

07-11-200 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., July 11, 2000.

Members present: Councilman Larry D. Brookshier; Councilwoman Mary L. Flood; Vice Mayor E. Thomas Messier; Councilman Thomas M. Padgett; Councilman W. D. Tharp; and Councilman Robert T. Wandrei.

Members absent: Mayor G. Michael Shelton.

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 F. Craig Meadows.

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

Vice Mayor Messier declared that the minutes of the June 27, 2000, regular Council meeting and the minutes of the July 1, 2000, called meeting were approved as distributed.

Chief Graham gave the report of the City Manager:

- The Virginia Department of Transportation Pre-allocation Hearing is scheduled for July 21 at 9:00 a.m. at the Salem Civic Center.
- The City has installed a new telephone system within the Municipal Building.
- The City Manager and several staff members will attend a conference in Charlottesville on July 12 regarding electric deregulation.
- Work on the College Street project started on July 10, and the residents of the street were notified.
- Bell Atlantic has a contract crew on Peaks Street removing the old telephone lines off of the old poles, and the City will now be able to remove the old utility poles along Peaks Street.
- The Mayor will present the "State of the City" address on July 26 at a lunch meeting hosted by the Chamber of Commerce. Each member of Council will be notified of the location of the meeting.

The Clerk of Council read aloud the following Public Hearing Notice:

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Notice is hereby given of a public hearing to be held by the City Planning Commission at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, July 6, 2000 and by the City Council at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, July 11, 2000, at the City Municipal Building, Council Hall, 215 East Main Street for the purpose of:

To consider a request for a zoning amendment to allow automotive repair, automotive body and fender repair, and electrical apparatus repair service in a B-2, General Business District. The request is being made by Billy D. Parks, 1064 Poodle Drive, Bedford, VA 24523.

To consider a conditional use request to allow for the construction of three units to be used as homes for adults on property located at 1811 Forest Road, Bedford, VA 24523, Tax Map #157-A-28. The request is being made by Pastor I. L. Ward, Sr., Bountiful Blessings Church of God in Christ, 2805 Langhorne Road, Lynchburg, VA 24501.

Information regarding these requests is on file in the office of Planning & Community Development.

Anyone who is in favor of or opposed to the requests will have an opportunity to express their view at this hearing.

By the Authority of the Planning Commission and
City Council of the City of Bedford

Vice Mayor Messier opened the public hearing at 7:35 p.m.

Mr. Bart Warner, Director of Planning & Community Development, stated Mr. Billy D. Parks is requesting a zoning amendment to allow automotive repair, automotive body and

fender repairs, and electrical apparatus repair service as a use by right in a B-2, General Business District. Mr. Warner stated that Planning Commission recommended that Council amend the Zoning Ordinance to allow these particular activities as a conditional use in the B-2, General Business District, as opposed to permitting these activities universally as a permitted use throughout the district.

Mr. Warner stated that a conditional use request to allow for the construction of three units to be used as homes for adults on property located at 1811 Forest Rd. has been received from Pastor I. L. Ward, Sr., Bountiful Blessings Church of God in Christ. Mr. Warner stated the Planning Commission recommends that Council approve this request with certain conditions. Mr. Warner reviewed those conditions with Council.

Vice Mayor Messier asked for public comments regarding the request for a zoning amendment by Mr. Parks.

Mr. Don Owen, owner of property across the street from Mr. Parks' building, spoke against the request.

Mr. Billy Parks requested approval of his request for the zoning amendment.

Vice Mayor Messier closed the first part of the public hearing at 7:40 p.m., as there were no further comments.

Vice Mayor Messier asked for comments regarding the conditional use request for property at 1811 Forest Road.

Rev. I. L. Ward, Sr., spoke regarding the conditional use request.

Ms. Gail Harris, 2108 McGhee Street, spoke in opposition to the conditional use request and asked that the request be denied.

Mr. John I. Jones, spoke for surrounding property owners, and requested that Council deny the conditional use request. Mr. Jones presented a petition to the Vice Mayor in opposition to the request.

As there were no further comments, the Vice Mayor closed the public hearing at 7:45 p.m.

The Consent Agenda consisted of the following items:

Appointment of Penny Carter to a 2nd term on the Regional Library Board, said term to expire June 30, 2004.

Appointment of H. Davis Ballard to the Transportation Safety Committee

On motion by Councilman Brookshier, seconded by Councilman Tharp, voted upon and carried unanimously, Council approved the Consent Agenda.

Councilwoman Flood moved for the approval of the request for a zoning amendment by Billy Parks.

After discussion, Councilwoman Flood withdrew her motion.

Councilwoman Flood moved that Council accept the recommendation of the Planning Commission, which follows: the Planning Commission recommends that City Council amend Section 609.03 of the City of Bedford Land Development Regulations to include the operation of automotive repair, automotive body and fender repair, and electrical apparatus repair service as a conditional use within a B-2, General Business District, zone. Councilman Brookshier seconded the motion.

Discussion ensued regarding the conditional use request.

The motion was then voted upon and carried, six members voting aye, one member voting nay (Wandrei).

The City Attorney will prepare the appropriate amendment and have it advertised for the next regular Council meeting.

Councilman Tharp moved that Council not approve the conditional use request of the Bountiful Blessings Church of God in Christ. The motion was seconded by Councilman Wandrei, and after a brief discussion was voted upon and carried unanimously.

Vice Mayor Messier adjourned the meeting at 8:00 p.m.