

November 8, 2011

A regular meeting of the Council of the City of Bedford, Virginia, was held in the Council Hall of the Municipal Building at 7:00 p.m., November 8, 2011.

Members present: Mayor W. D. Tharp, Councilman Guy E. Murray, Jr.; Councilman Steve C. Rush; Councilman C. G. Stanley, Jr.; Councilman James A. Vest; and Vice Mayor Robert T. Wandrei

Members absent: Councilwoman Mary L. Flood

Staff present: City Manager Charles P. Kolakowski; City Attorney W. W. Berry, IV; and Clerk of the Council Teresa W. Hatcher.

Mayor Tharp opened the meeting and led all present in saying the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Mayor Tharp declared that the minutes of a regular Council meeting held on October 25, 2011, were approved as distributed.

City Manager Kolakowski reported on the following:

- The work at the Stoney Creek Dam is progressing, is within the schedule, and is within the budget. He will take Council members to view the project if they so desire.
- A nationwide test of the Emergency Alert System will be held on November 12 at 2:00 p.m.

The City Manager said the Board of Zoning Appeals is in need of several members.

City Attorney Berry explained that members of the Board of Zoning Appeals, under State law, are appointed by the Circuit Court Judge. Mr. Berry said that customarily he prepares a petition and an order and makes suggestions to the Judge. It is up to the Judge as to who is appointed. The City runs an ad in the newspaper notifying the public that there are vacancies. Mr. Berry said the ad was run and no one indicated any interest. He said that members of Council could submit suggested appointees to the Judge. Mr. Berry spoke to Mr. Warner in the Planning Department regarding suggested appointees.

Mr. Warner, Assistant City Manager, suggested that Mr. Buddy McCraw, previous member, and Mrs. Casey Dagenhart, certified planner, be submitted to the Judge for consideration.

The City Attorney stated he will submit those names to the Judge before the end of November.

The City Manager stated the Finance Committee discussed scheduling the City Council planning retreat for December 7 at 10:00 a.m. Mr. Kolakowski said that one topic to be discussed at the retreat will be having an emphasis on redevelopment, retention, and attraction of businesses.

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Councilman Vest said he was glad that the Christmas decorations will be installed in the proper direction this year.

Mayor Tharp stated that Councilwoman Flood had knee replacement surgery on November 2 and is doing well.

Councilman Murray stated that the Public Safety Committee met and discussed a pool room ordinance and an ordinance for pneumatic rifles. The Chief will prepare the ordinances for a later date.

Councilman Murray commended the Chief for the way the department handled Halloween with zero injuries. The Chief is also going to report back to the Safety Committee concerning an ordinance dealing with bow hunting in the City for deer.

Councilman Vest stated the Finance Committee met and reviewed the first quarter financial reports and everything appears to be going as anticipated.

Mr. Sergei Troubetzkoy, Tourism and Welcome Center Director, reviewed the Bedford Tourism 2011 Calendar Year Highlights report. He stated that tourism is healthy in Bedford. The visitation at the Welcome Center is down slightly this year partly due to fewer meetings in the conference room and the D-Day Memorial has changed its policy since last year and many of the group tours do not stop at the Welcome Center before going to the D-Day site. Mr. Troubetzkoy said that by the end of this year, nearly 50,000 people will have visited the Welcome Center.

Mayor Tharp thanked Mr. Troubetzkoy and the Welcome Center staff for the work they do.

Mr. Dan Plattus, Executive Director, Bedford Main Street, Inc., gave an update regarding new businesses, renovation efforts, the Farmers' Markets, festivals, programs, and promotions.

On motion by Councilman Stanley, seconded by Councilman Murray, voted upon and carried by a roll call vote, Council adopted the resolution cancelling the second meeting in December. Roll call vote follows:

Councilwoman Flood	absent
Councilman Murray	aye
Councilman Rush	aye
Councilman Stanley	aye
Councilman Vest	aye
Vice Mayor Wandrei	aye
Mayor Tharp	aye

The resolution follows as adopted:

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RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Section 11 of the Charter of the City of Bedford requires that Council shall "fix the time and place of its meeting," and

WHEREAS, the City Code requires in Section 2-27 that meetings shall be on "the second and fourth Tuesday of each month," and

WHEREAS, the second regular Council meeting in December is scheduled for December 27, 2011, which is during the Holiday season;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council meeting scheduled for December 27, 2011, be and the same hereby is canceled.

Mayor Tharp adjourned the meeting at 7:30 p.m. until December 7, 2011, at 10:00 a.m. at Liberty Lake Park for a Council Work Session.