

April 3, 2023

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, Kenny Fetterman, Bill J. Blackburn, and Matthew Bullington. Council Member Patrick Neff was absent.

Mayor William Leibfreid, Borough Manager Barbara Diehl, Borough Secretary Beverly Geller, Police Chief Craig Bowman, and Solicitor Dean Crabtree were in attendance. Assistant Borough Secretary Misty Hizer and Tim Cooper, P.E. of Stiffler, McGraw & Assoc. Inc, were absent.

Lloyd Roach of Cessna Communications, Erica Burkholder of the Bedford Gazette, Mike LaSala of Land Studies, Inc., Ryan Schnably of the Bedford County Conservation District, Stephen George, Mike Stiles, and Mark Rose were present.

Motion was made by Council Member Fetterman, seconded by Council Member Blackburn, to approve Minutes from the March 6, 2023 Regular Meeting. Motion was carried by unanimous vote (6-0).

Motion was made by Council Member Bullington, seconded by Council Member Rinscheid, to approve the list of bills from March 7, 2023 to April 3, 2023. Motion was carried by unanimous vote (6-0).

Motion was made by Council Member Blackburn, seconded by Council Member Fetterman, to approve the April 3, 2023 Treasurer's Report. Motion was carried by unanimous vote (6-0).

Mike LaSala, Land Studies, Inc., shared that he serves as a liaison between the state and counties with his focus mainly on agricultural communities. Mr. LaSala spoke to Council regarding options for the eroding section of Cumberland Valley Run neighboring the Green. A photograph was shared by Council Member Rinscheid that showed sections of pipe that at one time were fully covered by the stream bank but are now uncovered for multiple feet. Grant opportunities were discussed through NFWF (National Fish and Wildlife Foundation), The BP Foundation, and the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). After discussion on the project, a motion was made by Council Member Turkovich, seconded by Council Member Bullington, for the Borough to pledge \$5,000.00 to move forward with applying for grant funding with Land Studies, Inc. completing the applications. Motion was carried by unanimous vote (6-0).

Mayor Leibfreid shared the Police statistics with Council.

Chief Bowman shared that the Bedford Police Department sent letters to or filed citations for property owners at Forrest Avenue, S. Bedford Street and W John Streets. Verbal warnings were issued to property owners on W Pitt Street.

Chief Bowman shared that the two individuals enrolled in the Police Academy were at the top of their class and are scheduled to graduate on June 9, 2023.

Chief Bowman noted that incidents of the bollards being struck by tractor trailers at the corner of E Pitt and S Richard Street are decreasing. Working with PennDOT to place signage restricting trucks longer than thirty feet in length making right turns at the corner along with correspondence

with trucking companies and the US Department of Transportation has decreased the number of incidents.

Council Member Rinscheid shared that DBI:

- Has applied for a \$50,000 T-Mobile Grant for a Street Audio System.
- Is working on finalizing a pamphlet of the 2022 Year in Review. The completed pamphlet will be included in a “Welcome to Our Community” that will be distributed to new businesses and homeowners.
- Has scheduled April 20th – Day of Caring – partnering with United Way of Bedford County for town cleanup and projects.
- Has scheduled Easter Family Fun for Saturday, April 8th and a ticket Tournament on Saturday, April 22nd.

Council Member Rinscheid presented the following event requests:

- Request from 2024 After Prom Parent Committee to block E Watson Street from the Meadowbrook bridge to East Street on Friday, May 5th from 5:00 to 7:00 pm for prom Walk-ins.
- Request from the Bedford Presbyterian Church along with Trinity Lutheran Church to host a community wide Vacation Bible School beginning Sunday, June 11th through Wednesday June 14th from 6 -8:30 pm each evening. Requesting closure of Juliana Street between Penn Street and Central Way.
- Request from Family Behavioral Resources (FBR) to place blue ribbons on horsehead posts on April 4th with removal on April 26th for Autism Awareness Month and green ribbons placed on horsehead posts beginning May 3rd with removal on May 26th for Mental Health Awareness month.
- Request from Cornerstone Community Service through Bedford Somerset Developmental and Behavioral Health Services (DBHS) to place 75 green ribbons on the horsehead posts on April 28th removal on May 31st. Ribbons were placed by DBHS in May 2022, 2021 and 2020 for Mental Health Awareness month.
- Request from Rebecca Miller and Brittney Lamb on behalf of the Bedford Presbyterian Church to hold Storytime at the gazebo on Fridays in June (2, 9, 16, 23 and 30) beginning at 10 am. Each session of Storytime will last approximately 30 minutes.

Motion was made by Council Member Turkovich, seconded by Council Member Blackburn, to approve the events *with the exception of the request of Family Behavioral Resources to place green ribbons on horsehead posts in May to recognize Mental Health Awareness month*. Motion was carried by unanimous vote (7-0).

Motion was made by Council Member Bullington, seconded by Council Member Fetterman, to approve APPI Energy, a Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs (PSAB) approved vendor, to bid electric and natural gas suppliers for the Borough. Motion was carried by unanimous vote (6-0).

Motion was made by Council Member Bullington, seconded by Council Member Blackburn, to approve the addition of a Handicapped space on S. Richard Street between State Representative Topper’s office and St. Thomas Church. Motion was approved unanimously (6-0) by roll call vote --- Council Member Weaverling – aye, Council Member Turkovich – aye, Council Member

Bullington – aye, Council Member Rinscheid – aye, Council Member Blackburn – aye, and Council Member Fetterman – aye.

Manager Diehl shared the following Historical Architecture Review Board (HARB) applications were recommended unanimously (5-0) by HARB Members for approval:

- Bonnie Weinhold – 127 E John Street - Replace roof with black metal, add gutters to box gutters, add fence.
- Pigeon Hill Properties – 115-117 S Juliana Street – Demolition of fire damaged area, plans to rebuild are not complete. Future HARB approval will not be needed if the reconstruction of the rear of the building cannot be seen from the street.
- Chelsey Miller – 126 E Pitt Street, Suite 2 - Add Projecting Sign – Sweet Confections Bakery
- SAMA, Christi Draves – 137 E Pitt Street - Add Temporary Banner – Summer Art Camp
- Brian and Amy Knopsnyder, 142 E Pitt Street – Replace second floor windows, paint area around the door to the second floor in white, sand, and black.

Motion was made by Council Member Rinscheid, seconded by Council Member Turkovich, to approve the HARB Applications. Motion was carried by unanimous vote (6-0).

Motion was made by Council Fetterman, seconded by Council Member Bullington to re-appoint Steve George to HARB (current term ending 06-2023) for an additional five-year term and appointing Allen Harr to replace Joshua Leibfreid (term ending 01-2026) on the Municipal Authority of the Borough of Bedford. Motion was carried by unanimous vote (6-0).

Motion was made by Council Member Turkovich, seconded by Council Member Blackburn, to approve Resolution 2023-01 – Bedford County Hazard Vulnerability and Mitigation Plan Update. Motion was carried by unanimous vote (6-0).

Manager Diehl reminded Council Members that on Thursday, April 20th at 11 am a tree dedication ceremony will be held at the Borough Police Department. The Garden Club is donating a redbud tree which will be planted in the grassy area in front of the Bedford Police Department side of the Borough Building. A second redbud tree donated by the James Russell family will be planted on the administrative side of the Borough Building.

Manager Diehl shared that mulching/trimming/clean-up of the Square will occur over the next few weeks. The Fort Museum area and the Richard Street entrance to the small area at the rear of the Ford Garage will be contracted out as in prior years. DBI will also be holding a “Town Workday” – Thursday, April 20th to install flower brackets, sweeping sidewalks, planting/mulching of tree boxes, etc. DBI is partnering with the United Way to combine this clean-up event with their Day of Caring.

Manager Diehl shared that the Borough’s Salt Shed is completely full and according to the STARS Salt contract our minimum purchase is 240 Tons. To date 120 tons have been purchased. The Borough will be required to pay for the remaining 120 tons (\$10,753.20) along with a \$3.00 per ton storage fee (\$360.00). During COVID a storage fee was not charged, and no minimum purchase amount was mandated.

April 3, 2023

Manager Diehl shared appreciation for the Grant and Finance Opportunities Committee who worked with the grant writers to submit four earmark applications to Federal legislators and an Appalachian Regional Council (ARC) grant application to the offices of US Senators Casey and Fetterman, and US Representative Joyce.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Council Member Bullington and carried at 6:15 p.m.

Borough Secretary