

Council Minutes April 14, 2015

STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTY OF TARRANT §

CITY OF BEDFORD §

The City Council of the City of Bedford, Texas, met in Work Session at 5:30 p.m. and Regular Session at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 2000 Forest Ridge Drive, on the 14th day of April, 2015 with the following members present:

Jim Griffin	Mayor
Michael Boyter	Council Members
Ray Champney	
Jim Davisson	
Steve Farco	
Roger Fisher	
Roy W. Turner	

constituting a quorum.

Staff present included:

Mirenda McQuagge-Walden	Assistant City Manager
Stan Lowry	City Attorney
Michael Wells	City Secretary
Natalie Foster	Marketing Specialist
Les Hawkins	Deputy Police Chief
Kenny Overstreet	Field Operations Manager
Bill Syblon	Development Director

COUNCIL CHAMBER WORK SESSION

Mayor Griffin called the Work Session to order at 5:30 p.m.

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

Council discussed placing the following items on consent: 4, 6, 7, 8 and 9.

Field Operations Manager Kenny Overstreet presented information regarding Item #7, which is for the abandonment of a right-of-way at 904 Rankin Drive. Forest Ridge Drive was originally planned as a six-lane road in the 1970s and, therefore, when the first subdivision went it, the City asked for a 30-foot extended right-of-way. Forest Ridge Drive was actually built as a four-lane road and surrounding subdivisions have a ten-foot right-of-way. The resident at 904 Rankin Drive has always mowed and maintained the right-of-way. The City is asking that the right-of-way be abandoned, except for 10 feet back of the curb, which includes the sidewalk. The rest would still be kept as a utility easement. In answer to questions from Council, Mr. Overstreet stated that this would make this right-of-way consistent with the others along Forest Ridge Drive and there are plans to install a six-foot wooden fence on the property along the right-of-way adjacent to the sidewalk.

There was discussion on Item #9 related to the antique light poles in the area including plans to rehabilitate them; that if they are in the way of construction, they be removed with care and stored properly; tying them in with the 100 Year Anniversary celebration of the Old Bedford School; and replicating them in the Cultural District. Mr. Overstreet stated that an orange safety fence will be put around the poles, the contractor will be told in a preconstruction meeting that the poles be preserved

and maintained at all times, and most of the roadwork will be in the lane of traffic.

• **Presentation on recent Police Department activities.**

Deputy Police Chief Les Hawkins presented an update on recent Police Department activities. The Department purchased five security cameras from Wildfire, which have been deployed to different areas of the City based on data from the Department's crime analyst. Volunteers monitor live video looking for criminal activity, which is then reported to Dispatch for a Police response. They will try to expand the program by purchasing two more camera systems every year for the next few years utilizing drug seizure money. An exchange program has been established whereby an area has been set up in the Police Department parking lot to allow people to exchange on-line purchases or do child custody exchanges in a safer environment under 24-hour video surveillance. Three parking spaces have been designated, cameras are in place and signs have been installed. The camera and equipment are funded through drug seizure funds and grant funding. The video is live and there is a 30-day storage capacity. The Repeat Victimization Unit (RVU) was established in 2012 and there was a recent open house for their storefront on Pipeline Road, which was a joint effort with the City of Hurst. The storefront has three officers from Bedford and four from Hurst, along with a secretary. This location puts the officers out in the community and makes them more accessible to the public. The storefront was funded almost entirely through grant funding and business donations. Staff has requested funding for next year for the lease and operations of the facility. The mental health coordinator, which is grant-funded for the next three years, and the crime victims liaison are also housed out of the storefront. The Bedford 1 Community Program is associated with the multifamily housing coordinator. The concept of the Program is to reach out to the City's apartment communities to enhance their quality of life, which has an effect on the surrounding neighborhoods. Their first meeting with the Apartment Manager's Association is April 23 at 2:00 p.m. in the Library. One of the key points of the Program is information sharing between the Department and apartment complexes to try and deter some criminal elements. The Distracted Driving Ordinance was approved in November of 2014. The Department is still in the education phase and 27 signs will be installed strategically throughout the City to inform drivers of the Ordinance. They have partnered with the local high schools, including streaming a two-slide PowerPoint presentation through their video announcements, as well as printing 5,000 brochures, which was funded through Atmos Energy.

In answer to questions from Council, Deputy Chief Hawkins stated that staff will contact TxDOT to see if they would allow messages on their highway billboards regarding the Distracted Driving Ordinance; that the crime-free multi-housing program is voluntary; that the crime-free multi-family coordinator will make personal visits to the apartment complexes regarding the upcoming Association meeting; and that people can check crime statistics for apartments on-line or through an open records request at the Department's Records Division. Deputy Chief Hawkins discussed the Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS) program, which has approximately 45 volunteers.

Mayor Griffin recessed the Work Session at 5:49 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

To convene in the conference room, if time permits, in compliance with Section 551.001 et. Seq. Texas Government Code, to discuss the following:

- a) **Pursuant to Section 551.087, deliberation regarding economic development negotiations with the City of Euless.**
- b) **Pursuant to Section 551.074, personnel matters - City Manager search.**

Council convened into Executive Session pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.087, deliberation regarding economic development negotiations with the City of Euless and Section 551.074, personnel matters - City Manager search at 5:52 p.m.

Council reconvened from Executive Session at 6:12 p.m.

Council Minutes April 14, 2015

Any necessary action to be taken as a result of the Executive Session will occur during the Regular Session of the Bedford City Council Meeting.

Mayor Griffin reopened the Work Session at 6:15 p.m. in order to hear Items #10, #11 and #12.

Mayor Griffin adjourned the Work Session at 6:28 p.m.

REGULAR SESSION 6:30 P.M.

The Regular Session began at 6:34 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER/GENERAL COMMENTS

Mayor Griffin called the meeting to order.

INVOCATION (Dr. Timothy Pierce, Woodland Heights Baptist Church)

Dr. Timothy Pierce of Woodland Heights Baptist Church gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/UPCOMING EVENTS

Marketing Specialist Natalie Foster stated that the Beautification Commission is looking for volunteers for Clean Up Bedford Day on Saturday at 9:00 a.m. at Meadow Park. Supplies will be handed out, lunch will be provided and there will be giveaways. Chunk Your Junk Day is also on Saturday, at Meadow Park at 8:00 a.m. and residents can bring non-hazardous items. ArtsTalk will be held on the upcoming Monday at the Old Bedford School, with the wine reception at 6:30 p.m. and the program at 7:00 p.m. The past year's achievements and the new public calendar will be reviewed, and upcoming events and initiatives will be discussed.

Mayor Griffin stated that the 6Stones Community Powered Revitalization Spring Blitz will be held on Friday, April 17 and Saturday, April 18. Volunteers will work on six homes in Bedford.

OPEN FORUM

Nobody chose to speak during Open Forum.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF ITEMS BY CONSENT

Motioned by Councilmember Champney, seconded by Councilmember Turner, to approve the following items by consent: 4, 6, 7, 8 and 9.

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

COUNCIL RECOGNITION

1. Proclamation recognizing the week of April 19–25, 2015 as National Crime Victims' Rights Week.

Mayor Griffin read a proclamation recognizing the week of April 19–25, 2015 as National Crime Victims' Rights Week. Crime Victims/Domestic Violence Coordinator Courtney Janes was present to accept the proclamation.

2. Proclamation recognizing the week of April 12–18, 2015 as National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week.

Mayor Griffin read a proclamation recognizing the week of April 12–18, 2015 as National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week. Communications Supervisor over the Dispatch Division, Amy James, was present to accept the proclamation.

3. Hometown Hero presentation and reception.

Mayor Griffin stated that three times a year, the City will recognize citizens who represent Bedford's best as a Hometown Hero. He recognized Bedford resident Thomas Clayton Quigley as being the first recipient of the Hometown Hero award. He discussed Mr. Quigley's service at the Battle of the Bulge in World War II, and that he received two Purple Hearts, two Bronze Stars, and the Legion of Honor Award from France. He discussed Mr. Quigley's wife Barbara, who he has been married to for 69 years. They have three children who live in Bedford, three grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. He discussed a book written by Mr. Quigley about his wartime experiences called "World War II: My War" and showed a short clip of Mr. Quigley from a History Channel show on the Battle of the Bulge.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

4. Consider approval of the following City Council minutes:

a) March 24, 2015 regular meeting

This item was approved by consent.

NEW BUSINESS

5. Public hearing to consider an ordinance to rezone Lot 5, Block 1, Walmart Addition, located at 3720 Cheek-Sparger Road, Bedford, Texas from (H) Heavy Commercial (MHC) Master Highway Corridor to Planned Unit Development (PUD) for a Self-Service Storage Facility (Mini-Warehouse), allowing for Hixon Properties Inc. to construct a Stor Self Storage Facility. The property is generally located south of Cheek-Sparger Road and west of State Highway 121. (Z-268)

No action was taken on this item due to the withdrawal of the application by the applicant.

6. Consider a resolution authorizing the Interim City Manager to enter into an interlocal agreement with the City of Euless to facilitate communication and cooperation, and describe duties and responsibilities between the two cities in matters relating to platting, zoning, sales tax revenues, property tax, infrastructure, building plans review, permits, inspections, law enforcement, fire protection and prevention, and other matters that arise concerning the unified development of approximately 14.5 acres that spans the two city boundaries.

This item was approved by consent.

7. Consider a resolution authorizing the Interim City Manager to abandon all rights, titles and interest in a portion of the Right-of-Way dedication, Volume 388-59, Page 17, P.R.T.C.T. as described in Exhibits A and B in the survey prepared by Prism Surveys, Inc.

This item was approved by consent.

8. Consider a resolution authorizing the Interim City Manager to enter into a contract with Four B Paving Inc. for the 2015 Crack Sealing at Various Locations, in the amount of \$112,000.

This item was approved by consent.

9. Consider a resolution authorizing the Interim City Manager to enter into a contract with A & M Construction and Utilities, Inc. for the Bedford Road Water Main Improvements Project in the amount of \$265,528.13.

This item was approved by consent.

Items #10, 11 and 12 were discussed during the Work Session.

10. Report on most recent meeting of the following Boards and Commissions:

- ✓ **Animal Shelter Advisory Board - Councilmember Fisher**

No report was given.

- ✓ **Beautification Commission - Councilmember Turner**

Councilmember Turner invited everybody to Clean Up Bedford Day on Saturday, April 18 at 9:00 a.m. at Meadow Park. Chunk Your Junk Day will also be on that Saturday at Meadow Park.

- ✓ **Community Affairs Commission - Councilmember Boyter**

Councilmember Boyter reported that the Commission hosted a business roundtable on April 2, which had 22 attendees. A survey was taken and many attendees indicated that they found out about the roundtable from Chamber discussions, advertisements, and email. Attendees would like to see more business interaction and discussion on development plans. On April 11, the City Expo and Pet Fair was held. The Commission was very appreciative of Council for their support in conducting the event. There was great residential support for this event with over 430 attendees inside. On May 14, the Commission will host a residential roundtable from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Library. Mayor Griffin and Development Director Bill Syblon will present information on recycling carts, City department updates, the Bedford Commons, storefront galleries, the Police Department shared storefront, the Boys Ranch construction and economic development.

- ✓ **Cultural Commission - Councilmember Champney**

Councilmember Champney reported that the ArtsFest event was outstanding, with approximately 2,500 people in attendance. The event was moved from October to April and was tied in with the Easter Egg Hunt. The Animal Shelter was also at the event. ArtsTalk will be held on April 20 and attendees will be brought up-to-date on arts and cultural activities. The speaker will be Patti Diu, Executive Director of the Levitt Pavilion, who will discuss what the venue has done for the City of Arlington from the standpoint of attracting new businesses, economic development and creating a greater sense of community.

- ✓ **Library Board - Councilmember Davisson**

No report was given.

- ✓ **Parks & Recreation Board - Councilmember Davisson**

Councilmember Davisson reported that the Board held a public hearing so the public could ask about changes in the master plan for the parks. At the hearing, there was discussion on removing the island in the Boys Ranch Lake and that there were egrets nesting there. Assistant City Manager Mirinda McQuagge-Walden contacted the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department. A representative from the Department and Parks Superintendent Don Henderson surveyed the island and did not find any evidence of egrets or nesting. The Department was comfortable with the City moving forward with the plan.

✓ **Teen Court Advisory Board - Councilmember Farco**

Councilmember Farco reported that the Teen Court Banquet will be held on Thursday at 6:00 p.m. at the Hurst Conference Center.

11. Council member Reports

Councilmember Fisher stated that he was appointed by Commissioner Gary Fickes to the John Peter Smith (JPS) Hospital Board in February. He has had the opportunity to be immersed in what goes on at JPS. He stated that it is not just for the poor or for a certain type of society, but for everybody and it is phenomenal. He discussed their Level One Trauma Center and that it is a fascinating hospital with work done by fascinating people. He invited everybody to take a tour of the Hospital.

Councilmember Turner stated that JPS is one of the most outstanding training facilities for new doctors, nurses, and technicians. He discussed the leading research that is going on there and at Parkland Hospital.

Mayor Griffin discussed the Police Department Motorcycle Rodeo at the Harley Davidson facility the previous Saturday after the City Expo and Pet Fair. Bedford motorcycle officers competed with those from other agencies. He gave kudos to the Police Association and officers for competing, as well as to all of staff that participated in Saturday's activities.

12. City Manager/Staff Reports

Ms. McQuagge-Walden reported that the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board is conducting a parks and recreation survey, which can be taken online. Hard copies of the survey are available at the Boys Ranch Activity Center and the Senior Center.

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

Item #6 was voted on during the Regular Session.

Motioned by Councilmember Fisher, seconded by Councilmember Davisson, to approve the strategic search firm, SRG, in order to search for a new city manager, in an amount not to exceed \$27,000.

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

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Griffin adjourned the meeting at 6:56 p.m.

Jim Griffin, Mayor

ATTEST:

Michael Wells, City Secretary