December 6, 2021

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, and John Cessna. Council Members Kenny Fetterman and Patrick Neff were absent.

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

Lloyd Roach, Cessna Communications, and Will Deshong, Bedford Gazette, were in attendance. Borough Residents Gwendolyn Ray, Bill Blackburn, Dennis Tice and James and Melony Lynch were in attendance.

Motion was made by Council Member Rinscheid, seconded by Council Member Turkovich, to approve the Minutes from the November 1, 2021, Public Hearing, November 1, 2021 Council Meeting, and the November 21, 2021 Budget Workshop Meeting. Motion was carried by unanimous vote (5-0).

Motion was made by Council Member Blackburn, seconded by Council Member Cessna, to approve the list of bills from November 2, 2021 through December 6, 2021. Motion was carried by unanimous vote (5-0).

Motion was made by Council Member Turkovich, seconded by Council Member Rinscheid, to approve the December 6, 2021 Treasurers Report. Motion was carried by unanimous vote (5-0).

Bids were opened for Heating Oil and Bio-solids removal at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. One bid was received from SAC, Inc. for Heating Oil at the cost of $2.179 per gallon ($2.029 vendor cost per gallon and $0.15 vendor mark up per gallon). One bid was received for Bio-solids removal from Little Enterprises Waste Hauling at the cost of $0.085 for surface spreading and $0.091 for subsurface injection. Motion was made by Council Member Cessna, seconded by Council Member Blackburn to approve acceptance of the bids. Motion was carried by unanimous vote (5-0).

Dennis Tice presented information on a Veteran's Walkway to be added to the Federal Square. The walkway will cover veterans serving beginning in the year 1775 and allow expansion to 2040-2080. Motion was made by Council Member Cessna, seconded by Council Member Rinscheid, to approve the development of the Veteran's Walkway. Motion was carried by unanimous vote (5-0).

Stephen Citari, PW Campbell, approached Council about reversing the direction of the One-Way section of W Central Way between Juliana Street and Lafayette Avenue for the Juliana Street branch of FNB Bank. Currently traffic is restricted to One Way from Juliana Street heading west to Lafayette Avenue. When traffic backs up at the drive through lanes Central Way is blocked. The reversal of traffic would allow traffic to back up in the parking lot of the bank and not block Central Way. The request will be forwarded to the Ordinance Committee for review.

Mayor Leibfreid shared the police statistics with Council.

Council President Weaverling requested an Executive Session at the end of the meeting to discuss a litigation issue.

Council Member Rinscheid apologized to Engineer Tim Cooper for his inaction at the Public Hearing on comments made by the public that assailed Mr. Cooper's character. The Public Hearing was held regarding changing the Zoning District from R-1 to R-3 for property along Green Lane. Mr. Cooper is part of an investment group that planned to build upscale townhouses.

Council Member Rinscheid shared that the Cookie Walk held by the Heritage Trust at the Fort Bedford Museum was very successful. Three hundred fifty dozen cookies were sold. Winter hours at the Fort Museum are now in effect.

President Weaverling reminded Council to mark their calendars for the Year-End Council Meeting to be held on Tuesday, December 21, 2021 at 7 p.m.

Council Member Cessna shared that Council received in their packets a handout detailing the highlights of the accomplishments of Egolf Park. Motion was made by Council Member Turkovich, seconded by Council Member Blackburn, to renew the Lease with Egolf Park Associates. Motion was carried by unanimous vote (5-0).

Motion was made by Council Member Rinscheid, seconded by Council Member Turkovich, to approve the recommendation of the Properties Committee to approve Stiffler McGraw to begin the architectural and engineering design work for a pavilion at the Anderson House. The Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art (SAMA) received a $50,000 grant towards the project. Stiffler McGraw will work with SAMA and the Borough with full reimbursement of design fees paid by SAMA. Motion was carried by unanimous vote (5-0).

Recodification of the Ordinance Book was discussed. The recodification has been ongoing for a few years. Discussion of placarding of properties was entered. Current Borough Ordinances do not specify who can placard properties. Pennsylvania Municipal Code Alliance (PMCA) has been performing the placard duties at a cost greater than if the process was completed by Borough employees.

Manager Diehl shared that no Historic Architecture Review Board (HARB) applications were received.

Manager Diehl shared that letter were sent from the Bedford Police Department to property owners on Pitt and Penn Streets.

Motion was made by Council Member Blackburn, seconded by Council Member Cessna, to re-appoint the firm of Wessel & Company to audit the Borough's Financial records for another 3-year term (2021-2023). Motion was carried by unanimous vote (5-0).

Motion was made by Council Member Turkovich, seconded by Council Member Rinscheid, to re-appoint:

- Mary Lorah– BJMA (Borough Appointee) – 5-Year Term (Will Expire 12/31/2026)
- Matthew Bullington – MABB – 5-Year Term (Will Expire 01-2027)
- Chris Bullington – MABB – 5-Year Term (Will Expire 01-2027)
- John Koontz – Zoning Hearing Board – 3-Year Term (Will Expire 01-2025)
- John Cessna – Tree Commission – 5-Year Term (Will Expire 01-2027)

Motion was carried by unanimous vote (5-0).

Manager Diehl asked Council to decide on the 2022 Real Estate Tax Millage and authorize the advertisement of the Real Estate Tax Levy Ordinance (2021-04). Motion was made by Council Member Cessna, seconded by Council Member Rinscheid, for the tax on real estate for general purposes to be the sum of 4.2 mills on each dollar of assessed valuation. The 2021 figure was the sum of 4.2 mills also. Motion was carried by unanimous vote (5-0).

Motion was made By Council Member Blackburn, seconded by Council Member Cessna, to tentatively approve the Budget for the 2022 fiscal Year.

GENERAL FUND	$1,603.330.00
WATER FUND	$ 921,750.00
SEWER FUND	$ 945,125.00
CAPITAL RESERVE FUND	$ 30,470.00
LIQUID FUELS FUND	$ 88,800.00
FORT MUSEUM FUND	$ 64,875.00
TOTAL BUDGET	**$3,654,350.00**

Motion was carried by unanimous vote (5-0).

Motion was made by Council Member Rinscheid, seconded by Council Member Turkovich, to approve the amendment of the Cash Balance Plan for 2022 and advertise the Ordinance setting the employer contribution at 3.5% for 2022. Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement System (PMRS) rate of return remains at 5.25% for 2022. Motion was carried by unanimous vote (5-0).

Motion was made by Council Member Turkovich, seconded by Council Member Cessna, to approve Requisition 23 for the Borough Building Renovation Project in the amount of $8,243.63. Motion was carried by unanimous vote (5-0).

Residents and Members of the Press exited the meeting at 8:02 p.m.

Council entered Executive Session at 8:02 p.m.
Council exited Executive Session at 8:31 p.m.

Motion was made by Council Member Turkovich, seconded by Council Member Cessna, to approve signing the Settlement Agreement between Arnold & Smythe and Bedford Borough. Motion carried (4-0-1) with Council President Weaverling abstaining.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made and carried at 8:32 p.m.

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Borough Secretary