**BEREA CITY COUNCIL \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_ \_ REGULAR MEETING \_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_MAY 17, 2022**

The Berea City Council met in regular session, Tuesday, May 17, 2022.

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, Katie Startzman, John Payne, Jerry Little,

Steve Caudill, Cora Wilson

**COUNCIL ABSENT:** Ronnie Terrill

**OFFICIALS PRESENT:** Jerry Gilbert, Rose Beverly, Robin Adams, Tommy Horn, Donna Angel,

Priscilla Bloom, Aaron Boycan, Roy Curtis, Amanda Haney,

Kevin Howard, Mildred Madsen, Adrian Isaacs, Bill Lovern, Logan Dees,

Pablo Fernandez, Kyle Baker, Elliott Witt

**INVOCATION:** Steve Caudill

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Steve Caudill

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

Voice Vote: All ayes

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES - May 3, 2022**

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

Voice Vote: All ayes

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Berea citizens, i.e., Shannon R. Smith, Grace McKenzie, Paula Dunson-Wood, Aaron Banther, Patricia Gailey, Wendy Warren, Laurie White, and Marilyn Martin all spoke on community opposition to the Zone Change Ordinance #09-2022 on the agenda for the Industrial Park area.

All expressed the need for consideration of preserving the unique history and/or character, relationships, ancestors of Farristown, and potential impact on the remaining Farristown residents. They asked the Council to take time, pause, think about the community relationships, and reconsider their decision(s) regarding the Industrial Park. Some felt the zoning classification change would be a huge mistake. The respectful thing to do was honor one another, asking, “Would you want this to come to your neighborhood?”

Dr. John Fox, President, Friends of Boone Trace, Inc.

Dr. Fox spoke in support of Resolution #05-2022, National Heritage Area Designation. The Resolution was a Federal Designation initiated by Eastern Kentucky PRIDE, Inc., Somerset, Kentucky. The National Park Service evaluated the feasibility of, including the Kentucky Wildlands, 77 cities and 41 counties of Appalachia, into the National Heritage Area system. Eastern Kentucky PRIDE, Inc. had begun a regional tourism marketing initiative to capitalize on the region’s majestic beauty and rich heritage and spurring economic development in Appalachia by promoting it as a regional tourism destination.

**BEREA CITY COUNCIL \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_ \_ REGULAR MEETING \_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_MAY 17, 2022**

**BUILDING SAFETY MONTH PROCLAMATION** - Mayor Fraley

Mayor Fraley read proclamation in entirety and presented to Amanda Haney, Planning & Zoning Administrator.

Haney stated each year the International Codes Council (ICC) designated May as Building Safety Month. Kentucky had led the nation in building safety proclamations for the past nine years. The job of the Codes Department was life safety, playing an important role in the safety of structures and prevention. This year’s topic was proper address identification, requesting all citizens to make sure their property address identification numbers were visible for first responders, ½” thick letters and/or numbers, and a minimum of 4” tall.

**NATIONAL PUBLIC WORKS WEEK PROCLAMATION -** Mayor Fraley

Mayor Fraley read proclamation in entirety and presented to Roy Curtis, Public Works Director, and staff. Public Works was honored for contributing to the quality of life of the city, i.e., maintaining city infrastructure, public areas, waterways, and other infrastructure vital to citizens.

Curtis thanked Mildred Madsen, Administrative Assistant, for being instrumental in acknowledging National Public Works Week and keeping the department running. Public Works had a lot of great workers, and he was honored to work with them.

**OLDER AMERICANS MONTH PROCLAMATION -** Mayor Fraley

Mayor Fraley read proclamation in entirety and presented to Jeff Rubin, author of Wisdom of Age.

Rubin thanked the City for acknowledging Older Americans Month. Older Americans Month began in 1963, honoring older adults and veterans, with seventeen million Americans 65 years of age or older in the United States. To date, there were fifty-five million Americans sixty-five years of age or older in the United States. We live in a society where population is dramatically changing, noted as the longevity revolution, as people are living longer, and want to remain active and engaged. The proclamation brought awareness of what people did do and could do, now and in the future.

**ACCEPTANCE OF BID RECOMMENDATION FOR PUBLIC WORKS -** Roy Curtis

One bid was received, April 21st, opened on May 6th, Mayor’s Office, for a 2020 Tractor and Boom Mower for the Public Works Department. Bid submitted by Valley Farm Equipment, Inc., Science Hill, Kentucky, in the amount of $127,000 and referred to Public Works Director, Roy Curtis, for review. Upon review, Curtis requested and recommended bid approval from Council.

Little motioned; Caudill seconded motion to accept bid recommendation with approval to purchase 2020 Massey Ferguson 5711D Tractor and Boom Mower, in the amount of $127,000 from Valley Farm Equipment, Inc.

Voice Vote: All ayes

**RECOGNITION OF APPA RELIABILITY AWARD FOR BEREA MUNICIPAL UTILITIES ELECTRIC DIVISION -** Kevin Howard

In April, Berea Municipal Utilities had been recognized and awarded for excellence and reliability through the American Public Power Association (APPA), citing the utilities lack of outages and the ability to quickly recover power during emergencies. APPA tracks outages and restoration data through the FEMA Liability Tracker and compares with national statistics from the U.S. Energy Information Administration. This was the second year Berea Municipal Utilities had received the award and was a testament of preventive maintenance and proactive approach the department displays on a day-to-day basis. Howard was proud of his team and honored to work with them.

**BEREA CITY COUNCIL \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_ \_ REGULAR MEETING \_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_MAY 17, 2022**

**RESOLUTION #05-2022 NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA DESIGNATION**

Corporate Counsel, Gilbert, read Resolution #05-2022 in entirety.

Payne motioned; Caudill seconded motion to approve and adopt Resolution #05-2022.

Voice Vote: All ayes

**RESOLUTION #06-2022 A RESOLUTION ADOPTING AND APPROVING THE EXECUTION OF A MUNICIPAL ROAD AID COOPERATIVE PROGRAM AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF BEREA, KENTUCKY, AND THE COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY TRANSPORTATION CABINET, DEPARTMENT OF RURAL AND MUNICIPAL AID, IN THE AMOUNT OF $300,667.80 FOR THE CONSTRUCTION, RECONSTSRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE OF CERTAIN ROADS AND BRIDGES.**

Corporate Counsel, Gilbert, read Resolution #06-2022 in entirety.

Scenters motioned; Davis seconded motion to approve and adopt Resolution #06-2022.

Voice Vote: All ayes

**ORDINANCE #09-2022 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BEREA, KENTUCKY, CHANGING THE ZONING CLASSIFICATION OF PARCELS WITHIN AN 87 ACRE TRACT OF LAND LOCATED ON MENELAUS ROAD DESCRIBED HEREIN AND REFERRED TO AS 1620 MENELAUS ROAD AND OWNED BY BEREA INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY FROM R-1 (SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL) AND A-1 (AGRICULTURE) TO I-2 (INDUSTRIAL PARK DISTRICT); AND A 1.26 ACRE TRACT RECENTLY ANNEXED INTO THE CITY’S BOUNDARIES BE ASSIGNED A ZONING CLASSIFICATION OF I-2 (INDUSTRIAL PARK DISTRICT) - 1ST READING**

Corporate Counsel, Gilbert, read Ordinance #09-2022 in entirety.

**CITY ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT -** Rose Beverly

* Beverly requested approval for an overage of $10,450 on line-item #029-1000-54011, Industrial Development / Engineering Services. Although this did not require a budget amendment as the fund would not be over budget, approval was required from City Council as the amount would be over $5000.

Caudill motioned; Startzman seconded motion to approve overage of $10,450 for line item 029-1000-54011, Industrial Development / Engineering Services.

Voice Vote: All ayes

* Due to recent fuel increases, fuel line items for Utilities, Police, and Fire were trending to go over budget. These line items would be monitored.
* Groundwork for the Capital Improvement Plan road infrastructure would begin next week. Staff from Thoroughbred Engineering would be on City streets. Areas in which they would be working, would be shared on Facebook and the City of Berea website.
* BereaCARES (Berea Collaboration and Resources Equals Success), an initiative began by Chief Eric Scott to maximize community events by collaborating with local business and volunteers to positively impact Berea youth and community, recently initiated two events.

A Special Needs Prom was last Friday evening and a success. Thanked all volunteers, i.e., Berea Police Department, Tourism, and all other City and community volunteers, for making the night special for amazing kids.

**BEREA CITY COUNCIL \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_ \_ REGULAR MEETING \_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_MAY 17, 2022**

Saturday, May 21st, BereaCARES was sponsoring Hooks & Heroes, taking local youth fishing to mentor and learn from them. All youth would be given a rod & reel to keep. All donations were provided by the Berea Police Association. Groups involved were the Berea Police Department, Berea Fire Department, Madison County EMS, and Bluegrass Army Depot.

* Tourism was preparing for the 22nd Annual L&N Train Day scheduled for Saturday, June 4th, at the Train Depot on North Broadway, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. The day would include train set-ups, food trucks, music, children’s activities, and Old Town merchants would be offering train related products for sale.
* A new business, The Taleless Dog Booksellers, would be having a grand opening on June 4th and would also be offering train related books for sale on that day.
* Noting the proclamations and/or recognitions of the evening, she was honored to work with such great people. Thank you to all.

**MAYOR’S REPORT / COMMENTS**

* Noting concerns, from citizens of the Farristown area, regarding the inoperable bridge on Menelaus Road, Mayor Fraley stated the bridge was on a State Road and the City of Berea did not have jurisdiction to repair. He was aware that it impacts residents, separated a community, impacted the Industrial Park, and school traffic. He had been in contact with elected officials, the Transportation Cabinet, and the Governor’s Office about the situation. Alternatives were being considered.
* Regarding the re-zoning of Ordinance #09-2022, this was more of a clean-up from the past. Having ongoing discussions about the Industrial Park would keep citizens updated.
* May 15th was National Peace Officers Memorial Day, memorializing peace officers killed in the line of duty. Berea had one police officer, John A. Collins, Town Marshall, killed in the line of duty on August 23, 1914. As this was Police Week, encouraged those who encountered a police officer and/or all involved in law enforcement, to thank them for their service(s) to the community.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS**

**Jim Davis** An Economic Development Committee meeting was scheduled for Thursday, May 19th, 6:00 p.m., City Hall, Randy Stone Community Room. Thanked residents from Farristown for attending and speaking to Council.

**Scenters** Thanked everyone for attending. Appreciated all comments / perspectives. Council was listening.

**Startzman** Grateful to hear concern and interest of how our City grows. Congratulated 2022 graduates from Eastern Kentucky University, Berea College, Berea Community, and Madison County Schools. Grateful for work of educators.

**Payne** Echoed sentiments expressed. Thanked all who came out, speaking their hearts.

**Jerry Little** Echoed others’ comments. Agreed a meeting was needed for Farristown residents.

**Caudill** Appreciated the BereaCARES program. The employees of Berea were doing a great job in getting the kids to know our First Responders, knowing they were a resource. Hearing the data from the APPA award was incredible. Our employees did a fantastic job of keeping the system going. Thanked them for their work and all involved. Thanked the Farristown community for their comments.

**Cora Wilson**  Thanked everyone for coming. Good job to Kevin. Knew the Farristown community and wanted to meet with them.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Davis motioned; Scenters seconded motion to adjourn at 8:20 p.m.

Voice Vote: All ayes

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Mayor Bruce Fraley

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

City Clerk