

## 6-8-93 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., June 8, 1993.

Members present: Mayor G. Michael Shelton (arrived at 7:31 p.m.); 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.

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

Mayor Shelton arrived at 7:31 p.m.

Mayor Shelton declared that the minutes of a regular Council meeting held on May 25, 1993, were approved as mailed.

City Manager Gross reported on the damages caused by the storm that passed through the area on June 4. Mr. Gross indicated that approximately 40 customers will be without power for one more day. The City Manager expressed appreciation for the electric crews from Harrisonburg and Danville for assisting the City's crews in restoring electric service to the City's customers.

Councilman Rice asked that a meeting of the Solid Waste Committee be held regarding the new recycling program, the refuse collection schedule, and problems with the recycling program.

Councilman Rice spoke of problems that occurred following the storm such as poor planning and poor communications. Councilman Brookshier stated that the Electric Committee is to meet to evaluate the situation.

Councilman Rice expressed appreciation for the services of the Police Department, Fire Department, and Life Saving Crew during the aftermath of the storm.

Councilman Tharp requested evaluations from the Electric Department and the City as far as the whole system and the response system as a result of the storm.

Vice Mayor Vest expressed appreciation from Mr. & Mrs. Winston Burks, College Street, for the City's assistance.

Councilman Brookshier stated that as of this morning the problem of trash collection at a local day care center had not been addressed. Councilman Brookshier asked that someone contact the day care center on Longwood Avenue regarding the problem. Councilman Brookshier also spoke of the trash collection schedule for businesses.

Mayor Shelton asked that letters be prepared from City Council to the City of Harrisonburg, the Harrisonburg Electric Commission, and the City of Danville thanking them for honoring the mutual aid agreement by providing their assistance in sending electric crews to aid in restoring electric service to the City's customers.

On behalf of Council, Mayor Shelton expressed gratitude for assistance after the storm to the employees of the Electric Department, the employees of the Public Works Department, the City staff and administration, the Police Department, the Life Saving Crew, Councilman Rice for helping the Life Saving Crew, volunteers, the Fire Department, and the citizens.

The Clerk of Council read aloud the following public hearing notice:

### **NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to Section 22.1-29.1 of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended, the City Council of the City of Bedford will hold a public hearing at 7:30 p.m. on June 8, 1993, in the Council Hall of the Municipal Building, for the purpose of receiving the views of citizens on the appointment of members to the City School Board.

Mayor Shelton opened the public hearing at 8:01 p.m. The Mayor stated that the following individuals have expressed interest in appointment to the three seats that will be open on the City School Board effective July 1, 1993: Diana Bare, Elizabeth Bailey, Molly Thompson, and Amy McKinney.

As there were no comments, Mayor Shelton closed the public hearing at 8:02 p.m.

Council will interview the applicants for appointment to the School Board at the next regular meeting during an executive session.

City Manager Gross stated that Council had received copies of changes in the proposed budget that reflect an addition of \$60,000 into the contingency fund, from \$1,063,325 to \$1,123,993.

The Clerk of Council read aloud the following proposed ordinance:

### **ORDINANCE**

**BE IT ORDAINED** by the Council of the City of Bedford, Virginia, that there be, and is hereby levied for the fiscal year 1993-94, a tax of \$.71 per one hundred dollars of assessed valuation on all taxable real estate located in the City, the respective levy hereby ordered being also applicable to the real estate and tangible personal property of public service corporations within the limitations specified by Section 28.1-2606 of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended, based upon the assessment thereof fixed by the State Corporation Commission and duly certified.

Vice Mayor Vest moved that the ordinance be adopted. The motion was seconded by Councilman Tharp, voted upon and carried by the following roll call vote:

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

The Clerk of Council read aloud the following proposed ordinance:

**ORDINANCE**

**BE IT ORDAINED** by the Council of the City of Bedford, Virginia, that there be, and is hereby levied, for the calendar year 1993, a tax of \$1.50 per one hundred dollars of one hundred per centum (100%) of assessed value on all taxable tangible personal property, including property separately classified in Section 58.1-3503 of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended, unless exempted from taxation or subject to a different rate under this ordinance. Household goods and personal effects as classified in Section 58.1-3504 and horses, mules and other kindred animals, hogs, poultry, grains and other feeds used for the nurture of farm animals, grain and tobacco as such items are classified in Section 58.1-3505 are exempted in whole from tangible personal property taxation. The following items are taxed at a levy of \$1.30 per one hundred dollars of one hundred per centum (100%) of the assessed valuation: (a) cattle, sheep and goats, and farm machinery and farm implements as separately classified in Section 58.1-3505; and (b) machinery and tools as separately classified in Section 58.1-3507.

Councilwoman Grahame moved that the ordinance be adopted. The motion was seconded by Councilman Brookshier. After a brief discussion, the motion was voted upon and carried unanimously by the following roll call vote:

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

Mayor Shelton

aye

The Clerk of Council read aloud the following proposed ordinance:

### **ORDINANCE**

**BE IT ORDAINED** that the City Council of the City of Bedford, Virginia, hereby directs that the funds as set out in the budget for Fiscal Year 1993-94 for the City of Bedford are appropriated and set aside to the General Fund, to the Water and Sewer Fund, to the Electric Fund, and to the Contingency Fund as shown in said budget, and that the City Manager is authorized to expend the funds in the General Fund, Water and Sewer Fund, and Electric Fund in accordance with said budget and in accordance with prior appropriations.

Councilman Tharp moved that the ordinance be adopted. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Grahame.

Discussion ensued with Councilmen Brookshier, Rice, and Otey expressing their opposition to the \$5.00 increase in motor vehicle licenses in the proposed budget.

Mayor Shelton stated that five affirmative votes are required to appropriate funds and asked Councilman Tharp if he wished to withdraw his motion to adopt the proposed ordinance. Councilman Tharp indicated that he did not.

Further discussion ensued.

The motion was then voted upon by the following roll call vote and did not pass:

Councilman Otey                      nay

Councilman Rice                      nay

Councilman Tharp                      aye

Vice Mayor Vest                      aye

Councilman Brookshier              nay

Councilwoman Grahame              aye

Mayor Shelton                              aye

Councilwoman Grahame asked that the minutes reflect that if the need to increase the motor vehicle license fee is proven at any time that the councilmen in opposition will vote yes for an increase (as per discussion earlier in the meeting). Councilmen Brookshier and Otey agreed with Councilwoman Grahame's statement.

On motion by Councilman Tharp, seconded by Councilwoman Grahame, voted upon and carried unanimously, the following item was added to the agenda: Work session on proposed 1993-94 budget.

City Manager Gross stated that it was Council's direction at the last regular Council meeting that an appropriate resolution be prepared providing for the issuance and sale of general obligations bonds for the construction of a library and so that the Mayor and he could make the decision on the purchase of the bonds rather than call a special Council meeting.

Councilman Brookshier moved that Council waive the reading of the proposed resolution providing for the issuance and sale of general obligation bonds for the construction of a library. The motion was seconded by Councilman Tharp, voted upon, and carried unanimously.

Councilman Tharp moved that Council adopt the resolution providing for issuance and sale of bonds. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Grahame, voted upon, and carried unanimously by the following roll call vote:

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

(THE ORDINANCE WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE PERMANENT MINUTE BOOK)

Mr. Dave Thomas spoke to Council regarding the sightseers riding around the City after the storm and the problems they caused by the increased traffic.

Discussion ensued regarding the proposed 1993-94 budget and motor vehicle licenses.

Councilman Brookshier moved that there be no increase in the price of decals (motor vehicle licenses); that the decals remain as is, \$10.00; and that the staff reduce the budget wherever they choose by the amount that that would have generated, approximately \$25,000. The motion was seconded by Councilman Rice.

The City Manager clarified that the amount Council would be appropriating would be \$9,386,784 - General Fund expenditures. The Assistant to the City Manager, Barry Thompson, stated that the estimated total revenues in the General Fund would be \$10,510,777, and the contingency would be \$1,123,993.

Mayor Shelton clarified Councilman Brookshier's motion as follows: that the final budget be reduced by \$25,000, on both the revenue and expenditure sides; and that the \$10.00 auto decal fee remain in the 1993-94 budget. Councilman Brookshier agreed.

Councilman Brookshier's motion was then voted upon and carried, six members voting aye, one member (Vest) voting nay.

On motion by Councilman Tharp, seconded by Councilwoman Grahame, voted upon and carried by a roll

call vote, Council adopted the proposed ordinance appropriating funds as set out in the budget for Fiscal Year 1993-94 and authorizing the City Manager to expend the funds in accordance with said budget. Roll call vote follows:

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

The ordinance was read aloud earlier in the meeting. The ordinance follows as adopted:

#### **ORDINANCE**

**BE IT ORDAINED** that the City Council of the City of Bedford, Virginia, hereby directs that the funds as set out in the budget for Fiscal Year 1993-94 for the City of Bedford are appropriated and set aside to the General Fund, to the Water and Sewer Fund, to the Electric Fund, and to the Contingency Fund as shown in said budget, and that the City Manager is authorized to expend the funds in the General Fund, Water and Sewer Fund, and Electric Fund in accordance with said budget and in accordance with prior appropriations.

Mayor Shelton adjourned the meeting at 8:56 p.m.