



**Town Council  
Regular Council Meeting Minutes  
January 12, 2021**

The Town Council of Bedford, Virginia, held a regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, January 12, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Town Municipal Building at 215 East Main Street, Bedford, Virginia.

**Town Council members present:**

Mayor Tim Black, Vice Mayor Steve Rush, Councilman Stacey Hailey, Councilman Bruce Hartwick, Councilman Bruce Johannessen, Councilman Darren Shoen, and Councilman C. G. Stanley

**Town Council members absent:**

None.

**Town Staff present:**

Town Manager Bart Warner; Town Attorney William W. Berry, IV; Chief of Police Todd Foreman; Clerk of Council Debra B. Anderson; and Recording Secretary Julia Peters

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

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mayor Black declared that the minutes of the Town Council's regularly scheduled Council meeting of December 8, 2020 were approved as presented.

## **REPORT OF TOWN MANAGER**

Town Manager Barrett Warner reported:

- Due to renovations at their facility, the Town will be hosting meetings of the Bedford County Board of Supervisors within the Council Chambers for the next few months.

- Two items from the Planning Commission; a development proposal adjacent to the Governor's Hill neighbourhood as well as a conditional use permit of Highway 460 across from the Days Inn, will be heard as part of the agenda for the next Town Council meeting on January 26, 2021.
- Congratulations are extended to Fire Chief Brad Creasy on his formal recognition as a Certified Fire Official.
- Gary McIver noted that more building permits were issued in December than in any other month of 2020.
- Town offices will be closed on Monday, January 18, 2021, in observance of the federal holiday.
- 39 children were served by the Shop with a Cop Program during the holiday season.

Mr. Warner then deferred to Chief of Police Todd Foreman for a special presentation.

Chief Foreman called Kendall Herndon forward and presented her with a certificate from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA); in appreciation of her contribution to law enforcement's accreditation program as an Accreditation Manager. Ms. Herndon had many challenges, starting as a part-time accreditation manager and not having experience in law enforcement. She was able to learn quickly how to write policies, making sure the police department met appropriate standards, and how to retain compliance with CALEA. Chief Foreman noted the department's appreciation for Ms. Herndon's dedicated service to law enforcement. She was applauded by the meeting attendees for her hard work.

Chief Foreman called the attending police officers forward as well because the whole team of officers earned the accomplishment of accreditation of the department. The police department just received their plaque from CALEA, which stated:

"Be hereby known that the Bedford, Virginia, Police Department, having fully demonstrated its voluntary commitment to law enforcement excellence by living up to a body of standards deemed essential to the protection of the life, health, and safety, and rights of the citizens it serves, and having exemplified the best professional practices in the conduct of its responsibilities, is hereby upon recommendation of the members of the Commission, awarded the certificate of accreditation, effective the 13<sup>th</sup> of November, 2020, and is recognized as an accredited law enforcement agency for a period of four years."

Chief Foreman emphasized that the men and women of the police department are the ones that did the hard work to get accredited and are the ones meeting the standards as professional police officers, making the police department the best it can be.

Mayor Black commended Chief Foreman, Ms. Herndon, and the police officers for their dedication, hard work, and professionalism in serving the community well. He said it does not go unnoticed and everyone appreciates them.

## **APPEARANCES BEFORE COUNCIL**

None.

## **COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Councilman Shoen wanted everyone to prepare for the next public meeting pertaining to Governor's Hill, making sure the report is reviewed early enough so Council members are not seeing it for the first time at the next meeting and what conditions will be brought forward. He said that everyone had received an unsigned letter regarding this subject and noted Council members should be prepared.

Councilman Hailey congratulated Chief Foreman for his office's good work.

Vice Mayor Rush concurred with Councilman Hailey and complimented Chief Foreman for all that he has done.

Councilman Johannessen stated everyone was proud of Chief Foreman and the police department and also Fire Chief Creasy for his achievements.

Councilman Hartwick congratulated and thanked Chief Foreman and his department. He said the police department does an excellent job for the community and Chief Foreman has selected good officers to protect us. He also congratulated Fire Chief Creasy for his certification and noted that Bedford has excellent first responders.

Mayor Black thanked Chief Foreman and Fire Chief Creasy for all they do. He also mentioned he had notified all the Council members of their committee assignments. As information, a Council handbook was provided to all the members and they were encouraged to review the handbook. He also reminded Council to turn in their economic interest form by the end of the month.

## **REPORT OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES**

None.

## **REVISIONS TO AGENDA**

None.

## **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

None.

Town Manager Warner noted he omitted an important point in his earlier report, regarding the Bedford Middle School Redevelopment Project. The activity is moving at pace. Mr. McCormack is moving forward with closing on the property and has tentatively scheduled a groundbreaking ceremony for January 25, 2021. That date is significant because it will mark the one year anniversary of the tragic fire.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**Appointment of Members – Planning Commission**

Mr. James Towner and Ms. Gail Davis have requested reappointment to the Planning Commission, said terms to expire March 31, 2025. The positions have been advertised in the local newspaper, and no other citizens have volunteered to serve.

Ms. Cynthia Gunnoe expressed an interest in appointment to the Planning Commission and completed the “Application to Serve on Appointed Boards, Committees or Commissions” which was included in the Council’s agenda packets.

**ACTION REQUESTED:**

Town Council is requested to reappoint Mr. James Towner and Ms. Gail Davis to the Commission, said terms to expire March 31, 2025, and appoint Ms. Cynthia Gunnoe to serve on the Board, said term to expire March 31, 2025.

Mr. Rush moved, seconded by Mr. Hartwick to reappoint Mr. James Towner and Ms. Gail Davis to the Commission, said terms to expire March 31, 2025; and appoint Ms. Cynthia Gunnoe to serve on the Planning Commission, said term to expire March 31, 2025.

Voted upon and carried by a roll call vote. Roll call as follows:

Councilman Hailey	aye
Councilman Hartwick	aye
Councilman Johannessen	aye
Vice Mayor Rush	aye
Councilman Shoen	aye
Councilman Stanley	aye
Mayor Black	aye

The motion carried with seven members voting aye.

**Appointment of Member – Bedford Regional Water Authority**

Mr. Rusty Mansel expressed an interest in appointment to the Board of the Bedford Regional Water Authority. He has completed the appropriate application which was circulated in the

agenda packets. The position has also been advertised in the local newspaper, and no other citizens have volunteered to serve.

**ACTION REQUESTED:**

Town Council is requested to appoint Mr. Rusty Mansel to serve on the Bedford Regional Water Authority Board of Directors, said term to expire December 31, 2024.

Mr. Hartwick moved, seconded by Mr. Johannessen, to appoint Rusty Mansel to the Bedford Regional Water Authority, said term to expire December 31, 2024.

Voted upon and carried by a roll call vote. Roll call as follows:

Councilman Hartwick	aye
Councilman Johannessen	aye
Vice Mayor Rush	aye
Councilman Shoen	aye
Councilman Stanley	aye
Councilman Hailey	aye
Mayor Black	aye

The motion carried with seven members voting aye.

**OLD BUSINESS**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS**

None.

**ADJOURNMENT**

7:12 p.m.

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Tim Black, Mayor

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Debra Anderson, Clerk of the Council