

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., November 23, 2004.

Members present: Mayor E. Thomas Messier; Councilman C. G. Stanley, Jr.; Vice Mayor W. D. Tharp; and Councilman Robert T. Wandrei.

Members absent: Councilwoman Mary L. Flood; Councilman Jeffrey B. Hubbard; and Councilman Thomas M. Padgett.

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 November 5, 2004, and the minutes of a regular Council meeting held on November 9, 2004, were approved as distributed.

The City Manager reported on the following:

- Dates of interest: November 25 and 26 - City offices closed for Thanksgiving Holiday; November 30, 6:00 p.m. Council Hall – Independence Boulevard Master Plan Study and December 7 – follow-up meeting; December 4 – Bedford Christmas Parade; December 9, 11:30 a.m.– ribbon cutting for Central Virginia Community College, East Coast Fabricators and Rhino Powder Coating Services and State of the Commonwealth luncheon following; December 9, 6:30 p.m. at Bedford Elementary School – City holiday dinner; November 26-January 2, holiday lights at Liberty Lake Park; December 10, Elks Home lighting.
- Statement of Economic Interests forms due in the City Manager's Office by December 15
- interviews were held last week for engineering firms to design a solid waste transfer station.

Councilman Wandrei stated that Bedford Main Street, Inc., could use volunteers to help with the Christmas parade.

Mayor Messier opened the public hearing regarding the Virginia Department of Transportation Project Programming at 7:35 p.m.

The Public Hearing Notice follows:

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Notice is hereby given of a public hearing to be held by the City Council at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, November 23, 2004 at the City Municipal

Building, Council Hall, 215 East Main Street for the purpose of recommending the following projects for inclusion in the Virginia Department of Transportation Six Year Improvement Program:

- Intersection improvements to Route 122 including extension of Roberts Lane directly across Burks Hill Road (Route 122) in a manner that will connect it to Overlord Circle, and abandonment of the current intersection of Tiger Trail and Burks Hill Road;
- Signalization of egress ramps from Highway 460 onto Route 122;
- Improvement of Link Road, including widening and its connection to proposed new adjacent road(s);
- Installation of a traffic signal at the intersection of Freedom Lane and Independence Boulevard; and
- Installation of a traffic signal at the intersection of Orange Street and Independence Boulevard.

Information regarding this request is on file in the office of Planning & Community Development.

Anyone who is in favor of or opposed to the requests will have an opportunity to express his/her views at this hearing. Written comments may be submitted to the attention of City Council at P.O. Box 807, Bedford, VA 24523, and will be received until Tuesday, November 23, 2004.

The City of Bedford prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact the City Manager's office at (540) 587-6001.

By the Authority of The City Council
of the City of Bedford

As there were no comments, the Mayor closed the public hearing at 7:36 p.m.

Staff Sergeant Darryl Updike, Bedford National Guard, gave a report on the activities of the troops from the local National Guard Unit in Afghanistan.

Staff Sergeant Updike thanked Council and people in the community for the tremendous support the troops have received from the Bedford Community

Mayor asked Staff Sergeant Updike to extend holiday wishes and prayers to the troops.

City Manager Meadows stated that in order to include new projects in the Virginia Department of Transportation's Six Year Improvement Plan, municipalities have to conduct a public hearing and adopt a resolution requesting said projects. Mr. Meadows stated that the staff recommends the following projects for inclusion in the Six-Year Improvement Program, listed in terms of priority from highest to lowest:

- Intersection improvements to Route 122 including extension of Roberts Lane directly across Burks Hill Road (Route 122) in a manner that will connect it to Overlord Circle, and abandonment of the current intersection of Tiger Trail and Burks Hill Road;
- Signalization of egress ramps from Highway 460 onto Route 122;
- Improvement of Link Road, including widening and its connection to proposed new adjacent road(s);
- Installation of a traffic signal at the intersection of Orange Street and Independence Boulevard.
- Installation of a traffic signal at the intersection of Freedom Lane and Independence Boulevard; and

On motion by Vice Mayor Tharp, seconded by Councilman Wandrei, voted upon and carried, Council waived the reading of the proposed resolution regarding Virginia Department of Transportation Project Programming.

Vice Mayor Tharp moved that the resolution be adopted as presented. Councilman Wandrei seconded the motion.

Mayor Messier questioned the proposed traffic signals to be placed on Independence Boulevard.

The City Manager stated signals may be required because of traffic counts and safety issues.

Councilman Wandrei suggested that installation of a traffic signal at the intersection of Freedom Lane and Independence Boulevard be last on the priority list and installation of a traffic signal at the intersection of Orange Street and Independence Boulevard be next to last on the list.

Chief Graham spoke of speeding and sight distance issues on Independence Boulevard.

Vice Mayor Tharp amended his motion to adopt the resolution with following change: installation of a traffic signal at the intersection of Freedom Lane and Independence Boulevard be last on the priority list and installation of a traffic signal at the intersection of Orange Street and Independence Boulevard be next to last on the list. Councilman Wandrei, who seconded the motion, agreed to the amendment. The motion was then voted upon and carried by the following roll call vote:

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

The resolution follows as adopted:

**RESOLUTION OF THE
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BEDFORD
REGARDING VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION PROJECT PROGRAMMING**

WHEREAS, in accordance with Virginia Department of Transportation (“the Department”) construction allocation procedures, it is necessary that a request by council resolution be made in order that the Department program an urban highway project in the City of Bedford; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Bedford, Virginia, requests the Virginia Department of Transportation to establish urban system highway projects, listed in terms of priority from highest to lowest, as follows:

- Intersection improvements to Route 122 including extension of Roberts Lane directly across Burks Hill Road (Route 122) in a manner that will connect it to Overlord Circle, and abandonment of the current intersection of Tiger Trail and Burks Hill Road;
- Signalization of egress ramps from Highway 460 onto Route 122;
- Improvement of Link Road, including widening and its connection to any and all proposed new adjacent road(s);
- Installation of a traffic signal at the intersection of Orange Street and Independence Boulevard; and
- Installation of a traffic signal at the intersection of Freedom Lane and Independence Boulevard.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Bedford hereby agrees to pay its share of the total cost for preliminary engineering, right of way and construction of these projects in accordance with Section 33.1-44 of the Code of Virginia, and that, if the City of Bedford subsequently elects to cancel these projects, the City of Bedford hereby agrees to reimburse the Virginia Department of Transportation for the total amount of the costs expended by the Department through the date the Department is notified of such cancellation.

Mayor Messier adjourned the meeting at 7:42 p.m.