

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., September 26, 2006.

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 Charles P. Kolakowski; 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 September 12, 2006, were approved as distributed.

City Manager Kolakowski reported on the following:

- The City Council Retreat is scheduled for Thursday, September 28 at 8:30 a.m. at the Bedford Welcome Center.
- The 25th annual Centerfest will held on September 30; over 180 vendors have signed up; a Safety Day will be held at the Farmer's Market.

City Manager Kolakowski stated that October has been designated a Public Power Month, in which communities across the United States celebrate their commitment to providing public power for their citizens and customers. October is also the month in which the City's Electric Department celebrates its 107th anniversary as the provider of public power to the community.

Mayor Messier waived the reading of the proposed resolution regarding Public Power Month.

On motion by Councilman Wandrei, seconded by Councilman Stanley, voted upon and carried unanimously by a roll call vote, Council adopted the resolution regarding Public Power Month. 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 resolution follows as adopted:

**Resolution Declaring October
As Public Power Month**

WHEREAS, the citizens of Bedford have chosen to operate a community-owned, not-for-profit electric utility; and

WHEREAS, we are both consumers and owners of our public power system and have a direct say in utility operations and policies; and

WHEREAS, The City of Bedford Electric Department provides our homes, businesses, farms, social service, and local government agencies with reliable, efficient, and cost-effective electricity employing sound business practices designed to ensure the best possible service at the lowest possible rates; and

WHEREAS, The City of Bedford Electric Department is part of a community of 2,000 publicly owned electric utilities in the United States that through consumer-ownership ensure competition in the electric utility industry to the benefit of electricity consumers everywhere; and

WHEREAS, the City began operation of its municipal electric system in 1899 and has provided our citizens and other customers with reliable, low-cost power for 107 years;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the month of October be declared as Public Power Month in order to honor the City of Bedford Electric Department, its consumers-owners, policy makers, and employees, who work together to provide the best possible electric service, and that our community join hands with other public power communities across the nation and celebrate the benefits of public power to our local and national progress.

The City Manager stated it had been requested by a Council member that the City representative on the County School Board give a presentation regarding ongoing issues with the City schools.

Councilman Stanley stated that he had requested the City representative on the County School Board, Mickey VanDerwerker, to report to Council possibly once a month regarding issues in the school system.

Ms. VanDerwerker reviewed a handout she gave to members of Council regarding school scholarships, Liberty zone enrollment, teacher turnover rate, alternative program (Forest end of the County), SOL program, and awards. Ms. VanDerwerker asked about the type of information that Council would want her to report on.

Councilman Stanley indicated that the same type of report she gave to Council members would be appropriate.

The Mayor stated he would like to hear about all matters.

Vice Mayor Tharp asked for an enrollment comparison between school zones.

Vice Mayor Tharp moved that Council adjourn into closed session pursuant to Section 2.2-3711(a)(7) of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended, for consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff members pertaining to litigation with Michael Schrock; and pursuant to Section 2.2-3711(a)(1) of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended, discussion of personnel matters. The motion was seconded by Councilman Padgett, voted upon and carried unanimously by a roll call vote as follows:

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 8:00 p.m. The following non-council members attended: City Manager Kolakowski, City Attorney Berry, Assistant City Manager Warner, and Mr. James A. Vest.

Council reconvened into open session at 8:20 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 Councilman Stanley, seconded by Councilman Hubbard, 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 8:28 p.m. until September 28, 2006, at the Bedford Welcome Center at 8:30 a.m.