

March 13, 2018

An adjourned meeting of the Council of the Town of Bedford, Virginia, from the February 20, 2018, adjourned meeting was held in the Council Hall of the Municipal Building at 6:00 p.m., March 13, 2018.

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

Members absent: None

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

Mayor Wandrei opened the meeting and said the meeting was a work session on the proposed Town budget for FY 2018-19.

The Town Manager reported that the Fire Chief was attending a training session in Richmond and the Electric Director was not present but the data that he submitted in response to the Finance Committee was available.

Councilman Rush said there was discussion about some of the capital projects that the Fire Chief requested: a new kitchen, flooring, garage doors, and radios. He stated he asked the Fire Chief if the department could help with the purchase of the stove for the kitchen and the Chief's response was that Mr. Rush would get push back on that. Councilman Rush said he felt that because the Town owns the Fire Department building, the flooring should go through Public Works as far as repairing it and getting bids.

Councilman Rush moved that Council approve it with the caveat that Public Works take care of the process of the bidding and repair of the floor and the garage doors as the Town owns the Fire Department building. The motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Black, voted upon and carried by a roll call vote:

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

Vice Mayor Black moved that Council approve the \$8,000 for the stove for the Fire Department.

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As the funds for the stove for the Fire Department were already included in the proposed budget, it was determined that there was no need for a vote. Vice Mayor Black withdrew his motion.

Councilman Rush moved that Council remove the stove for the Fire Department from the proposed budget. The motion was seconded by Councilman Schley.

Councilman Carson, Councilman Johannessen, and Mayor Wandrei explained their reasons for being in favor of including the stove in the proposed budget.

The motion to remove the stove for the Fire Department from the proposed budget was voted upon by the following roll call vote and did not pass:

Councilman Carson	nay
Councilman Hailey	nay
Councilman Johannessen	nay
Councilman Rush	nay
Councilman Schley	nay
Vice Mayor Black	nay
Mayor Wandrei	nay

Mayor Wandrei stated that Council accepts the Operational Budget for the Fire Department as submitted.

Assistant Town Manager Jammes explained the following about a question Council had last week about a drop in the administration salaries for supervision in engineering: the reason for the drop was that the hydro supervisor was moved out of that department and into a power generation department.

Councilman Rush spoke about the backhoe requested in the Electric Department CIP budget. After speaking with Keith Goad and Public Works Director Lawhorne, Mr. Rush said that a 580 model would suffice and would cost less. Mr. Lawhorne stated that if a 580 model is purchased, the Electric Department could use the current trailer it has, unless there is something wrong with it. Discussion ensued.

Councilman Hailey moved that the Town keep the same equipment, the 580 backhoe, and look into getting a trailer next year. The motion was seconded by Councilman Rush.

Town Manager Warner clarified that the Town would purchase a 580 backhoe instead of the proposed 590 backhoe.

Mayor Wandrei stated that the Town would keep the same type of equipment that we now have and the 580 would work with the equipment and accessories that we have.

The Town Manager said that the budget proposes a 590 backhoe and essentially this would be a reduction in the expenditure of approximately \$40,000.

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Councilman Hailey's motion was then voted upon and carried by a roll call vote:

Councilman Hailey	aye
Councilman Johannessen	aye
Councilman Rush	aye
Councilman Schley	aye
Vice Mayor Black	nay
Councilman Carson	aye
Mayor Wandrei	aye

Councilman Rush spoke about the part-time position the Electric Department. Mr. Rush said he did not think that position was ever approved. He said he does not want to see a part-time position on the books from now on.

Town Manager Warner said that given the current arrangement with the specific employee filling that position, he requested that Council include that part-time position in the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 budget with the caveat that we will examine the amount of hours spent and the tasks that are performed, with the idea that we could move that to professional services in subsequent years. Mr. Warner said he would like Council to fund the part-time position based on the assumption that the current employee fills it. He said that next year the staff will revisit it in a different way budget wise.

Councilman Schley asked if it is a current part-time position as it is not listed in the budget.

Ms. Jammes said the position was never approved as a part-time position. She said that by the nature of that person filling that position we started counting it as a part-time position. Ms. Jammes stated there was never a budget request that came before Council as "approve this for a part-time position" but there was a request that came before Council as "we need this person's assistance in performing these duties" and it was approved that way. She said the Town pays FICA on the part-time position, which is required by law and Worker's Comp.

The Town Manager said he would like to continue to employ the specific individual in the position, whether it is classified as part-time or contract. Mr. Warner said that from a management perspective, if the current employee left, the Town would contract that work out anyway.

Mayor Wandrei said that the expertise this employee has makes the position well worthwhile and the position should stay the way it is now.

Mayor Wandrei adjourned the meeting at 6:34 p.m.