

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., December 13, 2005.

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

Members absent: Councilman Jeffrey B. Hubbard

Staff present: Interim City Manager Jack A. Gross; 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 November 22, 2005, and the minutes of an adjourned meeting held on December 6, 2005, were approved as distributed.

Interim City Manager Gross asked that Council add an item to the agenda regarding funding for extension of sewer lines.

Mr. Gross reported on the following:

- City Holidays – December 23 and 26
- Statement of Economic Interest forms – due in the City Manager Office by December 15
- Open House for Brenda Daniel, retiring Commissioner of the Revenue – December 20 from 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the Commissioner's Office

It was the consensus of Council to add the following item to the agenda under "New Business" – Funding for Extension of Sewer Lines.

Councilman Stanley, Chairman of the Public Safety Committee, stated the Committee met earlier in the evening. Mr. Stanley stated that Fire Chief Stone made a presentation on a five-year strategic plan for the purchase of a ladder truck. Mr. Stanley stated this will require further discussion and the Committee is looking at the possibility of discussing the purchase of a ladder truck with Bedford County.

Mr. John Aldridge, Brown Edwards and Company, stated that the State Code requires that he present to Council each year the annual financial audit. Mr. Aldridge stated the City has received the highest award that a government finance department can receive for the past several years.

Mr. Gross reported that recent legislation passed by the Virginia General Assembly requires communities to develop a source water supply plan. The State Water Control Board has mandated regulations to implement this process. Early in November, the DEQ

announced the availability of grant funds to assist localities with the cost of development of these source water plans. Mr. Gross stated that the Regional 2000 Local Government Council has agreed to assist the members localities with the cost of development of these source water plans by submitting an application for funding that will be used to help develop base data and a scope of work that will meet the DEQ water planning requirements for each of the 11 jurisdictions.

Mr. Gross stated that the Local Government Council plans will divide the process into two phases, Phase 1 for planning, and Phase 2 for implementation. It is estimated that Phase 1 will be completed by July 1, 2006, and that Phase 2 will be completed by the 2010 deadline for the City of Bedford. The Local Government Council has requested that the jurisdictions pass resolutions to approve this study, and provide the City's 15 percent matching proportion in the amount of \$369.00 for Phase 1.

Mayor Messier waived the reading of the proposed resolution regarding development of a source water plan.

On motion by Vice Mayor Tharp, seconded by Councilman Stanley, voted upon and carried by a roll call vote, Council adopted the resolution.

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

The resolution follows as adopted:

Resolution

WHEREAS, the Virginia General Assembly has mandated the development of source water supply plans throughout the Commonwealth and the State Water Control Board has developed regulations to implement this planning process, and

WHEREAS, based upon these regulations the City of Bedford is required to complete a water supply plan that fulfills the regulations by November 2, 2010, and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality has announced the availability of grant funds to assist localities offset some of the costs related to the development of these plans and are encouraging localities to submit applications for grant funds using regional water supply plans, and

WHEREAS, the Virginia's Region 2000 Local Government Council has offered to coordinate a planning study to examine the feasibility of the development of a regional water supply plan, develop a scope of work for such a project and to seek grant funds from DEQ to offset the cost of this review, and

WHEREAS, regional water supply planning is a sensible approach to developing a water supply plan since watershed boundaries do not follow political boundaries and since there will likely be cost savings to all jurisdictions participating, and

WHEREAS, the Virginia's Region 2000 Local Government Council has previously managed the development of successful regional plans and is a logical entity to organize and manage a regional water supply planning process, and

WHEREAS, the City of Bedford desires to participate in a regional water supply plan feasibility study that will develop a scope of work for a regional water supply plan and desires to secure DEQ grant funds to help offset the cost of the scope of work development.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Bedford authorizes Virginia's Region 2000 Local Government Council to develop an application for source water planning grant funds and to perform a feasibility study and to develop a scope of work for a regional source water supply plan which will meet mandated regulations and provide long range perspective on the needs and opportunities of the region's future water supply, and

IT IS RESOLVED, that the City Manager is authorized to sign appropriate documents related to the source water planning grant and the regional source water supply plan on behalf of the City of Bedford, and

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City of Bedford intends to provide up to \$369 in matching funds for the project if the grant is awarded.

Mr. Gross stated the City currently owns property located on Sharp Top Mountain approximately five miles north of the City limits in Bedford County. The property is identified as Bedford County Tax Parcel #54-A-9. The property is essentially landlocked, having no frontage on a public right-of-way, and is bounded on all four contiguous sides by property under the control of the National Park Service and the Western Virginia Land Trust. Mr. Gross reported that the City solicited sealed bids for consideration of the sale of this property in July 2004. One bid in the amount of \$19,000 was received; however, the bid was rejected.

Mr. Gross stated the Western Virginia Land Trust has submitted a subsequent proposal to purchase the property for the price of \$20,000. The Land Trust intends to transfer the

property to the National Park Service for inclusion in the Blue Ridge Parkway facility. The Property Committee discussed this matter on November 22, 2005, and recommends that the City proceed with consideration of this purchase proposal received from the Western Virginia Land Trust.

On motion by Councilman Wandrei, seconded by Vice Mayor Tharp, voted upon and carried, Council authorized the publication of a public hearing notice for consideration of the sale of the Sharp Top property identified as Bedford County Tax Parcel #54-A-9.

Interim City Manager Gross stated that Rush Homes is a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing the opportunity for permanent, affordable homes to adults with low incomes and significant mental and/or physical disabilities in Central Virginia. Rush Homes has an approved site plan for development of property on Church Street identified as Tax Parcels 195-A-33 and 195-A-32. To facilitate this development, Rush Homes is seeking the City's sponsorship of a planning grant through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program administered by the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD).

Mr. Gross reported that the City has been awarded a current CDBG planning grant for improvements in the Centertown area, and it is staff's intent to pursue a construction grant in the next available funding cycle. DHCD's stated focus for this grant program is low to moderate income housing. Given this information, the staff believes that inclusion of the Rush Homes project would bolster the City's application for the construction grant, and therefore recommends sponsorship of the CDBG planning grant. Mr. Gross stated the application process is time-sensitive, and the need for specific Council action was brought to the attention of the staff just last week. Due to the timing of the request from Rush Homes, the Planning Commission has not reviewed this issue.

Allison Wingfield, Executive Director of Rush Homes, explained that the development will have sixteen units, ten of the units for people with disabilities and six will be for people without disabilities.

Mr. Warner, Assistant to the City Manager, stated that basically Rush Homes is requesting the State to give them money to develop a site plan. Mr. Warner stated the City would not be obligated to match any of the money. Mr. Warner stated the City will thoroughly evaluate the site plan.

Vice Mayor Tharp moved that Council authorize the City Manager to include Rush Homes in a CDBG planning grant. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Flood, voted upon and carried, five members voting aye, one member voting nay (Wandrei), and one member absent (Hubbard).

Mr. Gross stated the City has found it necessary to install additional sewer lines on Moneta Road and Independence Boulevard to provide sewer service for two businesses. The City wishes to enter into a contract for the construction of the two sewer lines. In order to complete the funding needed for the project, City staff needs to transfer \$15,000 from Special Projects and \$21,054 from the Economic Development Fund in the General Fund to the Sewer Line Construction account in the Water and Sewer Fund. This will result in a transfer of \$36,054 from the General Fund to the Water and Sewer Fund. In addition to the transfer, \$17,484 needs to be appropriated to the Revenue Sharing Projects Account in the Water and Sewer Fund.

On motion by Councilman Wandrei, seconded by Councilman Stanley, voted upon and carried by a roll call vote, Council approved the transfer of \$15,000 from Account

104137.3565 (Special Projects) and \$21,054 from Account 108161.4199 (Economic Development Fund) to Account 181874.3709 (Sewer Line Construction) and appropriated an additional \$17,484 to Account 181891.4246 (Moneta Road Sewer Line). Roll call vote follows:

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

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, for discussion of prospective candidates for the office of City Manager. Vice Mayor Tharp seconded the motion. The motion was voted upon and carried by the following roll call vote:

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

Council adjourned into closed session at 8:01 p.m. The following non-council members attended: City Manager Meadows and City Attorney Berry.

Council reconvened into open session at 8:12 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 Stanley, voted upon and carried by a roll call vote, Council adopted the resolution. Roll call vote follows:

Councilman Stanley	aye
Vice Mayor Tharp	aye
Councilman Wandrei	aye
Councilwoman Flood	aye

Councilman Hubbard	absent
Councilman Padgett	aye
Mayor Messier	aye

Mayor Messier adjourned the meeting at 8:12 p.m. until December 22, 2005, at 9:00 a.m.