

May 24, 2018

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 24, 2018.

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

Members absent: Vice Mayor Tim Black

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 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 May 8, 2018, were approved as distributed.

Town Manager Warner reported on the following: commended the Police Department, the Public Works Department, and the Electric Department for their excellence response to the recent extreme weather events; he received an email from Diane Wilson in which she asked him to read it into the record:

May 21, 2018

Mr. Bart Warner,

This is to notify the Town of Bedford that Bedford Main Street Organization, Inc. was dissolved May 18, 2018.

The current Board of Directors and those past are proud of the many accomplishments of the organization through the years. We wish only the best for those who follow in our footsteps to help make Bedford a vibrant place in which to live and work.

We thank, too, all of the Town of Bedford for contributions through the years and aiding events with the help of Town Departments such as Public Works, Electric, Police and others.

We wish only the best for the success of Downtown and the surrounding areas.

Sincerely,

Diane Wilson

Past President and the members of the Board of Directors

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Department Head Reports:

Director of Public Services D. W. Lawhorne reported on the following: the department has been very busy taking care of and responding to storm damage from the past weekend's heavy rain, with the biggest damage being on South Street with the washout.

Assistant Town Manager Sonia Jammes spoke about the following: Council members have received the financial reports – overall, year to date, there has been a positive result in all of the funds; as a result of the RFP, Brown Edwards won the Town's auditing contract for the next five years – Council will be receiving a copy of the engagement letter - the contract was under what was budgeted for the 2019 budget by \$200. The contract came in at \$44,800.

Chief of Police Todd Foreman reported on the following: the Community Day held on May 12 was a success; Cop Camp is moving forward with 180 kids participating; the new animal control officer will be starting on June 4.

Electric Director John Wagner spoke about the following: the department has been running late hours to keep up with problems resulting from the recent storms; the work at Centerville is running ahead of schedule and should be done around the middle of June instead of the end of June; the electric vehicle charging station is up and running and is being used.

Councilman Carson commended Chief Foreman for the well planned Community Day. He said that Cop Camp is one of the best run camps that are held.

Councilman Hailey thanked the Electric Department, Police Department, and the Public Works Department for the hard work they have been doing during the recent storms.

Councilman Rush, Chairman of the Finance Committee, reported the committee met on May 21 and Ms. Jammes accurately presented what was discussed in the meeting.

Councilman Schley, Chairman of the Electric Committee, reported the committee met on May 17 and discussed updates on some of the issues – multiple dams at Snowden. He said that Mr. Wagner is going to stay in touch with those issues and keep the committee informed of that situation.

The Mayor made the following revisions to the agenda:

1. the Mayor explained that Councilman Hailey would like to have a discussion of the Main Street Program in response to the letter Council received from Diane Wilson regarding the Bedford Main Street Organization.
2. Report from Mr. Berry on the meeting he and Mr. Warner had with the attorney concerning the proposal for the middle school.

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Mayor Wandrei read aloud the following resolution

**RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF BEDFORD  
HONORING TERESA W. HATCHER  
FOR HER CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE TOWN**

**WHEREAS**, Teresa W. Hatcher was appointed to serve as Clerk of the Council on September 1, 1979, and served with distinction for over 38 years; and

**WHEREAS**, during Teresa W. Hatcher's tenure the office has functioned as an efficient and friendly service for the citizens of the Town of Bedford; and

**WHEREAS**, Teresa W. Hatcher has contributed to the overall stability of the Town through her vast knowledge and professional expertise; and

**WHEREAS**, Teresa W. Hatcher has shared her talents through numerous undertakings and actions of the Town of great historical significance; and

**WHEREAS**, Teresa W. Hatcher will be greatly missed as a special employee, co-worker and friend by the Town of Bedford;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town of Bedford recognizes Teresa W. Hatcher for her integrity, professionalism and tireless efforts on behalf of our community; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Town Council of the Town of Bedford thanks Teresa W. Hatcher for her exemplary leadership and customer service, and wishes her and her family the best as she retires from the position of Clerk of the Council.

Mayor Wandrei asked the Town Manager his thoughts on the Main Street situation and what was going to be done as far as Centerfest is concerned.

Mr. Warner said he had communicated with the past president of Main Street to advise that the Town is prepared to offer its traditional level of service for Centerfest, mainly the Police and Public Works Departments, to either Main Street or any other private entity that is willing to take over the event. He said the position of staff right now is that it has grown accustomed to assisting with the planning, crowd control, and street blocking but that is probably the limit of the Town supporting the event. Mr. Warner said that Centerfest has not been a Town event as it was always sponsored by Main Street and the Town provided ancillary services. He said the Town would be willing to continue to do that for another entity who would take over the event. The Town Manager said that he was not proposing that the Town assume responsibility for sponsorship primarily because we do not have resources to do so.

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Councilman Rush said he understands that a lot of the Main Street records will be going to the library, but there are some documents that the Town is involved in and that probably should be kept by the Town, such as the loan program and the banner grants.

Mayor Wandrei suggested that information be given to the press that Centerfest is not a Town of Bedford event – Main Street has been dissolved and there will not be a Centerfest.

Chief Foreman said that he and Mr. Lawhorne could give advice if another organization decided to sponsor Centerfest.

Councilman Hailey moved that Council adjourn into closed session pursuant to Section 2.2-3711(a)(7) of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended for consultation with legal counsel concerning a contract. Councilman Carson seconded the motion. The motion was voted upon and carried by the following roll call vote:

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

Council adjourned into closed session at 7:17 p.m. The following non-council members attended: Town Manager Warner and Town Attorney Berry.

Council reconvened into open session at 7:26 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.

On motion by Councilman Hailey, seconded by Councilman Schley, voted upon and carried by a roll call vote, Council adopted the resolution. Roll call vote follows:

Councilman Carson	aye
Councilman Hailey	aye
Councilman Johannessen	aye

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Councilman Rush	aye
Councilman Schley	aye
Vice Mayor Black	absent
Mayor Wandrei	aye

Mayor Wandrei adjourned the meeting at 7:27 p.m.