

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., March 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.

Members absent: Vice Mayor W. D. Tharp and 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 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 March 11, 2003, were approved as distributed.

The City Manager reported on the following items:

- Requested that the following item be added to the agenda: A closed session pursuant to Section 2.2-3711(a)(5) of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended, for discussion of a prospective business or industry or the expansion of an existing business or industry where no previous announcement has been made of the business' or industry's interest in locating or expanding its facilities in the community.
- He and Bart Warner, Director of Planning & Community Development, attended the VDOT Preallocation Hearing earlier in the day. Council had been given copies of the comments made at the hearing.
- The City has received a certificate of notice from the Virginia Institute of Government in appreciation for the City's contributions to the Virginia Institute of Government's email broadcast information service for the year 2002.
- The ABC store will be moving out of the downtown location to the Walmart area in June or July.
- Council had been furnished copies of an article regarding electric deregulation. The Governor has signed the one-year delay in electric deregulation.
- New tourism website – [www.visitbedford.com](http://www.visitbedford.com)
- opening ceremony for annual softball/baseball season at Liberty Lake Park, April 5 at 10:00 a.m.
- He will be attending a conference in Williamsburg on telecommunications law on April 7-8

The Chief of Police reported that the City has received grant funds from the Federal Government for equipping first responders to possible terrorists incidents. A committee was formed consisting of members from the Fire Department, Life Saving Crew, and the

Police Department. The Committee decided to spend the first \$3,700 to equip the Police Department with gas masks and some protective suits.

The Mayor stated that this meeting will be adjourned until April 8 at 6:30 p.m. to conduct interviews with candidates for the City Planning Commission.

Mayor Messier reported that the City's website links to VDOT so that residents can check on the status of road projects in the area.

The City Manager stated that VDOT has developed the Dashboard project, which allows the public to check on the status of VDOT projects.

Mayor Messier noted the light poles going up on Independence Boulevard. The City Manager stated those lights should be operational within the next 30-45 days.

On motion by Councilman Padgett, seconded by Councilman Stanley, voted upon and carried, the following changes were made to the agenda:

Moved to the end of New Business:

Presentation – Route 122 Corridor Study  
VDOT Update – Bob Sutton  
Resolution – Older Americans' Month and Elderfest Celebration  
Appropriate of Funds for Replacement of Vehicles

Added as the last item on the agenda:

A closed session pursuant to Section 2.2-3711(a)(5) of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended, for discussion of a prospective business or industry or the expansion of an existing business or industry where no previous announcement has been made of the business' or industry's interest in locating or expanding its facilities in the community.

The Consent Agenda consisted of the following items:

Request by Rolling Thunder, Inc., to temporarily block the following streets for a POW/MIA procession through the City on June 14, 2003:

Route 122 North, Independence Boulevard, East Main Street, Crenshaw Street, and Tiger Trail to the D-Day Memorial

Appointment of Steve Rush to the Bedford City School Board to fill an unexpired term expiring June 30, 2003.

On motion by Councilman Hubbard, seconded by Councilman Stanley, voted upon and carried, the Consent Agenda was approved.

The following individuals gave presentations regarding FY 2003-04 budget requests for their organization:

- Bedford Chamber of Commerce – Lee Ann Carr, Executive Director - \$5,000
- Bedford Main Street – Scott Smith, Executive Director - \$28,000
- Bedford Life Saving Crew - \$25,000
- Bedford American Red Cross – Victoria Johnson, Executive Director - \$20,000
- Bedford Community Resource Center, Bedford's Promise - Marie Gardner- \$1,900
- Bedford Community Health Foundations, Inc.- Roger Henderson, Executive Director - \$7,500
- Bedford Habitat for Humanity, Inc. – Warren Opitz, President - \$4,500
- Bedford Public Library – Peggy Bias, Director - \$140,817
- Bedford Area YMCA – Mary Jo Boone, Executive Director - \$20,000

Mayor Messier declared a recess from 8:20 p.m. until 8:25 p.m.

Mr. Joseph Springer, Parsons Technology, gave a presentation regarding the draft of the Route 122 Corridor Study. This study examines a stretch of Route 122 in Bedford County that extends for slightly more than 16 miles from the Franklin County border to the Route 460 Bypass in the City of Bedford.

Mr. Bob Sutton, Bedford Resident Engineer for the Virginia Department of Highways (VDOT), presented updates on VDOT's current activities in and around the City.

The Clerk of Council read aloud the following proposed resolution:

**RESOLUTION  
IN SUPPORT OF OLDER AMERICANS' MONTH  
AND ELDERFEST CELEBRATION**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Bedford recognizes and appreciates the vital role that our senior residents provide in our community; and

**WHEREAS**, communities such as Bedford desire to recognize their senior citizens by proclamation of the month of May as Older Americans' Month; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Bedford plans to recognize and honor the importance of Older Americans' Month and our senior citizens with the Elderfest celebration to be held on May 1 and 2, 2003; and

**WHEREAS**, the Bedford City Department of Parks and Recreation will proudly host the Elderfest celebration in honor of our senior citizens and in recognition of Older Americans' Month; and

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IS RESOLVED**, that the City of Bedford hereby resolves that the month of May 2003 be recognized as Older Americans' Month, and that the City supports the Elderfest celebration to be held to honor and celebrate our senior citizens.

On motion by Councilwoman Flood, seconded by Councilman Padgett, voted upon and carried by the following roll call vote, the resolution was adopted was read. Roll call vote follows:

Councilwoman Flood	aye
Councilman Hubbard	aye
Councilman Padgett	aye
Councilman Stanley	aye
Vice Mayor Tharp	absent
Councilman Wandrei	absent
Mayor Messier	aye

City Manager Meadows stated that one of the City's undercover police vehicles was recently involved in a collision, which resulted in the City vehicle being declared a total loss. The City has received approximately \$5,300 in insurance proceeds for the vehicle, and desires to replace the vehicle with the vehicle that is currently assigned to the City Manager. In order to accommodate this, Council will need to authorize the expenditure of \$24,000 for the purchase of a new vehicle for the City Manager and appropriate \$18,700 from the general Fund unappropriated contingency to finance the balance of the purchase price.

On motion by Councilwoman Flood, seconded by Councilman Stanley, voted upon and carried by a roll call vote, Council authorized the expenditure of \$24,000 for the purchase of a vehicle to Account No. 1010204.4306, and appropriated \$18,700 from the General Fund unappropriated contingency to finance the balance of the purchase price. Roll call vote follows:

Councilman Hubbard	aye
Councilman Padgett	aye
Councilman Stanley	aye
Vice Mayor Tharp	absent
Councilman Wandrei	absent
Councilwoman Flood	aye
Mayor Messier	aye

Councilman Hubbard moved that Council adjourn into closed session pursuant to Section 2.2-3711(a)(5) of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended, for discussion of a prospective business or industry or the expansion of an existing business or industry where no previous announcement has been made of the business' or industry's interest in locating or expanding its facilities in the community. The motion was seconded by Councilman Padgett. The motion was voted upon and carried by the following roll call vote:

Councilman Padgett	aye
Councilman Stanley	aye
Vice Mayor Tharp	absent
Councilman Wandrei	absent
Councilwoman Flood	aye
Councilman Hubbard	aye
Mayor Messier	aye

Council adjourned into closed session at 9:07 p.m. The following non-council members attended: City Manager Meadows and City Attorney Berry.

Council reconvened into open session at 9:20 p.m.

The Clerk of Council read aloud the following 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 Stanley, seconded by Councilman Padgett, voted upon and carried by a roll call vote, Council adopted the resolution. Roll call vote follows:

Councilman Stanley	aye
Vice Mayor Tharp	absent
Councilman Wandrei	absent
Councilwoman Flood	aye
Councilman Hubbard	aye
Councilman Padgett	aye
Mayor Messier	aye

The City Manager reported that a company that was considering moving to Bedford has decided to move to Pennsylvania instead.

Mayor Messier adjourned the meeting at 9:12 p.m. until April 8, 2003, at 6:30 p.m. for City Planning Commission interviews.