A REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BECKLEY CONVENED AT 6:30 PM ON MARCH 26, 2024, IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS AND VIA WEB-X.

PRESENT: Mayor Robert R. Rappold, Recorder-Treasurer Billie Trump, City Attorney Bill File, and Secretary Susan Miller. Council Members: Janine Bullock, Kevin Price, Robert Dunlap, Tom Sopher, Sherrie Hunter, Bob Canter, and Cody Reedy. The following City employees were present: Director of IT Bill Kelly, Assistant Director of IT Amy Evans, Anthony Martin (IT), Chief Coughlin of BFD, Board of Public Works (BPW) Director Pam Frey, Chief of BPD Dean Bailey, Director of Parks & Recreation Leslie Baker, and Chief Code Enforcement Officer Donald Morgan.

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. The public had the option to join the meeting either in person or listen by WEB-X from their computer, or listen 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.

Council dispensed with the reading of the minutes from the regular City Council meeting dated March 12, 2024, 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 Dunlap.

OLD BUSINESS: Councilwoman Bullock acknowledged that a building in Columbia, SC was named after Dr. Roslyn Clark Artis. Councilman at Large Reedy made a motion to have a Workshop regarding Seed Sower and

Fruits of Labor's (FOL) lease agreements prepared or discuss the possibility of selling the building. The motion was seconded by Councilman Sopher and unanimously approved by Council. The Mayor said Jay Phillips (Executive Director of Seed Sower) and Tammy Jordan (President of FOL) should be at the Workshop. The Mayor said a Workshop will be scheduled soon.

Councilman Dunlap invited the public to attend a WVU Tech Campus Corridor meeting Thursday, March 28th at 5:30 at 410 Neville Street regarding the Streetscape Project. Councilman Sopher said the meeting will be a question and answer type of meeting in order to allow the public's input.

NEW BUSINESS: No comments.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Mary West asked for help on Larew Avenue with speeding drivers. Christy Lilly requested that the City work to find more activities and events for the youth. She said a large sports complex in the City would be helpful.

Councilman Sopher encouraged her to reach out to Captain Liz Blusiewicz of the Salvation Army. Chief Bailey of the Beckley Police Department (BPD) said

the new DARE Program is available for kids. Tom Mosley asked if the building located at 100 Washington Street could be given back to the residents of East Park to utilize as a community center. Chris Kincaid said Soaring Hope Animal Rescue will be giving out vouchers for animals to be spayed or neutered. She said Soaring Hope Animal Rescue partners with Animal Control in Raleigh County. Detlif Ulfers asked the City to match a $5K donation made by the County Commission to help with the cost of getting animals spayed and neutered. Councilman Dunlap asked if residents in City limits have dogs or cats needing this service would qualify or is this only for residents of the County. Detlif said that he thinks animals in the City and County quality. Chris Kincaid said that in the past she presented a voucher (as a City resident) and it was honored without any problems. The Mayor said that this may be a topic included in the upcoming Workshop. The Mayor said that the City's administration is in favor of matching the $5K contribution from the Raleigh County Commission. The Mayor said he thinks the City contributes about $60K annually to the Raleigh County

Humane Society. Recorder-Treasurer Billie Trump said that the City is one of the financial supporters of Soaring Hope. The Mayor asked if there were any other comments. There were no further comments. Council unanimously approved adjournment on a motion made by Councilwoman Bullock and seconded by Councilman Dunlap. The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 6:55 p.m.

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Mayor
Recorder-Treasurer