

February 14, 2017

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 14, 2017.

Members present: Mayor Robert T Wandrei; Vice Mayor Tim Black; Councilman Stacey L. Hailey; Councilman Bruce M. Johannessen; Councilman Steve C. Rush; Councilman Bryan Schley; and Councilman James A. Vest

Members absent: None

Staff present: Assistant Town Manager Barrett Warner; Town Attorney W. W. Berry, IV; and Clerk of the Council Teresa W. Hatcher

Staff absent: Town Manager Charles P. Kolakowski

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 Council work session held on January 24, 2017, and the minutes of a regular Council meeting held on January 24, 2017, were approved as distributed.

Assistant Town Manager Warner introduced Mr. Kimball Payne, retired City Manager of Lynchburg. Mr. Payne will serve as facilitator at the Town Council visioning retreat to be held on March 11.

Mr. Payne said his goal is to help Council move in whatever direction they would like to go in the visioning retreat, to have an agenda that is appropriate, and for Council to have a discussion that sets some goals and priorities for the future. Mr. Payne suggested that he call each member of Council individually and discuss their thoughts about the retreat and he will work with the Town Manager to put an agenda together.

Mr. Warner reported that the proposed draft of the FY 2017-18 budget has been distributed to Council. A budget work session has been scheduled for February 21 beginning at 5:30 p.m. with dinner at 5:00 p.m.

Councilman Rush, Chairman of the Economic Development Committee, stated the committee met on February 7. He said a member of the Workforce Development Board presented a lengthy and informative analysis of the workforce development in the Town and in the region.

Councilman Hailey, Chairman of the Streets Committee, reported the committee met on February 1, and discussed the old landfill and adjacent property. He said the committee recommends starting the closure of the new landfill. Councilman Hailey said the following items were also discussed: the Liberty Lake Park baseball field; sidewalk and

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other projects going on in the Town; and a possible bike trail connecting Longwood Avenue with East Main with a trail down Independence Boulevard.

Mayor Wandrei made the following changes to the agenda: added: Discussion – Ball Field; moved the closed session regarding personnel matters before agenda item Board Appointments.

Assistant Town Manager Warner stated there was a gentleman that appeared before Council expressing an interest in operating a fortune telling business in the Town. Mr. Warner said fortune telling businesses are specifically prohibited by Section 30-26 of the Town Code. Council referred this to the Planning Commission for discussion. Mr. Warner reported the Planning Commission recommendation is that any consideration of repealing that prohibition be made simultaneously with a zoning amendment creating that use as a conditional use within the B-2 zoning district. In order to move forward, public hearings will need to be held before the Planning Commission and the Town Council related to the proposed ordinances amending the Town Code and the Zoning Ordinance. Town Council was requested to adopt a formal motion directing staff to initiate the process related to simultaneously repealing Section 30-26 of the Town Code and amending Section 609.03 of the Zoning Ordinance.

Councilman Rush moved that staff initiate the process related to simultaneously repealing Section 30-26 of the Town Code and amending Section 609.03 of the Zoning Ordinance. The motion was seconded by Councilman Black.

Councilman Rush stated that the number of pawn shops that can be in business is limited. He asked that the same restriction be applied to fortune telling businesses. Mr. Warner said the limit for pawn shops is two within the Town limits per the Town Code.

The motion was then voted upon and carried unanimously by the following roll call vote:

Vice Mayor Black	aye
Councilman Hailey	aye
Councilman Johannessen	aye
Councilman Rush	aye
Councilman Schley	aye
Councilman Vest	aye
Mayor Wandrei	aye

Councilman Black stated that in October 2016 Council appropriated \$20,000 in conjunction with the Bedford County School Board and the Bedford County Board of Supervisors to make some improvements to the upper field at Liberty Lake Park, which included replacing the backstop; sod, if needed by the varsity baseball team; and some other improvements. He said that in November 2016 the School Board decided that the varsity team was not going to need that field in 2017 because they would be able to play at Liberty High School. Mr. Black said that decision delayed the need to do the sod. He stated that baseball field is in bad shape.

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D. W. Lawhorne, Public Works Director, reported that a bid has been awarded for the backstop and the dugout work earlier in the week. The work will begin next Thursday. Mr. Lawhorne stated a meeting was held on February 7 with those involved regarding the status with the field. Mr. Langhorne said the school system would like to use the field for practice; possibly makeup games; or for use by other teams. He said the quote for the infield work is still the same.

Discussion ensued about the condition of the field.

Mayor Wandrei asked for a complete report on the status of the ball field at Liberty Lake Park.

Mr. Warner stated he will work with Mr. Lawhorne and produce that document.

Councilman Rush moved that Council adjourn into closed session 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 Hailey	aye
Councilman Johannessen	aye
Councilman Rush	aye
Councilman Schley	aye
Councilman Vest	aye
Vice Mayor Black	aye
Mayor Wandrei	aye

Council adjourned into closed session at 7:27 p.m. The following non-council members attended: Town Attorney W. W. Berry, IV, and Assistant Town Manager, Barrett Warner

Council reconvened into open session at 7:48 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.

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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 Johannessen	aye
Councilman Rush	aye
Councilman Schley	aye
Councilman Vest	aye
Vice Mayor Black	aye
Councilman Hailey	aye
Mayor Wandrei	aye

Mr. Warner stated the following individuals expressed interest in serving on the Board of Zoning Appeals: Harris Gardner, Wendy Witt, Teresa Hailey, Jim Day, Bruce Hartwick, and Bob Carson.

Councilman Rush nominated the following individuals for appointment by the circuit court to the Board of Zoning Appeals: Jim Day, Harris Gardner, and Bob Carson.

Councilman Black nominated Wendy Witt.

Jim Day, Harris, Gardner, and Bob Carson received the majority of votes and therefore will be recommended by Council for appointment.

The Town Attorney stated the judge will choose the terms of office.

Mr. Warner said the following individuals expressed interest in serving on the Economic Development Authority: Teresa Hailey, Bruce Hartwick, and David Sensenig.

David Sensenig received the majority of votes and was appointed to the Economic Development Authority for a term expiring November 30, 2020.

Mr. Warner said the following individuals expressed interest in serving on the Planning Commission: Dick Thomas, Larry Brookshier, Teresa Hailey, Brock Malcolm, Bruce Hartwick, Jim Towner, Daren Shoen, Bill Mosley, and Jimmy Cassell.

There was discussion about electing individuals to boards before those terms expire.

The Mayor said the vote for the Planning Commission will be for a vacancy that currently exists for a term expiring March 31, 2017. The names of the candidates will be kept on file until next month when two appointments will be made.

Mayor Wandrei reversed his previous thought and decided to go ahead and elect three people for appointment to the Planning Commission.

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Larry Brookshier, Jim Towner, and Daren Shoen received the majority of votes and were appointed to the Planning Commission for terms beginning April 1, 2017, and expiring March 31, 2021.

All of the above votes were by show of hand.

Mayor Wandrei said that consideration for appointments to the Keep Bedford Beautiful Commission will be brought up in June.

Mayor Wandrei asked Councilman Schley, Councilman Johannessen, and Councilman Rush to serve on a committee to develop the following: a program to fill positions on boards and commissions; how the positions will be advertised; whether a formal application will be required; and whether or not the applicants will have to appear before Council to discuss their qualifications to serve. The Mayor appointed Councilman Schley as Chairman of the committee.

Mayor Wandrei adjourned the meeting at 7:51 p.m. until February 21, 2017, at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Hall.