

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., January 28, 1997.

Members present: Mayor G. Michael Shelton; Councilman H. Davis Ballard; Vice Mayor Larry D. Brookshier; Councilwoman Mary L. Flood; Councilwoman Linda Kochendarfer; Councilman W. D. Tharp; and Councilman Robert T. Wandrei.

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 January 14, 1997, were approved as distributed.

Mayor Shelton stated that members of Council and the City School Board will be receiving a memorandum from the Director of Planning & Community Development regarding an invitation to be part of a session on February 12 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers with the architectural and engineering firm who is doing the work on the Middle School Master Plan. The A & E Selection Committee is also asked to attend.

Ms. Molly Thompson, Chairman of the City School Board, called the Board meeting to order.

Ms. Thompson reported that the City School Board had a joint meeting with the County School Board on January 16 with emphasis of the meeting being discussion of facilities and the upcoming school budget:

1. facilities at the Primary School and at Liberty High School - both schools are in the five-year Capital Improvement Plan for renovations. The Primary School is scheduled to receive additional classrooms and a gym. The high school will be reroofed, get air conditioning, and receive a general upgrade.
2. the per pupil expenditure (\$4,700 per student) for Bedford County Schools is the lowest in the state; however, the County is in the top third in the ability to pay.

Members of the School Board reviewed the following issues with Council and discussion ensued.

Ms. Mickey Vanderwerker spoke regarding Bedford Elementary School:

- The need for two more classrooms in the 1997-98 school year.
- Mobile units - Bedford County would provide mobiles and the City would maintain the mobiles; the proposed location of the mobiles was noted; the mobiles would not be needed when the sixth grade goes to the middle school and could be moved.

Mayor Shelton indicated the topic of the mobile units will be discussed at the Council planning meeting in February.

Ms. Diana Bare spoke about the success of the Safe Haven Program at Raintree Apartments and the need for funding for this program.

- Ms. Bare indicated that the City School Board feels this is an important

program and would like to have support from Council for the Safe Haven Program.

Assistant City Manager Thompson indicated that Marty Williams will be present at the next Council meeting to make a presentation on the Safe Haven Program.

Ms. Janice Martinez spoke regarding the upcoming budget:

- noted the per pupil expenditure by the County as previously reported by Ms. Thompson
- It is consensus of the City School Board to support the County School Board budget and to request Council to help in supporting the school budget when it is presented to the Board of Supervisors.

Discussion ensued regarding the Goals 2000 money.

Ms. Thompson spoke regarding the condition of the roof at Bedford Middle School:

- The Board is concerned that nothing has been done to correct the roof problem - materials, computers, and the building have been damaged.

City Manager Gross explained that Council had received a memorandum from the Director of Planning & Community Development which recommends hiring an engineering firm to evaluate the two solutions submitted by the consultants who inspected the roof.

The City Manager stated that funds are included in the current budget to hire an engineering firm. Funds will be included in the proposed 1997-98 budget for the work to repair the roof.

Ms. Thompson adjourned the City School Board meeting.

Ms. Faye K. Straub, Director of "Fair by the James," explained that the "Fair" is a partnership with the Greater Lynchburg Chamber of Commerce and central Virginia jurisdictions. It will be held May 22-26 in Lynchburg at the downtown festival area. Ms. Straub indicated that the objective of the "Fair" is to conduct a public educational and entertainment event that is unique to this area with the support of the local communities, governments, organizations, businesses, and industries encompassing agricultural and educational activities, arts and crafts, rides, musical entertainment, and food and games concessionaires.

Ms. Stevie Dovel, Director of Tourism for the Greater Lynchburg Chamber of Commerce, spoke in support of the "Fair."

On motion by Councilman Tharp, seconded by Councilwoman Flood, voted upon and carried unanimously by a roll call vote, Council adopted the resolution in support of "Fair by the James." Roll call vote follows:

Councilman Ballard aye

Vice Mayor Brookshier aye

Councilwoman Flood aye

Councilwoman Kochendarfer aye

Councilman Tharp aye

Councilman Wandrei aye

Mayor Shelton aye

The resolution follows as adopted:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the "Fair by the James" is a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting youth education, agriculture and commerce in the Central Virginia Region;

WHEREAS, the Fair's primary goal is to enhance learning opportunities for youth in the Central Virginia Region through the provision of educational scholarships;

WHEREAS, the "Fair by the James" offers an educational and entertainment venue to the citizens of the Region and provides them the opportunity to showcase their skills and talents in a wholesome manner;

WHEREAS, the parent corporation to the "Fair by the James," the Atlantic Rural Exposition, Inc., of Virginia, was established in 1946 and has a proven track record for innovative community developments in support of cultural and educational endeavors;

WHEREAS, the "Fair by the James" is committed to working collaboratively with communities, governments, organizations, businesses and industries to assure maximum Regional involvement in this event;

WHEREAS, the Fair will have a positive economic impact on the Region, and

WHEREAS, the Greater Lynchburg Chamber of Commerce has entered into partnership with the "Fair by the James" to produce a quality event worthy of the Central Virginia Region's established reputation,

BE IT RESOLVED that the **CITY OF BEDFORD** pledges to join other jurisdictions in support of the "Fair by the James" for socioeconomically enriching the Central Virginia Region while fostering regionalization among localities.

Mr. Tom Hehman, Director of the Bedford Public Library System, stated that Mrs. Nancy Henry, former Treasurer of the Bedford Public Library Foundation, would present a check in the amount of \$25,000 to the City, which is the final payment on a total of more than \$270,000 advanced by the City against pledges made to the Capital Campaign for the construction of the Bedford Central Library.

Mrs. Henry presented the check to Mayor Shelton.

The City Manager stated that Council had received copies of the Audit Report for fiscal year ended June 30, 1996.

On motion by Councilwoman Kochendarfer, seconded by Councilwoman Flood, voted upon and carried unanimously, Council accepted the Audit Report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1996.

City Manager Gross stated the City's second Total Quality Management Team has completed the Quality First Program at Central Virginia Community College.

The Team consisted of the following employees: Glen Boyer, Donald Preston, Edward Broesamle, Mike Smith, Dean Dickson, Leonard Whorley, and Dianne Flake, Advisor/Mentor.

The team believes that its work can make Bedford a better place to work by improving employee moral, which will result in a better quality of service for Bedford's citizens. The objective of the project is to improve the quality of communications, especially instructions between City employees and their department heads and immediate supervisors. Members of the team reported on the findings of their project.

City Manager Gross spoke of the success of the Quality First Program.

Councilman Tharp moved that Council adjourn into executive session pursuant to Section 2.1-344(a)(7) of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended, for consultation with legal counsel and staff concerning pending litigation - Ratcliff v. City of Bedford. The motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Brookshier.

The City Manager stated that members of Council have been invited to a dinner meeting with localities in the Region 2000 area on February 20. Several members of Council indicated that they would be able to attend the meeting.

The motion to adjourn into executive session was then voted upon and carried unanimously by the following roll call vote:

Vice Mayor Brookshier aye

Councilwoman Flood aye

Councilwoman Kochendarfer aye

Councilman Tharp aye

Councilman Wandrei aye

Councilman Ballard aye

Mayor Shelton aye

Council adjourned into executive session at 9:16 p.m. Non-council members attending were: City Manager Gross, City Attorney Berry, Electric Utility Director Ratzlaff, and Clerk of the Council Hatcher.

Council reconvened into open session at 9:20 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 (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.

Vice Mayor Brookshier moved that the resolution be adopted. The motion was seconded by Councilman Ballard, voted upon and carried unanimously by the following roll call vote:

Councilwoman Flood aye

Councilwoman Kochendarfer aye

Councilman Tharp aye

Councilman Wandrei aye

Councilman Ballard aye

Vice Mayor Brookshier aye

Mayor Shelton aye

Mayor Shelton adjourned the meeting at 9:29 p.m.