

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., July 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 an adjourned Council meeting held on June 15, 2004, the minutes of a regular Council meeting held on June 22, 2004, and the minutes of a called Council meeting held on July 1, 2004, were approved as corrected.

City Manager Meadows reported on the following:

- July 15, 7:00 p.m. – Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) Public Hearing – regarding the old landfill
- July 15, 12:00 noon - State of the City/County Address – National D-Day Memorial
- Copies of the *Comparative Report of Local Government Revenue & Expenditures* are available in the City Manager's Office
- Automated Meter Reading Project is underway – Carolina Meter began installing new electric meters in the City and the County on July 12
- The City Manager will be on vacation the week of July 19 – 23

Discussion ensued regarding the City selling surplus vehicles on the eBay Internet site. The City Manager stated that he and James Ervin, Network Administrator, have been working on this project and have set up an account on eBay.

Councilman Wandrei asked that the staff do a study on the number of vehicles the City owns and determine if all of the vehicles are necessary.

Mayor Messier reviewed the list of proposed 2004-2006 City Council appointments to committees, boards, and commissions.

**PROPOSED 2004-2006 CITY COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS  
TO COMMITTEES, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS  
EFFECTIVE JULY 13, 2004**

City Planning Commission - Jeff Hubbard

Council Representative to City School Board - C. G. Stanley

Transportation Safety Commission – Tom Padgett  
Keep Bedford Beautiful Commission – Jeff Hubbard  
LynCAG Board of Directors - Mary Flood  
Region 2000 Regional Commission – Tom Messier  
Region 2000 Workforce Investment Council – Tom Messier  
Bedford Main Street, Inc. Board of Directors – Bob Wandrei  
Joint City/County Tourism Committee – Skip Tharp

### **STANDING COMMITTEES**

Electric - Mary Flood, Chair; Jeff Hubbard  
Finance – Jeff Hubbard, Chair; Bob Wandrei  
Property – Tom Padgett, Chair; Mary Flood  
Public Safety – C. G. Stanley, Chair; Skip Tharp  
Streets – Skip Tharp, Chair; Tom Padgett  
Water & Sewer – Bob Wandrei, Chair; C. G. Stanley  
Solid Waste – Bob Wandrei, Chair; Mary Flood

### **SPECIAL COMMITTEES**

City/County Relations – Tom Messier, Chair; Skip Tharp

### **APPOINTMENT BY INDIVIDUAL**

Mary Flood	Electric Committee, Chair Property Committee Solid Waste Committee LynCAG Board of Directors
Jeff Hubbard	Finance Committee, Chair Electric Committee City Planning Commission Council Representative to KBBC Board
Tom Padgett	Property Committee, Chair Streets Committee Transportation Safety Commission
C. G. Stanley	Public Safety Committee, Chair Water & Sewer Committee Council Representative to the City School

Board

Skip Tharp	Streets Committee, Chair Public Safety Committee Joint City/County Tourism Committee City/County Relations
Bob Wandrei	Water & Sewer Committee, Chair Finance Committee Solid Waste Committee, Chair Bedford Main Street, Inc., Board of Directors
Tom Messier	Region 2000 Regional Commission Region 2000 Workforce Investment Council City/County Relations Committee, Chair

**NOTE: The Mayor is a member of all Standing and Special Committees of City Council.**

Mayor Messier reported that the City and County Relations Committee met earlier in the day. The County Committee inquired as to the City’s non-funding of a curator for the Museum. The City Committee explained the City had not intended to provide funds for a curator due to lack of funds. The Mayor stated that the animal shelter was discussed and the County has offered the City a contract. This item will be on the agenda of the next regular Council meeting. Mayor Messier stated that the water moratorium was discussed, and a meeting will be scheduled with the City/County Relations Committee and the Bedford County Public Service Authority.

City Manager Meadows requested that action on agenda item “Consideration of Amending Section 904 of the Land Development Regulations” be deferred until the July 27 regular Council meeting.

It was the consensus of Council that the agenda item be deferred until the July 27 Council meeting, as requested by the City Manager.

Bart Warner, Director of Planning & Community Development, stated that in Council’s discussion of a previous conditional use request, it became obvious that there was an error on the part of staff interpreting Section 904.09 of the Land Development Regulations as it pertains to what can be included on a freestanding sign in a commercially zoned district. Mr. Warner indicated the Planning Commission met on July 8 and unanimously recommended amending the language to broaden what would be permitted in terms of the content of the sign.

Mr. Warner report on a second aspect of the request – on July 8, a request was received to amend the Sign Ordinance to increase the allowable current height in a commercial district for freestanding signs. The Planning Commission took that request under advisement. Mr. Warner stated it is necessary that the appropriate ordinance to allow the increase will have to be properly posted and advertised.

The Public Hearing Notice follows:

### **PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**

Notice is hereby given of a public hearing to be held by the City Planning Commission at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, July 8, 2004, and by the City Council at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, July 13, 2004, at the City Municipal Building, Council Hall, 215 East Main Street for the purpose of:

- To consider an amendment of Section 904 (Signs) of the Land Development Regulations.
- To consider an amendment of the Comprehensive Plan.

Information regarding these requests is on file in the office of Planning & Community Development.

Anyone who is in favor of or opposed to these requests will have an opportunity to express his/her views at this hearing.

By the Authority of the Planning  
Commission and City Council of  
The City of Bedford

Mayor Messier opened the public hearing regarding an amendment of Section 904 (Signs) of the Land Development Regulations at 7:37 p.m. As there were no comments, the Mayor closed the public hearing at 7:37 p.m.

City Manager Meadows stated that each year the City adopts a new Five Year CIP Program. It is requested that the Comprehensive Plan be updated with the most recent version of the Capital Improvement Plan.

Mayor Messier opened the public hearing regarding an amendment of the Comprehensive Plan at 7:38 p.m. As there were no comments, the Mayor closed the public hearing at 7:38 p.m.

The Consent Agenda consisted of the following item: Request by Rolling Thunder, Inc. to temporarily close streets for a POW/MIA procession through the City on September 18, 2004. The procession will leave Liberty High School in time to arrive at the National D-Day Memorial at 12:30 p.m. for a ceremony and flag raising to take place at 1:00 p.m. The streets affected: Route 122, Independence Blvd., East and West Main Street, Crenshaw Street, and Tiger Trail.

On motion by Vice Mayor Tharp, seconded by Councilman Padgett, voted upon and carried unanimously, Council adopted the Consent Agenda.

Mr. Randy Vaughn, Project Manager, Wiley & Wilson, gave a presentation regarding the proposed plans for the Electric Department Facility at the former Rubatex Adams Street Warehouse. Mr. Vaughn reviewed costs estimates and alternative items for the project. The City Manager spoke regarding the cost estimates for the project and the budget. Mr. Meadows asked Council for a consensus that would allow the project to move forward to go out to the bid stage.

Discussion ensued regarding the plans submitted by Wiley & Wilson and the potential use of the current Electric Department Building.

Mr. Lynn Kirby, Axis Creative Network, gave a presentation regarding the Chamber of Commerce's New "Buy In Bedford" campaign, which is designed to educate the public about the benefits of shopping the greater Bedford community first.

City Council had received a memorandum from the President and Executive Director of Bedford Main Street, Inc., which indicated the Chamber of Commerce is recruiting five corporate level sponsors (to invest \$2,500) who will receive top recognition on television, radio, billboard, and other advertisements. Members of Bedford Main Street feel that *Historic Centertown Bedford* as a shopping destination should be included in this group of top supporters. Mr. Bill Mosley, Vice President, Bedford Main Street, Inc., stated that Main Street is requesting Council to help support this campaign by making a contribution toward its goal of \$2,500.00

The Mayor asked that this item be included on the agenda of the first regular meeting in August.

City Manager Meadows stated the Planning Commission recommends that Council consider adopting an amendment to the City of Bedford Comprehensive Plan Appendix 3.

The Clerk of Council read aloud the following proposed resolution:

**RESOLUTION OF THE  
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BEDFORD  
AMENDING APPENDIX 3 OF  
THE CITY OF BEDFORD COMPREHENSIVE PLAN**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Bedford, Virginia (the "City") is a political subdivision of the Commonwealth of Virginia exercising public and essential governmental functions pursuant to the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia; and

**WHEREAS**, the Commonwealth of Virginia requires that local governments adopt and update every five years a comprehensive plan in order to best promote the health, safety, morals, order, convenience, prosperity and general welfare of the inhabitants; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council of the City of Bedford adopted an updated version of the City of Bedford Comprehensive Plan on January 28, 2003; and

**WHEREAS**, the City's intent is for the City of Bedford Comprehensive Plan to be an accurate and current representation of the City's policy at any given time; and

**WHEREAS**, the Appendix 3 of the City of Bedford Comprehensive Plan contains the City of Bedford's Five Year Capital Improvement Program; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Bedford's Five Year Capital Improvement Program has recently been amended to commence concurrent with the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2004; and

**WHEREAS**, the Planning Commission, at its first regular meeting in the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2004, held a public hearing and recommended amendment of Appendix 3 of the City of Bedford Comprehensive Plan to replace the Capital Improvement Program beginning July 1, 2003 with the one commencing on July 1, 2004,

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the City Council of the City of Bedford, Virginia that APPENDIX 3 OF THE CITY OF BEDFORD COMPREHENSIVE PLAN be amended this 13th day of July 2004.

On motion by Councilman Padgett, seconded by Councilwoman Flood, voted upon and carried by a roll call vote, Council adopted the resolution amending Appendix 3 of the Comprehensive Plan. Roll call vote follows:

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

The City Manager reported that the City's written policy on Equal Opportunity needs to be updated on a regular basis. Legal counsel has reviewed and approved the proposed updated Equal Opportunity Statement.

On motion by Vice Mayor Tharp, seconded by Councilman Padgett, voted upon and carried unanimously, the updated Equal Opportunity Statement was approved. The Statement follows as adopted:

City of Bedford  
Equal Opportunity Employer Statement

The City of Bedford is an Equal Opportunity Employer, and hereby affirms that it is the policy of the City to maintain and promote equal opportunity and diversity for all employees, applicants for employment and contractors in accordance with the relevant Federal and State Laws.

The City will not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, marital status, veteran status, sexual orientation, ancestry, or citizenship status.

In support of a diverse workforce, decisions as to hiring, promotion and other aspects of the employment relationship will be based solely upon job related qualifications.

The City will not tolerate any kind of harassment of employees or retaliation against an employee who brings a complaint forward. Allegations of harassment will be taken seriously, promptly investigated, and appropriate action taken depending on the severity of the situation.

Councilman Padgett moved that Council adjourn into closed session pursuant to Section 2.2-3711(a)(1) of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended, personnel, to interview applicants for two positions on the Recreation Advisory Board. Councilwoman Flood seconded the motion. The motion was voted upon and carried by the following roll call vote:

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

Council adjourned into closed session at 8:40 p.m. Non-Council members attending were: City Manager Meadows, City Attorney Berry, and applicants for the Recreation Advisory Board.

Council reconvened into open session at 9:25 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 Vice Mayor Tharp, seconded by Councilman Padgett, voted upon and carried by a roll call vote, Council adopted the resolution. Roll call vote follows:

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

Mayor Messier adjourned the meeting at 9:26 p.m.