

Borough Council

The Regular Meeting of the Bedford Borough Council was held on the above date with the following Council Members present, Dean Lemley, Tim Weaverling, Sharon Turkovich, John Cessna, Jeff Rinscheid, William Blackburn and Patrick Neff. Mayor William Leibfreid, Borough Manager Barbara Diehl, Borough Secretary Beverly Geller, Assistant Secretary Misty Hizer, Junior Council Person Michaela Musselman and Solicitor Dean Crabtree were also present. Police Chief Jim Sigler was absent.

Councilman Weaverling opened the meeting by extending Condolences to Mayor Leibfreid at the loss of his Brother.

Motion was made by Councilman Cessna, seconded by Councilman Rinscheid, to approve the Minutes of the January 2, 2018 Old Council Meeting, January 2, 2018 New Council Meeting, January 4, 2018 Special Meeting – Solar Panel Grant Discussion, January 9, 2018 Special Meeting – Solar Panel Grant Discussion and January 16, 2018 Council Workshop. Motion was carried by unanimous vote (7-0).

Motion was made by Councilman Lemley, seconded by Councilman Blackburn, to approve the list of bills from January 1, 2018 to January 2, 2018 (tabled at January 2nd Meeting) and January 3, 2018 to February 5, 2018. Motion was carried by unanimous vote (7-0).

Motion was made by Councilman Cessna, seconded by Councilwoman Turkovich, to approve the Treasurer's Report for February 5, 2018. Motion was carried by unanimous vote (7-0).

Michelle Corley and Desirae Corley addressed Council in regards to the lack of daytime parking available for residents near the W. Pitt Street/N. Thomas Street intersection. Ms. Corley resides at a 144 W. Pitt Street apartment, owned by BC Stone. No off-street parking is provided for the tenants. Ms. Corley works nights and sleeps during the day; therefore she has received parking tickets because she exceeds the two-hour time limit. Officer Knisely verified that parking had no time limit west of Thomas Street.

Mayor Leibfreid shared the Monthly Police Statistics with Council.

Solicitor Crabtree noted that

- Four (4) actions were ready to be filed in regards to the Fort Bedford Park boundary lines
- One ordinance would address the four (4) changes to parking
- Update on ordinance changes to transient licenses – Meeting to be scheduled with the Ordinance Committee
- Sale of surplus property – Several Options – electronic bid (would still require local advertising) and traditional

Motion was made by Councilman Cessna, seconded by Councilman Neff, to approve investigation of setting up an online auction for the sale of the radiators on govdeals.com. Motion was carried by unanimous vote (7-0).

February 5, 2018

Councilwoman Turkovich shared that PDC offered “Branding” training that was very informative. One point shared during the training was that towns can become event centric. PDC suggests using empty properties, raising money without events and concentrating on events that are moneymakers.

Councilman Neff shared that the Quarterly meeting of the Bedford Heritage Trust was held on Thursday, January 25th. Complete 2017 Financials will be provided to Borough Council. Councilman Neff shared an invite to Rebels & Rye Event which will be changed to a different date in 2018.

Councilman Lemley introduced Timothy A. Cooper P.E., President and Timothy R. Campbell, P.E., LEED GA (Senior Project Engineer) of Stiffler McGraw and Associates, Inc. Mr. Campbell shared that he found four issues of concern in the Smokehouse at the Anderson House --- a cracked floor joist (center crack through the entire joist) that is being held in place by the walls; a deteriorated brick chimney; cracks and bulges in the exterior brick walls and a deteriorated stone foundation.

Mr. Campbell noted that the age of the Smokehouse cannot be determined. Mr. Campbell shared that the smokehouse appears to be an addition since there is a brick seam that goes straight down between the smokehouse and the Anderson House ell.

Mr. Campbell noted that shoring the building may cause additional problems and shoring up the smokehouse would be a temporary fix only. Mr. Campbell expressed the opinion that shoring up of the building would not make it safe for people to enter or use the building. Mr. Campbell noted that the deterioration is causing cracks in the ell portion of the Anderson House.

Part of the discussion of the demolition of the smoke house was in regards to HARB offering an opinion on the demolition. Solicitor Crabtree noted that HARB is an Advisory Board formed to give their opinion, but Council is not obligated to accept their recommendation. Manager Diehl noted that an application would be completed and forwarded to HARB. Councilman Cessna noted that there has been no information presented to show the historical significance of the smokehouse.

Motion was made by Councilman Cessna, seconded by Councilman Lemley, to advertise the Parking Ordinance change removing two hour parking for Bedford Street between Penn Street and Vondersmith Avenue. Motion was carried by unanimous vote (7-0).

Manager Diehl noted that no HARB applications were received at the Borough Office.

Manager Diehl shared that no letters were sent from Pennsylvania Municipal Code Alliance, Inc. (PMCA).

Motion was made by Councilman Neff, seconded by Councilwoman Turkovich, to adopt Resolution 2018-01 supporting the filing of a grant application by the Bedford County Chamber Foundation, who shall take full responsibility for the administration, duties and liabilities of said

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grant application, to the US Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration. Motion was carried by unanimous vote (7-0).

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made and carried at 8:02 pm.

Borough Secretary

April 2, 2018

Borough Council

The Regular Meeting of the Bedford Borough Council was held on the above date with the following Council Members present, Tim Weaverling, Dean Lemley, Sharon Turkovich, John Cessna, Jeff Rinscheid, William Blackburn and Patrick Neff. Mayor William Leibfreid, Borough Manager Barbara Diehl, Borough Assistant Secretary Misty Hizer and Solicitor Dean Crabtree were in attendance. Borough Secretary Beverly Geller, Police Chief Jim Sigler and Junior Council Person Michaela Musselman were absent.

Motion was made by Councilman Cessna, seconded by Councilman Rinscheid, to approve the Minutes of the March 5, 2018 Council Meeting and the March 28, 2018 Council Workshop. Motion was carried by unanimous vote (7-0).

Motion was made by Councilman Blackburn, seconded by Councilman Neff, to approve the list of bills from March 6, 2018 through April 2, 2018. Motion was carried by unanimous vote (7-0).

Motion was made by Councilman Neff, seconded by Councilman Cessna, to approve the Treasurer's Report for April 2, 2018. Motion was carried by unanimous vote (7-0).

President Weaverling introduced Rodney Rose of RER Energy Group. Mr. Rose shared that Bedford Borough and Bedford County have received DCED Solar Energy Program grants for the installation of solar panels. The Borough received a grant in the amount of \$847,000 to install solar panels on Bedford Borough Water Authority land close Todd Reservoir. Total cost of the project is \$2.54M with private investors paying for the remainder of the materials and installation. There will be no maintenance, insurance or costs to the Borough to maintain the solar panels. The current rate for electricity is 8.5 cents per kw. The installation of the solar panels savings will lock the rate in at 7 cents. Savings over the 25-year lifespan of the panels is estimated at \$2.5M.

Mr. Rose shared that Bedford County received a DCED Solar Energy Program Grant for installation of solar panels at the Bedford County Jail on Imlertown Road. The solar panels will offset electric usage at the Jail and the Courthouse. Estimated savings for the County will be \$5M over 25 years. Mr. Rose shared that upon the end of the 25 years, the Borough and County have the option to purchase the solar panels or ask that the properties be returned to original condition.

Mr. Rose noted that the turnaround for installation is six to nine months after the funds are released from the State. Mr. Rose noted that the Engineers and all involved did an outstanding, accurate and prompt job submitting all the information for the grant applications.

Mr. Rose noted that a solar kickoff event will be planned for the summer/fall and the event will be open to the public and highlight sustainable energy. A date will be coordinated with the County and Borough.

Councilman Rinscheid left the meeting at 7:12 pm.

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State Representative Jesse Topper noted that energy costs are continuously rising and the installation of the solar panels will impact taxpayer costs in a positive way. Representative Topper congratulated the County and Borough on the new energy opportunities and noted that the installation is a great addition to infrastructures of the County and Borough.

Tonya Clark, representing the office of State Senator Wayne Langerholc, noted that it was thrilling to see the money coming to Bedford County and that the possibilities for Bedford County and Borough are endless.

Bedford County Commissioner, Josh Lang, thanked everyone involved and noted that the solar panel projects are a great example of innovation and technology.

Bedford County Commissioner, Barry Dallara, expressed gratitude to Rodney Rose and Larry Myers, Bedford Borough Water Authority, for their work on the grant. Commissioner Dallara noted that without the assistance of State Senator Wayne Langerholc and State Representative Jesse Topper grant approval may not have been possible.

Bedford County Development Association President, Bette Slayton, offered her gratitude and congratulations on the project.

President Weaverling thanked all those who worked on the project including Larry Myers along with the Municipal Authority of Bedford Borough and the Bedford Borough Water Authority.

Mayor Leibfreid shared the Monthly Police Statistics with Council.

Solicitor Crabtree noted that a Zoning Hearing Application was received for a property on N. Richard Street. The variance request is for a setback for a one-story addition to the existing structure so that they may financially sustain their business. The building setback line currently runs through the center of the existing structure and would therefore run through the center of any addition. The proposed one-story addition will extend the building by 8'. The Zoning Hearing is scheduled for Monday, April 9th at 10am at the Borough Office. After discussion, Council had no objections to the request and noted that the solicitor was not needed to represent the Borough at the Hearing.

Councilwoman Turkovich noted that Downtown Bedford Inc. (DBI) has \$10,700 remaining of their \$35,000 façade grant. Private matches for the façade grants have equaled \$46,000 to date. DBI's Wine Walk was well attended. Plans are for expansion for the 2019 Wine Walk. Over 1000 were in attendance for the Easter Egg Hunt due to the nice weather.

Motion was made by Councilman Cessna, seconded by Councilman Neff, to approve the event requests from Love INC and DBI and ***table the request from Howard Hanna Bardell Real Estate and Bedford Sunrise Rotary:***

- Love INC of Bedford County is requesting use of the Lutheran quadrant of the square along with the gazebo and electricity for the National Day of Prayer on Thursday, May 3, 2018 beginning at 12 noon. Event should last 45 to 60 minutes.

April 2, 2018

- DBI is requesting approval for cleanup of the Fort Bedford Park on Saturday April 21st from 8 am to 12 noon. DBI will be partnering with REI for the cleanup.
- Howard Hanna Bardell and Bedford Sunrise Rotary are requesting permission to hold a race on Saturday June 23, 2018 with registration beginning at 9 am with the race starting at 10:30 am. Request would be to close S. Anderson Street (start/ finish line) between Pitt and Penn Streets from 8:45 am to 12 noon. Majority of the race will be on the sidewalks where available. Asking for assistance from Police Department for some street crossings. Request includes the addition of temporary directional signs for participants.

Motion was carried by unanimous vote (7-0).

Councilman Neff noted that the next meeting of the Bedford Heritage Trust will be held at the Fort Bedford Museum on April 25, 2018 at 5:30 pm.

President Weaverling requested an Executive Session due to possible litigation issues.

Councilman Lemley requested an Executive Session due to possible litigation issues.

Councilman Neff shared that Ordinance 2018-02 has been drafted. Prior to adoption the Ordinance will be advertised. The Ordinance adds a new part “Temporary Food Sales” to Chapter 13 “Licenses and Permits” A permit is required to engage in temporary food sales unless part of an event authorized by Borough Council or with permission of Borough Council. Resolution 02-2018 will define fees for Temporary Food Sales.

Manager Diehl shared the following HARB applications:

- Erin Jay – signage and paint store front and door/steps at 142 E. Pitt Street – Whipped Bakery, A Family Tradition
- Melinda Zonger – paint front doors at National Coverlet Museum of the American Coverlet located at 322 S. Juliana Street

Motion was made by Councilman Lemley, seconded by Councilman Blackburn, approving the HARB applications. Motion was carried by unanimous vote (6-0).

Manager Diehl shared that letters were sent from Pennsylvania Municipal Code Alliance, Inc. (PMCA) to tenants/owners at E. Pitt and S. Richard Streets along with Somerset Avenue.

Council entered into Executive Session to discuss legal issues at 7:45 pm.

Council exited Executive Session at 9:15 pm.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made and carried at 9:15 pm.

Borough Secretary

April 4, 2022

The Regular Meeting of the Bedford Borough Council was held on the above date with the following Council Members present, Tim Weaverling, Sharon Turkovich, Patrick Neff, Jeff Rinscheid, Kenny Fetterman, William J. Blackburn, and Matt Bullington.

Mayor William Leibfreid, Borough Manager Barbara Diehl, Borough Secretary Beverly Geller, Police Chief Craig Bowman, and Solicitor Dean Crabtree were also present. Engineer Tim Cooper, PE of Stiffler McGraw was absent.

Lloyd Roach of Cessna Communications and Erica Burkholder of The Bedford Gazette were in attendance along with Michael Lamb of Wessel and Company. Brenda Erdos, Todd Erdos, Roger Smith, Bill R. Blackburn, Jim Wehling, Melony Lynch, Shirlene Knopsnyder, and Richard Hite were in attendance.

Motion was made by Council Member Neff, seconded by Council Member Fetterman, to approve the Minutes from the March 7, 2022 Council Meeting, and the March 15, 2022 Workshop Meeting. Motion was carried by unanimous vote (7-0).

Motion was made by Council Member Rinscheid, seconded by Council Member Bullington, to approve the list of bills from March 8, 2022 to April 4, 2022. Motion was carried by unanimous vote (7-0).

Motion was made by Council Member Turkovich, seconded by Council Member Blackburn, to approve the April 4, 2022 Treasurers Report. Motion was carried by unanimous vote (7-0).

Michael Lamb, Wessel and Company, shared that the Borough audit for 2021 was complete with the exception of Pension and Cash Balance information which has not been received from Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement System (PMRS). Mr. Lamb shared that it was a clean audit. Once the PMRS data is received the audit will be finalized. Mr. Lamb exited the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

Jim Wehling spoke to Council regarding mixed use of highways which would include vehicular, pedestrian, and bicycle traffic. Mr. Wehling contacted a representative in regard to studies that can be performed for municipalities. PennDOT offers two programs – Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP) and PennDOT Connects. LTAP trains and assists municipal employees in effective and efficient maintenance procedures, essential safety practices, and infrastructure management processes. PennDOT Connects looks at all mobility needs (bicycle, pedestrian, utilities, stormwater management, green infrastructure, community health) when meeting with local governments to discuss details prior to developing projects.

A municipality can ask that a representative visit a community and perform studies. Mr. Wehling shared that he asked the representative for criteria when a street should be made one way. Mr. Wehling shared that he wanted to make Council aware of the service. Manager Diehl inquired if Downtown Bedford Inc (DBI) was made aware of the service and Mr. Wehling replied that DBI Manager Stacey Gould was going to talk to the Board.

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Richard Hite, Echo Vale Drive, spoke to Council regarding his sewer lateral and that a clean out was five feet from his foundation and that the system could not be pressure tested without digging up the five feet. Manager Diehl shared that the Municipal Authority of the Borough of Bedford (MABB) meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 11th and suggested that the sanitary sewer lateral questions be presented at that meeting. Council Member Bullington who is also the Chairman of MABB shared that testing could be completed at Mr. Hite's by placing the balloons to complete the pressure test at a fitting inside the foundation.

A question was asked if MABB could govern what contractors can charge. Manager Diehl responded that the contractors are not restricted to what they charge. Manager Diehl suggested that multiple quotes are sought.

Todd Erdos asked about a "Rain Tax." Manager Diehl shared that topic would be discussed at the MABB meeting on Monday, April 11th at 3 p.m. Council Member Bullington asked that individuals who would like to speak at the MABB Meeting call the Borough office and ask to be added to the agenda.

Mayor Leibfreid shared the Police Statistics with Council.

Chief Bowman shared that he wanted to address the half dozen properties that are in disrepair in the Borough under the Ordinance Section of the meeting.

Council Member Rinscheid shared that original posts in the Fort Bedford Museum need replaced. The posts are original from 1958 and are 4x4s. The posts should be replaced by 6x6s to better support the roof. Motion was made by Council Member Bullington, seconded by Council Member Neff, to move forward with replacing the posts. Motion was carried by unanimous vote (7-0).

Motion was made by Council Member Blackburn, seconded by Council Member Neff, to pay for materials for the Fort Bedford Museum roof in the approximate amount of \$11,924.40 prior to projected material cost increases. The cost for the roof project came in at \$23,500.00. \$40,000.00 was budgeted. Motion carried by unanimous vote (7-0).

Council Member Rinscheid presented an event request from DBI for a Summer Clearance Sales Event to be held at the Fort Bedford Park for downtown retail locations and Farmers Market vendors on Saturday, June 25th from 8 a.m. until 2 p.m. Motion was made by Council Member Neff, seconded by Council Member Fetterman, to approve the request. Motion was carried by unanimous vote (7-0).

Council Member Rinscheid shared that Altoona First presented a check for a scoreboard for the ball fields and additional improvements including a batting cage, bleachers, new fencing along with moving the existing fences and fresh dirt at the fields will improve the area. Manager Diehl shared that the ballfield improvements are part of a larger project that started with People for Parks and now includes Bark Bedford. A walking path, installation of cameras and a dog park are planned. Council Member Rinscheid suggested asking a representative from the PennDOT

programs to help create a safe path from town to the Greens. Manager Diehl shared that she will set up a meeting with LTAP.

Council Member Rinscheid shared that he spoke with the Army Corps of Engineers regarding the Fort Bedford Park area and the Juniata River. The Army Corps of Engineers have looked at the area recently at the request of Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). It was noted during the conversation that the flood plain maps are not up to date. A call to discuss the Fort Bedford Park and local waterways will be scheduled with the Army Corps of Engineers with Council Members Rinscheid, Turkovich and Weaverling along with Manger Diehl and Mayor Leibfreid included in the conversation.

Council Member Neff shared that a deadline of April 29, 2022 was set by American Legal Publishing for changes, etc. to be submitted. Legal/editorial review of the report is contractually required by this deadline. A meeting with Committee members, Solicitor Crabtree and Misty Hizer to meet to finalize this information will be scheduled next week.

Chief Bowman shared that Solicitor Crabtree had emailed remedies for the properties that were run down, abandoned, or awaiting Sheriff Sale. Chief Bowman will attend the Ordinance Review Committee meeting to discuss the options.

Manager Diehl shared the following approved Historical Architecture Review Board (HARB) applications:

- EICH Group – 123 E. Pitt St – Espy House – Replace Door, Hardware and Trim, fix spouting and roof, re-point mortar, repair rotted wood, paint front door gold, paint trim
- Kathryn Mason – 242 W. John Street – Replace brown metal roof with new metal roof in a darker brown
- Sharon Payne – 100 S. Juliana Street – Founders Crossing – Replace doors with new glass doors with black metal frames

Motion to approve the applications was made by Council Member Fetterman, seconded by Council Member Neff. Motion was carried by unanimous vote (7-0).

Manager Diehl shared that letters were sent by the Bedford Police Department to property owners on Penn and Juliana Streets.

Manager Diehl shared that the Borough fulfilled the Costars Salt Contract for the 2021-2022 contract year. The Borough must purchase 240 tons according to the contract and 253.42 tons were purchased at \$78.29 per ton for a total of \$19,855.91.

Manager Diehl noted that two vacancies remain on HARB, but she was waiting for responses from two individuals. Manager Diehl noted that the Board could be reverted to five members. A few years ago, the number of individuals on the Board was increased to seven.

Council Member Rinscheid asked if HARB could be eliminated since it appeared to him that several property owners were allowed to complete projects without HARB approval. Chief Bowman asked for further clarification from Mr. Rinscheid on his comment and shared that time

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did not allow for staff to wander around searching for projects that were not presented to HARB. Projects that are within public ways are addressed. Secretary Geller shared that Bill Callahan, Pennsylvania State Historic Preservation Office, attended the HARB Meeting on March 24th and offered advice on educating the public and improving the HARB processes.

Manager Diehl reminded Council that the Borough will be working on the mulching/trimming/clean-up of the Squares over the next few weeks. The Fort Museum area and the Richard Street entrance to the small area at the rear of the Ford Garage will be contracted out. DBI will also be holding a “Town Workday” on Friday, April 22nd and the Public Works Department is performing the Borough’s Spring Clean-Up including street sweeping, sign replacement, line painting and mowing. The MABB sanitary sewer lateral testing program is underway, so the employees are extremely busy.

Manager Diehl shared that an update on the Solar Panel Project will be shared with MABB and Council at a combined meeting on May 17th at 3 p.m. RER Energy Group will share information on the project and the permitting process.

Manager Diehl shared that Jim Wehling attended the Planning Commission meeting on March 17th and spoke to the Planning Commission about being proactive not reactive and that Council has not provided direction to the Planning Commission. Mr. Wehling shared that according to an excerpt from the PA Municipal Planning Code that the Borough can authorize the Planning Commission to do a lot of things. Mr. Wehling noted that it takes a time commitment from members and that it is a possibility to add additional members.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Council Member Bullington and carried at 8:15 p.m.

Borough Secretary