

March 11, 2014

An adjourned meeting of the Council of the Town of Bedford, Virginia, from the regular meeting of February 25, 2014, was held in the Council Hall of the Municipal Building at 6:00 p.m., March 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 stated the purpose of the meeting was for a budget work shop.

Town Manager Kolakowski said one of the issues to be finalized in the proposed budget was the amount of funding for the Rescue Squad.

Vice Mayor Vest recommended leaving the Squad's funding as is (level funding - \$12,000), bring to their attention that the number of calls have been strongly reduced, and that this will probably have an effect on next year's contribution.

Councilman Tharp agreed with the Vice Mayor's recommendation. Mr. Tharp said the current Council does not have the ability to call the shots on a subsequent Council.

Councilman Rush said the Rescue Squad responded to half the calls they received and suggested putting \$6,000 in the proposed budget.

Mayor Wandrei said Council needs to let the Squad down gently because they are volunteers and recommended funding at \$12,000.

On motion by Vice Mayor Vest, seconded by Councilman Tharp, voted upon and carried by a roll call vote, Council directed that the funding for the Rescue Squad for FY 2014-15 be in the amount of \$12,000. Roll call vote follows:

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

The Town Manager said the next item for consideration was the radios required by the Fire Department for the transition to the new radio system being installed for the regional radio transmission system. After receiving final figures from Bedford County, it was determined that \$45,000 was needed instead of the \$35,000 included in the proposed

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budget. The Town Manager explained how existing funds will be utilized to make up the difference.

Chief of Police Day reported that the radios will go into service after July 1, 2015.

Town Manager Kolakowski said that in developing the budget and going through the reversion process, the policy had been set forth that Council would set the personal property tax rate at the lowest possible rate in order to continue to receive the \$280,600 from the State under the Personal Property Tax Relief Act (PPTRA). The Town Manager explained how this is accomplished. Mr. Kolakowski said the rate would need to be set at \$1.06.

On motion by Councilman Tharp, seconded by Councilman Hailey, voted upon and carried unanimously by a roll call vote, Council set the personal property tax rate at \$1.06. 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

Jeff Weddle, Public Service Director, reviewed a chart listing charges from January 2013 to January 2014 from American Municipal Power, Inc. There was a discussion regarding the extreme escalation of charges for the electric transmission and congestion in January that impacted the Town by approximately one-half million dollars.

Councilman Rush 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; and pursuant to Section 2.2-3711(a)(1) of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended, to discuss personnel matters. Councilman Hailey seconded the motion. The motion was voted upon and carried by the following roll call vote:

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

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Council adjourned into closed session at 6:34 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 6:50 p.m.

The Clerk of Council read aloud the following resolution:

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

Mayor Wandrei adjourned the meeting at 6:51 p.m.