The Regular Meeting of the Bedford Borough Council was held on the above date with the following Council Members present, 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 present.

Council Member John Cessna and Tim Cooper, PE of Stiffler McGraw, were absent.

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

Motion was made by Council Member Neff, seconded by Council Member Turkovich, to approve the Minutes from the May 3, 2021 Council Meeting and the May 18, 2021 Council Workshop after a correction to the May 3rd Minutes of Lloyd Roach's name from "Road" to Roach. Motion was carried by unanimous vote (6-0).

Motion was made by Council Member Blackburn, seconded by Council Member Rinscheid, to approve the list of bills from May 4, 2021 through June 7, 2021. Motion was carried by unanimous vote (6-0).

Motion was made by Council Member Neff, seconded by Council Member Rinscheid, to approve the June 7, 2021 Treasurers Report. Motion was carried by unanimous vote (6-0).

Mr. Roach asked about the 22% price increase for UPMC Health Insurance shown on the Agenda under the Managers Report. Manager Diehl shared that collective bargaining agreements have specific insurance plans listed and with the price increase the cost of coverage has still decreased over prior years. The UPMC plan had decreases of 7.15% in 2019 and 5.96% in 2020. The Insurance Broker noted in an email that COVID 19 was not a reason for the increase. The aging workforce is driving a large portion of claims, groups are moving from "grandmother plans" to Affordable Care Act plans, and Platinum level plans are being discontinued.

Mayor Leibfreid shared the police statistics with Council.

Chief Bowman shared that he added Criminal Arrests (misdemeanors and felonies) to the Police Report. Chief Bowman noted that arrests always fluctuate, but the department is getting busier. There were 6 misdemeanor/felony arrests in May with 4 drug arrests, 1 harassment and 1 DUI.

Manager Diehl opened discussion on an amount (if any) to pledge toward the Streetscape Project. Council had wanted to use monies previously paid to Stiffler McGraw for preliminary design work as part of a $100,000 match. Much of that design work was done on streetscape sections that have been removed and the ADA ramps, which have also been separated from the application. The grants still do not require a local match, but Mr. Cooper feels the application will be favored if some type of match is offered. Motion was made by Council Member Blackburn, seconded by Council Member Neff, to pledge $30,000.00 using General Funds for the Streetscape Project. Motion was carried by unanimous vote (6-0).

Council Member Rinscheid noted that a Chamber After Hours is scheduled for the Fort Bedford Museum for Thursday, July 22, 2021. Council Member Rinscheid shared that the Museum would like to hold a beer garden during the Fall Foliage Festival. Motion was made by Council Member Neff, seconded by Council Member Turkovich, approving the Fort Bedford Museum to hold a beer garden during the festival. Motion was carried by unanimous vote (6-0).

Council Member Turkovich shared an event request from DBI for use of the Lutheran quadrant of the Square to hold a Christmas in July – Painting in the Square event on Saturday, July 24th in partnership with SAMA to create ornaments for the Town Square Christmas Tree. Motion was made by Council Member Rinscheid, seconded by Council Member Blackburn, to approve the event. Motion was carried by unanimous vote (6-0).

Motion was made by Council Member Neff, seconded by Council Member Turkovich, to approve moving a Certificate of Deposit ($54,998.39) from Hometown Bank to a money market account at Altoona First which is currently paying .50%. Motion was carried by unanimous vote (6-0).

Council Member Neff shared that the Ordinance Review Committee met and is proposing a new category of transient license. The transient license would be for vendors on private property with a local host. No vendors would be allowed on sidewalks or allowed to set up during the Fall Foliage Festival. The cost per day would be $10.00 and vendors would have to provide liability insurance.

Council discussed the following points for the proposed transient license for vendors --- limiting to commercial or residential districts, time of day and the concern of pedestrians after dark, competition among brick-and-mortar stores and transient vendors, creating reasonable fees, limiting the number of vendors for an event, different types of vendors (flea market, craft), creating fines for those who do not get permits, and limiting the number of events permitted per year.

A motion was made by Council Member Neff, seconded by Council Member Blackburn, approving Solicitor Crabtree to draft and advertise an Ordinance creating a transient retail license for vendors on private property in Commercial Districts with a local host. The vendor fee will be $10.00 per day. Vendors are not permitted on sidewalks and cannot be set up during the Fall Foliage Festival. Vendors must provide liability insurance and events can only be held during day light hours. Fines of $20.00 to $600.00 to be issued for vendors who do not follow the Ordinance. Motion was carried (5-1) with Council Member Rinscheid voting against the proposed Ordinance change.

Manager Diehl shared the following Historic Architecture Review Board (HARB) applications approved at the May 27, 2021, HARB Meeting:

- Kathleen Kepner – 205 W John Street – Add Mesh Fencing adjacent to property line.
- Chris and Stacey Clark – 209 W John Street – Add Privacy Fence adjacent to property line.
- Dianna Baker – 119 S Richard St – Add Signage – Dianna Nicole Photography

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 shared letters were sent from the Bedford Police Department to property owners on Richard, Pitt, Penn, and West Streets along with Central Way.

Manager Diehl reminded Council that the recodification of the Ordinance Book was started in 2018 and there has been no movement on the project. Solicitor Crabtree is to review the work completed to date.

Manager Diehl asked about the request to incorporate the International Property Maintenance Code into the Code of Ordinances. With the incorporation of the IPMC, in whole or sections, posting properties would be easier for the Borough Police Department or Code Enforcement. Currently Pennsylvania Municipal Code Alliance (PMCA) is required to post properties at greater costs and on a delayed schedule. Solicitor Crabtree shared that if Council finds that Code Enforcement employees are overly aggressive that processes can be put in place to handle the employee, or the Ordinance can be changed. Council Member Neff shared that a meeting to discuss the request will be scheduled.

Motion was made by Council Member Fetterman, seconded by Council Member Rinscheid, to renew the contract with Reed, Wertz and Roadman for the UPMC Health Care plan beginning July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022. Motion was carried (5-0-1) with Tim Weaverling abstaining as a partner in RWR.

Motion was made by Council Member Blackburn, seconded by Council Member Neff, to approve Carla Sturgis to replace Mr. Blackburn on HARB for the remainder of his term that expires in June 2022. Motion was carried by unanimous vote (5-0-1) with Jeff Rinscheid abstaining because of a personal relationship.

Discussion on reappointing Wessel & Company to audit the Borough's Financial Records for 2021, 2022 and 2023 along with a Change Order in the amount of $1,500.00 for increased hours in the reconciling of interfund accounts between the Borough and the Municipal Authority for the 2020 audit was tabled until a future meeting.

Manager Diehl shared that the Borough has been working on the mulching/trimming/clean-up of the Squares and held a Town-Workday (partnering with DBI) on Thursday, May 13th.

- Thank you to Traci Weyant (and the members of the Evening Rotary crew) for their volunteer work at the Fort Museum in April. They mulched and cleaned up all the flower beds, etc.
- Thank you to Kevin Cook (and his crews) for cleaning up the small area at the rear of the Ford Garage in May.
- Much appreciation to those who participated in the Town-Workday installing flower brackets, banners, planting/mulching of tree boxes, etc.

As the summer continues, our Public Works Department will continue clean-up throughout town - street sweeping, replacing signs, line painting and mowing.

Manager Diehl shared her appreciation to the individuals who participated in the Bedford Township & Bedford Borough "Joint Residential Bulky Waste Drop-off Day."

Motion was made by Council Member Turkovich, seconded by Council Member Blackburn, to approve Requisition #15 for the Borough Building Renovation Project in the amount of $236,085.79. Motion was carried by unanimous vote (6-0).

Manager Diehl shared that on June 30, 2021, the available balance remaining in the Borough Building Renovation loan account will be transferred to a separate bank account. On July 1, 2021, the Borough will begin repaying the loan. Any funds remaining in the bank account at the end of the project will be repaid as a principal payment on the loan.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made and carried at 8:43 p.m.

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Borough Secretary