

January 24, 2017

A regular meeting of the Council of the Town of Bedford, Virginia, was held in the Council Hall of the Municipal Building at 7:00 p.m., January 24, 2017.

Members present: Mayor Robert T Wandrei; Vice Mayor Tim Black; Councilman Stacey L. Hailey; Councilman Bruce M. Johannessen; Councilman Steve C. Rush; Councilman Bryan Schley; and Councilman James A. Vest

Members absent: None

Staff present: Town Manager Charles P. Kolakowski; Town Attorney W. W. Berry, IV; and Clerk of the Council Teresa W. Hatcher

Mayor Wandrei opened the meeting and led all present in saying the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The Mayor declared that the minutes of the following Council meetings held on September 27, 2016, and November 8, 2016, were approved as corrected.

Mayor Wandrei declared that the minutes of a called Council meeting held on January 3, 2017, and the minutes of a regular Council meeting held on January 10, 2017, were approved as distributed.

Town Manager Kolakowski reported on the following:

- A suggestion has been made that staff provide an update to Council on capital projects - beginning in February Council will be receiving quarterly reports on all the capital projects within the different departments.
- The Bedford Hospice House received its first patient last week. The Hospice House began operation on January 16, 2017.
- Oakwood Manor Rehabilitation Center is commencing its \$800,000 improvement to a number of its rooms to convert some of the old rooms into private rooms.
- Bedford Memorial Hospital approved a \$4,000,000 improvement and expansion of its emergency room and the entrance to the emergency department. This will be providing expanded and updated services for that very vital area which continues a significant investment by Centra in that facility.

Mayor Wandrei presented service awards to the following Town employees:

- 5 years service: Bill Boucher; David Fredericks
- 10 years service: Lisa Bryant; Jeremy Garten; Charles Kolakowski; Shannon Phillips
- 15 years service: Neil Baltzelle
- 20 years service: Todd Foreman; Andy Laxton; Perry West
- 25 years service: Wayne Hale

January 24, 2017

Councilman Schley thanked the Chief and the first responders for the work that was done at the recent tragic fire.

Councilman Rush asked the Town Manager the status of the Liberty Lake ball field rehab.

Town Manager Kolakowski reported the staff will be trying to get together with the other organizations that the Town is going to partner with to see if they want to proceed with the rehab, as it is not necessary for the Liberty High School varsity team at this point. It will be determined if those organizations want to continue with the project for the B Team use.

Councilman Johannessen spoke about the need for smoke alarms and checking the alarms on a regular basis due to the recent fires. He said that hopefully Council will have some input into providing more smoke alarms around the area for some of the people who cannot afford them.

Mayor Wandrei expressed appreciation for the first responders, particularly the Police Department, and the Fire Department also.

The Mayor said that members of Council had received a notice of the annual Chamber of Commerce dinner to be held in March and asked those going to notify Debra Anderson if they are attending.

Vice Mayor Black, Chairman of the Finance Committee, reported the committee met on January 23. He reviewed highlights of the meeting: the FY 2017-2018 budget will be given to Council on February 14; the budget retreat will be on February 21; discussed the 12% increase in health insurance premiums; reviewed financial reports and restricted accounts.

Councilman Vest, Chairman of the Electric Committee, stated that Electric Director Wagner gave an orientation for the new Council members at the Electric Committee meeting.

The Town Manager reported there are presently two vacancies on the Economic Development Authority. Elmer Hodge has expressed an interest to serve on the Authority if appointed by Council. The vacancies have been advertised in the local newspaper. Council was requested to appoint Elmer Hodge to the Economic Development Authority, said term to expire November 30, 2020.

On motion by Councilman Vest, seconded by Councilman Hailey, voted upon and carried unanimously by a roll call vote, Council appointed Elmer Hodge to the Economic Development Authority, said term to expire November 30, 2020. Roll call vote follows:

January 24, 2017

Vice Mayor Black	aye
Councilman Hailey	aye
Councilman Johannessen	aye
Councilman Rush	aye
Councilman Schley	aye
Councilman Vest	aye
Mayor Wandrei	aye

The Mayor reported that Council has received additions to the budget requests from Bedford Community Garden and the Chamber of Commerce.

The following individuals gave presentations regarding FY 2016-17 budget requests for their organizations; spoke about activities of the organizations; and answered questions raised by members of Council.

- Patty Jurkus - Bedford Area Chamber of Commerce
- Jim Messier - Bedford Main Street, Inc.
- Linda Brake, Program Director - Bedford Ride
- April Cheek-Messier, President - National D-Day Memorial Foundation
- Doug Cooper, Director, Bedford Museum and Genealogical Library and Jennifer Thompson, Head Librarian
- John Stafford, Executive Director - Bower Center for the Arts
- Fred Duis - The Wharton Memorial Foundation
- Jim Revell and Lee Walker - Bedford Urban Garden, Inc.

Mayor Wandrei adjourned the meeting at 8:00 p.m.