

Minutes 01-08-2002

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 8, 2002.

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

Members absent: Councilman W. D. Tharp.

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.

Mayor Shelton declared that the minutes of the December 11, 2001, regular Council meeting were approved as distributed.

The City Manager reported on the following items:

Legislative Day - January 31; City Holiday-January 21 (Lee, Jackson, King Holiday); the City Industrial Development Authority's action to adopt the Economic Development Grant guidelines at the IDA's December meeting; article entitled "State's cities are desperate for money" from the Lynchburg News & Advance; Council has received copies of a draft of the Bedford 2020 Transportation Plan; Council has received copies of the City's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for FY 2000-01 and copies of the management comments, which will be reviewed with the Finance Committee in the next several weeks; the FY 2002-03 budget process is underway - departments are now updating their 5 year CIP, and will begin working on their operating budgets later this month.

The City Manager also spoke about the following:

Phase II I & I construction improvement projects are underway - 2 of the 3 contracts are awarded and construction is well underway; Phase I was completed in accordance with the time requirements of the consent order; the reservoir and river are in good shape right now - will continue to closely monitor; the staff will be meeting to discuss the comprehensive plan on January 17 and will begin to solicit public input immediately thereafter; the holiday lights at Liberty Lake Park were viewed by an estimated 66,000 visitors over the holidays – a number of positive

comments were received; the visitors center has received approximately 900 visitors in two months - encouraged volunteers; Council has received copies of a draft letter to electric customers explaining the City 's position regarding electric deregulation – the letter has been reviewed by the Electric Committee and will be sent out within a week or so; the electric department has been removing overhead electric lines on Court and Depot Streets, and installing ornamental poles for street lighting - these improvements have been made to enhance the area surrounding the Courthouse, which should reopen in the next few weeks.

Mayor Shelton stated that there is a Region 2000 Economic Development survey in the January 8 edition of Lynchburg News & Advance. The Mayor asked that members of Council receive information for responding to this survey as it deals with the development of an economic development strategy for Region 2000.

The Mayor reported that the President of the American Society of the French Legion of Honor visited the Bedford area and the National D-Day Memorial in June. A major article regarding Bedford and the D-Day Memorial is included in the December volume of the newsletter generated by this Society.

On motion by Vice Mayor Messier, seconded by Councilman Wandrei, voted upon and carried, five members voting aye, one member voting nay (Padgett), and one member absent (Tharp), the agenda was changed as follows:

Added: Consent Agenda – Appointment of Member to the Industrial Development Authority

Moved: Resolution – Recognition of Liberty High School Football Team and Coaches, Cheerleading Squad and Marching Band – was moved to be the first item under "New Business"

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 3, 2002, and by the City Council at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, January 8, 2002, at the City Municipal Building, Council Hall, 215 East Main Street for the purpose of:

- o To consider rezoning from Low Density Residential (R-1A) to Manufacturing (M-1) Tax Map #215-A-29, 215-A-30, 215-A-31 and Tax

Map #215-A-32 on Orange Street. William Burnette, 1050 Hoback Road, Bedford, VA 24523, is making the request.

- o Amendment of Section 608.02s of the Land Development Regulations.

Information regarding this request is on file in the office of Planning & Community Development.

Anyone who is in favor of or opposed to the request will have an opportunity to express his/her views at this hearing.

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

The Mayor indicated that only Mr. Burnette's request was being considered at this meeting.

Mayor Shelton opened the public hearing at 7:50 p.m. As there were no comments, the Mayor closed the public hearing at 7:51 p.m.

The Consent Agenda consisted of the following item:

- Appointment of Mr. Philip W. Garbarini, Jr., to the Industrial Development Authority for a term expiring November 30, 2002

On motion by Councilman Wandrei, seconded by Councilman Brookshier, voted upon and carried, five members voted aye, one member voting nay (Padgett), and one member absent (Tharp), the Consent Agenda was adopted.

Mayor Shelton read aloud the following resolution:

RESOLUTION OF COMMENDATION

WHEREAS, Liberty High School has experienced many outstanding achievements in athletics, academics and marching band competitions over the years; and

WHEREAS, each time these achievements have been reached, appropriate accolades and attention have been brought to Liberty High School and the Bedford community of which it serves; and

WHEREAS, the commitment of the students in competition and that of their coaching staffs is without question and is of the strongest caliber; and

WHEREAS, the 2001 Liberty High School Varsity Football Team has attained success unmatched in past years by sharing not only the Seminole District title, but also for the first time, winning the championship of Region III, Division III, which placed this football team in the Final Four of the Virginia High School League State Championships; and

WHEREAS, in post-season play, Liberty defeated district rival Brookville High School, and defeated Dogwood District Champion Gretna High School to claim the Region III, Division III football championship; and

WHEREAS, on December 1, 2001, Liberty competed against a powerful Graham High School football team from Bluefield, Virginia in the State Championship semifinals, losing this game and being eliminated from further competition; and

WHEREAS, this football team, while not prevailing in the State semifinal competition, has over a four-year period tremendously improved its level of play, building from an 0-10 season in 1998 and a 2-8 season in 1999 to a 10-2 record and winning the Seminole District Championship in 2000, and to the 2001 success of a record of 10-3 and winning district and regional titles and competing in the final four of the State Championship; and

WHEREAS, the greater Bedford community has strongly supported the 2001 Liberty High School football team with strong contingents of fans traveling to Gretna and Bluefield to cheer on the Minutemen; and

WHEREAS, this football team has excited Bedford and brought further notoriety to the community and has been an effective representative of Bedford through its players, coaches, cheerleaders, students, administrators and fans;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Bedford does hereby congratulate, commend and honor the Liberty High School football team and coaches, the LHS Cheerleading Squad, the LHS Marching Band, the school's faculty, staff, administrators, students, and the loyal fans for a highly successful season for the championships achieved, the strong work ethic displayed, and the example of success for others to follow. The City Council pays particular honor to the senior

players involved who have persevered over the last four years to create an environment of success.

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

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

Mayor Shelton aye

Mayor Shelton presented the resolution to Mr. Scott Abel, Liberty High School Football Coach.

Mr. Jim Vest, Bedford Industrial Management Council (BIMC), and Mr. Jim Mercadante, President of BIMC, thanked City Council for its proactive approach to BIMC's request of October 23, 2001, for expansion of industrial development to existing industries in the City. Mr. Vest stated that BIMC is very pleased with the Economic Development Grant Funds Program recently adopted by the City Industrial Development Authority.

City Manager Meadows reported that the Planning Commission met on January 3, 2002, and recommended that Council approve the rezoning request of Mr. William Burnette to rezone from Low Density Residential (R-1A) to Manufacturing (M-1) Tax Map #215-A-29, 215-A-30, 215-A-31 and Tax Map #215-A-32 on Orange Street.

On motion by Councilman Brookshier, seconded by Councilwoman Flood, voted upon and carried, Council accepted the recommendation of the Planning Commission to approve the rezoning request of Mr. William Burnette.

City Manager Meadows stated that the Region 2000 Regional Commission is proposing to amend its bylaws, specifically Article VI – Section 1, relative to the makeup of the current Executive Committee. The Commission is proposing the Executive Committee be

expanded in order that all localities that participate in Region 2000 may be represented on the Executive Committee.

On motion by Councilman Wandrei, seconded by Vice Mayor Messier, voted upon and carried by a roll call vote, Council adopted the resolution approving the recommendations of the Region 2000 Regional Commission for bylaw changes. Roll call vote follows:

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

The resolution follows as adopted:

Resolution

Approving the Recommendations of the
Region 2000 Regional Commission for Bylaw Changes

Whereas, the Region 2000 Regional Commission has proposed a change to the bylaws, specifically Article VII - Section 1, in the makeup of the current Executive Committee, and

Whereas, the Commission is proposing the Executive Committee be expanded in order that all localities may be represented on the Executive Committee, and

Whereas, the Commission is proposing to add those elected officials, or their designated alternate who must be a Regional Commission member, that are currently not serving on the Executive Committee, and

Whereas, the current Executive Committee office structure will remain in place which consists of the chair, vice chair, immediate past chair, past chair, treasurer, and secretary, and

Whereas, the Commission also proposed a change at its October 17, 2001 meeting to include under Article VII, Section 1a. that six (6) voting members of the Executive Committee would constitute a quorum,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Bedford hereby approves the proposed changes recommended by the Region 2000 Regional Commission to Article VII - Committees, Section I - Executive Committee and Section I a. to read as follows:

ARTICLE VII - COMMITTEES

Section 1 - Executive Committee

The Commission shall have an Executive Committee, consisting of the four officers of the Commission and the immediate past chair and the second past chair. In the event the past chairs are no longer Commission members, substitute appointments will be made by the chair. In addition to the officers identified and the two past chairs there shall also be one member from each of the localities not otherwise represented on the Executive Committee. The intent is that all Region 2000 localities be represented on the Executive Committee by an elected official or their designated alternate, who shall be a Commission member and represent the locality that they serve. The Executive Committee shall exercise such powers as the Commission may determine, provided that these powers are not inconsistent with the provisions of the Regional Cooperation Act, and which shall deal with all matters not specifically delegated to a standing or special committee.

ARTICLE VII - COMMITTEES

Section 1a

A quorum of the Executive Committee shall consist of six voting members of the Committee.

The City Manager stated that the Town of Ivybridge, England, the last home of Bedford's Company A soldiers before they boarded ships for the D-Day invasion of France on June 6, 1944, has requested the establishment of a historic relationship with Bedford and

Bedford County, and the cruiser USS Normandy of the United States Navy seeks to establish a relationship with Bedford and Bedford County due to the location of the National D-Day Memorial.

On motion by Councilman Padgett, seconded by Councilman Brookshier, voted upon and carried by a roll call vote, Council adopted the resolution to support inclusion of Ivybridge, England, and the USS Normandy as new relationships with the City of Bedford and Bedford County through the Bedford International Alliance, Inc. Roll call vote follows:

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

The resolution follows as adopted.

RESOLUTION

To support the inclusion of Ivybridge, England and the USS Normandy
As new international relationships with the City of Bedford and Bedford
County Through the Bedford International Alliance, Inc.

WHEREAS, the City of Bedford and the County of Bedford in June, 1997, adopted a joint resolution calling for the establishment of historic international twinning relationships with communities in the Omaha Beach area of Normandy, France and with Woburn, England; and

WHEREAS, the City Council and the Board of Supervisors in the June, 1997 resolution called for the establishment of a local twinning organization to facilitate these international relationships, to oversee any programs developed within and to promote Bedford, Virginia as the home of the National D-Day Memorial with these twinned communities; and

WHEREAS, the Bedford International Alliance, Inc. was organized in February, 1999 to fulfill the directives of the City Council and the Board of Supervisors, was officially chartered in February, 2000 and received its IRS tax-exempt status in September, 2000; and

WHEREAS, an official exchange visit of Bedford citizens to Woburn, England and the Omaha Beach area of France occurred in September, 1998; a visit by the Mayor of Woburn, England to Bedford occurred in May, 2001; a visit by the Bedford City Mayor to the Omaha Beach area occurred in June, 1999 and February, 2001; visits by citizens of the Omaha Beach area to Bedford occurred in May, 2000 and June, 2001; and an official student visit occurred in August, 2001 to September, 2001 of a college student from Trevieres, France to Bedford; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Ivybridge, England, the last home of Bedford's Company A soldiers before they boarded ships for the D-Day invasion of France on June 6, 1944, has requested the establishment of an historic relationship with Bedford and Bedford County, and the cruiser USS Normandy of the United States Navy seeks to establish a relationship with Bedford and Bedford County due to the location of the National D-Day Memorial; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Ivybridge, England and the USS Normandy have direct, historic and symbolic relationships to the Bedford area from World War II history and linkages;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of Bedford and the Board of Supervisors of Bedford County, in their separate meetings, jointly endorse the establishment of twinning relationships with the Town of Ivybridge, England and the USS Normandy, and request the Bedford International Alliance, Inc. to assume the responsibilities to create and develop these international relationships so that further ties are created for the Bedford area to those entities that have direct, historic and symbolic relationships to our localities. In doing so, the City Council and the Board of Supervisors pledge to continue their support of the Bedford International Alliance, Inc. in the manner and spirit as set forth in the joint resolution of June 1997.

AND, BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the City Council and the Board of Supervisors endorse and encourage the efforts of the Bedford

International Alliance, Inc. in the development and promotion of international exchanges that support tourism and international publicity about the history and heritage of the Bedford area and our twinned communities, and that educate the local citizenry about these historic relationships.

Mayor Shelton adjourned the meeting at 8:02 p.m.