

4-27-93 Minutes

A regular meeting of the Council of the City of Bedford, Virginia, was held in the Council Hall of the Municipal Building at 7:30 p.m., April 27, 1993.

Members present: Mayor G. Michael Shelton; Councilman Larry D. Brookshier; Councilwoman Joanne A. Grahame; Councilman Payton M. Otey; Councilman Ronnie C. Rice; Councilman W. D. Tharp; and Vice Mayor James A. Vest.

Members absent: None.

Staff present: City Manager Jack A. Gross; City Attorney W. W. Berry, IV; and Clerk of the Council Teresa W. Hatcher.

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

Mayor Shelton declared that the minutes of a regular Council meeting held on April 13, 1993, were approved as mailed.

The Consent Agenda consisted of the following item:

Appointment of H. D. (Dave) Ballard, 995 Ashland Avenue, to the City Planning Commission to fill an unexpired term which will expire March 31, 1996.

On motion by Vice Mayor Vest, seconded by Councilman Tharp, voted upon and carried unanimously, the Consent Agenda was approved.

Miss Kate Boyd, Recycling Coordinator, presented an update on the curbside recycling program to date. Miss Boyd reported that all 2,000 recycling bins have been delivered and that the program will begin on May 3rd.

Discussion ensued.

The City Manager reported that Council had received a memorandum from Brenda Daniel, Commissioner of the Revenue, listing the bids received for the reassessment of real estate during Fiscal Year 1993-94. The lowest bid is from Old Dominion Appraisal Company in the amount of \$23,630. Mr. Gross indicated that funds to cover the cost of the reassessment have been included in the FY 1993-94 budget.

Councilman Grahame moved that Council accept the proposal of Old Dominion Appraisal Company and authorize the City Manager to contract with Old Dominion Appraisal Company to perform the City's 1993-94 reassessment of real estate. The motion was seconded by Councilman Otey.

Discussion ensued regarding the low bid of Old Dominion Appraisal Company. Members of Council expressed concern that this is a new company and suggested that the Commissioner monitor the company's performance during the reassessment process. It was also suggested that the contract include language that would require the appraisal company to submit reports on a regular basis to be reviewed by City officials. Councilman Tharp asked that a report be made back to Council on the process.

The motion accepting the proposal of Old Dominion Appraisal Company was then voted upon and carried unanimously.

The City Manager stated that Council had received a letter from Elizabeth Berry-Mosley, Executive Director of Bedford Main Street, Inc., requesting permission to block the following streets from 11:00 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. on May 22, 1993 (rain date: May 29) for the Second Annual Bedford Main Street Go-Kart Race in Centertown:

Washington Street between South and Center Streets; Main Street between Court and Ballard Streets; South Street between Washington and Main Streets; Center Street between Washington and Main Streets. Also closed to through traffic will be: East Main Street from Otey Street to Court Street; West Main Street from Ballard Street to Crenshaw Street; Washington Street from Center Street to Crenshaw Street and from South Street to Otey Street; and North and South Bridge Streets from Washington Street to Depot Street.

City Manager Gross stated that Bedford Main Street, Inc., has received signed permission forms from 85 of 90 businesses in the affected area and will contact the remaining businesses before the race date. Mr. Gross recommended that Council approve the closing of the streets with the understanding that Main Street will receive the ninety percent required signatures.

Councilman Tharp moved that Council approve the closing of the aforementioned streets from 11:00 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. on May 22, 1993, (rain date: May 29) for the Go-Kart Race. The motion was seconded by Councilman Rice, voted upon and carried unanimously.

The Clerk of Council read aloud the following proposed resolution:

Resolution

Central Virginia Community College

Community College Month

April, 1993

WHEREAS, Central Virginia Community College has served the educational needs of citizens in Central Virginia including the cities of Bedford and Lynchburg, and the counties of Amherst, Appomattox, Bedford, and Campbell for twenty-five years; and

WHEREAS, with academic excellence its aim in all areas, the college offers 33 programs to meet the diverse needs of the region it serves, and fulfills a vital function in the state's higher education system, and

WHEREAS, the college provides Central Virginia residents with skills needed for good jobs, training for business and industry, college transfer courses, educational support services, and a variety of cultural services; and

WHEREAS, since 1967 Central Virginia Community College has educated over 60,000 students of all ages and backgrounds with programs to help them meet their professional goals; and

WHEREAS, Central Virginia Community College is entering an exciting decade with greater challenges and a new set of goals;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Bedford recognizes Central Virginia Community College throughout the month of April 1993 during Community College Month, and we call the significance of this public, quality, low-cost, post-secondary education to the attention of all our citizens.

Councilwoman Grahame moved that the resolution be adopted. The motion was seconded by Councilman Tharp, voted upon and carried unanimously by the following roll call vote:

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| Councilman Brookshier | aye |
| Councilwoman Grahame | aye |
| Councilman Otey | aye |
| Councilman Rice | aye |
| Councilman Tharp | aye |
| Vice Mayor Vest | aye |
| Mayor Shelton | aye |

City Manager Gross stated that members of Council have received a memorandum from Marian Talley, Aftercare Coordinator at Carder-Tharp Funeral Home, Inc., requesting that the City donate two adult cemetery spaces for burials of infant cremains. Mr. Gross indicated that the Property Committee concurs with the request. The City Manager stated that the two spaces to be used are unsuitable for regular burials.

Councilman Rice moved that Council approve the donation of two adult cemetery spaces for the purpose of burying infant cremated remains. The motion was seconded by Councilman Otey, voted upon and carried, six members voting aye, one member (Tharp) abstaining.

The City Manager stated that Council had received copies of the Audit Report prepared by Firebaugh & Berry, Inc., for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1992. Mr. Gross stated that this audit report has been accepted by the Commonwealth of Virginia Auditor of Public Accounts.

Councilwoman Grahame moved that Council accept the Audit Report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1992. The motion was seconded by Councilman Tharp, and after a brief discussion, was voted upon and carried unanimously.

The City Manager stated that Council has received a draft of the preliminary budget for Fiscal Year 1993-94. Mr. Gross indicated that the annual financial plan proposes the balanced revenues and expenditures for the next fiscal year. The City Manager reported that the budget being recommended provides:

(a) Continuation of the development of all of the City's ongoing essential projects. These include \$25,000 in support of the Main Street project; \$2,315,568 for debt service (General Fund - \$891,712; Water & Sewer Fund - \$217,306; Electric Fund - \$1,206,550); and \$2,873,726 for the County contract for schools.

(b) No reduction in any services presently being offered to the citizens.

(c)No proposed increase in real estate tax rate.

(d)No proposed increases in business taxes or licenses.

(e)No increases in personal property tax.

(f)Increase in the Motor Vehicle License from \$10.00 annually to \$15.00 annually. This results in an increase of revenue of approximately \$25,000 annually.

(g)No increase in other user fees.

Mr. Barry Thompson, Assistant to the City Manager, reviewed charts of the proposed budget which included the following figures:

Cash carry over - \$ 1,584,000 Expenditures - \$20,716,427

Revenues - \$21,197,283 Contingency - \$ 1,064,856

Council concurred to hold a work session on the proposed budget on May 10, 1993, at 7:00 p.m.

On motion by Councilman Tharp, seconded by Councilman Otey, voted upon and carried unanimously by the following roll call vote, Council adjourned into executive session for the purpose of: evaluation of City Manager and City Attorney, and discussion of possible acquisition of real estate, pursuant to Sections 2.1-344(a)(1) and 2.1-344(a)(3), of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended:

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| Councilwoman Grahame | aye |
| Councilman Otey | aye |
| Councilman Rice | aye |
| Councilman Tharp | aye |
| Vice Mayor Vest | aye |
| Councilman Brookshier | aye |
| Mayor Shelton | aye |

Council adjourned into executive session at 8:40 p.m. Non-council members attending were: City Manager Gross and City Attorney Berry.

Council reconvened into open session at 10:45 p.m.

The Clerk of Council read aloud the following proposed resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Bedford hereby certifies that, to the best of

each member's knowledge, (1) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the executive meeting to which this certification resolution applies, and (2) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the executive meeting were heard, discussed or considered by the Council.

Councilwoman Grahame moved that the resolution be adopted. The motion was seconded by Councilman Tharp, voted upon and carried unanimously by the following roll call vote:

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| Councilman Otey | aye |
| Councilman Rice | aye |
| Councilman Tharp | aye |
| Vice Mayor Vest | aye |
| Councilman Brookshier | aye |
| Councilwoman Grahame | aye |
| Mayor Shelton | aye |

Mayor Shelton adjourned the meeting at 10:46 p.m. until May 10, 1993, at 7:00 p.m. for a work session on the proposed 1993-94 budget and an executive session on the possible acquisition of real estate.