

August 3, 2020

The Regular Meeting of the Bedford Borough Council was held on the above date. The following Council Members were in attendance, Tim Weaverling, Sharon Turkovich, Jeff Rinscheid, William Blackburn, Patrick Neff, and Kenny Fetterman. Mayor William Leibfreid, Borough Manager Barbara Diehl, Borough Secretary Beverly Geller, Police Chief Craig Bowman and Solicitor Dean Crabtree were also in attendance. Council Member John Cessna was absent along with Public Services Director Brad Foor, and Tim Cooper, PE, Stiffler McGraw & Associates, Inc.

Will Deshong, Bedford Gazette, and Lloyd Roach, Cessna Communications, were in attendance.

Dennis Tice, Bill Wertz, Sandy Detwiler, Ron Ebert along with Dave and Holly Howsare were in attendance.

Motion was made by Council Member Neff, seconded by Council Member Turkovich, to approve the Minutes of the July 6, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes and the July 21, 2020 Council Workshop Minutes. Motion was carried by unanimous vote (6-0).

Motion was made by Council Member Rinscheid, seconded by Council Member Neff, to approve the list of bills from July 7, 2020 through August 3, 2020. Motion was carried by unanimous vote (6-0).

Motion was made by Council Member Blackburn, seconded by Council Member Neff, to approve the August 3, 2020 Treasurers Report. Motion was carried by unanimous vote (6-0).

Ron Ebert, President of the Fall Foliage Festival Committee, shared that after speaking with State Representative Jesse Topper about the current COVID-19 restrictions on crowd limitations to 250 people or less, the Festival Board voted unanimously to cancel the 2020 Fall Foliage Festival. Sandy Detwiler noted that the Committee was planning a virtual festival utilizing the Fall Foliage Festival website.

Dave and Holly Howsare spoke regarding a property they would like to purchase at 308 E. Penn Street and convert into a Bed and Breakfast. The property is in the R-1 Zone which does not allow a Bed and Breakfast. Mrs. Howsare asked if a variance could be granted for the property. Solicitor Crabtree noted that a variance would not be proper in this instance, but an amendment to the Ordinance to permit a Bed and Breakfast in R1 Districts borough-wide would be a solution.

Discussion followed with Manager Diehl noting that language in the Zoning Ordinance also states that a Bed and Breakfast must have a parking space for every guest room and two spaces for resident owner or employees.

Council Members offered no objections to the proposed Ordinance change.

Mrs. Howsare asked how long the process would take to amend the Ordinance. Solicitor Crabtree noted 60 days. Solicitor Crabtree shared that an Ordinance change would require

advertisement and a Public Hearing prior to adoption. Solicitor Crabtree noted that no action is required from Council until the revised Ordinance is presented.

Dennis Tice noted that he was in attendance to address any questions regarding the Vietnam Veterans Memorial scheduled for September 12, 2020. Bill Wertz noted that since the project started, 44 Bedford County Vietnam Veterans have died with 13 of those deaths occurring in 2020.

Manager Diehl shared concerns about Governor Wolf's mandate to limit crowds to less than 250 people. Manager Diehl noted that the World War II Monument dedication drew over 1,000 attendees.

Discussion followed with dialogue on fencing off the area and the possibility of issuing tickets to limit the number of participants. Council Members asked that the event be submitted with the original footprint and best efforts are taken to stay within the Governor's COVID – 19 mandate.

Motion was made by Council Member Turkovich, seconded by Council Member Rinscheid, to amend the prior approval for the dedication ceremony for the Vietnam Veterans Memorial to ensure that crowd size is limited to meet the Governor's mandate on the day of the event. Motion was carried by unanimous vote (6-0).

Mayor Leibfreid shared the Police Statistics.

Council Member Rinscheid shared that the Fort Museum Board Meeting is scheduled for August 12th.

Motion was made by Council Member Neff, seconded by Council Member Blackburn, to approve the hiring of Matthew Haight as a Full-Time Police Patrol Officer, pending satisfactory completion of a background check and psychological/physical examinations. Motion was carried by unanimous vote (6-0).

Council President Weaverling requested an Executive Session regarding Personnel.

A request was received from the Bedford Joint Municipal Authority (BJMA) for an additional \$667.00 to pay for a 5-year bridge inspection. A quote was received in the amount of \$2,000.00 and Bedford Township has offered to pay 1/3 of the expense. Motion was made by Council Member Neff, seconded by Council Member Blackburn, to approve the expense (pending the work is completed this year) and stipulating to BJMA that it is a one-time contribution. Motion was carried by unanimous vote (6-0).

Council Member Neff shared that the Ordinance Review Committee has been meeting to discuss recodification. Discussed was Title 9 Borough Code which includes Building Maintenance and International Maintenance Building Codes. Council Member Neff asked that Council Members review the information prior to the Borough Workshop scheduled for August 18, 2020.

August 3, 2020

Manager Diehl shared that nine applications were approved at the July 23, 2020 HARB Meeting:

- Gary Ickes – Demolition of rear portion of Ickes Drug building, make parking lot – 122 S. Juliana Street
- Steven Karns – 153 W. John Street – Enclose Side Porch, New Roof, Install Siding
- Kenneth Davidson – 132 S. East Street - Front Porch- Remove Brick and Concrete Steps, Add Concrete Steps with White Vinyl Railing. Back Porch– Pour Concrete over existing steps and add white vinyl railing
- Doyle’s Flower Shop – 203 E. Pitt Street – Signage at new location
- Ray & Robin Arnold – 328 E. Penn Street - Replace Shingled Roof on House, Carport and Garage with Black textured Metal
- Chris Taylor/ Winners Luck – 112 N. Richard Street - Signage
- Juli’s Wearable Art – 100 E. Pitt Street – Signage, Paint – Expand to Pinnacle Computers location
- Pinnacle Computer – 102 E. Pitt Street – Signage, Paint – Move to former Deepwood Gallery

Motion was made by Council Member Neff, seconded by Council Member Turkovich, to approve the applications. Motion was carried by unanimous vote (6-0).

Manager Diehl updated Council that the Fire Department and Contractors are working on punch list items. The Borough Building is in demolition stage. Copper was salvaged by Borough employees at almost double the dollar amount estimated. The Water Plant Communication System has been secured and a box built to protect equipment to prevent unplanned loss of power. Rear addition construction is set to begin.

Manager Diehl shared that letters were sent from Pennsylvania Municipal Code Alliance, Inc. (PMCA) and/or the Police Department to property owners on West and Pitt Streets.

Manager Diehl noted that the monthly contribution to the Bedford Ambulance is \$1,500.00 (housing our police department and administrative offices). Money will need budgeted in the 2021 Budget through the project completion which is anticipated for March 2021.

Council entered Executive Session at 8:09 p.m. Police Chief Bowman exited the meeting at 9:19 p.m.

Council exited Executive Session at 9:24 p.m.

Motion was made by Council Member Neff, seconded by Council Member Blackburn, to sign an agreement with Stiffler McGraw & Associates, Inc. for billable hours at the rate of \$50.00 per hour for inspection during the Borough Building Project. Motion was carried by unanimous vote (6-0).

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Council Member Neff and carried at 9:25 p.m.

Borough Secretary