

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., February 25, 2003.

Members present: Mayor E. Thomas Messier; Councilwoman Mary L. Flood; Councilman Jeffrey B. Hubbard; Councilman Thomas M. Padgett; Councilman C. G. Stanley, Jr.; and Councilman Robert T. Wandrei.

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

Mayor Messier declared that the minutes of a regular Council meeting held on February 11, 2003, were approved as distributed.

The City Manager reported on the following items:

- Bedford Area Chamber of Commerce – Annual Dinner & Awards Reception on March 20 at West Manor Ballroom in Forest – 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
- Council members had received copies of a report entitled “Knowledge for the Commonwealth” from Virginia Cooperation Extension
- A team building and training session with City department heads is scheduled for February 28.
- Issues with complaints regarding utility bills - due to the ice and snow, extra days may be reflected on the bills as employees were unable to read the meters at the regular time and colder weather during this period will result in higher utility bills.
- A tentative date to visit Bedford’s sister city, Franklin, Virginia, has been suggested for June 12 and 13.

Mayor Messier presented keys to the City to Russian exchange students who were in attendance at the meeting.

Mayor Messier reported that the Bedford Historical Society recently recognized Mrs. Clara Lambeth for her devotion to the Historical Society and all that she has done for it.

Councilman Wandrei gave a report on the Water & Sewer Committee meeting held on February 13, which was adjourned from the February 11 meeting concerning a sewer line on Newton Circle. Councilman Wandrei stated that Clarke Gibson and Wayne Hale should be commended for providing a solution, which will amount to a \$6,000 savings to the City.

Councilman Wandrei reported on the Water & Sewer Committee meeting held earlier in the evening. A request had been received from the Church of Christ on Rt. 122 to connect to the existing City water line. The Committee recommended that the Church of Christ be allowed to connect to the City water line as the Church has been having difficulty with its water supply.

Councilman Padgett reported on the Streets Committee meeting held earlier in the evening. Items discussed: (1) pavement overlay schedule – will be discussed further in the budget process; (2) request to block the streets for a parade honoring the Liberty High School Football team, State AA Champions – the Committee recommended approval of this request.

The Consent Agenda consisted of the following item: Request to block the following streets for a parade honoring the Liberty High School Football Team on March 11, 2003, from 3:35 p.m. until 5:30 p.m.: North Bridge Street from the Middle School to the main intersection, East Main Street from the main intersection to Court Street with the procession ending in front of the Courthouse where presentation of awards will be made.

On motion by Councilman Padgett, seconded by Councilman Stanley, voted upon and carried, Council adopted the Consent Agenda.

Ms. Sarah Oliver, representing the Bedford County 250th Anniversary Celebration Committee, explained that the Committee will be comprised of fourteen members, two from each district in the County. The anniversary celebration will be held in 2004. Ms. Oliver stated the Committee is requesting the City to join in with the County in preparation for the celebration by appointing two members from the City to the steering committee and contributing seed money.

Mayor Messier adjourned the meeting at 7:44p.m.