

Minutes 10-26-2002

An adjourned meeting of the Council of the City of Bedford, Virginia, from the October 25, 2002, adjourned meeting was held at Mountain Lake, Virginia, at 8:30 a.m., October 26, 2002.

Members present: Mayor G. Michael Shelton; Councilwoman Mary L. Flood; Vice Mayor E. Thomas Messier; Councilman Thomas M. Padgett; Councilman C. G. Stanley, Jr.; and Councilman W. D. Tharp.

Members absent: Councilman Robert T. Wandrei.

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.

A discussion ensued regarding changing Council elections from May to November.

Vice Mayor Messier moved to defer it. The motion was seconded by Councilman Padgett, voted upon and carried.

The following items were discussed:

- Water resources: new sources of water; working with the County; benefits; Wiley and Wilson study; developing a vision statement; Water and Sewer Committee to develop strategies

It was the consensus of Council to be providers of water, not buyers.

- Solid waste issues: existing landfill will be full in 4 years; options for disposing of waste; uses for the old landfill

The Mayor declared a recess from 9:55 a.m. until 10:15 a.m. The City Attorney left the meeting.

Discussion continued regarding the following items:

- Electric: Blue Ridge Power Agency Policy Workshop – December 11; memo from the Electric Utility Director asking permission to apply to become a Competitive Local Exchange Carrier (CLEC). This license allows a locality to provide telecommunications services if needed, including telephone, data and cable services.

On motion by Vice Mayor Messier, seconded by Councilwoman Flood, voted upon and carried, Council authorized the City Manager to apply for a CLEC license.

- The City Manager indicated that deregulation is not working.
- The City Manager reported that the Blue Ridge Power Agency has issued a request for proposals for power supply resources.

The following items were discussed:

- County animal shelter – have agreed in principal for the County to take over the housing of the animal control operations
- Middle school issue – working with the County
- Joint recreation – it was determined that the recreation system will continue as is
- Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) – T21 funds – VDOT is not taking any new applications – VDOT will take the money already allocated and give it to existing projects to try to finish them.
- Health insurance - City employees – Health Fair on November 7

The City Manager gave updates on the following: developing an Environmental Management System for the City; continuing to get information on automated meter reading; on track with replacing software; Comprehensive Plan will be presented within the next month; the City Manager recommended that the City not pursue the All America City award this year.

Mayor Shelton adjourned the meeting at 11:20 a.m.