

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., November 10, 1997.

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

Members absent: Councilman W. D. Tharp.

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 an adjourned Council meeting held on October 28, 1997, and the minutes of a regular Council meeting held on October 28, 1997, were approved as distributed.

Mayor Shelton reminded Council of the planning meeting scheduled for November 22 at 9:00 a.m. at Avenel.

The Consent Agenda consisted of the following item: Appointment of Gordon B. Eubank, Jr., and G. E. Murray, Jr., to four-year terms on the Industrial Development Authority, said terms to expire November 30, 2001.

On motion by Councilwoman Kochendarfer, seconded by Councilman Ballard, voted upon and carried, Council adopted the Consent Agenda.

City Manager Gross indicated Council had received a final draft of the Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Agreement. This agreement takes into account the changes made to the VA CODE ANN. §15.1-159.7 by House Bill 2099 which was enacted in the 1997 session of the General Assembly. The City Manager stated this enabling legislation allows sheriffs to be a part of the agreement among the following jurisdictions: Amherst County, Town of Amherst, City of Bedford, City of Lynchburg, Bedford County, Town of Altavista and Town of Brookneal. The Chief of Police and City Manager recommended that Council approve this agreement.

On motion by Councilman Wandrei, seconded by Councilwoman Flood, voted upon and carried, Council authorized the City Manager to execute the final draft of the Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Agreement.

The City Manager stated that on October 8, 1996, Council approved a resolution supporting American Electric Power's Cloverdale/Wyoming 765 kV Transmission Line Project. This action was taken in recognition of deregulation legislation being considered at the Federal and State levels. The City of Bedford and Blue Ridge Power Agency have

been pioneers in negotiating contracts to supply low cost electricity to the City's customers. These contracts take advantage of Federal legislation requiring electric utilities to provide for the wheeling of electricity throughout their transmission grids. In the future, it is anticipated that there will be additional electric loads placed on those transmission grids. The City Manager stated that it is extremely important that AEP improve those transmission grids and that the Wyoming/Cloverdale 765 kV Transmission Line be constructed in order to stabilize the transmission grid in this area.

City Manager Gross stated that Council has been asked by Larry Jackson, Lynchburg District General Manager for American Electric Power, to reaffirm the City's support for this project. The City Manager indicated that he would prepare a cover letter for the State Corporation Commission and the Public Services Commission of West Virginia stating Council's support and providing them with a copy of the resolution adopted on October 8, 1996, if so directed by Council.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Kochendarfer, seconded by Councilman Ballard to adopt a resolution. The motion was determined to be in error and was therefore retracted.

On motion by Councilwoman Kochendarfer, seconded by Councilman Ballard, voted upon and carried, Council authorized the City Manager to prepare a cover letter for the Virginia State Corporation Commission and the Public Services Commission of West Virginia stating Council's support.

City Manger Gross reported that the Commonwealth of Virginia has authorized the equivalent of three extra days off during the Holiday Season for State employees. Council is being asked to considered declaring Friday, December 26, 1997, and Friday, January 2, 1998, as City holidays and authorize the closing of City offices on those days.

The City Manager stated that all essential and ongoing functions such as the Police Department, Water Filter Plant, Wastewater Treatment Plant and the Hydro Plant will continue operations. In addition, the Public Works and Electric Departments will have designated on-call employees available. Those employees who are designated to work on the holidays will be allowed time off on another day. The three dumpster sites located behind the Municipal Building, at Liberty Lake Park and across the street from the Public Works Garage will be available for the convenience of the City citizens.

On motion by Councilwoman Kochendarfer, seconded by Councilwoman Flood, voted upon and carried, Council declared December 26, 1997, and January 2, 1998, as City holidays with all offices authorized to close except those departments requiring 24-hour continuous operation.

Mayor Shelton adjourned the meeting at 7:40 p.m. until November 22, 1997, at 9:00 a.m. at Avenel for a City Council planning meeting.