

February 11, 2014

A regular meeting of the Council of the Town of Bedford, Virginia, was held in the Council Hall of the Municipal Building at 7:00 p.m., February 11, 2014.

Members present: Mayor Robert T Wandrei; Councilman Robert D. Carson; Councilman Stacey L. Hailey; Councilman Steve C. Rush; Councilman C. G. Stanley, Jr.; Councilman W. D. Tharp; and Vice Mayor James A. Vest

Members absent: None

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

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

Mayor Wandrei declared that the minutes of a regular Council meeting held on January 28, 2014, were approved as distributed.

Town Manager Kolakowski reported on the following:

- Presented the proposed FY 2014-15 Town Budget - explained that the format is different than in past years and is still subject to change and review. It is a maintenance budget – looking to maintain current levels of operations and services and at the same time maintain the Town's properties, equipment, and infrastructure as it stands. The Town Manager said the Town has a rather extensive infrastructure situation with roads, sidewalks, drainage, and within the electric utility and staff is proposing significant investments in all those areas to continue to provide the level that the Town wants to provide businesses and residents. The proposed budget does not include an increase in taxes. The Town Manager explained highlights of the proposed budget which include a two percent increase in electric rates.

Vice Mayor Vest asked that Council revisit the hunting regulations at the next regular meeting.

Mr. Kolakowski said he had tentatively scheduled a committee meeting prior to the next meeting to discuss the hunting ordinance.

Councilman Tharp thanked members of Council and Mr. Kolakowski and Mr. Berry for the expressions of sympathy and support at the time of the death of his mother.

Councilman Tharp said he did an interview with a staff member of JLARC (Joint Legislative Audit & Review Committee) regarding the reversion process.

Mayor Wandrei read aloud a Proclamation in honor of Councilman Tharp's mother, Sadie Jane Walker Tharp.

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The Proclamation follows:

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, certain citizens in communities make significant personal and professional contributions of their talents, time, leadership and energies to improving the quality of life for the enjoyment of all other citizens; and

WHEREAS, Bedford, Virginia has particularly been enriched and improved by the contributions of such citizens for many years; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Sadie Jane Walker Tharp, who died at the age of 97 on January 11, 2014, after living in Bedford, Virginia for 71 years, exemplified the qualities of a strong community leader through her service in many capacities to the Town of Bedford and Bedford County; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Tharp leaves behind her son, Willard D. “Skip” Tharp, her grandson Christopher Freeman Tharp and his wife, Sarah Garst Glass and great-grandsons John Freeman Tharp and Theodore Richard Tharp. Her husband of 53 years, Glenn W. Tharp, and her brother, Robert Otey Walker, Jr., preceded her in death; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Tharp gave of her talents, time, leadership and energies as an Executive Secretary to Webster S. Rhodes, President of Miller and Rhodes Department Store in Richmond and Tharp Funeral Home & Crematory whereby she was active in the business and served as Corporate Secretary and Treasurer until her retirement in 1996; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Tharp was a devoted member of the Main Street United Methodist Church where she had served as Church Secretary and was active on numerous committees. Mrs. Tharp took great pride and accomplishment in being a member of the Building Committee that designed and built the current sanctuary. Mrs. Tharp served as Regent of the Peaks of Otter Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution from 1974 – 1977, and was instrumental in the fact finding, editing and publishing of “Echoes of Old Liberty” in 1976. Mrs. Tharp was a member of the Bedford Historical Society, the Friday Book Club and served as a docent at Thomas Jefferson’s Poplar Forest; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Tharp will be remembered in her community as a gracious lady, enthusiastic community leader and a supporter of the highest personal principles; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Tharp touched and impacted the lives of thousands of Bedford citizens over the years, and her significant contributions positively affected the quality of life in this community,

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along with her graciousness and enthusiasm that brought out the best from those she contacted.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, that the Mayor and Council of the Town of Bedford, Virginia, do hereby posthumously honor the contributions and achievements of Sadie Jane Walker Tharp, in recognition of her many years of service to her community.

The Mayor said there would be a closed session as the last item on the agenda.

Mayor Wandrei asked members of Council to notify Administrative Assistant Anderson if they will be attending the Bedford Area Chamber of Commerce annual dinner.

The Mayor said he had given members of Council information on Council salaries for other localities in the area and asked Council to bring their comments to the budget work session on February 18.

The following individuals gave presentations regarding FY 2014-15 budget requests for their organizations:

- Amanda Adams, Acting full time Director of Bedford Main Street
- Traci Blido, Bedford County Economic Development Director
Craig Coker, member of the Economic Development Board

Councilman Stanley moved that Council adjourn into closed session pursuant to Section 2.2-3711(a)(3), of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended, for the acquisition or disposition of publicly held real property, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position. Councilman Hailey seconded the motion. The motion was voted upon and carried by the following roll call vote:

Councilman Carson	aye
Councilman Hailey	aye
Councilman Rush	aye
Councilman Stanley	aye
Councilman Tharp	aye
Vice Mayor Vest	aye
Mayor Wandrei	aye

Council adjourned into closed session at 7:40 p.m. The following non-council members attended: Town Manager Kolakowski, Town, Attorney W. W. Berry, IV, and Assistant Town Manager, Barrett Warner

Council reconvened into open session at 7:43 p.m. .

The Clerk of Council read aloud the following resolution:

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BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Town 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 Rush, seconded by Councilman Hailey, voted upon and carried by a roll call vote, Council adopted the resolution. Roll call vote follows:

Councilman Hailey	aye
Councilman Rush	aye
Councilman Stanley	aye
Councilman Tharp	aye
Vice Mayor Vest	aye
Councilman Carson	aye
Mayor Wandrei	aye

Mayor Wandrei adjourned the meeting at 7:45 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. on February 18, 2014, at Liberty Lake Park.