

4-27-99 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, 1999.

Members present: Mayor G. Michael Shelton; Councilman H. Davis Ballard; Councilman Larry D. Brookshier; Councilwoman Mary L. Flood; Vice Mayor E. Thomas Messier; Councilman Ronnie C. Rice; and Councilman Robert T. Wandrei.

Members absent: None.

Staff present: City Manager Craig Meadows; 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.

The Mayor presented Ms. Nancy Bower with a certificate of retirement and gift upon her retirement as City Registrar.

The Mayor presented Mr. Lorenza Coles with a certificate of retirement and gifts upon his retirement from the Public Works Department after 37 years of service.

Mayor Shelton declared that the minutes of the April 13, 1999, regular Council meeting were approved as distributed.

The City Manager announced that Teresa L. Julian has been appointed as the City's new Director of Finance & Administration and will begin work on May 17.

City Manager Meadows stated that Council has received an invitation to attend the dedication of the new Big Island Library on May 8.

The City Manager reminded Council of the Region 2000 dinner to be held on April 29 at 6:30 p.m.

City Manager Meadows stated the City received a letter from Dr. Blevins, Superintendent of Bedford County Schools, advising that the County School Board has appointed a committee to look at improving the City/County school contract. Dr. Blevins asked if Council would be willing to appoint several members to join that committee. Mr. Meadows indicated that in discussions with the Mayor, it was suggested that the City/County Relations Committee would probably be the appropriate committee to meet with the County on this issue. There were no objections to this by Council.

Discussion ensued.

Councilman Ballard reported that the Keep Bedford Beautiful Commission Clean up Day was held on April 24 and was a reasonable success considering the Clean up Day was in conflict with a Recreation Department event.

Vice Mayor Messier stated that during the past several weeks he has had several individuals offer compliments on the Chief of Police.

The Mayor reminded Council of the annual "Elderfest" to be held at the Armory on May 7.

The Mayor told Council of an event called "What's Next Day" to be held on May 8 at Liberty High School beginning at 9:00 a.m. The event is a follow up of last year's march and rally against youth violence and gun violence. Members of Council are invited to attend the event to talk to the students to let them know that there are adults in leadership positions who do care about what is going on with the students.

The Consent Agenda consisted of the following item:

Authorize the closing of the following streets from 12 noon to 9:00 p.m. on June 26, 1999, (rain date July 10, 1999) for the Eighth Annual Go-Kart Race:

East and West Main Streets from Washington Street to Center Street, Center Street from West Main Street, through the Farmers Market parking lot to Washington Street, Washington Street from the Farmers Market parking lot to South Street, South Street from Washington Street to East Main Street. Also West Main Street from Center Street to Ballard Street, a portion of South Bridge Street below Washington Street, a portion of South Street below Washington Street, Washington Street from South Street to Otey Street, North Bridge Street from Main Street to Depot Street and Market Square.

On motion by Vice Mayor Messier, seconded by Councilwoman Flood, voted upon and carried unanimously, Council adopted the Consent Agenda.

City Manager Meadows stated that the Finance Committee met on April 13 for the purpose of interviewing firms to provide auditing services for the City for FY 1998-99. The Committee selected the firm of Brown, Edwards & Company and authorized the City Manager and Accountant to negotiate a contract with this firm. Mr. Meadows recommended that Council accept the letter of agreement.

On motion by Councilman Brookshier, seconded by Councilman Ballard, voted upon and carried unanimously, Council accepted the recommendation to retain Brown, Edwards & Company to provide auditing services for Fiscal Year 1998-99.

The City Manager reviewed highlights of the proposed Budget for the City for Fiscal Year 1999-2000.

Total budget	\$ 30,566,676
Total Revenues	29,324,586
Cash carryforward	1,234, 090
Total expenditures	29,578,008
Contingency	988,668

Council scheduled a budget work session for May 11, 1999, and scheduled the public hearing on the budget for May 25, 1999.

Mayor Shelton adjourned the meeting at 8:20 p.m.