

STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTY OF TARRANT §

CITY OF BEDFORD §

The City Council of the City of Bedford, Texas, met in work session at 6:00 p.m., and regular session at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chamber of City Hall, 2000 Forest Ridge Drive on the 14th day of September 2010 with the following members present:

Jim Story	Mayor
Chris Brown	Council Members
Ray Champney	
Roger Fisher	
Jim Griffin	
Roy Savage	
Roy W. Turner	

Constituting a quorum.

Staff present included:

Beverly Queen	City Manager
David Miller	Deputy City Manager
Stan Lowry	City Attorney
Michael Wells	City Secretary
Cliff Blackwell	Director of Administrative Services
David Flory	Police Chief
Mirenda McQuagge-Walden	Managing Director of Community Services
Maria Redburn	Library Manager
Bill Shelton	Public Works Superintendent
Bill Syblon	Development Director
James Tindell	Fire Chief

WORK SESSION

Mayor Story called the work session to order at 6:00 p.m.

- **Review and discuss items on the regular agenda and consider placing items for approval by consent.**

Council discussed placing the following item(s) on consent: 2, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, and 16.

- **Discuss and set dates for Board and Commission interviews, for a joint meeting with the Park and Recreation Board, and dates for November council meetings.**

Council discussed setting dates for the upcoming Board and Commission interviews, for a joint meeting with the Parks and Recreation Board as well as the Council meeting dates in November. Council was of the consensus to hold the joint meeting with the Parks and Recreation Board on Thursday, November 11, the Board and Commission interviews Tuesday, November 16, and to keep the second meeting in November Tuesday, November 23.

- **Explanation of Atmos Energy's Steel Service Line Replacement Program.**

Managing Director of Community Services Mirenda McQuagge-Walden introduced Jeff Knights, Vice President of Operations for Atmos Energy Mid-Tex Region, who presented information to Council regarding their upcoming steel service line replacement program. The steel service program is part of the RRM that was discussed and reviewed earlier during the Council work session. This program is going to replace approximately 100,000 steel service lines in the Mid-Tex service area within the next two years. This program is part of an agreement worked out with the Atmos Steering Committee coalition cities, of which Bedford is a part. The replacement of the service lines is based on a model agreed upon between Atmos and the Railroad Commission and includes factors such as the age of lines, the material, and the proximity to buildings. The steel lines would be replaced with plastic or poly service lines. There was no timeframe for when replacement of lines would start in Bedford. However, if there is a leak on a steel service line, that line would be replaced. Leaks on the main may either be replaced or repaired with a leak clamp. \$0.15 will be added to residents' bills for service line replacement. At this time the priority is the replacement of service lines as opposed to the mains. Council asked for periodic reports detailing gas leaks in the City.

REGULAR SESSION 6:30 P.M.

Regular session began at 6:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER/GENERAL COMMENTS

Mayor Story called the meeting to order.

INVOCATION (Reverend Cameron Williams, Mid-Cities Community Church)

Reverend Cameron Williams of Mid-Cities Community Church gave tonight's invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

OPEN FORUM

Nobody chose to speak under tonight's Open Forum.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF ITEMS BY CONSENT

Motioned by Councilman Champney, seconded by Councilman Turner to approve the following items by consent: 2, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, and 16

Motion approved 7-0-0. Mayor Story declared the motion carried.

COUNCIL RECOGNITION

1. Presentation of the Texas Municipal Library Directors Association Achievement of Excellence Award for 2009 to the Bedford Public Library.

Jana Prock, Treasurer of the Texas Municipal Library Directors Association and Director of the Keller Public Library, presented the TMLDA for 2009 to Library Manager Maria Redburn and the Bedford Public Library. This is an annual award given by the TMLDA to libraries that demonstrate their service excellence through 10 service criteria. Out of 565 libraries in the State of Texas, 19 received this award

including Bedford. Ms. Redburn wanted to recognize Regina Stone and Jeannie Green at the Library who worked very hard on putting the notebook together in order to receive the award.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

- 2. Consider approval of the following City Council minutes:**
a) August 24, 2010 regular session

This item was approved by consent.

NEW BUSINESS

- 3. Consider and act upon an ordinance amending the schedule of sewer rates by amendment of Section 1., Ordinance No. 09-2942; providing a repealing clause, providing a severability clause; and declaring an effective date.**

Director of Administrative Services Cliff Blackwell presented information regarding this ordinance as well as the ordinance on the next item. City staff has worked diligently with Pros Consulting on the water and sewer rates. As explained in the budget work session, staff has had meetings with the Trinity River Authority looking at the budgetary impact for providing sewer services to the City which is approximately \$345,000. Staff recognizes that the water and sewer fund cannot afford this type of impact. In working with Pros Consulting, staff is recommending a 12% increase in sewer rates to help with cash flow and to meet revenue requirements and costs for FY 2011. This will mean an increase in the residential rate from \$9.71 to \$10.88 and the volume rate from \$1.54 to \$1.72 per 1000 gallons. The City's financial policy is to have a working capital of 145 days in the water and sewer fund; this increase in rates will increase the working capital by 21 days. Council requested that staff look into obtaining a breakdown of the Tarrant Regional Water District budget.

Motioned by Councilman Turner, seconded by Councilman Champney, to approve an ordinance amending the schedule of sewer rates by amendment of Section 1., Ordinance No. 09-2942; providing a repealing clause, providing a severability clause; and declaring an effective date.

Motion approved 7-0-0. Mayor Story declared the motion carried.

- 4. Consider and act upon an ordinance amending the schedule of water rates by amendment of Section 1., Ordinance No. 09-2941; providing a repealing clause, providing a severability clause; and declaring an effective date.**

Motioned by Councilman Champney, seconded by Councilman Savage, to approve an ordinance amending the schedule of water rates by amendment of Section 1., Ordinance No. 09-2941; providing a repealing clause, providing a severability clause; and declaring an effective date.

Motion approved 7-0-0. Mayor Story declared the motion carried.

- 5. Consider and act upon an ordinance adopting the annual budget for the City of Bedford, Texas for the fiscal period of October 1, 2010 through September 30, 2011; levying taxes for 2010; providing for intra-fund and/or intra-departmental transfers; providing for investment of idle funds; and declaring an effective date.**

Director of Administrative Services Cliff Blackwell presented information regarding this ordinance. Staff has worked very hard on the budget and each and every department deserves credit for the work they have done. When the budget was first presented to Council on June 30, it had eight frozen positions, a reduction in tuition reimbursement, and each department had made a 5% across the board cut. The recommended tax rate was 49.5 cents. Since then, there has been a public hearing and additional changes have been made to the budget including adjustments to revenue from franchise fees, the tax

rate was moved down to the effective rate, the debt portion of the tax rate was increased to fully fund the debt for the new Library, the revitalization program was reduced, and a reimbursement from the Storm Water Fund to the General fund was included. The water and sewer rates, which were approved earlier during tonight's meeting, have also been included in the budget. The proposed budget contains \$58,978,357 in revenues and \$58,080,366 in expenditures.

Motioned by Councilman Champney, seconded by Councilman Turner to move that property taxes be increased by the adoption of a tax rate of \$0.491609 per \$100.00 valuation; and approve an ordinance adopting the annual budget for the City of Bedford, Texas for the fiscal year October 1, 2010 through September 30, 2011.

Motion approved 7-0-0. Mayor Story declared the motion carried.

- 6. Consider an ordinance of the City Council of the City of Bedford, Texas approving a negotiated resolution between Atmos Cities Steering Committee and Atmos Energy Corp., Mid-Tex Division, regarding the company's third rate review mechanism filing.**

This item was approved by consent.

- 7. Consider a resolution to ratify the property tax increase as reflected in the 2010/2011 City of Bedford Program of Services (Budget).**

Motioned by Councilman Champney, seconded by Councilman Griffin, to approve a resolution to ratify the property tax increase as reflected in the 2010/2011 City of Bedford Program of Services (Budget).

Motion approved 7-0-0. Mayor Story declared the motion carried.

- 8. Consider a resolution accepting the City of Bedford Investment Policy.**

This item was approved by consent.

- 9. Consider a resolution authorizing the emergency expenditure of \$27,054 for unexpected water line repairs on Cummings Drive and Murphy Drive to preserve the public health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of the City of Bedford.**

This item was approved by consent.

- 10. Consider a resolution authorizing the City Manager or her designee to approve Change Order No. One with Hall Albert Construction, L.P. for a reduction in the contract amount of \$29,417.50 for the 2010 Sanitary Sewer Collection System Rehabilitation.**

This item was approved by consent.

- 11. Consider a resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute a change order with Harrison, Walker and Harper for the construction of three custom service points for the new Bedford Public Library in the amount of \$63,684.20.**

This item was approved by consent.

- 12. Consider a resolution authorizing the City Manager to purchase and install security equipment for the new Bedford Public Library from Stanley Security Solutions in the amount of \$26,579.**

This item was approved by consent.

13. Consider a resolution accepting the purchase of naming rights for the Technology Center located in the new Bedford Public Library by Jim and Becky Wilkes in the amount of \$25,000.

Library Manager Maria Redburn presented information regarding this resolution. Jim and Becky Wilkes have lived in Bedford for 26 years and as long time Library users wanted to give back to the community. They believe that libraries play an integral part in literacy and access to technology. Per the City's naming policy, the City Council must approve the naming of any City facility or property. Their donation will help fund the computer center which will have 20 computers available to citizens. The Wilkes' will have a glass plaque outside the computer center, the directory will list the center as the Jim and Becky Wilkes Technology Center and their names will be listed on the glass donor wall.

Motioned by Councilman Champney, seconded by Councilman Griffin, to approve a resolution accepting the purchase of naming rights for the Technology Center located in the new Bedford Public Library by Jim and Becky Wilkes in the amount of \$25,000.

Motion approved 7-0-0. Mayor Story declared the motion carried.

14. Consider a resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a lease agreement with ARTSNET relative to the Trinity Arts Building located within the Bedford Boys Ranch Park.

This item was approved by consent.

15. Consider a resolution authorizing the City Manager to reimburse the City of Hurst for 50% of the appraised value of the Senior Citizens Center in accordance with the Intergovernmental Contract between the cities of Bedford and Hurst dated March 10, 1981.

This item was approved by consent.

16. Consider a resolution authorizing the City Manager to change a Council meeting date in October from October 26, 2010 to October 19, 2010 and schedule the December meetings as December 7, 2010 and December 14, 2010.

This item was approved by consent.

17. Discussion on adding/creating an additional \$.50 citizen donation to water bill for the new Library. *Item requested by Councilman Griffin**

Councilman Griffin requested this item be placed on the agenda for discussion. There has been considerable discussion at the Library Foundation and the Library Board to find a way that all citizens can contribute to the Library in a small way. It would involve the same approach as is currently done with the Parks and Recreation donation. Logistically, since the water bill can only support one donation, donations would need to be split between the Library and the Park Board. Council was of the consensus to support the program. Councilman Griffin will first consult with the Parks and Recreation Board and then staff will bring back a resolution to Council establishing the donation program and an action plan with timeframes for implementation of the program.

18. Council member reports

No Council member gave a report at tonight's meeting.

19. City Manager/Staff reports

✓ **Update on "Dog Park" Complaint**

Development Director Bill Syblon presented an update on the recent dog park complaint. He stated that staff has been researching what other communities have done with dog parks in their zoning ordinances. Materials will be presented at the next Planning and Zoning meeting and a zoning amendment will be

brought to Council in October. The change in the zoning would entail requiring a specific use permit to create a dog park and would have requirements regarding fencing and the maximum number of animals allowed. Mr. Syblon will let the resident who complained know what has happened with this issue.

20. Take any action necessary as a result of the Executive Session.

No action was necessary as a result of Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Story adjourned the meeting at 7:28 p.m.

Jim Story, Mayor

ATTEST:

Michael Wells, City Secretary