

01-09-2001 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 9, 2001.

Members present: Mayor G. Michael Shelton; 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: None.

Staff present: City Manager F. 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.

Clerk of Council Hatcher administered the Oath of Office to Eric Hayth, a new officer in the Police Department.

Mayor Shelton declared that the minutes of the December 12, 2000, regular Council meeting were approved as distributed.

City Manager Meadows spoke to Council regarding the following items: scheduling a retreat to discuss the budget in late April or early May; providing Council with financial reports on a quarterly basis; concerns regarding electric deregulation; and the installation of new street marking signs in the City.

The City Manager introduced Mr. Bill Gillespie, Executive Director of Regional 2000 Regional Commission.

The Mayor reported that Delegate Putney has chosen not to introduce legislation that would change the City's elections. Mayor Shelton stated the City still has the option to change the City Charter.

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, January 4, 2001 and by the City

Council at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, January 9, 2001, at the City Municipal Building, Council Hall, 215 East Main Street for the purpose of:

.. To consider a conditional use request to allow the property at 604 East Main Street, Tax Map #214-A-170, located in a B-1 District, to be occupied as a single family dwelling. The request is being made by Thomas E. Scott, 1501 Edley Place, Lynchburg, VA 24502.

.. To consider amending Section 904. (Signs) of the City of Bedford Land Development Regulations.

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 views at this hearing.

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

Mayor Shelton opened the public hearing at 7:53 p.m.

As there were no comments from the public, the Mayor closed the public hearing at 7:54 p.m.

The City Manager stated that the Planning Commission met on Thursday, January 4, 2001, and recommended that City Council approve the conditional use request of Thomas E. Scott to allow the property at 604 East Main Street, Tax Map #214-A-170, located in a B-1 District, to be occupied as a single family dwelling.

On motion by Vice Mayor Messier, seconded by Councilman Padgett, voted upon and carried unanimously, Council accepted the recommendation of the Planning Commission to approve the conditional use request of Thomas E. Scott.

Ms. Barbara Bennett, Project Services Coordinator with Region 2000 Regional Commission, gave a presentation regarding the City participating in the Little Otter Regional Industrial Park, which would be located in Bedford County. Ms. Bennett reviewed the costs and financing associated with this project. Ms Bennett indicated that the City needs to make a decision to purchase shares by February 28, 2001, and the first payment would be due in July 2001.

The Mayor referred this matter to the Finance Committee and Water and Sewer Committee for review.

Discussion ensued.

On motion by Vice Mayor Messier, seconded by Councilman Padgett, voted upon and carried unanimously by a roll call vote, Council adjourned into closed session pursuant to Section 21.3-344(a)(5) of the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, for discussion concerning a prospective industry or expansion of an existing industry in the Bedford Center for Business where no previous announcement has been made. Roll call vote follows:

Councilman Brookshier	aye
Councilwoman Flood	aye
Vice Mayor Messier	aye
Councilman Padgett	aye
Councilman Tharp	aye
Councilman Wandrei	aye
Mayor Shelton	aye

Council adjourned into closed session at 8:22 p.m. Non-council members attending were: City Manager Meadows, City Attorney Berry, Director of Planning & Community Development Warner; Elizabeth Berry-Mosely; and Clerk of the Council Hatcher.

Council reconvened into open session at 8:45 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 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.

On motion by Councilman Brookshier, seconded by Councilman Wandrei, voted upon and carried unanimously by a roll call vote, Council adopted the resolution as read. Roll call vote follows:

Councilwoman Flood	aye
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Vice Mayor Messier	aye
Councilman Padgett	aye
Councilman Tharp	aye
Councilman Wandrei	aye
Councilman Brookshier	aye
Mayor Shelton	aye

Due to a possible conflict of interest concerning the next item on the agenda, "Closed Session pursuant to Section 2.1-344 (a)(7) consultation with legal counsel pertaining to pending litigation," Councilman Brookshier and Councilman Wandrei left the meeting at 8:46 p.m.

On motion by Councilman Tharp, seconded by Councilwoman Flood, voted upon and carried by a roll call vote, Council adjourned into closed session pursuant to Section 21.3-344(a)(7) of the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, for consultation with legal counsel pertaining to pending litigation. Roll call vote follows:

Vice Mayor Messier	aye
Councilman Padgett	aye
Councilman Tharp	aye
Councilman Wandrei	absent
Councilman Brookshier	absent
Councilwoman Flood	aye
Mayor Shelton	aye

Council adjourned into closed session at 8:46 p.m. Non-Council members attending: City Manager Meadows, City Attorney Berry, and Clerk of the Council Hatcher.

Council reconvened into open session at 9:05 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 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.

On motion by Councilman Tharp, seconded by Vice Mayor Messier, voted upon and carried by a roll call vote, Council adopted the resolution. Roll call vote follows:

Councilman Padgett	aye
Councilman Tharp	aye
Councilman Wandrei	absent
Councilman Brookshier	absent
Councilwoman Flood	aye
Vice Mayor Messier	aye
Mayor Shelton	aye

Mayor Shelton adjourned the meeting at 9:07 p.m.