**BEREA CITY COUNCIL \_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_ \_ REGULAR MEETING \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ MAY 7, 2024**

The Berea City Council met in regular session, Tuesday, May 7, 2024.

Mayor Bruce Fraley presiding.

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

WORK SESSION

5:45PM – 6:15PM

ORDINANCE #12-2024 BUDGET AMENDMENT (Firetruck)

Shawn Sandlin, Chief, Fire Department

**COUNCIL PRESENT:** Jim Davis, Teresa Scenters, Jerry Little, Steve Caudill, Cora Jane Wilson,

Ronnie Terrill

**COUNCIL ABSENT:** Katie Startzman, David Rowlette

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

Priscilla Bloom, Roy Curtis, Mildred Madsen, Jason Hays, Susan Helton, Kevin Howard, Shawn Sandlin

**INVOCATION:** Cora Jane Wilson

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Cora Jane Wilson

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Caudill motioned; Davis seconded motion to approve agenda.

Voice Vote: All ayes Motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES - APRIL 16, 2024**

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

Voice Vote: All ayes Motion carried.

**NATIONAL PUBLIC WORKS WEEK PROCLAMATION, MAY 19-25, 2024**

Mayor Fraley read Proclamation in entirety and presented to Kevin Howard, General Manager, Berea Municipal Utilities (BMU) and Roy Curtis, Supervisor, Public Works, & Mildred Madsen, Administrative Assistant, Public Works, on behalf of BMU and Public Works Departments.

On behalf of the Public Works Department and BMU, Curtis thanked everyone for the Proclamation. Their Departments had a lot of hard-working employees, a great group to work with.

**NATIONAL PUBLIC SERVICE RECOGNITION WEEK PROCLAMATION, MAY 6-10, 2024**

Mayor Fraley read Proclamation in entirety and presented to Rose Beverly, City Administrator, along with City employees in attendance, expressing appreciation for the work of City employees for the community.

Beverly accepted Proclamation on behalf of City staff stating they were a tremendous staff, producing an unbelievable amount of work each week. The work could not be done without them. The City was celebrating staff with events throughout the week and an appreciation party at the end of the week. On behalf of Administration and City Council, thank you to all staff. Proud to be a part of this team.

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**ABOLISH SLAVERY KENTCKY**

Pat Gailey, representing Abolish Slavery Kentucky, part of the Abolish Slavery National Network, shared awareness that slavery was still legal in Kentucky as the State Constitution is written. Gailey was working with the Network trying to strike the Slavery Exception Clause, “Slavery and involuntary servitude in this State are forbidden, except as a punishment for crime, whereof the party shall have been duly convicted,” deleting it from Article 1, Section 25, of the Kentucky Constitution, and replaced with “Slavery is prohibited.”

According to the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights, slavery was a crime against humanity. Crimes against humanity promote fear, distrust, hatred, non-compliance, corruption, etc. Without crimes against humanity, our justice system could be clean, secure, and strong. If the State legislative process is followed, the exception clause could be stricken out.

Gailey shared available resources, what other cities were doing, and encouraged support in getting the exception clause removed from Kentucky’s Constitution.

**ORDINANCE #12-2024 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BEREA, KENTUCKY, AMENDING THE 2023-2024 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF BEREA, ORDINANCE #08-2024 REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES. - 1ST READING**

As being subject to a Work Session, Corporate Counsel, Gilbert, read Ordinance #12-2024 by summary.

Mayor Fraley requested a non-binding vote to determine City Council’s status regarding Ordinance #12-2024.

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

Nays - None

**DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS**

**Jason Hays, Chief, Berea Police Department**

Hays shared the following updates:

Current/Upcoming Events

* Completed spring firearms training.
* Complete Taser Recertification and STOPS (Strategies and Tactics of Patrol Stops) training scheduled to be completed within the next two months.
* Special Needs Prom went great. Thanked Tourism, Parks, and Zinnia Hensley.
* Police Week was May 13-17. There would be a Police themed sidewalk art contest with submissions voted on through Facebook. Extended gratitude to the community for their outstanding support of the Police Department and to City Council as without their support, they would not succeed.

Statistics

* 2024 total crimes through April were at 124, down from last year’s total of 458.
* 2024 total collisions were at 124.
* 2024 citations were 738 and courtesy notices were 306.
* Flock Cameras
* Of 10 cameras placed around the City, 2 had been installed.
* The Police Department’s Policy had been approved with training planned for officers on how to use software before implementation.

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* Automated License Plate Reader (ALPR) cameras that take a snapshot of a passing vehicle’s license plate. They generate alerts to officers that are working based on categories, i.e., Stolen Vehicle, Stolen License Plate, Wanted Person, AMBER Alerts, Missing Person, Protection Orders.
* An important tool to assist in solving crimes.
* Were not live video feeds, only generated pictures.
* Were to be used for law enforcement use only, i.e., criminal investigations and locating missing or endangered persons. Not to be used for enforcing traffic laws.

Surgery

* Chief Hays was scheduled for back surgery on Thursday, May 9th. While he was out of the office, his command staff would be available and running the department. Plans were to be back to work in one to two weeks, thoughts and prayers appreciated.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

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

* As it was Appreciation Week, thanked Public Works and Berea Municipal Utilities for the work they do to keep the City going. In order to keep down costs for contracted jobs, by utilizing the City’s own employees, they continually have projects added along with their general workload.
* National Police Appreciation Week was next week, May 13-17. The City had a really great group of officers, very professional, do a great job, and a lot of compliments are received from the community. Grateful for the low turnover within the Police Department.
* Installation of bypass lighting would begin within the next two weeks, depending on the weather.
* The Solid Waste RFP would be sent out within the next couple of weeks, to be due by July 1st. The current contract was scheduled to expire in March 2025.

**MAYOR’S REPORT / COMMENTS**

* If anyone had never attended, encouraged everyone to attend The Special Needs Gala next year. An event only done in Berea. The participants enjoy the Gala and it is also a joy for the City staff who host the event. The event is co-sponsored by Berea Police Department and Tourism/Business & Economic Development with support from the Parks and Recreation Department. Thank you to everyone involved, Berea was a caring community and it showed.
* As Public Service Appreciation Week is this week, a lot of work had been done by staff. Events for the week had stemmed from Council, surveys, and employee suggestions. Thank you to all City employees.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS**

**Caudill** Both Proclamations presented were due to incredibly dedicated staff. Every single employee cared about the City as it showed in their daily work and they excel in what they do. The City we have would not be what it is without them.

**Little**  No comment.

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**Scenters** Thanked all employees. Although it is not always heard, she does hear positivity and appreciates it. Agreed that everyone with the City worked hard and they were appreciated. Appreciated

Sandlin watching out for bargains for the City, i.e. Fire Department. Parks Department was always thinking outside the box and hosting their “Date Night” movie night this weekend. Appreciated all.

**Davis** Thanked all City employees for their hard work and dedication. Good luck to Chief Hays with his surgery, hope all goes well and he is back as soon as possible.

**Terrill** Thanked Rose for her help regarding the bypass lighting.

**Wilson** Thanked everyone for coming. The employees were what made Berea, heart and soul. Appreciated everything and everyone. Chief Hays would be in our prayers. Thank you to all, have a great week.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Scenters motioned; Caudill seconded motion to adjourn at 7:19 p.m.

Voice Vote: All ayes

Motion carried.

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Mayor Bruce Fraley

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City Clerk