

Minutes 01-13-2004

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 13, 2004.

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

Members absent: None

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 December 9, 2003, were approved as distributed.

City Manager Meadows reported on the following:

- City offices will be closed on January 19 for the Lee, Jackson, King national holiday
- A budget retreat is tentatively scheduled for Friday, May 7.
- Distribution of the 2004 City of Bedford calendar will begin later this week. Mr. Meadows thanked Cayce Campbell for her work in preparing the calendar.
- Information related to Council meetings is now being placed in notebooks for members of Council.
- Members of Council were given copies of the following: "Lynchburg Living" magazine, which included an article regarding the new Bedford Area Welcome Center; and the City's "Use of Tobacco Products in the Workplace" policy, which became effective January 12, 2004.

Chief of Police Graham gave an update on the deer eradication program: from September 2003 to the present, 146 kills.

Chief Graham introduced new Police Captain, Stephen M. Rizzuto.

Clerk of Council Hatcher administered the Oath of Office to Captain Rizzuto.

Cayce Campbell, Planning and Community Development, gave a presentation regarding the Region 2000 Greenways and Blueways Plan. The Plan serves as a guide for the creation of a regional scale, linked network of trails, parks, rivers, and other interesting destinations in the community. Ms. Campbell reported that the Plan provides a general

framework for a regional greenways and blueways system; provides suggestions as to how the Plan should be implemented; and legitimizes any greenways or blueways the City would like to build/designate in the future.

City Manager Meadows indicated that endorsement of the Plan would not obligate the City to any financial commitment. Mr. Meadows stated that endorsement would mean the City supports the development of this Plan, which would open up an avenue for additional grant monies.

On motion by Councilman Wandrei, seconded by Vice Mayor Tharp, voted upon and carried unanimously, Council endorsed the Region 2000 Greenways and Blueways Plan as presented.

The City Manager stated that the City entered into a mutual aid agreement with the Counties of Amherst, Bedford, Campbell, the City of Lynchburg, the Towns of Brookneal, Altavista, and Amherst on July 2, 2002. Due to the election of a new sheriff in at least one of the jurisdictions, the agreement needs to be revised. In addition, the agreement has been revised so that future administrative changes will not require the signing of a new agreement. There were also several modifications made to allow on-duty personnel to authorize assistance upon request from another agency.

On motion by Vice Mayor Tharp, seconded by Councilman Padgett, voted upon and carried unanimously, Council approved the revised mutual aid agreement and authorized the City Manager to sign it on behalf of the City.

A brief discussion ensued regarding the Bedford Main Street parking survey.

Mayor Messier asked that Bedford Main Street make a presentation to the Public Safety Committee regarding the survey and for the Committee to bring this back to Council.

Discussion ensued regarding the ownership and poor condition of Center Street, which is located behind Wachovia Bank.

The City Manager will review this issue and check into the ownership of the street.

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