**BEREA CITY COUNCIL \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_ \_ REGULAR MEETING \_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_JULY 19, 2022**

The Berea City Council met in regular session, Tuesday, July 19, 2022.

Mayor Bruce Fraley presiding.

A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 6:31 p.m.

**COUNCIL PRESENT:** Jim Davis, Teresa Scenters, John Payne, Jerry Little, Steve Caudill,

Ronnie Terrill

**COUNCIL ABSENT:** Katie Startzman, Cora Wilson

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

Priscilla Bloom, Susan Meeks, Amanda Haney, Kevin Howard, Jason Hays

**INVOCATION:** Teresa Scenters

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Teresa Scenters

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Davis motioned; Scenters seconded motion to amend agenda to include Resolution #08-2022.

Voice Vote: All ayes

Payne motioned; Davis seconded motion to approve agenda as amended.

Voice Vote: All ayes

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES - July 5, 2022**

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

Voice Vote: All ayes

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

**MOUNTAIN BIKE PARK PILOT STUDY & WORK**

Dr. Louisa Summers, Berea College, and the Berea College Trail Town Research Team/Students presented a review of their pilot study regarding the Silver Creek Mountain Bike Park, which opened in September 2021. The park included three trails and all were great, even for beginners. Counters had been installed to survey riders, survey signs had been placed, and business cards had been provided with QR codes for surveys. Currently, there was an average of 344 cyclists per month, totaling an average of 4200 cyclists annually. According to surveys, most cyclists were within a 50-mile radius with an average age of 39 years, excluding children, 50% of users reported an annual income over $75K, and 67% of users reported they would dine locally. In talking with cyclists, suggestions for the bike park were shaded seating, picnic table, water fountain/station, and bike stands/repair stations. The Team had also worked with Tourism in placing dining signs along all of Berea’s trails encouraging visitors to eat locally assisting in Berea’s economy. Suggested Berea develop targets of marketing for the park to areas of Richmond and Lexington.

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**BEREA CRAFT FESTIVAL UPDATE**

Melissa Gross, Festival Coordinator, stated the 2022 Berea Craft Festival was a success with approximately seven thousand paying guests. With 6500 – 7000 visitors and the City’s in-kind help, the festival would continue to be self-supporting. The 2022 festival had 112 artists from twelve different states, along with additional local artists.

Gross shared a Rudy Olsonik original art piece/story and her love for the arts and crafts. Berea was a unique place and was glad the City of Berea was picking up the Craft Festival next year and thought the transition would go well.

**SALT BID APPROVAL**

Beverly, City Administrator, presented the KACO Salt Auction Bid. With anticipation of increased costs for salt, the City purchased additional salt for this year. Recommendation was made to approve bid from Morton Salt, Inc.for 500 tons of road salt at $121.26 per ton.

Caudill motioned; Payne seconded to approve bid from Morton Salt, Inc. for 500 tons of road salt at $121.26/ton.

Voice Vote: All ayes

**SOFTWARE PURCHASE APPROVAL / CODES & PLANNING DEPARTMENT**

Amanda Haney, Codes & Planning Administrator, requested Council’s approval for the purchase of OpenGov software, in the amount of $68,000, for the Codes & Planning Department. The software had a citizen portal with real time access throughout the permitting process for approvals, inspections, etc. The software would be an efficient solution of older traditional processes, moving into digital planning and document management, and allowed for on-line payments. An RFP was not sent out for this purchase as it was approved through TIPS, an approved state contract pricing option. The software integrates with the City’s current software, i.e., Finance and GIS. The software was used nationwide, including Kentucky.

Little motioned; Payne seconded motion to approve purchase of OpenGov software, in the amount of $68,000, for the Codes & Planning Department.

Voice Vote: All ayes

**BALDWIN CPAs AUDIT ENGAGEMENT LETTER APPROVAL**

Council Members were presented with a copy of the Baldwin CPAs Audit Engagement Letter, via e-mail, prior to the City Council meeting. Corporate Counsel had reviewed and approved the Audit Engagement Letter. Caudill asked if there were any questions regarding the letter. As there were no questions, Caudill requested motion to approve.

Caudill motioned; Davis seconded motion to approve Baldwin CPAs Audit Engagement Letter.

Voice Vote: All ayes

**DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS**

**Priscilla Bloom, Director, Parks & Recreation**

**Park Master Plan**

Continuing work with Brandstetter Carrol on the park master plan. The report is near completion. Keith Rodenhauser, senior planner, would present findings and recommendations at the September 20th Council Meeting.

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**Grant**

Plans were to apply for a state funded block grant this fall for needed repairs and improvements at the pool. Currently working with an engineer and project manager for design and cost analysis.

**Staff**

Currently taking applications for a seasonal maintenance worker. Seasonal staff included 31 pool employees (23 lifeguards & pool management, 8 concessions & admission desk).

**Pool**

Pool opened on May 28th with scheduled closing date of August 14th. To date, the current attendance was 14,536 and 50 children had taken swimming lessons.

They hosted the annual Bluegrass Swim Conference with 10 teams from seven Kentucky counties, 460 swimmers participated with approximately 1,500 people in attendance.

Free Zumba classes had been offered every Thursday evening during the summer, with approximately 45 participants, and would end on July 28th.

Free lap-swimming was offered during July on Sundays, before opening, and on Monday evenings, after closing.

This Friday, July 22nd, was the last Dive-In movie night for the season with free swimming until approximately 8:45pm.

The annual pool party for Special Olympics was scheduled for Friday, August 5th.

The annual dog swim, Pooch Poolooza, was scheduled for Tuesday, August 16th, from 5-7pm. Attendees bring a non-monetary donation for the Madison County Animal Shelter.

**Upcoming Park Events** included:

Bluegrass Reaper Race, August 6th

Levitt Amp Concert Series, Five consecutive weekends from August 5th through September 3rd

B-Town Spray Down, Partnering with the Berea Fire Department, August 9th

Ball Tournaments, Five tournament weekends had been scheduled from mid-June through September and the 5th annual Swing for a Cure tournament was scheduled for Saturday, August 13th.

**Kevin Howard, General Manager, Berea Municipal Utilities (BMU)**

Howard requested approval for the Daupler (after hours call center) contract for a 2-year term at $24,900/year, which included two updated modules. Howard noted that our call volume had increased significantly thus causing increased rates. As he was not pleased with the increase, plans were to go out for bid in the next two years.

Caudill motioned; Little seconded motion to approve 2-year term extension for the Daupler After Call Center contract, in the amount of $24,900/year.

Voice Vote: All ayes

Howard requested approval for a new contract with Phillips Tree Service (line clearance) with a 6% increase. The original agreement was a one-year agreement with the option of four consecutive one-year extensions. At that time, the original contract allowed for a 3% increase based on a Consumer Price Index (CPI) and not to exceed the 3% increase within a 12-month period. With the advice of Corporate Counsel and verification that the CPI was up 8% for 2022, Corporate Counsel recommended approval as the 6% increase was fair.

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The initial agreement cost was for $450/span, the new contract would increase the cost to $477/span and an increase of $10 more per hourly work.

Terrill motioned; Caudill seconded motion to approve a one-year extension for the Phillips Tree Service (line clearance) contract with a 6% increase to $477/span and an increase of $10 more per hourly work.

Voice Vote: All ayes

**RESOLUTION #08-2022 - RESOLUTION APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF BEREA, KENTUCKY, TO PARTICIPATE IN A GRANT AGREEMENT FOR THE CENTRAL KENTUCKY REGIONAL AIRPORT WITH THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ACTING THROUGH THE FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION, AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE ALL RELATED DOCUMENTS.**

Mayor Fraley read Resolution #08-2022 in entirety.

Mayor Fraley noted all three entities, City of Berea, City of Richmond, and Madison County Fiscal Court, must approve a Resolution for this Grant Agreement for the Central Kentucky Regional Airport.

Corporate Counsel recommended a newly signed Resolution for this year.

Scenters motioned; Davis seconded motion to approve and adopt Resolution #08-2022.

Voice Vote: All ayes

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

* Preparing for the resurfacing project with a Request for Proposal (RFP) going out Wednesday, July 20th. Plans were to present a bid at the next Council meeting for approval. Thanked the Public Works Department and Committee for assisting in the process.
* Attended the opening celebration for the Festival of LearnShops which was in full swing. As it takes a lot of work from the staff and artists to put the program together, thanked all for their hard work. A great community program that shows the spirit of Berea.
* Staff written reports were sent to Council via e-mail. If reports were helpful, they could be sent out monthly.
* A large power outage occurred late this afternoon due to a fallen tree limb around the 900 block of Gabbardtown Road. With a total of 414 customers without power, crews were able to restore power within approximately one hour.

**MAYOR’S REPORT / COMMENTS**

* Thanked Melissa Gross and her group for her years of service and a well ran event, the Berea Craft Festival. Thanked Donna Angel and her Tourism team for their hard work on the Craft Festival and anyone who came to the festival.
* Checked in with the Chamber of Commerce regarding the Spoonbread Festival planning, scheduled for the third weekend in September. Mark your calendars!
* Councilman Little asked about the status of the Scaffold Cane and Kenway Extension projects. Mayor Fraley stated the Scaffold Cane project was over 90% designed with no concerns and the Kenway Extension project was to be designed by the city’s engineer, Thoroughbred Engineering, with plans to later go out for proposal.

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**COUNCIL COMMENTS**

**Terrill** Thanked the Street Department for preparing for the Craft Fair, i.e., trash picked up, trees trimmed, etc. They did a good job setting up.

**Caudill** Thanked Melissa Gross for her work over the years. The City was fortunate that it had an identity and successful events. Appreciated the work from Dr. Summers and students. Looked forward to looking for new opportunities to impact Berea. Appreciated Priscilla’s answer for Parks and Rec needs. We need to continue to think of creative ways to use our parks.

**Little** No comment.

**Payne** Well said and ditto to Councilman Caudill’s comments. Shared Berea Tourism’s Chestnut Street Concert Series schedule at the Chestnut Street Pavilion.

**Scenters** Appreciated good information from so many people. Glad we are not Lexington.

**Davis** Thanked Dr. Summers and her crew for their work and looked forward to hearing future statistical information. Thanked Melissa Gross for her work over the years with the Craft Festival. Thanked Donna Angel and her crew on their work with the Craft Festival this year. Reminded everyone of Tourism’s & Berea Police Department’s Back to School Bash putting together backpacks and they were still in need of 61 backpacks along with any supplies to fill backpacks. Donations of backpacks, supplies, or monetary donations could be taken to City Hall.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Caudill motioned; Payne seconded motion to adjourn at 7:48 p.m.

Voice Vote: All ayes

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Mayor Bruce Fraley

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City Clerk