**BEREA CITY COUNCIL \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_ REGULAR MEETING \_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ APRIL 18, 2023**

The Berea City Council met in regular session, Tuesday, April 18, 2023.

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, David Rowlette, Jerry Little,

Steve Caudill, Cora Jane Wilson, Ronnie Terrill

**COUNCIL ABSENT:** None

**OFFICIALS PRESENT:** J.T. Gilbert, Rose Beverly, Robin Adams, Daniel Brindley, Priscilla Bloom,

Jason Hays, Kevin Howard

**INVOCATION:** Cora Jane Wilson

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Ronnie Terrill

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Little motioned; Startzman seconded motion to approve agenda.

Voice Vote: All ayes

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES - APRIL 4, 2023**

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

Voice Vote: All ayes

**RESOLUTION #05-2023 CITY OF BEREA RECREATIONAL TRAIL PROGRAM RESTROOM COMPLEX GRANT**

Mayor Fraley read Resolution #05-2023 in entirety.

Caudill motioned; Wilson seconded motion to approve and adopt Resolution #05-2023.

Voice Vote: All ayes

**RESOLUTION #06-2023 CITY OF BEREA LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND POOL GRANT**

Mayor Fraley read Resolution #06-2023 in entirety.

Davis motioned; Startzman seconded motion to approve and adopt Resolution #06-2023.

Voice Vote: All ayes

**ORDINANCE #02-2023 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BEREA, KENTUCKY, ADOPTING A SUPPLEMENT TO THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF BEREA, KENTUCKY - 2ND READING**

Corporate Counsel, Gilbert, read Ordinance #02-2023 by summary.

Caudill motioned; Scenters seconded motion to approve and adopt Ordinance #02-2023.

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

Nays - None

Motioned carried.

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**ORDINANCE #03-2023 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BEREA, KENTUCKY, CHANGING THE ZONING CLASSIFICATION OF PROPERTY DESCRIBED HEREIN AND REFERRED TO AS 145 CHRISTMAS RIDGE ROAD AND OWNED BY NITA MORRIS WILES, TRUSTEE OF THE GLEN & NITA WILES TRUST FROM R-1 (SINGLE FAMILY RESIDETIAL) TO R-3 (MULTI-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL) - 1ST READING**

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

**DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS**

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

General

Gave an update on the Daupler After-Hours Call Center consisting of a total of 333 call during the month of March, which included several wind events, with an acknowledgement time of 3.01 minutes During one event, administrative/in-house staff was brought in to handle the high call volume which consisted of an additional 200 calls. Encourage customers to use the system when making after-hours calls.

BMU was working on implementing and offering a service to customers through Service Line Warranties. The service would give customers an opportunity to work through a reputable third-party vendor to purchase insurance to protect against any customer owned sewer and water service lines. Although BMU would not be directly involved with any of the outreach/marketing, encouraged customers to consider whether the option would be beneficial to them as infrastructure aging dramatically increases the risk of failure.

Encouraged customers to opt into the notification alert feature they now offer.

Plans to have the Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) metering project ready for bid advertising by the end of May.

Reservoir levels are holding steady with the current consistent rainfall. Each lake is currently at or near capacity.

BMU had been in the process of switching over to LED lights for streetlighting. With recent complaints of a purple hue coming from the lights, they were working on the problem.

Current Projects in Process or Recently Completed

Easements had been received for the Airport Expansion Project. Project should soon be ready to bid once property owner signatures had been received.

Hydraulic modeling had been completed.

The sewer flow monitoring and collection system modeling was continuing. Recent data showed suspected areas which overflow occurred during rain events thus providing information needed to determine placement of monitors and improvement needed. Cleaner Water Round 1 grant funding was available to use in a sewer rehabilitation project.

Had begun the preliminary design for the Cleaner Water Round 2 grant funded project, i.e., HWY 595 Pumpstation and Force Main expansion, and working to capture future sewer capacity needs.

The Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP) had several maintenance issues which had been completed and/or repairs scheduled.

Waste Water Plant (WTP) and the WWTP LED lighting projects had been completed.

The electric division had recently completed infrared imaging of all circuits from the Rash Road substation. Approximately twenty issues were identified enabling them to make repairs before failure.

All imaging and data collected was being uploaded into their GIS system giving a baseline for

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comparing future inspections.

Tree trimmers were currently in the Fairway, Forest, Center Street, and Lorraine Court areas with plans to begin in the Rockcastle, Madison, and Water Street areas.

Upcoming Events

An additional design funding request had been submitted to cover the design costs of all changes incorporated through the first 90% submittal comments on the Owsley Fork Project. Confirmation of verbal approval had been given. Once KYNRCS submitted a written report confirming that additional costs were justifiable and official approval granted, they were prepared to move forward in design and resubmittal. They were pushing for a late summer/early fall resubmittal, confident all areas of concern would be addressed, and a short action item list before construction approval. Federal funds allocated for construction would be available preventing a delay in waiting for funding.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Joshua Bills, 112 VanWinkle Grove, expressed his concerns/impact regarding Zone Change Ordinance for 145 Christmas Ridge Road from R-1 (Single Family Residential) to R-3 (Multi-Family Residential). Mayor Fraley requested Bills also send comments to the City Clerk for distribution to the Council.

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

* As complaints were coming in from many directions, i.e., e-mails, FaceBook messenger, texts, phone calls, etc., Beverly requested Council to ask individuals if they had contacted the City for help. It was important to follow the chain of command to promote more direct communication, beginning with the department involved, if not satisfied, then follow up with the City Administrator. If the individual was still unsuccessful, then he/she should contact Council Members or the Mayor.

Many times, there are more questions and/or information needed preventing clear answers unless discussed with the individual/complainant, thus helping tremendously in having direct communication. Following the chain of command also prevents many people from working on the same issue, duplicating work. Please feel free to reach out to her with any suggestions to assist in managing complaints.

**MAYOR’S REPORT / COMMENTS**

* Appreciated Donald Smith, II, Community Development Specialist, Bluegrass Area Development District (BGADD), assisting with the Recreational Trail Program and the Land & Water Conservation Fund Resolutions/Grants.
* Announced appointments / reappointments to the following City Commissions:

Aaron Crawford Berea Recreation, Tourism and Convention Commission

Fulfilling the unexpired term of Patrick Huston, to expire on November 14, 2025.

Janel Lakes Davenport Berea Human Rights Commission

Three-year term to expire on April 17, 2026.

Katie Heckman Berea Human Rights Commission

Three-year term to expire on April 17, 2026.

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**COUNCIL COMMENTS**

**Little** Thanked Howard for the job he does. No one realizes the importance of water and electric until they lose it.

**Caudill** No comment.

**Wilson** Thanked everyone for coming tonight. Appreciated Howard’s reports and Berea Municipal Utilities for what they do, along with all City employees.

**Terrill** No comment.

**Davis** Thanked Howard for his report and the work he does. Keep pushing.

**Scenters** Thanked everyone for coming tonight. Thanked Howard for his report. Congratulations to Patrick Huston.

**Startzman** Grateful for citizens who came out tonight and those attending regarding the Christmas Ridge Zone Change. Would love to hear their thoughts and would be watching the Planning Commission meeting before the next Council meeting.

**Rowlette** Thanked Howard for his work and impressed with his efforts to modernize services. Acknowledged the passing of State Representative, Lonnie Napier, and his 28 years of service, demonstrating himself to be a true statesman. He served as a mentor to many government officials, assisted in recognizing Berea as the Folk Arts & Crafts Capital of Kentucky, instrumental in funding the Artisan Center, involved in the Berea Bypass, along with many more credits. Reach out to the family with visitation and prayers, certain they would appreciate it.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Scenters motioned; Wilson seconded motion to adjourn at 7:37 p.m.

Voice Vote: All ayes

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Mayor Bruce Fraley

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City Clerk