February 16, 2021

Borough Council

The Workshop Meeting of the Bedford Borough Council was held on the above date at 3:00 p.m. at the Bedford Ambulance Meeting Room. The following Council Members were in attendance, Tim Weaverling, Sharon Turkovich, Jeff Rinscheid, Bill Blackburn, and Kenny Fetterman. Mayor William Leibfreid, Borough Manager Barbara Diehl and Borough Secretary Beverly Geller were also in attendance.

Council Members John Cessna and Patrick Neff were absent along with Public Services Director Brad Foor, Police Chief Craig Bowman, Solicitor Dean Crabtree and Borough Engineer Timothy Cooper, P.E. of Stiffler, McGraw & Assoc. Inc.

Council Member Rinscheid shared the Fort Bedford Museum would be participating in the Downtown Bedford, Inc. (DBI) Chocolate Walk to be held over the next four Saturdays.

Motion was made by Council Member Turkovich, seconded by Council Member Rinscheid, to advertise, interview, and hire for the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) position of Wastewater Mechanic with a start date on or before March 8, 2021. Motion was carried by unanimous vote (5-0).

Council President congratulated Tanner Ripple and John Whitmore for obtaining their Backflow Prevention Certification.

Manager Diehl shared that the Borough Building Renovation Project is moving along, and the contractors are painting, installing the drop-down ceiling, and tiling the bathrooms. The new salt shed is complete except for the apron. Salt is being moved into the new shed.

Motion was made by Council Member Rinscheid, seconded by Council Member Blackburn, to approve Requisition #10 for the Borough Building Renovation Project in the amount of $200,041.45. Motion was carried by unanimous vote (5-0).

Council Member Rinscheid asked about the recent ruling by the Bedford County Building Code Board of Appeals for Olde Bedford Brewing. The Appeal granted relief from providing a sprinkler system, two-hour fire separation walls from the adjacent outdoor goods store and constructing additional restrooms. Olde Bedford Brewing requested occupancy of 149 individuals, but the Board decision limited occupancy to 100.

Discussion followed regarding gathering information regarding municipalities who have local Code Officers and whether those codes are more stringent than state level codes. Discussion followed on whether the Borough should have a representative sit in on the Board of Appeals hearings for Bedford Borough. Council Member Turkovich noted that without an Ordinance the Borough would not have a say at a Board of Appeals Hearing regarding Building Code issued and regulated at the State Level.

Council entered Executive Session at 3:39 p.m.

Council exited Executive Session at 4:12 p.m.

Mayor Leibfreid requested an update on the Solar Panel Project. Manager Diehl shared that the agreement has been signed by the Bedford Fair Board and as soon as the weather improves construction is to begin.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made and carried at 4:14 p.m.

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Borough Secretary