**BEREA CITY COUNCIL \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_ REGULAR MEETING \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_JUNE 20, 2023**

The Berea City Council met in regular session, Tuesday, June 20, 2023.

Mayor Bruce Fraley presiding.

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

WORK SESSION

5:45 PM – 6:30 PM

RESOLUTION #09-2023 – INCENTIVE FOR HITACHI OCCUPATIONAL TAX

LUCAS WITT

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

Steve Caudill, Cora Jane Wilson, Ronnie Terrill

**COUNCIL ABSENT:** None

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

Priscilla Bloom, Shawn Sandlin, Aaron Boycan, Susan Meeks, Kevin Howard,

Roy Curtis, Amanda Haney

**INVOCATION:** Jerry Little

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Jerry Little

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Davis motioned; Startzman seconded motion to amend agenda to include Berea College President, Dr. Lyle & Laurie Roelofs, retirement farewell and Berea College update.

Voice Vote: All ayes

Little motioned; Caudill seconded motion to approve agenda as amended.

Voice Vote: All ayes

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES - JUNE 6, 2023 & JUNE 9, 2023**

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

Voice Vote: All ayes

**BEREA COLLEGE PRESIDENT, DR. LYLE & LAURIE ROELOFS**

Dr. Lyle & Laurie Roelofs were retiring, as Berea College President(s), at the end of June after eleven years of Presidency at Berea College

As Dr. Roelofs’ final address to the Council, he stated he had enjoyed the City Council meetings, grateful for the relationship between Berea College and the City of Berea, and the opportunity to provide updates regarding Berea College. As Berea College and the City of Berea were two different entities, thanked the City for their support to the College.

Laurie Roelofs commented that she appreciated the friendships in Berea. She and Dr. Roelofs would be moving to Cadillac, Michigan, her hometown, to a home on the lake. They were excited, looked forward to traveling, and spending time with the grandkids. They loved Berea with many wonderful friends and would miss the wonderful people.

Dr. Roelofs shared updates regarding Berea College as progress continued in the forest, the horse barn was complete with a herd of up to six horses, the hydro projects were going well, the new computer science building for media and information technology was coming along well with expectations to open in the summer of 2024.

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Hoped the City of Berea would give a warm welcome to Dr. Cheryl Nixon, Berea College’s tenth President. Felt she would continue Berea’s mission and the relationship between the City of Berea and Berea College as they marched together through history.

Mayor Fraley and several Council Members thanked and expressed appreciation of Dr. Roelofs leadership, friendship, and service to Berea College. He and Laurie would be missed. Wished them well in retirement.

**INDEPENDENCE DAY HOLIDAY SCHEDULE, JULY 4TH**

Due to July 4th being on a regular scheduled City Council Business Meeting date, the Council chose to cancel the City Council Business Session for July 4th.

Scenters motioned; Wilson seconded motion to cancel the July 4th City Council Meeting with the understanding if any business and/or pressing issue(s) arose before the next business session of July 18th, a special called meeting would be scheduled.

Voice Vote: All ayes

**RESOLUTION #09-2023 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BEREA, KENTUCKY, DECLARING ITS INTENT TO PROVIDE INCENTIVES TO INDUCE THE LOCATION OF AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECT IN THE CITY OF BEREA BY FOREGOING ONE PERCENT OF THE OCCUPATIONAL LICENSE TAX OTHERWISE IMPOSED.**

Corporate Counsel, Gilbert, read Resolution #09-2023 in entirety.

Mayor Fraley noted Resolution #09-2023 was in reference to an expansion of Hitachi Astemo Americas, a $153M investment, creating 167 new jobs for Kentuckians.

Davis motioned; Rowlette seconded motion to approve and adopt Resolution #09-2023.

Voice Vote: All ayes

**ORDINANCE #04-2023 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BEREA, KENTUCKY, ADOPTING THE ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL PERIOD JULY 1, 2023 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2024, BY ESTIMATING REVENUES AND RESOURCES AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE OPERATION OF CITY GOVERNMENT AND PROVIDING FOR A LONG-RANGE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT AND PUBLIC FACILITIES IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM BUDGET AND PLAN. - 2ND READING**

Corporate Counsel read Ordinance #04-2023 by summary.

Caudill motioned; Little seconded motion to approve and adopt Ordinance #04-2023.

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

Nays: - Rowlette

Motioned carried.

**ORDINANCE #05-2023 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BEREA, KENTUCKY, REPEALING SECTIONS 56.001 – 56.006 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES RELATING TO ALCOHOL SALES, AND PROVIDING FOR THE LICENSED TRAFFIC AND SALE OF ALCOHOLIC LIQUORS AND BEVERAGES WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE CITY OF BEREA, BY ADDING SECTIONS 56.001 – 56.005, AND SECTION 56.099, TO THE CODE OF ORDINANCES. - 1ST READING**

Corporate Counsel, Gilbert, read Ordinance #05-2023 by amendments.

A work session would be scheduled prior to 2ND READING.

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**DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS**

**Priscilla Bloom, Director, Parks Department**

The City Pool was currently the Parks Department’s main focus as they had been open 23 days with an average daily attendance of 311 patrons. Due to staff / lifeguard shortage, a few days were limited to the number of patrons permitted to enter the pool. After weeks of recruitment and collaboration with the YMCA, local swim teams, and other recreational professionals, they were able to add three additional lifeguards on staff. They were currently hosting a lifeguard certification class in hopes to soon add more lifeguards.

They had finished the first of three sessions of swim lessons for the season. Two swim meets had been hosted with one more scheduled. The annual Bluegrass swim conference (9 teams / 500 swimmers) was scheduled for July.

Over 200 guests attended the first dive-in movie event of the season with the next dive-in movie scheduled for July 21st. Every other Tuesday evening was free family swim night and Wednesday evenings free Aqua Zumba Classes were offered.

The Berea Youth League’s spring softball/baseball season was wrapping up, with plans to finish on Thursday, June 29th. The first weekend tournament was hosted this past weekend with twenty youth softball teams. Their tournament schedule was booked for the remainder of the year with one open date in October. The annual Swing for a Cure Tournament was scheduled for August.

July 4th preparation had begun with maintenance staff working to get the parks ready for their largest event of the year, i.e., pressure washing, tree trimming, painting, mulching, miscellaneous repairs, etc. The July 4th event would begin at 6:00 p.m. with a variety of live music, food vendors, games, prizes, face painting, inflatables, photo booth, and fireworks beginning at 10:00 p.m.

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

Owsley Fork Update

Berea Municipal Utilities had been active during the past few weeks on the Owsley Fork project.  Design Phase time extension and additional funding amendments had all been fully executed.  Horn & Associates had eight to 10 additional core samples to complete in order to meet KYNRCS recommendations to explore pyritic shale expansion possibilities during 90% resubmittal.  Remaining items to complete before beginning construction included roadway closure discussion, property acquisitions, property transfers for cemetery relocation, new boat ramp location/installation, and utility relocations.  A meeting is scheduled with Berea College and the Design Team to discuss these items.  Design resubmittal was scheduled for October 31st.  Expected to hear from the National Design Construction, and Soil Mechanics Center (NDCSMC), Fort Worth, Texas, by the end of 2023, regarding submitted items/comments and approval.  Planned to have bid documents by Spring of 2024.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

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

* Ellipse Street Shared Use Path Update

The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC) had entered into a state contract with HDR Engineering, Inc. for the oversight of the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) grant projects. A Request for Proposal (RFP) was not required by the City as this was a state contract. HDR Engineering, Inc. had the specs of the project and would present a bid to the City of Berea and the KYTC. If the additional cost was agreed upon for the project oversight (an 80/20 split), an

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agreement would be prepared in order to proceed. Plans were to hopefully complete the project by the end of 2023.

* Completed streets for paving included Ellipse Street, Mayde Road, Kenton Avenue, and Leslie Drive. Paving had begun for Pinnacle Street with Meadowlark Drive to follow.
* Department Head reports were delayed due to the holiday.
* Applications had been submitted for the Recreational Trails Grant for concessions and restrooms, the Land & Water Conservation Fund for upgrades to the pool, and the Block Grant for the Farristown Community Center.
* Good job to Priscilla Bloom and Kevin Howard on their reports and work in their departments and/or projects.

**MAYOR’S REPORT / COMMENTS**

* Casey Botkin, Police Department, had been promoted to Captain.
* By Ordinance, the appointment of the City Alcohol Beverage Control Administrator was required to be approved by Council. Current ABC Administrator was Police Chief, Jason Hays.

Plans were to bring forward Casey Botkin as ABC Administrator and Council would vote on approval at the next scheduled City Council Meeting. In addition, Jeff Harness, Electrical Inspector, Codes & Planning, would be assisting with the administration of the ABC regulations.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS**

**Davis** Thanked Bloom for her hard work in the Parks Department. Appreciated Howard, Berea Municipal Utilities, keep working.

**Scenters** Good to hear from Priscilla and Kevin. The Berea Craft Festival was right around the corner, July 7-9, be especially kind to out of town visitors that weekend. Yay! to Roy Curtis, Donna Angel, and Susan Meeks for the painted bicycles around town…so pretty!

**Startzman** Congrats to Donna as L&N Day seemed to be a huge success. Stopped by the Mountain Bike Park on Saturday and Sunday for the Kentucky Mountain Bike Association (KYMBA) Clinic with lots of people and bikes. Kudos to Public Works and those involved with the clinic as it was beautiful, proud of the park and that it brought people to the community.

**Rowlette** Thanked Howard for the positive update on the Owsley Fork project. Quality water resources determined long-term building growth and extremely important the project was completed as soon as possible.

**Terrill** No comment.

**Wilson** Thanked Bloom and Howard for a lot of hard work. Thanked everyone for coming. Have a safe and wonderful July 4th.

**Little** Regarding service our city gives, noted the huge and time-consuming service of brush pick-up. Hoped everyone respected the service, keep brush off streets. The City would be lost without brush pick-up.

**Caudill** The budget passed, which was a labor of love for the City every year. Thanked everyone and City staff for their time, hard work, and a very well thought out budget. The budget would continue to grow and hoped the City could continue to provide the level of service to the citizens that they have become accustomed to. Appreciated the hard work.

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**ADJOURNMENT**

Caudill motioned; Davis seconded motion to adjourn at 7:30 p.m.

Voice Vote: All ayes

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Mayor Bruce Fraley

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City Clerk