

October 23, 2012

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., October 23, 2012.

Members present: Mayor W. D. Tharp; Councilwoman Mary L. Flood; 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: None

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 9, 2012, were approved as distributed.

City Manager Kolakowski reported on the following:

- The second Cruise In of the year was held on October 20 – over 100 cars participated – hundreds of people attended. The City Manager thanked the Main Street and the Merchants Association for holding the event.
- Requested that this meeting be adjourned until October 31 for Council to hold a work shop for issues on electric utility and with some discussion on the charter for the new town.

The Mayor said that six Council members attended the Freedom Fund Banquet on October 23 at The Columns here in Bedford. Mayor Tharp said it was his first visit to The Columns and the food, the presentation, and the program were a cut above.

The Consent Agenda consisted of the following item:

Bedford Main Street, Inc. is sponsoring the 2012 Bedford Christmas Parade on Saturday, December 1, 2012, at 12:00 p.m., (rain/snow date December 2nd at 5:00 p.m.) and is requesting that Council authorize the closing of the following streets for the holiday event:

From 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Bedford Avenue Extension from 4th Street to the curve of the Recreation Field, Ashland Avenue from the curve of the Recreation Field to the Elks Home Driveway, College Street from Ashland Avenue to Peaks Street, and Mountain Avenue in its entirety.

From approximately 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m., Peaks Street from College Street to North Bridge Street, North Bridge Street from Peaks Street to East Main Street, East Main Street from North Bridge Street to South Street, South Street from East Main Street to Washington Street, Washington Street from South Street to Center

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Street, Center Street in its entirety, West Main Street from Center Street to 4th Street, 4th Street from West Main Street to Macon Street, Macon Street from 4th Street to Summit Street, and Summit Street from Macon Street to the first entrance to the Winn Dixie Parking Lot.

Bedford Main Street will notify the Fire Department, Rescue Squad and Police Department of the street closings. Suitable public service announcements regarding these closings will be placed on the radio and in the newspaper. The residents of the affected streets will also be notified and will have ingress and egress to their homes.

On motion by Councilman Murray, seconded by Councilman Stanley, voted upon and carried unanimously by a roll call vote, Council approved the request to close the above streets for the Bedford Christmas Parade on Saturday, December 1, 2012, (rain/snow date December 2nd at 5:00 p.m.). Roll call vote follows:

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

The following individuals spoke regarding activities of the Region 2000 Commission:

Gary Christie, Executive Director of the Local Government Council, gave members of Council copies of the Local Government Council Annual Report – FY 12. Mr. Christie said the Council recently talked about a legislative agenda for the region, a greenways bicycle plan, funding for the Small Business Development Center, upcoming meetings with the Commonwealth Transportation Board, a regional hazard mitigation plan, an update on the Central Virginia Training Center transition, and other matters.

Brian Davis, Executive Director of the Workforce Investment Board, explained who is on the Board. Mr. Davis said the Board is updating the strategic plan and a new Policy Committee is going through the entire policy structure of the Board.

Bryan David, Executive Director of the Economic Development Council, gave members of Council a portfolio containing a synopsis of economic development activities in the region. Mr. David said the Council is the entity that brings together the private sector leadership, the higher education leadership, and the local government leadership. Mr. David reviewed some of the economic development activities included in the report.

Mr. David spoke about meeting with the representative of Columbia Gas, giving him a tour of the region, and showing him the areas that do not have access to natural gas. Mr. David said he was acting as a facilitator/coordinator for access to natural gas in the area.

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The City Manager announced that the Treasurer's Association of Virginia Fall District meetings and classes are held around the state in four locations. Mr. Kolakowski said that Bedford will be one of the locations this year at The Columns on October 26 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The City Manager said that it is because this type of facility, which was put up by private investment, that Bedford is able to get these types of events in the City. Mr. Kolakowski thanked City Treasurer Debbie Roberts for steering her association here.

Mayor Tharp adjourned the meeting at 7:40 p.m. until October 31, 2012, for a work session.