**BEREA CITY COUNCIL \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_ REGULAR MEETING \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_OCTOBER 3, 2023**

The Berea City Council met in regular session, Tuesday, October 3, 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:** Gilbert, Robin Adams, Daniel Brindley, Donna Angel, Priscilla Bloom,

Shawn Sandlin, Aaron Boycan, Kevin Howard, Kevin Howard,

Amanda Haney

**INVOCATION:** Steve Caudill

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Steve Caudill

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

Voice Vote: All ayes

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES - SEPTEMBER 19, 2023**

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

Voice Vote: All ayes

**MADISON COUNTY INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE UPDATE**

As the Madison County International Committee was the agency for City of Richmond, City of Berea, and Madison County Fiscal Court creating opportunity for exchange and friendship, Kent Gilbert, President, Madison County International Committee, shared updates within the program.

The Committee was in their 35th year with our Sister City, Hokuto City, Japan. After the pandemic shutdown, the commitments to one another were regenerated. As a result, several new initiatives had begun, and the Madison County Adult Delegation (14 representatives) was resuming and would soon be leaving for Japan. New initiatives included high school exchange programs, a middle school homestay exchange, renewing the elementary school student art exchange, and Joint Tourism Cooperation Agreements with Berea and Richmond had been signed.

Gilbert thanked the Council for their support and the delegates who had gone to Japan. Hopes were to expand the opportunity in the relationship resulting in improving business and economic empowerment.

**DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS**

**Amanda Haney, Administrator, Codes & Planning**

OpenGov Update

Upon going live as of July 5th, the Codes Department had processed over 450 applications with over $118,000 in revenue. Although not all for Codes, applications included permitting, code violations, business licenses, contractor registrations, and utility billing sign-ups.

Thanked Finance, Utilities, and Public Works for working with the Codes Department to help make OpenGov a success. Felt it was going well for all departments, offering services to citizens and contractors. The Codes Department was averaging approximately twenty permits and twenty-five inspections per week, which was up approximately 20% from this time last year and the previous year.

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The typical residential permit was taking about fifteen minutes to complete and permit issue time had been cut in half. New house permits were now being issued in 2-3 days in lieu of 5-6 days. Electrical and Mechanical permit applications were taking approximately three minutes to complete.

Current Projects

Berea College’s CMIT (Computer, Media & IT) Building

Motor Wheel addition and paint booth

Hitachi renovation of over 100K square feet of existing facility

Davis & Powell Funeral Home Chapel addition

Beaumont large storage facility

Upcoming Projects

Starbucks

Area Supply – moving to Paint Lick Road

Several small renovations for package stores

Two additional storage facilities

Housing Developments

Harvest Commons apartment complex, 140 units at Beaumont was almost complete.

Corner of Oak Street & Morning View, 41 townhomes were almost ready to begin construction.

Stoney Creek duplexes were under construction.

Stoney Creek, Brook Cove & Stillwater Drive, 40 single family lots were approved and ready to begin construction on homes.

Stoney Creek Preliminary Plat, 102 single family lots were approved to begin road infrastructure construction and a 112-unit apartment complex.

Codes Office

Bryan Maniscalco, Building Inspector, Codes Department, passed his B-2 test for Commercial Building Inspections.

Wrapping up the Stormwater Design Manual with Thoroughbred Engineering to update the City’s Stormwater Regulations which would go to the Public Works Committee for approval within the next few weeks.

GIS Office

Division of Water audit was scheduled for the end of October for the MS4 Program.

Working on a Litter Abatement Grant offered through the Energy & Environment Cabinet.

Trash for Cash Program to soon begin in which non-profits, school groups, etc. would be paid $100/mile to pick up litter on designated city streets. An online application process would be provided through OpenGov for tracking purposes.

**Aaron Boycan, Major, Berea Police Department**

Requested Council approval for, budget approved, aggregate purchase of rifles, sights, and slings from Keisler Police Supply in the total amount of $55,123.60.

Caudill motioned; Davis seconded motion to approve aggregate purchase of rifles, sights, and slings from Keisler Police Supply in the total amount of $55,123.60.

Voice Vote: All ayes

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Requested Council approval for, budget approved, upfitting of three new Dodge Durangos through L&W Emergency Equipment in the total amount of $72,752.72.

Rowlette motioned; Scenters seconded motion to approve aggregate purchase of three vehicle upfits from L&W Emergency Equipment for the total amount of $72,752.72.

Voice Vote: All ayes

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Eleanor Workman, Berea

Presented questions regarding Ordinance #10-2023, Utility Strip Maintenance. Workman to e-mail questions to City Administrator for clarifications.

**CITY ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT -** Mayor Fraley

* The Booneway Yard Sale was scheduled for this weekend, October 6th & 7th, US Route 25.
* Movie Night at the Park was scheduled for Friday, October 6th, Memorial Park, 7:00 p.m.
* Tree Week Kick-Off was scheduled for Saturday, October 7th, Chestnut Street Pavilion, 5:30 p.m. Event would include a free concert at 7:00 p.m., kids’ activities, kettle corn, apple cider, and tree planting.
* The 2023 Fall Clean Up was scheduled for the week of October 16th – 20th.

**MAYOR’S REPORT / COMMENTS**

* Presented Certificate of Appreciation to Ricky Clontz, local contractor, for his contribution and work on the acoustics within City of Berea’s Intergenerational Center.

Lisa Edwards, Director, Senior Citizens Center, shared services offered through the Center, i.e., exercise classes, crafts, trips, meals, commodities, and more.

* In recognition of Breast Cancer Awareness Month (October), shared signing of the proclamation at Millstone Park, Richmond, with Mayor Blythe (City of Richmond) and Judge Executive Reagan Taylor (Madison County). All women were urged to practice monthly self- exams and all women over forty years of age to have a yearly mammogram. The proclamation also honored and recognized breast cancer survivors and their inspiration to others. “Paint the Town Pink” and let’s do our part for awareness.
* As October was also Domestic Violence Awareness Month, let’s also do our part for awareness of Domestic Violence.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS**

**Davis** Regarding Breast Cancer Awareness Month, reminded everyone that St. Joseph Hospital, Berea, had a state-of-the-art mammography center and encouraged women/men to take advantage of the local location. Thanked Lisa Edwards for her group and what they do at the Senior Citizens Center (Intergenerational Center). Thanked Ricky Clontz for his work. Thanked Haney for her report, good job.

**Scenters** Thanked Ricky Clontz. Thanked Haney for her report. Good to see the senior citizens, come back and visit. Grateful to Davis’s family for the mammography center at the hospital. Reminded everyone that the Fire Department was in their tenth year of selling Breast Cancer Awareness t-shirts which could be purchased at the Fire Department or on their website.

**Startzman** No comment.

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**Rowlette** Thanked the Allen Company for getting back on the bypass project. Cautioned everyone of the changes at the bypass intersections, remind our family, friends, and neighbors.

As college students had returned, there was a lot of street crossing at non-crosswalks, be very cautious. Thanked senior citizens for attending, they are important, and their facility deserved the attention.

**Little** No comment.

**Caudill** Glad for the opportunity to recognize Ricky Clontz. Glad for everyone who attended. Jim, have fun in Japan.

**Wilson** Thanked everyone for coming. Glad to see Molly Hale, wife of former employee, Bill Hale. Liz Todd, Tourism, enjoy trip to Japan. Thanked Haney for her report. Hats off to Ricky Clontz for his work at the Senior Citizen’s Center.

**Terrill** Thankful for the work Ricky Clontz did for the City.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Caudill motioned; Startzman seconded motion to adjourn at 7:11 p.m.

Voice Vote: All ayes

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Mayor Bruce Fraley \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

City Clerk