**BEREA CITY COUNCIL \_ \_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_ \_ REGULAR MEETING \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_ MAY 21, 2024**

The Berea City Council met in regular session, Tuesday, May 21, 2024.

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, Jerry Little, Cora Jane Wilson,

Ronnie Terrill

**COUNCIL ABSENT:** Steve Caudill, David Rowlette

**OFFICIALS PRESENT:** Jerry Gilbert, Rose Beverly, Robin Adams, Tommy Horn, Priscilla Bloom, Aaron Boycan, Kevin Howard, Josh Gabbard, Scott Johnson, Pablo Fernandez, Chad Walling, Brad Anglin, Shawn Sandlin

**INVOCATION:** Cora Jane Wilson

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Cora Jane Wilson

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Wilson motioned; Little seconded motion to approve agenda.

Voice Vote: All ayes Motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES - MAY 7, 2024**

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

Voice Vote: All ayes Motion carried.

**BEREA MUNICIPAL UTILITIES (BMU) EMPLOYEE ACHIEVEMENT RECOGNITION**

Kevin Howard, General Manager, Berea Municipal Utilities, was proud of BMU employees for their hard work, dedication, and exceeding expectations. Howard and Josh Gabbard, Operations Manager, BMU, recognized the following achievements for BMU, presenting awards and/or certifications:

* Pablo Fernandez recently completed the Tennessee Valley Public Power Association (TVPPA) Advanced Line Worker Certification Program, which consisted of five phases of extensive training, reaching the Lineman Class III level.
* Scott Johnson, Chief Wastewater Operator, BMU Berea Wastewater Treatment Plant, attended the annual Kentucky Water and Wastewater Operator’s Association (KWWOA) conference. Johnson received the KWWOA North Central Chapter Wastewater Operator of the Year Award and the KWWOA 2024 State Operator of the Year Award.
* Brad Anglin, Chad Walling, and Steven Walters, Class IV BMU Water Treatment Plant Operators, received an Area Wide Optimization Program (AWOP) award from the Kentucky Division of Water for successfully meeting microbial goals in 2023. The program is a multi-state effort to optimize turbidity removal in drinking water.

Howard and Gabbard appreciated the dedication and commitment of BMU employees.

**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. - 2ND READING**

Corporate Counsel, Gilbert, read Ordinance #12-2024 by summary.

Mayor Fraley noted the purpose of the budget amendment was to purchase a new ladder truck (Fire Department).

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Terrill motioned; Little seconded motion to approve and adopt Ordinance #12-2024.

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

Nays - None

Motioned carried.

**DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS**

**Priscilla Bloom, Director, Parks & Recreation Department**

Bloom shared updates from the Parks & Recreation Department noting the Department was extremely busy during this time of year.

* Their current priority was to get the pool open safely this coming weekend. An all hands-on deck and a process that begins in January.
* Annual state inspection was today and went very well. Final inspection, conducted by the Health Department, would be tomorrow.
* Lifeguard staff orientation and concession staff orientation were scheduled for Wednesday and Thursday of this week.
* As May was a busy month for sports, the Berea Youth League kicked off their spring season with a huge opening day on May 4th. Soccer and football were in their spring seasons. Berea Community School wrapped up their baseball and softball spring season on Monday of this week. To date, three weekend tournaments had taken place and the schedule was booked-up through the first weekend in September.
* Programs for May had included the Special Needs Gala, Madison County Library’s annual Star Wars event, an outdoor movie date night, and a kite festival at the skatepark.
* Most upcoming programs / events would be at the pool, i.e., movies, Aqua Zumba classes, several evenings of free swimming, etc. All events could be found on the Parks Facebook page and the Parks Department Newsletter. For response to any calls into the Parks Department, please be patient as this was a busy time of year and they have a small staff.
* The Russel Acton Folk Center foyer windows and the main floor were scheduled to be replaced in June. Replacements would be done simultaneously to minimize the amount of time the center needed to be closed.

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

Due to a pump failure, Howard requested a FY23-24 Budget Line Item #200-9300-54530, Infrastructure R&M, increase in the amount of $120,000, increasing the original amount of $125,000 to $245,000.

The request was to capture the cost of one (1) new 75hp pump at the Walnut Meadow Pump Station ($52,322) and repair two (2) pumps ($33,800 each). Repairs were estimated to be 6-8 weeks due to the required rotors and shafts currently out of stock.

They were currently down to one pump at the pump station. Normal operation was three pumps in service with two active pumps during high flow situations. It was critical they get the second pump into operation as quickly as possible. If ordered immediately, the new pump could be installed no later than next Monday. Corporate Counsel prepared a Certificate of Emergency today to provide for a new pump replacement.

Terrill motioned; Little seconded motion to increase BMU line item #200-9300-54530, Infrastructure R&M, in the amount of $120,000, increasing the original amount of $125,000 to $245,000, for cost of new 75hp pump at Walnut Meadow Pump Station ($52,322) and repair of two pumps ($33,800 each).

Voice Vote: All ayes

Motion carried.

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

For the FY23-24 Budget, roof repairs were included for the Water & Sewer Plants at $400,000. Working through Gordian, Sourcewell had a state pricing contract. Through Sourcewell, pricing for the Water Plant was $111,895.22 and the Sewer Plant was $337,822.95. After reviewing and seeking the opinion of Corporate Counsel that KRS Statutes were met, project was bid out appropriately, and procurement guidelines were met, they would like to proceed with the project. Materials would be delivered prior to June 30th (FY23-24) and construction would begin in August (FY24-25). According to the Purchasing Policy, no budget amendment was required as the project had already been approved in the budget and Council only needed to be informed.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

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

* The Ellipse Street Project had been delayed. Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) Grant recipients across the Commonwealth had been encouraged to reapply for projects awarded prior to COVID. Grants awarded several years ago were off base related to costs due to inflation and the new mandate for on-site construction supervision. At this point, the project was expected to cost more than budgeted. Resubmitting would allow the City to request more money and ask for a match for the construction supervision.
* The Scaffold Cane Project right-of-way plans were submitted to District 7 for final review in December of 2023. When District 7 receives final plan submittal, they would review and send an approval e-mail. Working on an estimated timeline.
* No bids were received for the basketball court resurfacing. In the process of contacting contractors that may be interested in the project.
* Although the Pool Project was approved at $245,000 through a Land & Water Conservation Fund Grant, the individual in charge of these grants passed away. The Department of Local

Government (DLG) was not able to get caught up during the current session and requested that everyone reapply for the grants. As this did not work for the City, Councilman Little, requested $200,000 from Tourism. A new grant application would be submitted later for Phase 2 (pool house) of the pool. Plans were to send out the Pool Request for Proposal (RFP) in July.

* The Folk Center would be closed for a short period of time for the windows and floor replacements.
* The Solid Waste RFP was sent out this week.

**MAYOR’S REPORT / COMMENTS**

* Berea Municipal Utilities Recognition Awards demonstrated excellence in public service. Everyone should be proud of the quality of employees and leadership. Compliments to all for what they do and their commitment for taking care of the public.
* Compliments to Madison County Clerk’s Office, i.e., Clerk Barger and staff, for taking care of today’s election process.

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**COUNCIL COMMENTS**

**Startzman** Thanked and appreciated Berea Municipal Utilities employees for the work they do. Good to learn more about the work they do.

**Scenters** Echoed Startzman’s comments. Good to see Berea Municipal Utilities employees at the Council meeting. We know that we have top quality employees across the board. Thanked BMU for being so good at their job.

**Davis** Echoed Scenters’ comments. Congratulations to Berea Municipal Utilities employees.

Asked about an update regarding Chief Hays’ surgery. Captain Boycan shared Hays was doing well, up and moving within a short period of time, now recovering from the initial “surgery.”

Asked if McKee Fire Department was still considering purchase of Berea Fire Department’s surplus ladder truck. Chief Sandlin stated McKee’s Council decided this was not a current option for them. There were other opportunities within the state. They had also advertised on Kentucky League of Cities’ surplus page in hopes of finding an interest for the truck.

**Terrill** After discussion with Bill West, thought a Board needed to be set up regarding new trails and/or connecting trails. Board to include two Council Members and two Tourism Commission Members.

**Little**  Thanked Berea Municipal Utilities for their extra steps in helping to better the community.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Davis motioned; Scenters seconded motion to adjourn at 7:23 p.m.

Voice Vote: All ayes

Motion carried.

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Mayor Bruce Fraley

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City Clerk