**BEREA CITY COUNCIL \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ REGULAR MEETING \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ FEBRUARY 21, 2023**

The Berea City Council met in regular session, Tuesday, February 21, 2023.

Mayor Bruce Fraley presiding.

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

WORK SESSION

5:30 PM – 6:30 PM

ORDINANCE #01-2023 FY22-23 AMENDED BUDGET

**COUNCIL PRESENT:** Jim Davis, Teresa Scenters, Katie Startzman, David Rowlette, Jerry Little,

Steve Caudill

**COUNCIL ABSENT:** Cora Wilson, Ronnie Terrill

**OFFICIALS PRESENT:** Jerry Gilbert,Rose Beverly, Robin Adams, Daniel Brindley, Donna Angel,

Priscilla Bloom, Shawn Sandlin, Jason Hays, Susan Meeks, Kevin Howard, Roy Curtis, Amanda Haney

**INVOCATION:** Jerry Little

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Jerry Little

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Caudill motioned; Davis seconded motion to approve agenda.

Voice Vote: All ayes

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES - FEBRUARY 7, 2023**

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

Voice Vote: All ayes

**CENTRAL KENTUCKY REGIONAL AIRPORT UPDATE**

George Wyatt, Chair, Central Kentucky Regional Airport Board, shared a slide presentation giving updates of the Central Kentucky Regional Airport.

The Central Kentucky Regional Airport is a general aviation airport, with multi uses, serving corporate business jets, private piloted aircrafts, provides local access for industrial and commercial corporate aircrafts, flight instruction, aircraft maintenance, fueling station, and other aircraft operations. The airport was also home of the Eastern Kentucky University (EKU) Aerospace Program. Transportation access was essential to Madison County’s Economic Growth.

Aircrafts based at the airport included 37 general aircrafts and 32 EKU aircrafts.

The airport’s central location provided quicker turnaround time for corporations, a prime re-fueling facility for air methods medi-vac, site selection options for corporations, etc. Currently, nine industrial sites were within a 30-minute drive of the airport vicinity. Considering the future growth of the Duncannon Lane area, plans for a road from Duncannon Lane to the airport was underway.

The annual open-house for 2023 was scheduled for Saturday, April 29th.

Major funding for the airport was provided by the Federal Government upon approval of projects. Other funding was provided from miscellaneous State funding and local government funding/support. The main goal for all projects was ‘SAFETY.” Current and/or future projects included a water/sewer project, taxilane connector, ramp expansion, security fencing, control tower, general aviation development area plans, EKU aviation development area plans, and possible uber air service.

**BEREA CITY COUNCIL \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ REGULAR MEETING \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ FEBRUARY 21, 2023**

Operational expansion/services directly impacted business expansion and more capital improvements, resulting in economic benefits to Madison, Jackson, Estill, Clark, Fayette, Jessamine, Garrard, and Rockcastle counties.

“Our one mile of asphalt can take you anywhere!”

**RESOLUTION #02-2023 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BEREA, KENTUCKY, AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF A GRANT FROM THE APPALACHIAN REGIONAL COMMISSION IN THE AMOUNT OF $1,024,800.00 FOR THE “CITY OF BEREA – AIRPORT WATER AND SEWER LINE EXTENSION PROJECT,” TO BE ADMINISTERED BY USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT; AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE DOCUMENTS AND TO ACT AS AURHORIZED CORRESPONDENT FOR THE PROJECT.**

Corporate Counsel, Gilbert, read Resolution #02-2023 in entirety.

Caudill motioned; Rowlette seconded motion to approve and adopt Resolution #02-2023.

Voice Vote: All ayes

**RESOLUTION #03-2023 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BEREA, KENTUCKY, ACCEPTING THE BEQUEST TO IT BY JUDY HACKER KIRBY, DECEASED, UNDER ITEM VIII OF HER WILL AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTS OF TRANSFER CONCERNING THE BEQUEST AND TO ESTABLISH TO A TRUST FUND TO MAINTAIN THE PROPERTY BEQUEATHED FROM THE ESTATE OF JUDY HACKER KIRBY, DECEASED.**

Corporate Counsel, Gilbert, read Resolution #03-2023 in entirety.

Caudill motioned; Little seconded motion to approve and adopt.

Davis motioned; Rowlette seconded motion to postpone motion until the next City Council meeting, contingent upon being subject to a Work Session.

Voice Vote: All ayes

**MUNICIPAL ORDER #03-2023 CONDUCT OF LEGISLATIVE BODY MEETINGS**

Corporate Counsel, Gilbert, read Municipal Order #03-2023 by changes and/or updates only.

Rowlette motioned; Scenters seconded motion to lay on table for further discussion.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Scenters, Rowlette

Nays - Davis, Startzman, Little, Caudill

Motion defeated.

Startzman motioned; Davis seconded motion to approve and adopt Municipal Order #03-2023.

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

Nays - Rowlette

Motion carried.

**BEREA CITY COUNCIL \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ REGULAR MEETING \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ FEBRUARY 21, 2023**

**ORDINANCE #01-2023 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF BEREA, KENTUCKY, AMENDING THE 2022-2023 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF BEREA, ORDINANCE #10-2022 REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES. - 1ST READING**

Being subject to a Work Session, Corporate Counsel, Gilbert, read Ordinance #01-2023 in entirety with emphasis on amended totals.

**DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS**

**Donna Angel, Director, Business & Tourism Development**

**Business Development**

2022 closed out with 55 new businesses opening in Berea and only two closures.

Industry

Berea’s industry remained strong and healthy at year end of 2022, with a 75% employee recovery from 2020. Over 200 jobs were filled in Berea industry this past year.

Updates were shared on local industry as it related to new businesses, hiring capacity, future hiring, business plans, administrative changes, staffing, production goals, classroom instruction, and job fairs. Site Selector Magazine from Atlanta, an internationally circulated business publication covering corporate real estate and economic development, facility planning, location analysis, and foreign direct investment, reported the 2022 national rankings as follows:

* The top 3 ranked states in the nation were #1 Texas, #2 Kansas, #3 Kentucky.
* Kentucky ranked 44 out of the top 100 states in the nation.
* The top 3 ranking cities in Kentucky were #1 Paducah, #2 Frankfort, #3 Berea

Street Comment

In 2022, Angel had been in contact with the Kentucky Department of Transportation for a request of adding a crosswalk on Chestnut Street near the Chestnut Street Pavilion. She had been notified in January that Berea had been added to a list, including six other cities, that had been selected for surveys and research work for the project.

**Tourism**

Recently wrapped up a large Valentine Day paid marketing campaign with paid marketing ads for Berea with emphasis on hotels, dining, and shopping.

Working with the Berea Police Department, Parks & Recreation Department, and local Berea schools to promote another successful “Special Needs Prom,” similar to last year’s.

Working with the Berea Volunteer Fire Department in conjunction with L&N Train Day to host a car show and a music concert series scheduled for June 17th.

Will be working with Berea Community School to host an International Student Art Fair in Berea, scheduled for June of 2024, along with six to eight other county and city schools.

February LearnShops kicked off with Blacksmithing classes (6) and were sold out.

Working on a St. Patrick’s Day event for the entire city to join and participate thru a cookie baking class with local community judges to choose the best homemade cookie in town.

Planning the Spring-Summer-Fall Music Series at the Chestnut Street Pavilion with rollouts scheduled for May/June and September/October.

Continuing work on implementing the 42nd Berea Craft Festival.

Nearing the bidding stage for renovation of the Tolle Building which would be partial art gallery and partial event center.

**BEREA CITY COUNCIL \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ REGULAR MEETING \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ FEBRUARY 21, 2023**

Working with a local outdoor company to create a Kayak Festival in Berea this summer.

Motorcoach busses were at an all-time high level of demand for cities. Tourism received 55 busses in 2022 with an average of 50 guests per bus, with an estimated revenue spent in Old Town alone of $74,000 (average of $26.90/person). Hotels, Restaurants, and other shopping were not included in the total revenue.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Steve Centers, 115 Breckwood Drive, Berea

Shared concerns regarding an extreme amount of water, destroying his backyard, coming down the hill from a local business. The concern was first addressed to City Council and Codes Enforcement on August 28, 2016, only to worsen over time. He has installed over 200 ft. of drainage pipe, dug trenches, added a curtain drain around the backyard, etc. to no avail. Although a drainage basin was in his yard, there was also a hole, he was not sure of who was responsible for the basin, himself or the City. Mr. Centers was requesting a resolution for the concern.

Mayor Fraley stated the concern had been brought to the City’s attention and would do their best to address the situation within legal standards.

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

* Thanked Department Heads, especially Susan Meeks, Finance Director, for their diligent work on the amended budget. All did a great job!
* A Parks Committee meeting was scheduled for Thursday, February 23rd, 5:30 p.m., Randy Stone Community Room, City Hall.
* Heavy rains last Thursday highlighted several drainage projects with plans to work on in the coming months. Work had been done on Rose Street with plans to begin the second phase of the project, the underground work, in March, following approval of the amended budget ordinance. Work had been done on Shortline and Stephenson Trail with continued work on the ditch running parallel to the trail. Plans were to work with the State on the Johnson Road drainage project. Also working with a culvert issue on Harrison Road.
* Gave a shout out to the Public Works / Street Department for their hard work during the rains. They were cleaning culverts, checking drains, and taking action where needed. Everyone appreciated their hard work.

**MAYOR’S REPORT / COMMENTS**

* Thanked the Department Heads and Beverly on their diligent work on the budget process. A job well done.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS**

**Caudill** Appreciated everyone’s time working on the budget as it was the most important thing they work on all year. An amended budget provided organization, resource management, keeping a tight budget with as few changes as possible, and efficient use of tax payers’ money.

**Little** No comment.

**Davis** ThankedWyatt for the airport update as it was an important part of our community. Thanked Angel for her report, keep us growing.

**BEREA CITY COUNCIL \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ REGULAR MEETING \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ FEBRUARY 21, 2023**

**Scenters** Thanked Wyatt and Angel for their reports. Very good. Thanked all involved in the budget. Gave condolences to Eleanor Workman and her sons for the loss of Jerry Workman, husband and father.Recent events in Wilmore filled her heart with hope and hoped it did for others too.

**Startzman** Echoed Scenters comments regarding the budget, grateful for everyone that had a part working on it. Great to hear Angel’s report and the work she and her staff were doing and grateful for the role they had within the City.

**Rowlette** Two excellent presentations this evening. Good to hear about the Ignite Academy and growing industry. Visit the airport and do not miss the opportunity of attending the open house. Thanked all involved in the budget. Thanked Mr. Centers for sharing his concern, the City cannot fix a problem if they do not know about it. Appreciated everyone’s time this evening.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Caudill motioned; Scenters seconded motion to adjourn at 8:06 p.m.

Voice Vote: All ayes

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Mayor Bruce Fraley

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City Clerk