**BEREA CITY COUNCIL \_\_ \_\_ REGULAR MEETING \_ \_\_\_ \_\_ DECEMBER 21, 2021**

The Berea City Council met in a regular session, Tuesday, December 21, 2021.

Mayor Bruce Fraley presiding.

A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 6:32 p.m.

**COUNCIL PRESENT:** Jim Davis, Teresa Scenters, Katie Startzman, John Payne, Jerry Little,

Steve Caudill, Cora Wilson, Ronnie Terrill

**COUNCIL ABSENT:** None

**OFFICIALS PRESENT:** Rose Beverly, Robin Adams, Daniel Brindley, Donna Angel, Eric Scott

**OFFICIALS ABSENT:** Jerry Gilbert, Corporate Counsel

**INVOCATION:** Katie Startzman

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Jim Davis

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Payne motioned; Caudill seconded motion to approve agenda as presented.

Vote: All ayes

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES - December 7, 2021**

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

Vote: All ayes

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Eleanor Workman, Berea resident since 1967

Commented on Little’s statement from the December 7th meeting that he, “Thought Council was getting along and working better together and he was pleased.” She thought many people had also noticed and was pleased. A lack of contention / peace was a choice of behavior, and it was possible to disagree agreeably to make things work. Expected the City Council be non-contentious as this was how better work was done. A good example of leadership from Mayor Fraley and thanked him. Gave a hallelujah and thumbs up to anyone involved in fixing the entrance to the library.

**BID RECOMMENDATION – ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021 FUNDS -** Mayor Fraley

As stated in the December 7th meeting, one bid had been received from Bluegrass Area Development District (BGADD), Lexington, KY, which was a statement of qualifications (Request for Qualifications (RFQ)). A motion was made to postpone approval to allow time for review. The RFQ had since been sent to all City Council members for review. Mayor Fraley recommended approval of bid.

Wilson motioned; Little seconded motion to approve bid recommendation for Bluegrass Area Development District for Administrative Services for the Administration of the City’s American Rescue Plan Act Funds of 2021.

Voice Vote: All ayes

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**ORDINANCE #28-2021 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BEREA, KENTUCKY, AMENDING THE PERSONNEL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES, BY AMENDING THE PROVISIONS FOR SEASONAL AND PART-TIME PAY. - 2ND READING**

As being read in entirety at the December 7th City Council meeting, Mayor Fraley read Ordinance #28-2021 by summary.

Beverly stated the original proposed part-time and seasonal wages were amended for Parks & Recreation / Pool which would create a balance based on the annual average number of guests visiting the pool.

Caudill motioned; Payne seconded motion to approve and adopt Ordinance #28-2021.

Roll Call Vote: All ayes

**ORDINANCE #29-2021 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BEREA, KENTUCKY, AMENDING THE 2021-2022 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF BEREA, ORDINANCE #14-2021 REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES. - 2ND READING**

As being read in entirety at the December 7th City Council meeting, Mayor Fraley read Ordinance #29-2021 by summary.

Caudill motioned; Little seconded motion to approve and adopt Ordinance #29-2021.

Roll Call Vote: All ayes

**CITY ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT -** R. Beverly

* Codes Department approved a new candle maker, SoYum, located on the Berea College Square. Visitors would be able to watch candles being made, participate in candle making, and shop for candles.
* Jeff Harness, Codes Department, was accepted into the Kentucky Department of Housing, Building and Construction electrical inspector’s program. He had passed the residential test and would soon be performing residential inspections.
* Economic Development reported two new businesses, Nightingale Medical Clinic, Old Town, and T-Mobile, Jill Drive, had recently opened.
* Probationary Officer Sam Shearer, Berea Police Department, had completed two weeks of a 20-week academy and was doing well.
* Probationary Officer Jacob Oliver, from Lexington Metro, recently joined the Berea Police Department and already certified. He had completed the first two weeks of their Field Training Program and was doing great.
* With great support the Berea Police and Fire Departments were able to beat their $2500 goal of raising money to help those in need within Berea. They raised $3400 and received four truck loads of new toys. A portion of the funds were used to take families shopping with the Shop with a Cop Program, which was a success bringing holiday joy to over seven families to include twenty-four kids. Thank you to all as these initiatives would not be possible without the community’s support.
* Berea Police Department would be sending three officers to Western Kentucky as part of a central Kentucky joint response team (for the December tornado damages). The team included officers from Berea, Nicholasville, Georgetown, Winchester, and Lexington. They would be assisting in search and rescue, provide protection to those seeking ill-will to the community, and with calls for service.

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**MAYOR’S REPORT / COMMENTS**

* Appointed Karen Todd to the Berea Human Rights Commission for a three-year term.
* Thanked and appreciated Randy Dinsmore for his several years of service on the Berea Human Rights Commission.
* Was sad to report the recent passing of both, Robert “Pnut” Johnson and his spouse.
* Most of Berea’s efforts, for assistance with the Western Kentucky tornado disaster, would be done through Kentucky League of Cities (KLC). Several City of Berea employees had volunteered to assist in Western Kentucky when needed and/or upon request. Berea Municipal Utilities (BMU) had a volunteer crew to assist in Western Kentucky providing the use of a pick-up truck, digger truck, bucket truck, dump trucks, generators, a light tower, and water.
* Received a request from KLC for signage/posts for Western Kentucky, i.e., stop signs, speed limit signs, and street signs, miscellaneous power tools, spray paint, etc. The City was following up on these items to find out if they could assist with any of the requests. Overall, the main need was monetary donations.
* Seeing the nationwide response gave him renewed hope for humanity, i.e., seeing the best in people. Hoped when the disaster was over, we could keep up the spirit of helping each other, working together, and getting along.
* Encouraged everyone to keep the families of the disaster in your prayers.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS**

**Davis** Reiterated Mayor’s comments regarding Western Kentucky. Remember them with monetary donations, materials items, and spiritual needs as well. SoYum candle shop opened, owned by the third generation of the Kemp family. Support them and others by shopping local, it’s the Christmas season. Merry Christmas to everyone.

**Scenters** Thanked the Mayor for update regarding the Western Kentucky disaster. Although it is hard to see, it has brought out the good in everyone. Who won, staches or beards? Per Chief Scott, beards won, but was an overall success. Merry to Christmas to everyone and hoped the love of Jesus filled homes this season.

**Payne** Echoed Mayor’s sentiments for Western Kentucky. Wished everyone a happy, healthy holiday season. Shop local.

**Little** Echoed Mayor’s comments regarding the Western Kentucky disaster. Complimented Mayor’s comments on the Berea Human Rights Commission appointment of Karen Todd. Public Works meeting scheduled for Monday, January 3, 2022, 5:30 p.m., City Hall, Randy Stone Community Room.

**Wilson** Thanked everyone for coming. Thanked the City for posting the panhandling sign at McDonalds, as this had been a number one complaint that she had received. Did not want the impression of not being compassionate and encouraged others to give to charities in lieu of panhandlers. Wished everyone a Merry Christmas, prayed it was blessed beyond measure, remember why we celebrate December 25th, i.e., the birth of Jesus Christ. Echoed Mayor’s sentiments regarding Western Kentucky tornado victims, keep them in your prayers, and do what you can.

**Terrill** Echoed others’ comments regarding Western Kentucky. Wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Be safe.

**Startzman** Acknowledged Bell Hooks, an American author/professor/feminist/social activist, and her recent passing. Hooks had lived in the Berea community since 2004 and had elevated many conversations around the world. Shared a Bell Hooks quote.

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**Caudill** Thanked everyone for tonight’s comments and recognizing the good work we could do as a community. Hoped everyone had a Merry Christmas. Encouraged everyone to be aware of those in the community who may be having a hard time, at this time of year, for many different reasons as the holidays could be a difficult time.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Caudill motioned; Scenters seconded motion to adjourn at 7:17 p.m.

All ayes

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Mayor Bruce Fraley

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City Clerk