

January 26, 2016

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., January 26, 2016.

Members present: Mayor Robert T. Wandrei; Councilman Tim Black; Councilman Robert D. Carson; Councilman Stacey L. Hailey; Vice Mayor Steve C. Rush; Councilman Beckham A. Stanley; and Councilman 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 12, 2016, were approved as distributed.

Town Manager Kolakowski reported on the following:

- expressed his appreciation to the following departments: Public Works, Public Safety Department, Electric Utility, and all of the staff people who put a great effort in handling the snow storm that came through, restoring the operations of the Town, and keeping it operating during the entire period in a very safe and efficient fashion. He also thanked all of the residents and businesses in Town for cooperating and working with the Town.

Mr. Joshua Ball, senior pastor of Grace Ministries and founder of the Grace House said that Grace House has helped over thirty people find shelter from the cold nights and has helped people find permanent housing. Mr. Ball said there is a need to expand the location at 6 C's Shopping Center and asked that Council waive the \$600 electric deposit or lower the amount of the deposit.

Mayor Wandrei said this request would be added as the last item on the agenda.

Councilman Vest and Mayor Wandrei expressed appreciation for the work the Town employees did during the recent winter storm.

The Town Manager read aloud the Notice of Public Hearing:

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Notice is hereby given of a public hearing to be held by the Planning Commission at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, January 7, 2016 and by Town

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Council at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 26, 2016 at the Town Municipal Building, Council Hall, 215 East Main Street for the purpose of:

- To consider an amendment to the Commercial/Light Industry District, CLI, Section 610.02 and to the Manufacturing District, M1, Section 611.02, of the Town of Bedford Land Development Regulations, by adding gymnasiums, swimming pools and other indoor sport facilities, provided they are conducted completely indoors, as a permitted use.

Information regarding this request is on file in the office of Planning & Community Development.

Anyone who is in favor of or opposed to this request will have an opportunity to express his/her view at this hearing.

By the Authority of the Planning Commission and
Town Council of the Town of Bedford

Mayor Wandrei opened the public hearing at 7:08 p.m. As there were no comments, the Mayor closed the public hearing at 7:08 p.m.

Mayor Wandrei presented service awards to the following Town employees:

- 5 years service - Eddie Trent; Jonathan Maddox
- 10 years service - Shannon Walker, Tim Brooke, Joe Dooley
- 15 years service - Sandy Bennett, Denzil Cadle, Bart Warner
- 20 years service - A. J. Fairchild, Garth Morck
- 35 years of service - Patricia Hunziker

Mayor Wandrei stated that the next item on the agenda was the Taxi Cab Ordinance.

On motion by Councilman Hailey, seconded by Councilman Black, voted upon and carried unanimously by a roll call vote, the ordinance amending Section 62-13 of the Town Code pertaining to rates for transportation and passengers and baggage was adopted. Roll call vote follows:

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

The ordinance follows as adopted:

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ORDINANCE NO. 16-1

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 62-13 PERTAINING TO RATES FOR TRANSPORTATION AND PASSENGERS AND BAGGAGE

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF BEDFORD, VIRGINIA:

Section 1. Section 62-13 of the Town Code is amended and re-enacted as follows:

(a) The rates for taxicab and for-hire automobile services within the town shall be such as are established from time to time by ordinance of the council of the town. No different rates shall be charged or collected for such service.

(b) The rates to be charged and collected for taxicab service shall be determined by accurate taximeters.

(c) The rates to be charged and collected for for-hire automobile service shall be determined by accurate odometers.

(d) Waiting time shall include the time the vehicle is stopped in traffic or stopped at the direction of the passenger. It shall also include time when the vehicle slows to a speed at which the charges under the distance rates are less than the charge for the time rates. Waiting time shall not include the first three (3) minutes after the vehicle has arrived at the destination to which it was called.

(e) When calls to a place of pick up are made to a taxicab or for-hire vehicle located at a stand, no charge shall be made until the taxicab or for-hire automobile arrives at the point of pickup.

(f) When a charge is made for waiting time, there shall be no charge for mileage.

(g) The rates for service rendered by taxicabs and for-hire automobiles shall be as follows:

(1) *Distance Rates:*

- a. For the first one-seventh (1/7) mile or fraction thereof, three dollars and fifteen cents (\$3.15).
- b. For each additional one-seventh (1/7) mile or fraction thereof, thirty cents (\$0.30).

(2) *Time Rates:* For each forty (40) seconds of waiting time, twenty cents (\$0.20). While a charge is made for waiting time, there shall be no charge for mileage under the foregoing distance rates.

(3) *Extra passengers:* For additional passengers sharing the same destination, an additional charge of thirty cents (\$0.30) per additional passenger with the total shared ride to be a joint obligation of those having the same destination. If one or no more passengers continue to further destinations, the additional part of the trip shall constitute a new fare.

(4) If the town manager determines that the average cost per gallon of regular unleaded self-service gasoline in the town as published by the American Automobile Association rises above five dollars (\$5.00) per gallon for a consecutive thirty-day period, a surcharge of one dollar (\$1.00) may be added to the current meter charge for each trip. Such surcharge shall be included on the rate card posted in each public vehicle. If the average cost per gallon of regular unleaded self-service gasoline in the town drops below five dollars (\$5.00), the town manager may remove the surcharge of one dollar (\$1.00) from the meter charges for each trip. Such surcharge may remain in effect until such time as the town manager notifies holders of permits for taxicab and for-hire service that the surcharge is to be removed, in which case no surcharge shall be charged or included on the rate card.

(5) Charges for trips outside the town limits may be discounted by agreement between the taxicab driver and the passenger.

(h) A schedule of rates of those providing van service shall be filed with the town manager. These rates shall be subject to review by the town council, from time to time at its discretion.

Mayor Wandrei said the next item on the agenda was the ordinance amending Sections 610.02 and 611.02 of the Land Development Regulations.

On motion by Councilman Hailey, seconded by Councilman Carson, voted upon and carried unanimously by a roll call vote, Council adopted the ordinance amending Sections 610.02 and 611.02 of the Land Development Regulations. Roll call vote follows:

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

The ordinance follows as adopted:

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ORDINANCE NO. 16-2

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE TOWN OF BEDFORD LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission of the Town of Bedford held a public hearing on January 8, 2015; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council held a public hearing after notice was given in the *Bedford Bulletin* once a week for two successive weeks as required by Virginia Code 15.2-2204; and

WHEREAS, it is found that the public necessity, convenience, general welfare, and good zoning practice are best served by changing the M-1, Manufacturing zoning district regulations;

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF BEDFORD, VIRGINIA:

Section 1. Section 610.02 of the Land Development Regulations of the Town of Bedford, Virginia, which lists permitted uses in the CLI, Commercial/Light Industry District, is amended by inserting the following language:

v. Gymnasiums, swimming pools, and other indoor sport facilities, provided they are conducted completely indoors.

Section 2. Section 611.02 of the Land Development Regulations of the Town of Bedford, Virginia, which lists permitted uses in the M-1, Manufacturing district, is amended by inserting the following proposed language:

z. Gymnasiums, swimming pools, and other indoor sport facilities, provided they are conducted completely indoors.

Section 3. This ordinance is effective upon enactment.

Mayor Wandrei said the next agenda items were the requests from various organizations. He thanked the representatives of the organization for appearing. The Mayor said the Chamber of Commerce representative could not attend the meeting and would appear at another meeting of Council.

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The following individuals gave presentations regarding FY 2016-17 budget requests for their organizations; spoke about activities of the organizations; and answered questions raised by members of Council.

- John, Messier, Chairman of the Board of Directors, Bedford Life Saving and First Aid Crew, Inc
- Bedford Main Street, Inc., Sara Smith, Executive Director
- Doug Cooper, Director, Bedford Museum and Genealogical Library; Jennifer Thompson, Head Librarian; and Grace Peterson, Archives & Business Manager
- Linda Brake, Program Director, Bedford Ride
- April Cheek-Messier, President, National D-Day Memorial Foundation
- Sarah Bratton, Director, Bower Center for the Arts
- Fred Duis, President, The Wharton Memorial Foundation

Bart Warner, Assistant Town Manager, stated the Comprehensive Plan is a legal requirement of the Commonwealth of Virginia. He said the Plan is an account of what we are as a community, what we expect to be, and what we hope to become. Mr. Warner recognized members of the Planning Commission. Mr. Warner reviewed the following goals and task areas that the Planning Commission has generated through its own visioning process over the last several months:

- **LAND USE** - The Town has significant ability to affect the way that all real property is used. Given that power we need to be certain that regulations are applied appropriately to achieve agree-upon goals.
- **CONSERVATION** - The Planning Commission views this task group as primarily related to preservation of what is already good and functional within the community. Regulatory matters related to environmental protection are still worthy of attention, but are largely administered by state and federal agencies.
- **ECONOMY** - This task group relates to the Town's general interest in being a well-rounded, vital, and robust community which provides a wide range of commercial opportunities for residents, customers, and visitors.
- **COMMUNITY FACILITIES & SERVICES** - This corresponds directly to physical assets and services that are maintained by the Town or may otherwise be viewed as public goods.
- **TRANSPORTATION** - Related to the Town's interest in providing a venue in which pedestrians, private motorists, and public transportation interests can move about efficiently and safely without creating undue conflicts or burdens upon any class of user.
- **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT** - This task area relates to connotations of community identity, values, sense of place, and quality of life.

Mr. Warner stated that eventually there will be a series of public meetings held to get input from the people the Town serves. He indicated that Council had been given copies of the report.

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Councilman Black asked if this report could be put on the Town's website or in the Bedford Bulletin so that the public could review it.

Councilman Vest thanked the members of the Planning Commission and staff for the work they did on preparing the report.

Mayor Wandrei stated that the last item on the agenda was the discussion concerning the reduction of electric charges to the homeless shelter.

Vice Mayor Rush moved that this item be referred to the Electric Committee. The motion was seconded by Councilman Stanley, voted upon and carried unanimously.

Crystal Orange, volunteer staff member at the Grace House, said she was told that it was Council who would make the decision on this request.

The Mayor said this item needs to be referred to the Electric Committee or the Finance Committee.

Ms. Orange expressed her concern about the shelter being in a bind trying to help people in the community and said that waiting until next week would be prohibiting the shelter from moving forward in things the community actually needs.

The Mayor stated he appreciated Ms. Orange's comments but there are other organizations such as the Christmas Station, the Free Clinic, Bedford Christian Ministry, and all of those organizations have similar requests as the Grace House and the requests should be addressed first by a committee.

Mayor Wandrei adjourned the meeting at 8:37 p.m.