

May 9, 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., May 9, 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: Interim Town Manager Barrett Warner; 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 the following Council meetings were approved as distributed: March 28, 2017, regular meeting; April 11, 2017, work session; April 11, 2017, regular meeting; April 25, 2017, work session; and April 25, 2017, regular meeting.

Interim Town Manager Warner reported on the following:

- The National D-Day Memorial is moving forward with plans for future development on site – Mr. Warner is executing a deed of easement through Town-owned property which will allow the Memorial to access existing sewer service in the Western Hills neighborhood.
- The Planning Commission conducted a thorough review of the Draft Comprehensive Plan at its regular meeting on May 4; final changes will be published and circulated sometime this week; public hearing/adoption by the Planning Commission is proposed to take place on June 8 with a proposed hearing by Council to follow up on June 13.
- Liberty Middle School construction is proceeding on schedule. At some point in the near future Council will be invited to tour the facility along with members of the School Board and the Board of Supervisors.
- The Bedford Chamber of Commerce is hosting a Job Fair from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 17. The event will take place at the CVCC Bedford campus located at 1633 Venture Boulevard.
- Bedford Main Street will be presenting information related to the market study conducted by Lynchburg College here in the Council Chambers beginning at noon on Monday, May 15. The organization is also hosting a stakeholders meeting for its Business Boot Camp program on Monday, May 22. Persons interested in that event should contact the Main Street office to sign up.
- At the next Council meeting there will be a discussion about a dog park proposal.

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Mr. Buck Krantz spoke about the Purple Heart Chapter in Lynchburg. Mr. Krantz said it is a service oriented chapter whose main goal is to assist veterans. He said that Bedford and all of the surrounding county's around Lynchburg are Purple Heart Communities. The Purple Heart Chapter has four Combat Wounded Purple Heart parking signs for the Town and arrangements have been made to discuss erecting the signs with the Public Works Director. Mr. Krantz presented the Purple Heart Wounded signs to the Town.

Department Head Reports:

D. W. Lawhorne, Public Works Director spoke about the following: he and Councilman Schley met with the Liberty High School principal and the Athletic Director on April 27 – the baseball field will not be ready for the 2017-18 ball season; they asked for the following to be done: sod, extending the fence in the outfield, and installing a permanent mound. Mr. Lawhorne explained what would be done with the ball field after the 2017-18 ball season is complete. Mr. Lawhorne continued with his report: the Civil War Marker will be reinstalled at Centertown Park; the results of testing the wells at the old landfill and eight homes have been received and there was no detection – the homeowners have been notified; a meeting will be held on May 17 in the Council Hall and representatives of Golder and the DEQ will be present to answer questions.

Sonia Jammes, Finance Director, reported on the following: the Town's insurance premiums for FY 2018 will only be increasing by \$1,262 – Worker's Compensation costs dropped by \$24,533; the Motor Vehicle Tax Revenue distribution has been resolved; the auditors will be in the building next week; the Town's new website is up and running.

Chief of Police Todd Foreman spoke about the following: Cop Camp – 150 kids have signed up for the July event; working with the Attorney General's Office on bringing some information to the citizens about opioid abuse; security support.

Electric Director John Wagner said that at the recent Electric Committee meeting some very complicated issues were discussed and invited members of Council who have questions to meet with him. Mr. Wagner reported on the following: the old speed increased for the Snowden Plant has been removed and is in storage; the flange coupling has been pulled and sent back to Philadelphia Gear Works so they can complete work on a new flange coupling; the solar developer has placed the order for materials and they are still projecting to be online in September; the peaking generators are undergoing testing and coordination; decorative lighting in the downtown area.

Betty Gereau thanked Council for moving forward on the work to secure plans for the next use of the Middle School. Ms. Gereau said she is a resident and taxpayer and requested that Council do what is necessary to stabilize the 1912 Public School building and stop the water damage.

Andy Dooley thanked the Public Works Department, Public Work Director Lawhorne, and Town Council for their involvement in the recent Special Olympics Tournament.

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Mr. Dooley said that next year will be the 25<sup>th</sup> year of hosting the Wounded Warrior Amputee Softball Team. He spoke about the problem with lack of housing for events. Mr. Dooley reviewed upcoming events. Mr. Dooley said that the renovation of the red barn at Falling Creek Park will begin on July 1.

Vice Mayor Black spoke about the addition to the community of the LOVE statue at the Bedford Welcome Center. He thanked Leslie Bowyer, the students at Liberty High School and at Bedford Science and Technology Center for the great work they did in putting that project together.

Vice Mayor Black, Chairman of the Finance Committee, reported that the committee met earlier in the evening and reviewed the Attorney's bills for the last couple of months.

Councilman Vest, Chairman of the Electric Committee, reported that the committee met on May 4. He said the Electric Director is working very hard to ensure the Town gets the best price for its electricity. Mr. Vest suggested that members of Council meet with Mr. Wagner regarding the technical information.

Mr. Warner reported that at its retreat on March 11, 2017, consensus was reached to move forward with development and advertisement of a Request for Proposals for either the purchase or lease of the Bedford Middle School campus property owned by the Town. A new middle school is currently under construction by Bedford County Public Schools which is designed to replace the school system's need for this facility. Mr. Warner said that the projected opening date for the new middle school is August 2018, meaning that the current Bedford Middle School site will likely be vacant and available for other use at that time. Mr. Warner said that because of the scale and significance of this project he was asking Council to make a formal motion authorizing the release and publication of the Request for Proposals.

On motion by Councilman Rush, seconded by Councilman Hailey, voted upon and carried by a roll call vote, Council authorized the release and publication of the Request for Proposals for purchase or lease of the Bedford Middle School Property. Roll call vote follows:

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

Mr. Warner stated that the next item on the agenda was an ordinance which readopts and reenacts §34-2 of the Town Code, incorporating by reference current provisions of the Code of Virginia dealing with traffic laws and motor vehicle operation. Failure to adopt this ordinance would mean that offenders would have to be charged under the State law

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rather than the Town law. Any fines collected would then be payable to the State rather than to the Town. The ordinance has been posted in three locations in the Town, in accordance with §2-54 of the Town Code. Council was requested to adopt the ordinance readopting and reenacting code provisions dealing with traffic laws.

On motion by Councilman Schley, seconded by Councilman Hailey, voted upon and carried by a roll call vote, Council adopted the ordinance readopting and reenacting code provisions dealing with traffic laws. Roll call vote follows:

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

The ordinance follows as adopted:

**ORDINANCE NO 17-7**

**AN ORDINANCE TO READOPT AND REENACT  
SECTION 34-2 OF THE TOWN CODE INCORPORATING  
BY REFERENCE CURRENT PROVISIONS OF THE CODE  
OF VIRGINIA DEALING WITH TRAFFIC LAWS  
AND MOTOR VEHICLE OPERATION**

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

Section 1. Sec. 34-2 of the Town Code is hereby readopted and re-enacted as follows:

Pursuant to the authority of Section 46.2-1313 of the Code of Virginia, the provisions and requirements of the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia contained in Title 46.2 in Article 9 (Sec. 16.1-278 et seq) of Chapter 11 of Title 16.1, and in Article 2 (Sec. 18.2-266 et seq) of Chapter 7 of Title 18.2, of the Code of Virginia, except those provisions and requirements the violation of which constitute a felony, and except those provisions and requirements which by their very nature can have no application to or within the Town, are hereby adopted and incorporated herein by reference and made applicable within the Town. References to "Highways of the State" contained in such provisions and requirements hereby adopted, shall be deemed to refer to streets, highways and other public ways within the Town. Such provisions and requirements are hereby adopted, mutatis mutandis, and made a part of this Chapter as fully as those set

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forth at length herein, and it shall be unlawful for any person, within the Town, to violate or fail, neglect or refuse to comply with any provision of Title 46.2 or of Article 9 of Chapter 11 of Title 16.1 or of Article 2 of Chapter 7 of Title 18.2 of the Code of Virginia, which are adopted by this Section; provided, that in no event shall the penalty imposed for the violation of any provision or requirement hereby adopted exceed the penalty imposed for a similar offense under such titles of the Code of Virginia.

Section 2. This Ordinance shall become effective on July 1, 2017, upon publication one time, immediately following its passage, in some newspaper published in the Town or upon posting at three or more public places in the Town for one week, as required by Section 19 of the Town Charter.

Mr. Warner indicated that the month of May 2017 has been designated as Business Appreciation Month in Virginia, in recognition of the many benefits to Virginia communities derived from their industries. In appreciation of our local industries, Council was requested to adopt a Resolution declaring Business Appreciation Month in the Town.

On motion by Councilman Vest, seconded by Vice Mayor Black, voted upon and carried by a roll call vote, Council adopted the Resolution declaring the month of May as Business Appreciation Month in the Town. 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

The resolution follows as adopted:

### **BUSINESS APPRECIATION MONTH 2017**

**WHEREAS**, Governor Terence R. McAuliffe has recognized the month of May 2017, as **BUSINESS APPRECIATION MONTH** in the **COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA**, and called this observance to the attention of all citizens; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Bedford encourages all of its businesses and supports entrepreneurship to create a vibrant, sustaining small business community; and

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**WHEREAS**, the citizens of the Town of Bedford benefit from the positive business climate, economic growth, and job opportunities that are the contributions of businesses; and

**WHEREAS**, Bedford has joined the Commonwealth in creating long-term economic revitalization by embracing diversity in its business community, fully integrating technology into business practices, and preserving the economic well-being and safety for its citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, businesses in the Town of Bedford play a significant role in moving Bedford forward by positively impacting our healthy economy; and

**WHEREAS**, Business Appreciation Month increases public awareness of the valuable contributions that businesses make in our community.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Town Council of the Town of Bedford does hereby recognize the month of May 2017, as **BUSINESS APPRECIATION MONTH** in the Town of Bedford, and call this observance to the attention of all our citizens.

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

Council adjourned into closed session at 7:37 p.m. The following non-council members attended: Interim Town Manager Barrett Warner and Town Attorney W. W. Berry, IV

Council reconvened into open session at 8:06 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

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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 Schley, voted upon and carried by a roll call vote, Council adopted the resolution. Roll call vote follows:

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

Mayor Wandrei adjourned the meeting at 8:07 p.m.