gilbert, read Ordinance #13-2021 in entirety.

Davis confirmed vehicle title and liability would be transferred to the Berea Volunteer Fire Association and when returned, the title and liability would be transferred back to the City of Berea.

Terrill requested to add language in the agreement assuring insurance would be obtained by recipient.

Terrill motioned; Wilson seconded motion to approve and adopt Ordinance #13-2021.

Roll Call Vote: All ayes

**ORDINANCE #14-2021 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BEREA, KENTUCKY, ADOPTING THE ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL PERIOD JULY 1, 2021 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2022, BY ESTIMATING REVENUES AND RESOURCES AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE OPERATION OF CITY GOVERNMENT AND PROVIDING FOR A LONG RANGE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT AND PUBLIC FACILITIES IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM BUDGET AND PLAN. -**

**1ST READING**

Corporate Counsel, Gilbert, read Ordinance #14-2021 in entirety.

Caudill stated, during a prior Audit & Finance Committee meeting, minor changes were made, approved by motion, and included in the budget ordinance.

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

* Pavilion support beams were up, trusses in place, and foundation work beginning for the shade structures.
* Russel Action Folk Center’s chinking had been removed and stain had been completed on the inside, pressure washing was currently being done on the outside, rotted wood was being replaced, and broken windows replaced.
* Mountain Bike Trail was coming along well and on schedule with a completion date remaining for mid-August.
* Richmond Road exit sign, leaving Berea, had been completed by the Tourism Department. Would be looking for other locations for Berea exit signs, thanking those who visited our city.
* Thanked City Council for all they do as it is a tough job.
* Chestnut Court, Holly Hill, and Cherry Road Court would have curbing and asphalt completed this week. Projected completion date for project was planned for June 30th.
* Currently working on an update from District 7 regarding the bypass.

**MAYOR’S REPORT / COMMENTS**

* Returning to City Hall in-person meetings would require an ordinance with plans to have an ordinance by the next City Council meeting.
* US 25 Yard Sale begins June 3rd continuing through June 5th. A 200-mile yard sale beginning south of Corbin, KY, to Florence, KY. Also, the Boone Way Yard Sale, along the same route, was scheduled for October 1st & 2nd.
* A Kroger pick-up centered was located at the Berea College Visitors Center. Appreciated Berea College for providing this service.

**BEREA CITY COUNCIL \_\_ \_\_\_\_ \_ SPECIAL CALLED MEETING \_ \_ \_\_\_\_\_JUNE 1, 2021**

**COUNCIL COMMENTS**

**Caudill** No comment.

**Little** A hard vote this evening on hazardous duty pay. Respected Terrill for taking a stand, voting his conscientious. Hope and prays it works out for the city.

**Wilson** A hard decision on the hazardous duty pay. Not hard in wanting to do it, as she thought it should have been done for the past 20+ years, but hard in making sure the city was financially able to afford it without raising taxes, etc. Appreciated Terrill’s comments. Although already voted, would still appreciate someone from Frankfort come and explain hazardous duty pay.

**Payne** As it had been Memorial Day weekend, recognized the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), the volunteers who placed flags on the veterans’ graves, those who took time out of their weekend to pay respect to those who served.

**Scenters** For years she had heard two phrases in Berea regarding hazardous retirement, one being ‘every agency around Berea, except for Jackson County, had hazardous retirement’ the other being ‘you can’t have hazardous retirement in Berea because it’s going to bankrupt the city.’ As they worked through and researched, she found neither of these statements were entirely true. Did not think it would be the entire answer to their retention problem as it was more than that. It had been a

challenging decision because of the financial ramifications. Appreciated that both Chiefs, Police & Fire, had worked their budgets to make it work. Felt she could not vote any other way for Police Officers and Firefighters who put their safety and lives at risk.

**Davis** Kroger’s pick-up was up and running, could go to their website to find out how to get groceries delivered. Asked everyone to use the service as much as possible as it may help in the future of showing that Berea could support Kroger.

Highlighted Tourism’s newsletter regarding events and businesses, i.e., Farmers’ Market, woodcarvers at Berea Welcome Center (the old train station), Jammin’ on the Porch, stargazing at Berea College Forestry Outreach Center, antique shops in Berea, So On & So Forth Exhibit at the Artisan Center, US 25 Yard Sale, Paul Rominger, native of Berea, book signing (The Battle of Richmond, Kentucky) at the Train Station, Berea Craft Festival in July, L&N Days in August.

Thought the hazardous retirement was the right thing to do for the employees. It was expensive and now had to pay for it. Thank both chiefs, Police & Fire, for working on their budgets to help pay for it. The downsides of hazardous retirement pay were the City was obligated from here on out, Frankfort controls what the City pays, and Frankfort had been contacted for someone to speak to the City Council regarding hazardous retirement and the City had not heard from them…that was scary. Congratulations, it’s done.

**Startzman** Thought the hazardous retirement decision was the proper decision for now but was concerned about the challenges placed on future budgets, the future work they do, and pulling money from the reserve fund every year for funding. Still had questions related to the actual budget and now with the additional burden of hazardous retirement, still had thoughts about how they continue to do their jobs.

**Terrill** Wanted everyone to know he did support the Fire and Police Departments. Hoped If they did have a representative from Frankfort regarding hazardous retirement that they heard stuff that would make them sorry for the vote that was made. He would be around to say, “I told you so.”

**ADJOURNMENT**

Payne motioned; Little seconded motion to adjourn at 7:22 p.m.

All ayes

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Mayor Bruce Fraley

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City Clerk