

A REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMON
COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BECKLEY CONVENED
AT 6:30 PM ON DECEMBER 13, 2022, IN COUNCIL
CHAMBERS AND VIA WEB-X.

THOSE PRESENT: Mayor Robert R. Rappold,
Recorder-Treasurer Billie Trump, City Attorney Bill
File, and Secretary Susan Miller. Council Members:
Robert Dunlap, Sherrie Hunter, Cody Reedy, Bob
Canter, Tom Sopher, and Kevin Price. The following
Department Heads were present: Director of IT Bill
Kelly, Assistant IT Director Amy Evans, Corey Lilly
Director of Outdoor Economic Development, Captain
Ernie Parsons with BFD, Chief of Police Dean Bailey,
and Chief Code Officer, Donald Morgan. ABSENT:
Councilwoman Bullock.

The Mayor called the meeting to order at
6:30 p.m. Council members, Department
Heads and the public joined the meeting
either in person or by WEB-X from their
computer, or by phone, using the weblink
or phone number provided the day of the
meeting on the City's webpage at
Beckley.org or the City's Facebook page.
The Mayor led the Pledge of Allegiance.
Council dispensed with the reading and
approval of minutes from the City
Council meeting dated November 22,
2022, copies of which had been
distributed to each member. Council
unanimously approved the minutes as
written on a motion by Councilman Price
and seconded by Councilman Sopher.
Council dispensed with the reading and
approval of minutes from the Workshop
dated December 5, 2022, copies of which
had been distributed to each member.
Council unanimously approved the

minutes as written on a motion by Councilwoman Hunter and seconded by Councilman Canter.

Next, on the Agenda was the Supplemental Resolution for the Pension Funding Bonds. The Mayor said that due to rising interest rates and changes in the stock market this would be delayed until market conditions improve.

Next, Mr. File read by title only and summarized AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CITY OF BECKLEY ZONING ORDINANCE OF 1971 AND THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN OF THE CITY OF BECKLEY AND THE ZONE MAP OF THE CITY OF BECKLEY, AS FROM TIME TO TIME HAS BEEN AMENDED, TO PROVIDE FOR THE RE-ZONING OF 102 4th STREET, AS SHOWN ON TAX MAP 32, PARCEL 97, BECKLEY CORPORATION, WITHIN THE CITY OF BECKLEY, RALEIGH COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA, FROM "R-1", ONE FAMILY DISTRICT TO "B-1", NEIGHBORHOOD HIGHWAY BUSINESS DISTRICT. Mr. File opened the public hearing. The Mayor announced that if calling by phone dial *3 to raise your hand. If connected by

computer, click the “hand icon” on your participants panel to speak. Danielle Stewart said that she is in favor of the re-zoning. Danielle asked if the entire block at that location will get rezoned or just that specific area. Mr. File said that it only re-zones the property that is described in the ordinance. Danielle asked that even though an insurance company wants to occupy that property, by making it “B-1”, would this allow any authorized business to occupy that location. Mr. File said that is correct. Any permitted use of “B-1” would be appropriate for the property, and the same for any conditional use. There were no other public comments. Mr. File closed the public hearing. The ordinance was unanimously approved by Council on a motion made by Councilman Reedy and seconded by Councilman Sopher. The ordinance is hereby incorporated into these minutes.

Next, Mr. File presented an Ordinance approving the City entering into a non-exclusive franchise agreement with Cebriidge Acquisition, LLC (dba Optimum). Mr. File read the ordinance by title, AN ORDINANCE GRANTING A RENEWED NONEXCLUSIVE FRANCHISE TO CEBRIDGE ACQUISITION, LLC DOING BUSINESS AS OPTIMUM TO CONSTRUCT, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN A CABLE TELEVISION SYSTEM IN THE CITY OF BECKLEY, RALEIGH COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA. Mr. File stated that if approved, this agreement will allow the City to receive five percent of Optimum's gross revenue generated in the City limits. Mr. File stated that this is for a period of five years. Mr. File opened the public hearing. The Mayor announced that if calling by phone dial *3 to raise your hand. If connected by computer, click the "hand icon" on your participants panel to speak. There were no public comments. Mr. File closed the public hearing. The ordinance was unanimously approved by

Council on a motion made by
Councilwoman Hunter and seconded by
Councilman Sopher. The ordinance and
the agreement are hereby incorporated
into these minutes.

Next, Mr. File read by title a
RESOLUTION APPROVING AN
INTERGOVERNMENTAL
AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE
RALEIGH COUNTY COMMISSION,
THE CITY OF BECKLEY, AND THE
RALEIGH COUNTY SOLID WASTE
AUTHORITY. Mr. File said that the
owner of the property is responsible for
the cost of the demolition. The City is not
required to pay the Raleigh County Solid
Waste Authority for the cost of the
demolition until the owner of the property
pays the City. The City would then pay
the Raleigh County Solid Waste
Authority. Mr. File said that this is a
resolution that Council approves annually.
The resolution was unanimously
approved by Council on a motion made
by Councilman Canter and seconded by

Councilman Price. The resolution is
hereby incorporated into these minutes.

Next, Mr. File read a resolution in its entirety regarding a potential partnership between the City and County on the proposed development of an outdoor athletic complex in which the City will consider contributing three million dollars if the State of West Virginia contributes twenty million dollars, and the Raleigh County Commission agrees to contribute up to three million dollars. The resolution was unanimously approved by Council on a motion made by Councilman Price and seconded by Councilwoman Hunter. The Mayor said that the resolution describes the caveats that would need to take place by the State and County before the City would agree to contribute three million dollars towards the athletic complex. Mr. File said that before any funds from the City would be contributed, the matter would be discussed and decided by Council at that time. The resolution is hereby incorporated into these minutes.

Next was the receiving and opening of bids for the Outdoor Economic Development Master Plan. The only bid received was by Destination By Design

with a grand total ranging from two hundred seventy-seven thousand, one hundred dollars to three hundred thirty-seven thousand, one hundred dollars, depending on what services are needed.

The City's Director of Outdoor Economic Development Corey Lilly explained that the bid includes a price range which allows the City to customize and select from a variety of products and services offered by Destination By Design. They Mayor said that Destination By Design has agreed to work concurrently with the City on other projects, while working towards a plan for branding for the City of Beckley. The bid was forwarded to Recorder-Treasurer Billie Trump, Councilwoman at Large Sherrie Hunter, Councilman at Large Cody Reedy, and the City of Beckley Outdoor Economic Director Corey Lilly for further review and possible award at a future Council meeting. The bid is hereby incorporated into these minutes.

Next on the Agenda was the receipt and opening of bids for the refurbishment of tennis courts at New River Park and the conversion of tennis courts into pickleball courts at New River Park. The first bid was from ASE Asphalt Surface Enterprises, Inc. in the amount of sixty-eight thousand dollars. The Mayor said that pickleball has become huge across the nation and Dave Barksdale has

done a wonderful job with pickleball in our area. The
bid from ASE is hereby incorporated into these minutes.

The next bid received was from Innovative Sport Surfacing, LLC in the amount of fifty-seven thousand, nine hundred fifty-five dollars. This bid is hereby incorporated into these minutes. Mr. File stated that the bid is to be sealed and it will take further consideration to see if the bid may or may not be considered.

The final bid is from Exterior Services SWV, Inc. in the amount of sixty-four thousand, three hundred seven dollars and fifty cents. The bid from Exterior Services SWV, Inc. is hereby incorporated into these minutes.

These bids will be given to Councilwoman at Large Hunter, Councilman at Large Reedy, Recorder Treasurer Billie Trump, and Parks & Rec. Director Leslie Baker for possible award at a future Council meeting.

OLD BUSINESS: Councilman Dunlap asked if the facilities on Ewart Avenue could be repurposed. He said young children live in that area who could use it as a park/entertainment area, and it would be within walking distance for them just as the Youth Museum and Exhibition Coal Mines are. The Mayor said this has been a topic of discussion over the years and Ewart Avenue suffers from serious Stormwater and drainage problems and some erosion of the tennis courts has occurred. There has been interest in putting an outdoor theatre there. The Mayor said that in the 1980's a significant amount of money was invested in those tennis courts to have them refurbished. Due to the erosion of the courts, Stormwater, and drainage issues this has become a storage area for parks and recreation. The Mayor said that Ewart Avenue is a prominent location and somewhat of a problem location. The Mayor said in the past, a suggestion was made to put a go cart track there. However, the neighbors were not in favor due to the increase in noise it would produce. Councilman Dunlap said noise barrier walls could be used. He suggested that the City put something there for kids to enjoy. Mr. Dunlap also said Hargrove Street has dilapidated structures and with temperatures dropping people are going in under porches. He can't imagine how frustrating this is for the City's law enforcement officers being put in harm's way by repeatedly clearing out a dilapidated house. The Mayor said that Hargrove Street has been a problem for quite some time, and he is asking Code officials to look into it.

NEW BUSINESS: No new business was discussed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: No public comments were made.

Mr. File asked if Council would meet December 27, 2022. The Mayor said no.

With there being no further comments the Mayor adjourned the meeting at 7:07 p.m.

Mayor
Recorder-Treasurer