**BEREA CITY COUNCIL \_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ REGULAR MEETING \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_OCTOBER 1, 2024**

The Berea City Council met in regular session, Tuesday, October 1, 2024.

Mayor Bruce Fraley presiding.

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

WORK SESSION

6:00 PM – 6:20 PM

Resolution #10-2024 911 Interlocal Agreement - Rose Beverly, City Administrator

**COUNCIL PRESENT:** Jim Davis, Teresa Scenters, Katie Startzman, David Rowlette, Steve Caudill,

Cora Jane Wilson, Ronnie Terrill

**COUNCIL ABSENT:** Jerry Little

**OFFICIALS PRESENT:** Jerry Gilbert, Rose Beverly, Robin Adams, Tommy Horn, Priscilla Bloom,

Jason Hays, Kevin Howard, Josh Gabbard, Luke Brock, Shawn Sandlin,

Dani Gift

**INVOCATION:** Jim Davis

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Jim Davis

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

Voice Vote: All ayes Moton carried.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES - SEPTEMBER 17, 2024**

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

Voice Vote: All ayes Motion carried.

**BEREA MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AWARD RECOGNITION**

Howard, General Manager, Berea Municipal Utilities (BMU), recognized Josh Gabbard, Assistant General Manager, BMU, and Luke Brock, Wastewater Plant Trainee, for awards received. At the 2024 Annual Rural Water Conference, Gabbard received the Wooden Bucket Award, the most prestigious award presented each year. Brock received a $1000 scholarship, for continuing education, from the American Water and Wastewater Association. The scholarship would be used for the Sacramento State Operator Trend Program.

**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH PROCLAMATION**

Mayor Fraley read Proclamation and presented to Jennifer Lainhart, Executive Director, Hope’s   
Wings.

Lainhart shared domestic violence in Kentucky had increased 26% this year. Making a difference begins in your community, one household at a time, one town at a time, one county at a time. Lainhart invited everyone to scheduled events during the month of October for Hope’s Wings. Events included Lunch at Berea City Hall (October 4th), Purple Thursday (October 17th), and Chili for a Change (October 26th).

**CITY PICKLEBALL COURTS**

Judith Weckman, Berea College retiree, along with several supporters, shared a proposal for the City to build public pickleball courts. With over five million participants, pickleball provided healthy recreation

and intergenerational socialization. The proposal was for the City to build ten lighted pickleball courts, preferably near the current skate park, to meet the growing demands of residents and tourists.

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Rationale was that such a project could create a healthier, happier community, as well as contribute to economic development. Weckman hoped to collaborate among the City of Berea, Berea College and other local businesses / organizations aimed at raising funds for building the courts. The approximate cost for a pickleball court was $44,000/court.

Supporters’ comments regarding pickleball included all ages / genders could play, created health and wellness, an opportunity to meet new people, promoted camaraderie within the community, accessibility, gets people outside, a family sport, and a growing sport.

**RESOLUTION #10-2024 A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF BEREA, KENTUCKY, TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITIES OF RICHMOND AND BEREA, AND MADISON COUNTY, KENTUCKY ESTABLISHING A COOPERATIVE COMMUNICATIONS CENTER TO BE KNOWN AS THE MADISON COUNTY 911 CENER “MC911”; PROVIDING FOR STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES; AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE ALL RELATED DOCUMENTS.**

Corporate Counsel, Gilbert, read Resolution #10-2024 in entirety.

Caudill motioned; Terrill seconded motion to approve and adopt Resolution #10-2024.

Voice Vote: All ayes Motion carried.

**ORDINANCE #20-2024 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BEREA, KENTUCKY, AWARDING A FRANCHISE FOR THE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF SOLID WASTE WITHIN THE CITY OF BEREA, KENTUCKY TO WASTE CONNECTIONS OF KY, INC. - 2ND READING**

Corporate Counsel, Gilbert, read Ordinance #20-2024 by summary.

Davis motioned; Scenters seconded motion to approve and adopt Ordinance #20-2024.

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

Nays - None

Motion carried.

**DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS**

**Kevin Howard, General Manager, Berea Municipal Utilities**

Hurricane Helene Update

Friday, September 29th, there were several scattered power outages due to wind and tree limbs, effecting approximately 500 customers. Power was restored within 30 minutes with only two exceptions which were restored by 8:00 p.m.

Two linemen were released on Monday, September 30th, to assist in Tallahassee, FL. They were working at a small utility in Laurens, SC. Expected to return by the end of the week.

Water Supply Impact

During the hurricane/storm, there were 4.6” of rainfall. Owsley Fork and Cowbell each gained 2’ of available supply. Fifty days of water supply was gained. With the rainfall and daily demand, the current water supply was now at 195 days.

Owsley Fork Project

100% of Design Submittal had been submitted for review.

Cemetery Relocation Plan had been submitted.

Environmental Evaluation/Clearing Forms (CPA 52 Forms) were completed and had been submitted.

Utility Relocates had been identified.

Approval to eventually close Owsley Fork Road had been granted by Jackson County Fiscal Court.

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Radford Hollow and Owsley Fork Road modifications had been submitted to Jackson County and Madison County Road Departments.

Construction Funding discussion and timing were ongoing with KY Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).

Survey Work and Easement Descriptions for property purchase and easement acquisitions were in progress and scheduled to be complete by the end of October.

The Construction Phase was projected at 15 months, once all requirements had been met, bidding had taken place, and construction contract awarded.

**Josh Gabbard, Assistant General Manager, Berea Municipal Utilities**

Lead & Copper Rule (LCR) Revision Update

Lead & Copper Rule was enacted in 1991 by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Kentucky Division of Water to control lead and copper in drinking water, which can enter drinking water through plumbing materials. To meet the requirement of the LCR, Berea Municipal Utilities coordinated with homeowners of approved sample sites throughout the distribution system to collect lead and copper samples on a three-year basis. In August, an eleven copper samples cycle had been completed with all results returned favorable for lead and copper. They were very confident in the level and safety of the City’s drinking water.

Lead & Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) were a set of requirements that public water systems must comply with beginning October 16, 2024. Changes included inventory service lines, replacing service lines, increased sampling, and sampling at schools.

Once all requirements were met and/or complete, the City could consider their entire water system lead free. Check Your Pipes Kentucky was an excellent resource for anyone interested in learning more about lead & copper.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Eleanor Workman, Berea, requested a Public Forum for Council Candidates.

Council Member, Wilson, shared that Berea Chamber of Commerce had recently held a forum at Berea College and a second forum had been scheduled for October 29th with the Chamber of Commerce.

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

* Parks Department would be hosting their annual outdoor showing of Hocus Pocus at Memorial Park on Friday, October 4th, 7:15 p.m. Bring a blanket or chair, free kettle corn would be provided while supplies last.

Visit the Park’s Facebook page, Instagram, or call their office for other programs and events for the month of October.

* Bid opening for the pool renovation took place on Thursday, October 26th. A meeting was scheduled with the engineers to discuss the bid and possible options. A report would be presented at the next City Council meeting.
* Fall Clean-Up was scheduled for the week of October 21st – October 25th. A detailed public notice would be posted in the local newspaper and on the City’s Facebook page.

**MAYOR’S REPORT / COMMENTS**

* Delegation from Berea’s sister city, Hokuto City, Japan, would be arriving on Thursday, October 3rd. There would be 12 delegates and 1 interpreter. Events would be held through Tuesday, October 8th.

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* An unveiling of the sign for the new bypass extension, the Mayor C.C. Hensley Memorial Highway, was scheduled for Wednesday, October 2nd, 2:30 p.m., City Hall Fire Bay.
* At the Kentucky League of Cities (KLC) annual conference, Donna Angel and Rose Beverly were recognized for training milestones.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS**

**Davis** Thanked Weckman and crew for their pickleball presentation. Thanked Howard and Gabbard for their reports and hard work.

**Scenters** Thanked everyone for coming. Congratulated Josh Gabbard and Luke Brock on their awards. Way to go Donna Angel and Rose Beverly on their training milestones.

**Startzman** Thanked everyone for coming. Thanked Planning Commission & Amanda Haney for hosting the Housing Learning Sessions.

**Rowlette** Thanked presenters, excellent information. Good to hear from Howard regarding the Owsley Fork Project, good to see it moving along.

**Caudill** Congratulated Josh Gabbard and Luke Brock on their awards. Gabbard’s presentation was incredibly informative. Always liked having Jennifer Lainhart at Council meetings, her work had an impact on people in our community experiencing domestic violence and appreciated her compassion.

Pickleball courts had been built at his place of employment and the sport continued to grow. It was enjoyed by all ages and felt Berea should do something to help make it happen in our City.

**Wilson** Congratulated Josh Gabbard and Luke Brock. Thanked Gabbard for his presentation. Thanked presenters for the pickleball presentation. Thanked everyone for coming, come again, be involved. Have a good evening.

**Terrill** Howard was always presenting awards and was lucky to have such good employees. Congratulations.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Caudill motioned; Wilson seconded motion to adjourn at 7:59 p.m.

Voice Vote: All ayes Motion carried.

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Mayor Bruce Fraley

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City Clerk