

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., August 27, 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 August 12, 2003, were approved as corrected.

The City Manager reported on the following:

- The Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission completed its on-site assessment of the Police Department earlier in the day. The assessment team found that the police department is in compliance and its recommendation to the Commission's board of directors will be for the approval of the department's application for accreditation.

The Mayor congratulated the Police Department on this accomplishment.

Chief Graham reported that the D.A.R.E. Program will be taught in the sixth grade next year due to the curriculum being revised.

The City Manager continued his report:

- Dates of interest: September 2 – annual audit begins; September 6 – bicycle race at Liberty Lake Park; October 19-21 – Virginia Municipal League Conference in Roanoke; October 28 – 2<sup>nd</sup> annual employee health fair; September 20 – employee picnic at Liberty Lake Park
- The City Manager and Councilman Padgett met with the Lt. Governor on August 27 and discussed school issues and funding.
- Electric Utility Director, Gene Ratzlaff, suffered a heart attack recently and had surgery on August 26. He is expected to return to work in 6 – 8 weeks.
- Upgrades and GIS information on the City website.

Councilman Wandrei, Chairman of the Water & Sewer Committee, reported that the Committee met earlier in the evening in closed session.

Councilman Padgett, Chairman of the Streets Committee, stated the Committee met earlier in the evening and discussed the request by the Bedford YMCA to close streets for the annual Peaks of Otter Christmas Foot Race.

The Consent Agenda consisted of the following item: Request by the Bedford Area YMCA for permission to hold its Annual Peaks of Otter Christmas Classic Foot Race on December 6, 2003, and to block the following streets from 8:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.: Peaks Street, Whitfield Drive, Oakwood Street, Longwood Avenue, Hampton Ridge Avenue and Elm Street.

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

Debbie Roberts, Deputy Treasurer, presented the following report on uncollected taxes:

**REAL ESTATE TAX STATUS AS OF AUGUST 14, 2003:**

TAX YEAR	LEVY	UNCOLLECTED	COLLECTED
2000-01	\$2,086,934.46	\$ 4,721.54	99.77%
2001-02	\$2,117,599.21	\$22,534.43	98.94%
2002-03	\$2,426,714.00	\$27,764.78	98.86%

**PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX STATUS AS OF AUGUST 14, 2003**

2000	\$1,167,131.92	\$ 100,052.81 LESS RUBATEX	99.65%
2001	\$1,083,741.90	\$ 4,694.16	99.57%
2002	\$1,150,809.36	\$ 8,630.21	99.25%

City Manager Meadows stated the City has received notification that it is eligible for grants funds totaling \$62,994 from the Office of Domestic Preparedness Equipment Program Grant. This grant is specifically designed to assist the locality in providing equipment and other resources to first responders in order for them to be better prepared to combat and deal with terrorist acts involving weapons of mass destruction. It was also

established to mitigate the costs of enhances security during hostilities with Iraq and costs associated with heightened threat levels.

City Manager Meadows stated that Council is requested to approve the resolution designating the City Manager as the City's agent for the Domestic Preparedness Grant 2003-II. The City Manager stated that Council is also requested to approve appropriation of the funds to be used for the following: (1) self-contained breathing apparatus equipment (SCBA) for the fire department, (2) personal protective equipment and gear for the life saving crew, fire department and police department, (3) mobile weather station for monitoring chemical and/or biological scenes, (4) additional personal protective gear for evidence technicians, (5) biological and chemical detection kits, (6) additional traffic control barricades and cones for scene control, (7) surveillance equipment, (8) communications equipment, and (9) medical supplies. A portion of the grant will be used to enhance the communications and surveillance abilities of the schools located within the City.

The Clerk read aloud the following proposed resolution:

## **DESIGNATION OF APPLICANTS AGENT**

### **RESOLUTION**

**BE IT RESOLVED BY** City Council of City of Bedford, Virginia, THAT F. Craig Meadows, City Manager is hereby authorized to execute for and in behalf of City of Bedford, a public entity established under the laws of the State of Virginia, this application and to file it in the appropriate State Office for the purpose of obtaining certain Federal financial assistance under the OJP, National Domestic Preparedness Office Grant Program(s), administered by the Commonwealth of Virginia.

That, City of Bedford, a public entity established under the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia, hereby authorizes its agent to provide to the Commonwealth and to the Office of Justice Programs (OJP) for all matters pertaining to such Federal financial assistance any and all information pertaining to these Grants as may be requested.

Councilwoman Flood moved that the resolution be approved. The motion was seconded by Councilman Wandrei, voted upon and carried by the following roll call vote:

Councilwoman Flood	aye
Councilman Hubbard	aye
Councilman Padgett	aye

Councilman Stanley	aye
Vice Mayor Tharp	absent
Councilman Wandrei	aye
Mayor Messier	aye

The City Manager indicated that Council would also need to approve the appropriation of the funds to be used for the items listed in the action form.

Councilman Padgett moved that Council approve the appropriation of the funds (from the Office of Domestic Preparedness Equipment Program Grant). Councilman Hubbard seconded the motion.

A brief discussion ensued.

Councilman Padgett moved that the motion be amended by adding: “in the amount of \$62,994.” Councilman Wandrei seconded the motion, which was then voted upon and carried by the following roll call vote:

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

Mayor Messier adjourned the meeting at 7:55 p.m.