

## 1-25-00 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., January 25, 2000.

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

Members absent: Councilman H. Davis Ballard.

Staff present: Chief of Police Milton Graham; City Attorney W. W. Berry, IV; and Clerk of the Council Teresa W. Hatcher.

Staff absent: City Manager Craig Meadows.

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 the January 11, 2000, regular Council meeting were approved as distributed.

The Chief of Police indicated that City Manager Meadows was in North Carolina due to the illness of his father.

The Chief reported Council had received the Master Plan of Bedford Middle School prepared by Craddock Cunningham Architectural Partners.

Mayor Shelton stated Councilman Ballard was not in attendance at the Council meeting due to illness.

On motion by Councilman Rice, seconded by Councilwoman Flood, voted upon and carried, the following item was added to the agenda:

Closed Meeting pursuant to the Code of Virginia Title 2.1-344(a)(3) for Discussion of Potential of Real Property Where Open Discussion Could Affect the City's Bargaining Power

The Consent Agenda consisted of the following item:

Appointment of Mr. John M. Owen, III, to the Board of Directors of Virginia's Regional 2000 Partnership

On motion by Councilman Brookshier, seconded by Vice Mayor Messier, voted upon and carried, Council adopted the Consent Agenda.

Council received a copy of a timeline for the City of Bedford Classification and Compensation Study. The Chief of Police briefly reviewed the timeline. It is estimated that the Study will be completed by April 11, 2000.

Councilman Rice, Chairman of the Street Committee, stated the Committee met regarding the request of the NAACP to rename Independence Boulevard, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Boulevard. The Committee recommends that at this time the City not rename Independence Boulevard or any other City streets after any individual.

Councilwoman Flood stated there has been an alternative that has been discussed: naming the limited access portion of Route 460 within the City to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Memorial Bypass.

Elder I. L. Ward, Sr., representing the NAACP, stated the NAACP concurs with naming the limited access portion of Route 460 within the City to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Memorial Bypass.

Councilwoman Flood read aloud the following proposed resolution for consideration by City Council:

**RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE U.S. ROUTE 460  
LIMITED ACCESS BYPASS AROUND THE  
CITY OF BEDFORD BE NAMED THE  
DR. MARTIN LUTHER, JR. MEMORIAL BYPASS**

**WHEREAS**, the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., has been viewed as the pre-eminent leader in the United States for the promotion of civil rights, amongst all people and his leadership and efforts and contributions to American society earned him the Nobel Prize for Peace; and

**WHEREAS**, the Bedford Branch of the NAACP has requested that the City of Bedford name a highly visible roadway in honor of Dr. King to promote racial harmony and to further educational opportunities of Dr. King's work; and

**WHEREAS**, the Bedford County Sheriff's Department and the City of Bedford Police Department have determined that a name attached to this limited access bypass will be helpful in their databases of road names in order to add clarity to record-keeping and information; and

**WHEREAS**, the majority of this limited access bypass traverses through the City limits of Bedford, with a small section in Bedford County, the roadway has no current identifying name and the City Council is desirous

of applying the name of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., for the purposes previously stated; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Council of the City of Bedford, in recognition of the efforts and honors of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., hereby request that the Virginia Department of Transportation name the limited access portion of the U. S. Route 460 Bypass around the City of Bedford as the “Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Memorial Bypass.”

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the City Manager is directed to work with officials of the Virginia Department of Transportation to secure this naming opportunity and that the City of Bedford will cooperate with VDOT in the creation of appropriate signs and to have the signs mounted in public view in the eastbound and westbound lanes of the bypass, according to directives from the Commissioner of the Virginia Department of Transportation. The City Council further request the Bedford County Board of Supervisors to adopt a similar resolution in accord with the provisions of law providing for a three mile limitation for equal rights. In doing so, both governing bodies will have honored the contributions of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and secured an appropriate and proper naming opportunity.

Councilwoman Flood moved that the resolution be adopted as read. The motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Messier.

A brief discussion ensued.

The motion was then voted upon and carried by the following roll call vote:

Councilman Ballard	absent
Councilman Brookshier	aye
Councilwoman Flood	aye
Vice Mayor Messier	aye
Councilman Rice	nay
Councilman Wandrei	aye
Mayor Shelton	aye

On motion by Vice Mayor Messier, seconded by Councilman Wandrei, voted upon and carried by a roll call vote, Council adjourned into a closed meeting pursuant to the Code of Virginia Title 2.1-344(a)(3) for: Discussion of Potential of Real Property Where Open Discussion Could Affect the City’s Bargaining Power. Roll call vote follows:

Councilman Brookshier	aye
Councilwoman Flood	aye
Vice Mayor Messier	aye
Councilman Rice	aye

Councilman Wandrei	aye
Councilman Ballard	absent
Mayor Shelton	aye

Council adjourned into a closed meeting at 7:55 p.m. after a five-minute recess. Non-council members attending were: Chief Graham, City Attorney Berry, and Clerk of the Council Hatcher.

Council reconvened into open session at 8:09 p.m.

The Clerk of Council read aloud the following certification 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 closed meeting to which this certification resolution applies, and (2) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed or considered by the Council.

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

Councilwoman Flood	aye
Vice Mayor Messier	aye
Councilman Rice	aye
Councilman Wandrei	aye
Councilman Ballard	absent
Councilman Brookshier	aye
Mayor Shelton	aye

Mayor Shelton adjourned the meeting at 8:10 p.m.