



WORK SESSION MEETING BEDFORD CITY COUNCIL DATE: AUGUST 12, 2024
MINUTES STATE OF OHIO
COUNTY OF CUYAHOGA TIME: 5:00 PM
165 CENTER ROAD BEDFORD, OH 44146

Bedford City Council met in a Work Session at Bedford City Hall on Monday, August 12, 2024, at 5:00 p.m.

Present: Council Members: Stanley Koci, Sandy Spinks, Steve Salvi, Victor Fluharty, Frank Smith, , and Tony Longino. Absent: Jeff Asbury

Also present: Clerk of Council Tracy Simons. Administration: City Manager Michael Mallis and Finance Director Jennifer Howland. Absent: Law Director John Montello

• **DISCUSSION OF AGENDA**

Council did not have any corrections to the minutes of the Work Sessions or Regular Meetings of July 7, 2024.

NEW BUSINESS

Motions to reappoint Laura Hulett to the Board of Zoning Appeals.

Mayor Koci: For the following three motions, vote "Yes" if you agree with the Board or Commission's decision and "No" if you disagree with the Board or Commission's decision.

Motion to approve the Planning Commission's decision to approve the installation of a roof-mount solar photovoltaic system on 54 Grand Blvd., Bedford, OH 44146 as long as the Board of Zoning Appeals grants a variance to allow the roof-mount solar photovoltaic system mounted on the house due to it being a corner lot.

Mayor Koci: We need to revisit this ordinance.

Motion to accept the Board of Zoning Appeal's decision to approve Dannon See to install a fence within five (5) feet from the sidewalk in the side yard with the condition of adding the forty-five degree angel for a line of sight located at 152 Palmetto Ave., Bedford, OH 44146.

Motion to accept the July 17, 2024, Tax Incentive Review Committee's recommendation to continue commercial tax incentives with Penske/Audi of Bedford, QUA Inc./Mazda of Bedford, and Hemisphere. City Manager Mallis: These Tax Abatements are incentives that Council formally approved and is reviewed annually by the Tax Incentive Review Commission. Most incentives are upwards of 75%. The schools approved these when they started, and a new

state law states that the school does not need to approve them. Mayor Koci: The city gets the payroll tax.

Ordinance No. 041-24: Levy Assessments for Grass Cutting: Mrs. Howland: This is for appropriations for this year:

Ordinance No. 042-24: Levy Assessments for delinquent water bills: Mrs. Howland: This is last year's remaining delinquent water bills.

Ordinance No. 043-24: Amending Ordinance No. 060-23 §911.03 "Rate Reduction for Disabled Persons and Senior Citizens": Mrs. Howland: This will be adjusted to a three percent increase in total household income.

Ordinance No. 044-24: Amending Ordinance No. 062-23 Section 911.01 "Water Rates": Mrs. Howland: This is a three percent decrease, which will help everyone. The Sewer Rates is on the Work Session Agenda for discussion this evening.

Ordinance No. 045-24: Contract with Mid-Ohio Asphalt & Concrete, Inc.: City Manager Mallis: This is for the Willis Parking Lot, which will be reimbursed through the county CDSG grant. Mid-Ohio was the lowest of the quotes received.

Ordinance No. 046-24: Contract with Rush Truck Center of Ohio to purchase One 2025 International Cab for the WWTP: City Manager Mallis: This is for the sludge hauling truck. This was budgeted for, and it is under the State Purchasing Program.

Ordinance No. 047-24: Contract with American Roadway Logistics for 2024 Road Marking Program: City Manager Mallis: The alternate bid was for the rubber road paint. Unfortunately the costs came in too high and we are recommending the standard paint we have previously used. We budgeted \$35,000.00 a year for it, but we got awarded a grant to assist with the additional costs..

- **DISCUSSION OF AUDITOR OF STATE REQUIRED FRAUD REPORTING AND TRAINING:** Mrs. Howland: This is a new requirement from the State Auditor, and they will be rolling a short video; you must watch the video to receive the certificate. The important thing is that we need to have the forms signed and turned in by September 28th.

- **DISCUSSION OF SEWER RATES**

City Manager Mallis: There are no recommendations at this time; we just got the NFA Study submitted which provided a number of recommendation that included additional storage, and redirecting the flow of the plant. The outgoing sewer bill is significantly lower than the Regional Sewer District.egionally. We need to show the EPA we will work on funding; they have until October to respond to the report. I also want to say that when we were a township, the system was designed to be a combined sewer system. The fund the recommendations in the study, it would require a sixty percent increase in the sewer bill. This would increase the average bill from a little over \$17.00 more a month to over \$200.00 a month. The administration is not recommending this rate at this time.

- **EXECUTIVE SESSION (ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, LITIGATION, AND PERSONNEL)**
 - **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:
CHAGRIN VALLEY DISPATCH CENTER**
 - **LITIGATION:
17500 ROCKSIDE ROAD
UNIVERSITY HOSPITALS**
 - **PERSONNEL:
FIRE CHIEF SELECTION PROCESS**

MOTION:	Motion made by Smith and seconded by Sandy Spinks to adjourn into Executive Session at 5:56 P.M. to discuss Economic Development: Chagrin Valley Dispatch Center, Litigation: 17500 Rockside Road and University Hospitals, and Personnel: Fire Chief Selection Process.
MOVER:	Frank Smith
SECONDER:	Sandy Spinks
RESULT:	Pass [7 TO 0]
YEAS:	Koci, Spinks, Salvi, Fluharty, Smith,, Longino

MOTION:	Motion made by Longino and seconded by Victor Fluharty to adjourn out of Executive Session at 6:55 P.M.
MOVER:	Tony Longino
SECONDER:	Victory Fluharty
RESULT:	Pass [7 TO 0]
YEAS:	Koci, Spinks, Salvi, Fluharty, Smith, Longino

The Work Session Meeting adjourned at 6:56 P.M.


 Clerk of Council


 Mayor-President of Council

Date: September 3, 2024



REGULAR MEETING BEDFORD CITY COUNCIL DATE: AUGUST 12, 2024
MINUTES STATE OF OHIO
COUNTY OF CUYAHOGA TIME: 7:00 PM
165 CENTER ROAD BEDFORD, OH 44146

1. CALL TO ORDER

Bedford City Council met in a Regular Session at Bedford City Hall on Monday, August 12, 2024. Mayor Koci called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ROLL CALL

MOTION:	Motion made by Spinks and seconded by Victor Fluharty to excuse Councilman Asbury from this evening's meeting.
MOVER:	Sandy Spinks
SECONDER:	Victor Fluharty
RESULT:	Pass [6 TO 0]
YEAS:	Koci, Spinks, Fluharty, Smith, Salvi, Longino

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a Approval of Minutes of the Work Session of July 1, 2024

MOTION:	Motion made by Spinks and seconded by Victor Fluharty to approve the Minutes of the Work Session of July 1, 2024.
MOVER:	Sandy Spinks
SECONDER:	Victor Fluharty
RESULT:	Pass [6 TO 0]
YEAS:	Koci, Spinks, Fluharty, Smith, Salvi, Longino

Approval of Minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 1, 2024

b.

MOTION:	Motion made by Spinks and seconded by Victor Fluharty to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 1, 2024.
MOVER:	Sandy Spinks
SECONDER:	Victor Fluharty
RESULT:	Pass [6 TO 0]
YEAS:	Koci, Spinks, Fluharty, Smith, Salvi, Longino

5. REPORTS

Mayor Koci: I know all of Council will say something about the storm that happened last week; everybody is well aware of it. I want to thank our Service Department, the power

company, and those who came from out of town. They did a great job and are still in town working to get us back on track. It's incredible what this tornado did and how we suffered, and when you look at the whole picture, we had no injuries during the storm. Neighbors were helping neighbors. And speaking of neighbors, I want to give a shout-out to Mayor Phil Stevens of Bedford Heights. He came through town the next day with his Service Director. They looked around and said, "We're sending you guys some teams to help you." It made a difference in cleaning things up, and the cleanup will continue. I want to say thank you to all of those people.

- a. City Manager Mallis: I also want to thank the City of Bedford Heights, but especially our Service Department, Fire Department, and Police Department; they were out immediately. By now, everybody knows the damage that was sustained; specifically, Button Rd, Satin Cir., Union Street, Gilbert, areas of Broadway, and Bedford Cemetery sustained some significant damage. We're working through all of that, and we'll be making the repairs as necessary. There was substantial damage and debris at the Wastewater Treatment Plant as well. But most importantly, all that could get fixed. The mayor said there were zero injuries, and that is what's most important. I want to point out that our inspectors have been out and have seen some contractors helping the residents. We know most of them, and all the ones we've encountered are registered with the city. But please be cautious with the scammers, specifically those who want to go around and tell people they are out assessing damage for the City Manager. That is completely false. This Administration and this Council are not sending anybody out to do work or anything like that for the individual homes. Our staff have been out helping. When you're working with contractors and your insurance company, make sure that they are registered. If you have any questions, call us. We will guide you through that. Unfortunately, we have to say things like that because some quick talkers are out there, and we don't want to see anybody get scammed. I want to talk about the construction on Turney Rd. that has been happening. There were some concerns over trash collection and recycling for those residents. If trash and recycling haven't been collected at normal times, leave those cans out. They may be later in the day or later in the evening, but leave them out if they're still there the next day. Then, call us, and we'll have Kimble come through town again and make those collections. But, there may be a little bit of delay. But they should still be getting collected. The contractor works with our trash collection company to ensure it gets picked up. I also want to mention the city was awarded a tree grant through Cuyahoga County. So, we will be planting trees this fall and again in the spring. Our State of the City is scheduled for August 27th. There's information on the city's website for that. If you're interested in coming or attending and having lunch, you can get tickets. All of that is available on the city's website. I want to give a kudos to our Recreation Department. This is the busiest time of the year, and they've been doing a tremendous job. It was fantastic for those who attended the movie night in the Commons. If you didn't see, we had our Guardians camp, which was made possible by Union Home Mortgage. I'm certain Councilman Fluharty will expand upon this, but it was made possible by the generous donation of Mr. Cosgrove and the Cleveland Guardians. That camp was outstanding. Campers got to spend time with Carlos Baerga. It was all right here in Bedford all week long and just great. And they're going to be back here next year. The pool is wrapping up again, and we brought back the

swim team this year. Our summer day camp has been at capacity. That has been a tremendous program. Lastly, we talked about all these grants, and the city has gotten grants for our programming down at the Parks and Recreation Center. One of the grants that we were recently awarded was up to \$100,000 to help seniors with various programs, transportation, and meals. Some creative minds in the department worked with the state, which provided the funding. To date, we've been able to provide the local Meals on Wheels \$12,000 to help residents of Bedford. We believe that we'll be able to provide up to \$20,000 this year with some of those grant proceeds. That's just creative thinking from our staff going after the money, thinking of the city's programs and how we can help some of the nonprofits in town. The second annual shred day will take place on September 7th from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in the parking lot of City Hall. Bring any confidential items that need shredding, all made payable through another grant. We're moving forward with the progress with the planning for the Commons expansion. We're actually at the point where we're looking at sample materials. All of that will be put together in our bid document. We hope to be out securing bids in September. The Police Department remains extremely busy; there were 363 traffic stops in June. Lastly, I also want to touch on the SEC's annual reappraisal; we've been discussing this at the Council Meetings for months. The county went out and did this reappraisal of the exterior part of the properties. They view the home and establish its value, and those reports go to the state. The state has to approve them and then send them out. I'm certain everybody received that information, and it was substantial. I think we were at a 35% increase. There is a process for you to challenge those values if you believe they're too high. You go to the county's website, and there's information we've also put on our social media accounts. There is what's called a valuation complaint portal. If you go through that portal, it specifies exactly what you need to do to challenge; in the past, just during a normal property value dispute, there are many legal requirements that you would need to meet such as needing an attorney and an official appraisal. So again, if you visit our social media page or the county's website, you're looking for the valuation complaint portal, which can help you navigate through if you're looking to challenge the county's valuation on the property.

b. Finance Director

Howland had no report this evening.

c. Council Reports

Councilwoman Spinks: City Manager Mallis was right on top of it, and the Fire Department and the Police Department were going door to door. I did a Ward check as soon as I knew everybody was safe. There was one big limb down on things. The neighbors and I got the tree cut up and sent over to the barn. There was one house damaged, and there was a carport on Grand Blvd. that had a big limb on the garage, but it didn't cause too much damage. So Ward 1 fared very well. I was out the next day and the rain knocked a couple more branches down. Thank you to everybody in the Service Department. And what you said was that the sister city for Bedford Heights should come here, and that's what you do. You help out each other one time, stuff like that. Also, some good news is going on. Anybody who knows me knows I don't like to announce new businesses until they are open. But I would like to

welcome Doctor Lydia Rust from Tinker Creek Veterinary Clinic. She went in there, and pretty much remodeled it. She got the whole inside so pretty. She took the existing side and did a bunch of landscaping. But, if you have an animal, please go see her and welcome her to our city. There will be a ribbon cutting coming up soon. I spoke to her this morning and just welcomed her. I love to see businesses that have gone out and the new businesses come in, and they revitalize it and use that because that business has been there a long time. So. Welcome, doctor. Rush to our city. Historical Society had their flea cheek flea market this weekend. The flea market at the end. It was down slightly, but we did very well in the Community Room with our sale. Thank you to Laura Schroeder, Jack, and all the others for pitching in and helping out. It was a long day. But it was very successful. Every little bit adds up. Mike, the water main broke down on Sector Dr., which is still dug up and open. Is it just going to have to wait a while?

City Manager Mallis: Just waiting for crews to go out and repave that reopening.

Councilwoman Spinks: The next thing that I have is if there are any updates on the culvert replacement. I know I spoke to you about the replacement of the culvert.

City Manager Mallis: We will probably be advertising for bids in September, most likely in the first meeting in October is when Council will be awarding the project.

Councilwoman Spinks: The speeding is still going crazy on Greencroft and Willard. Also, all three of the stop signs on Grand Blvd. They act like they don't even exist. What's going on with that?

City Manager Mallis: We placed those orders following Council's approval. They were 4 to 6 weeks of delivery, so we're still waiting on those. Once we get them, we'll work to install them.

Councilwoman Spinks: Are we still rotating? I know there was a speeding sign on Willard.

City Manager Mallis: The other rotating speed signs were placed on Broadway.

Councilwoman Spinks: Will we replace the damaged flashing stop sign on Grand Blvd.?

City Manager Mallis: We will get that replaced.

Councilwoman Spinks: If you have no parking place and need to park on the street overnight, call that non-emergency number and let them know.

Councilman Salvi:

Last Week's Storm/Tornado

Luckily, Ward 2 did not get nearly the amount of damage that other areas of Bedford

did. After the storm I drove around Ward 2 pulling trash cans out of the street as well as downed branches. I would encourage residents to make sure they have sufficient home or rental insurance coverage so if their property is damaged; they will be able to afford to repair or replace the damage.

Visits to residents

Over the past month, I have visited residents in the ward and responded to a variety of constituent concerns. Ward 2 residents are encouraged to call me to report issues that reduce the quality of life of residents in Bedford. My home phone number is 440-232-8964.

Loitering

I have continued to monitor individuals illegally loitering around businesses and parking lots in Ward 2, which has become an issue. Because of increased enforcement, the situation has significantly improved if not eliminated.

Taft Park

Since last month's Council Meeting I have continued daily monitoring and nightly visits to the park in an effort to eliminate illegal activity at the park. I've made a number of calls to the BPD in July in response to people trespassing on the property after closing time. I encountered one individual at the park around 11:30 p.m. BPD let the person who they believe was homeless, walk away. The next morning I returned to the park to find whom I believe was the same individual I found seven hours earlier, still at the park, sleeping on the pavilion's picnic table, with liquor bottles now in the nearby trash can. A neighborhood family who often take their children to Taft Park playground choose to stop going to the park because of safety concerns while the adult continued to loitering around the pavilion for several days. As I mentioned before, I believe it would be helpful to have more detailed park signage regarding prohibited behavior at the park, similar to the signage I've seen at Ellenwood.

Vagrants

A concern that residents have brought to my attention is the number of vagrants wandering around the streets of Bedford. By definition, vagrants are "homeless" by choice. Vagrants choose not to work and prefer to sustain themselves by panhandling or committing petty theft from homes or businesses as they wander around the country. The city needs to enforce any constitutional vagrancy laws for the safety of residents and businesses in Bedford. For the truly "homeless" individuals that also can be seen around Bedford, the city should consider developing a strategy with the relevant Ohio Department of Mental Health and county social services officials to address the problem so people don't defacto end up illegally sleeping in our parks, squatting in vacant homes, or resident's yards. Unfortunately, many homeless are homeless due to serious mental issues which complicates getting them off Bedford's streets because they refuse assistance. Some homeless are harmless, and others can pose a public danger, which is why police at times need to identify who they are and check for warrants. Organizations in Cuyahoga County that have as their mission to

help the homeless are Care Alliance at 216-781-6724 and the Northeast Ohio Coalition for the Homeless at 216-432-0540. You can also dial 211, a project of the United Way.

Problem Rental Property Tenants

Last month I also stated that our resident's peace of mind and quality of life should not be stolen by absentee landlords who rent properties to problem tenants, who make the lives of our law-abiding residents, miserable and fearful. I mentioned one long-time resident who told me that a rental next door made their life and other families on the street a nightmare. The problem tenants allegedly stole property, trespassed, and caused property damage to multiple homes on the street. It is unfair that residents have to deal with the problems that absentee landlords create. I was able to identify the landlord through a property search, who I believe is a physician or physician assistant who lives in one of the upscale areas of Cleveland. I plan to contact this individual to encourage her to take steps to remedy the situation. If she does not I will request our law director what legal options the city has to get the landlord to comply. The city needs to utilize every legal tool available to help residents who find themselves in this situation and hold criminal tenants and their landlords accountable for destabilizing formerly peaceful streets and neighborhoods in Bedford. If there is no current legal remedy in the city's toolbox, then we as a council should pass a resolution seeking the help of state and federal legislators to provide a statutory tool that local governments can use to address this too common problem.

2024 Property Reappraisals

Too many residents, the 2024 County Property Reappraisals seems like a statutory money grab. I understand that the County Treasurer must collect money to pay for services but their appraisal methods deserve a review. I live in our family's simple homestead built in 1961 for I around \$20,000. The County's 2024 Proposed Value increase is 32.1% of the 2023 appraised value and a 42.1% increase over the 2017 appraised value. How can a home that is showing its 60+ year age increased in value more in one year than twice the original cost of the newly built home? I know many residents are wondering the same thing about their homes. I encourage you to contest your valuations if you believe they are not accurate. Unfortunately, the County knows that it is about impossible for tens of thousands of home-owners and businesses to get the written estimates the county requires before the August 30th deadline. I would encourage our administration to request that deadline be extended to September 15th to give residents more time to file their paperwork and appeal.

Sanuel J. Marcus Trust Property, 607-613 Northfield Rd.

The Samuel J. Marcus Trust owns the property where Lawson's, the pharmacy, and Gina's Pizza used to be located in the 1970's. In 2024 it is where the now closed Baye Market and two other empty store fronts. Years ago, this property was clean inside and out and full of neighborhood customers. Now the property could be best described as a dumpy eyesore not only to those who have gone inside the market when it was open or drive by on Northfield Rd. The property condition is also a problem for my constituents, especially those whose homes share a property line with

the strip center, which is outlined with weeds and trash debris. Since the Successor Trustee ignored my calls and correspondence, I made a personal visit to her home in Beachwood; I found a well-manicured lawn with no overgrown weeds or trash on her property, a major contrast to the property she controls in Bedford which has plenty of overgrown weeds, trash scattered around, and a touch of spray-paint graffiti. Not to mention storefronts that have such an appearance you might think you are not in Bedford but the worst commercial area of East Cleveland. Would it not be just and appropriate to require landlords to maintain their buildings and lands in Bedford as well as they do their own homes and yards? Unfortunately, the Successor Trustee did not answer the door but she did send me an email making me aware she complained to the Beachwood Police Department that I knocked on her door and spoke with a neighbor. My visit accomplished one goal: I got the Successor Trustee's attention and the name of her attorney, who I spoke with last week. I had a constructive conversation with the Trust Attorney, who agreed to speak with his client about cleaning up the building and property. It is unfortunate that all this is necessary to get people to do what they should do as decent human beings. Bedford should not be anyone's dumping ground or neglected afterthought.

Councilman Fluharty: The damage in my area was by Union Street. We have the condos up there. Mike was talking about going up to the parking garage in that area. We had a tree on Henry and Paul Streets that fell on somebody's house from the tree line, and I knocked on his door to tell him you got a tree in your house, even though it was in the back of the house. So he is surprised on that. And I think we're out there cutting that up now? I mean, because he told me he would get back to him as soon as you guys can. After all this running around that we had to do, I want to thank the Service Department in Bedford Heights for sending people over. And everybody who had a hand in everything. Everybody worked together, and people talked on Facebook. I mean, everybody was helping everybody, and now that's the way it should be. On a happier note, the Guardians came to camp and brought their camp from Bedford to Ellenwood. I was talking to Bill Cosgrove, the owner of Union Home Mortgage. He and I've known each other for a long time, and I told him how bad baseball is in Bedford, and kids don't play baseball. So he talked to Mr. Dolan, and he says they're bringing up camps all over the city. Maybe I can get them to come out here, and that is what they did. So, I want to thank Mr. Callahan for getting that going. And, you know, I was the middle man of all this, but these guys all got it together, and we had 50 kids sign up, and Bill paid the whole fee for these kids. It was over \$400 times 50. He dished out a lot of money and wrote a check out. He also said, next year, you guys will come back, and I'll pay for you guys again next year. And the Guardian said they'd like to come back again. So it was a success. Some of these kids have never even put on a baseball uniform. And, we had a lot of nine, ten-year-olds, eight-year-olds. And they were just thrilled to death. That week was 92 degrees every day, and the kids were out there for five straight days. So that tells me that these kids want to learn how to play baseball. And we need to try to get this city back up playing baseball. I mean, baseball was a big part of my life. Baseball in Bedford was a big part of life. And it's not right that these kids don't play baseball. And we got to get the parents to get them out, get them used to plan and get them at an early age and get this

rec program going and, and, get these kids, give them something else to do, instead of sitting around causing trouble and play some baseball. It's not just basketball. It's not just football. There's also baseball in this world. So it was a success. And again, thank you to Mr. Callahan and Mr. Cosgrove for thinking of us. And he's a Bedford former resident. And, so, we also had a dedication for him. It just happened that same week at Interstate Park, which is now called Bill Cosgrove Park. And he was thrilled to death that we did this for him. And, so he gives back to the community, and there are a lot of people from Bedford who make it in this world. Don't give back to this community. He's very generous. He gives money to the school foundation up at the high school for scholarships. He does a lot. So, again, I just want to thank him and City Manager Mallis for doing a lot of the legwork to get all this done. And, it was, it was nice to enjoy having something fun for a week without the trouble that goes on in the city sometimes.

Councilman Smith: Welcome to all the unfamiliar faces. If this is your first council meeting, please come back again. We love having our residents come and voice their opinions and let us know what we're doing wrong and what we're doing right. I thank our Service Department for their work during the storm. Also, the dispatchers, I must say that I wasn't in town during the storm, and I was joking with Mike, and, like, I didn't tell you this, but the reason why I was gone was because I made a call to the big man upstairs. He told me to get out of town. I'm sending something through your way. So, that's what I did. I would like to thank you for being the middleman, as you said, for that baseball clinic. That was great. As you said, not only in this community but in many communities, suburbs, cities, and Cleveland. The children aren't playing baseball anymore. They're playing baseball. They're playing it on their phone, glued to these phones. So that was great for me. I went up a couple of days to see how it was going. It was great to see our youth participating in baseball. I know that sports fosters camaraderie and teamwork. And for this community to continue to be what it is, we must invest in our youth. We don't invest in our youth. We will be nothing.

Once again, the City Manager mentioned the State of the City on August 27th. Whether you eat lunch or not, please attend that. Ward 4 was hit hard: Button, Santin Circle, Beverly, and Shawnee. There have been many cleanups, but if you go through there, it looks like nothing has been done. But I must say, I returned here on Saturday, and the first thing I did when I got off the plane was check on my neighborhood. Again, thanks to all of our workers and the community, you came together and did what needed to be done, which was to clean up our city.

Councilman Longino: First, I'd like to be a bit personal. last month, something happened to me. And as Councilman Smith put it, he said, it's a feeling that you'll never have the pain you'll never feel again like that. I lost my mother last month, and I want to go on record thanking the members who were able to attend her viewing and also her service; I want to make a giant thanks to Councilwoman Spinks for being there for me. We walked from my house on Tarbell to the church and played Natalie Cole music because that's what my mother liked. And I praised her spirit, and we had our service. But thank you, Sandy, for making my wife sit down because she wouldn't

let my wife serve at the repast. I told her to go be with your husband, which she did. I want to thank the city for the flowers, Mayor Koci for being there, and for all the calls and texts I got. My mother didn't miss a meeting online; now she's watching it from above. So, I was off the grid a little bit. During that time, I kept my phone with me, so I didn't answer a few emails and was blasted on Facebook about that. But that's so. Because if my mother were alive, she would've been pissed. They messed with me on Facebook, so I will let that go, but I got a few calls about neighbors in their yards. The summer is almost over. The summer went pretty quickly. I don't know about you, but the summer is over in the blink of an eye. So it was. I've had a few calls about neighbors and the issues of the other neighbors. Folks, get your yards together. Luckily, my man Mike was always there with me amid everything happening, including being on vacation and coming back and all these phone calls. He's been there whenever I called him to help me out. As I tell people, I will look into it when they call me. I talked to Mike about it, and we saw what was happening. But I still tell him, come here, come out, come to the meeting. Stand up there and let us all know what's going on. Unless you want to keep it anonymous, don't come here, and we'll take care of it and look into it if that's the case. Also, I know people might be happy to know about this, but the old spot will be coming around. It's going to be coming around. I talked to that. Only gave me a call. It's just that a young guy called me to let me know what's going on. So I wanted to put that out there.

6. NEW BUSINESS

a. MOTION TO RE-APPOINT LAURA HULETT TO THE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS

MOTION:	Motion made by Smith and seconded by Tony Longino to approve the re-appointment of Laura Hulett to the Board of Zoning Appeals.
MOVER:	Frank Smith
SECONDER:	Tony Longino
RESULT:	Pass [6 TO 0]
YEAS:	Koci, Spinks, Fluharty, Smith, Salvi, Longino
NAYS:	
ABSTAIN:	

b. MOTION TO APPROVE THE PLANNING COMMISSION'S DECISION TO APPROVE THE INSTALLATION OF A ROOF-MOUNT SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC SYSTEM ON 54 GRAND BLVD., BEDFORD, OH 44146 AS LONG AS THE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS GRANTS A VARIANCE TO ALLOW THE ROOF-MOUNT SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC SYSTEM MOUNTED ON THE HOUSE DO TO IT BEING A CORNER LOT

MOTION:	Motion made by Spinks and seconded by Victor Fluharty to approve the Planning Commission's decision to approve the installation of a roof-mount solar photovoltaic system on 54 Grand Blvd., Bedford, OH 44146 as long as the Board of Zoning Appeals grants a variance to allow the roof-mount solar photovoltaic system mounted on the house do to it being a corner lot.
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MOVER:	Sandy Spinks
SECONDER:	Victor Fluharty
RESULT:	Pass [6 TO 0]
YEAS:	Koci, Spinks, Fluharty, Smith, Salvi, Longino

City Manager Mallis: This went to the Planning Commission, and they recommended approving it. There is a variance requirement based on how the code reads. These are going in the rear of the home, but because it is a corner lot, they are visible from the side street. . That's why that request is being made. But it was approved by the Planning Commission for approval.

- c MOTION TO ACCEPT THE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS' DECISION TO APPROVE DANNON SEE TO INSTALL A FENCE WITHIN FIVE (5) FEET FROM THE SIDEWALK IN THE SIDE YARD WITH THE CONDITION OF ADDING THE FORTY-FIVE DEGREE ANGEL FOR A LINE OF SIGHT LOCATED AT 152 PALMETTO AVE., BEDFORD, OH 44146

MOTION:	Motion made by Smith and seconded by Tony Longino to approve the Board of Zoning Appeal's decision to approve Dannon See to install a fence within five (5) feet from the sidewalk in the side yard with the condition of adding the forty-five degree angle for a line of sight located at 152 Palmetto Ave., Bedford, OH 44146.
MOVER:	Frank Smith
SECONDER:	Tony Longino
RESULT:	Pass [6 TO 0]
YEAS:	Koci, Spinks, Fluharty, Smith, Salvi, Longino

City Manager Mallis This is a corner property there, adding a fence. Based on the code, you have to be five feet off the walk. They're looking for a variance to move within that five feet. It does not create any line-of-sight concerns and was recommended for approval.

- d MOTION TO ACCEPT THE JULY 17, 2024, TAX INCENTIVE REVIEW COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATION TO CONTINUE COMMERCIAL TAX INCENTIVES WITH PENSKE/AUDI OF BEDFORD, QUA INC., MAZDA OF BEDFORD, AND HEMISPHERE

MOTION:	Motion made by Fluharty and seconded by Sandy Spinks to approve the July 17, 2024, Tax Incentive Review Committee's recommendation to continue commercial tax incentives with Penske/Audi of Bedford, Qua Inc., Mazda of Bedford, and Hemisphere.
MOVER:	Victor Fluharty
SECONDER:	Sandy Spinks
RESULT:	Pass [6 TO 0]
YEAS:	Koci, Spinks, Fluharty, Smith, Salvi, Longino

City Manager Mallis: Every year, city representatives, along with representatives from Bedford City Schools and county officials, meet to review the commercial tax incentives that are currently in place. As the mayor outlined, three current projects are receiving incentives: Mazda, Audi, and Hemisphere. The board, the tax incentive review committee, voted and recommended that these incentives continue. City Council will ultimately make that decision this evening. Next year, we will begin reviewing additional projects, as incentives will be provided to Apex Engineering, Cleveland Tank and Supply, and Lake Shore Electric.

- e. **ORDINANCE NO. 041-24: AN ORDINANCE TO LEVY ASSESSMENTS FOR REMOVAL OF WEEDS, TALL GRASS AND TREES ON VARIOUS LOTS IN THE CITY OF BEDFORD, OHIO DURING THE YEAR 2024 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY Was read by title only**

MOTION:	Motion made by Spinks and seconded by Victor Fluharty to suspend the rules requiring the reading of said ordinance/resolution on three different days.
MOVER:	Sandy Spinks
SECONDER:	Victor Fluharty
RESULT:	Pass [6 TO 0]
YEAS:	Koci, Spinks, Fluharty, Smith, Salvi, Longino

Mrs. Howland: This is for the assessment of delinquent grass bills from last year that will be assessed under the upcoming tax bill for nonpayment.

MOTION:	Motion made by Smith and seconded by Tony Longino to place said ordinance/resolution on third and final reading.
MOVER:	Frank Smith
SECONDER:	Tony Longino
RESULT:	Pass [6 TO 0]
YEAS:	Koci, Spinks, Fluharty, Smith, Salvi, Longino

- f. **ORDINANCE NO. 042-24: AN ORDINANCE TO LEVY ASSESSMENTS FOR DELINQUENT WATER BILLS IN THE CITY OF BEDFORD, OHIO AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY Was read by title only**

MOTION:	Motion made by Longino and seconded by Frank Smith to place said ordinance/resolution on third and final reading.
MOVER:	Tony Longino
SECONDER:	Frank Smith
RESULT:	Pass [6 TO 0]
YEAS:	Koci, Spinks, Fluharty, Smith, Salvi, Longino

Mrs. Howland: This is to assess water delinquent bills and the tax bill for those who have not paid their water bills since January of this year. It'll be on their tax bill next year.

- g. **ORDINANCE NO. 043-24: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 060-23 CODIFIED ORDINANCE §911.03 "RATE REDUCTION FOR DISABLED PERSONS**

AND SENIOR CITIZENS” FOR WATER AND SEWER DISCOUNTS AND
DECLARING AN EMERGENCY **Was read by title only**

MOTION:	Motion made by Smith and seconded by Tony Longino to suspend the rules requiring the reading of said ordinance/resolution on three different days.
MOVER:	Frank Smith
SECONDER:	Tony Longino
RESULT:	Pass [6 TO 0]
YEAS:	Koci, Spinks, Fluharty, Smith, Salvi, Longino

Mrs. Howland: This is for a 30% discount on water and sewer bills for those under the income amount of \$37,907 for the 2025 water and sewer bills.

- h. **ORDINANCE NO. 044-24: AN ORDINANCE CONFIRMING AMENDED ORDINANCE NO. 062-23 CONCERNING SECTION 911.01 “WATER RATES” OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES, AS AMENDED OF THE CITY OF BEDFORD AS RELATED TO THE WATER RATES AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY Was read by title only**

MOTION:	Motion made by Spinks and seconded by Victor Fluharty to place said ordinance/resolution on First Reading.
MOVER:	Sandy Spinks
SECONDER:	Victor Fluharty
RESULT:	Pass [6 TO 0]
YEAS:	Koci, Spinks, Fluharty, Smith, Salvi, Longino

Mrs. Howland: This is for water rates for 2025. We recommend a 3% reduction for next year's reduction.

- i. **ORDINANCE NO. 045-24: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH MID-OHIO ASPHALT & CONCRETE, INC. TO PAVE THE PARKING LOT AT 100 WILLIS STREET AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY Was read by title only**

MOTION:	Motion made by Smith and seconded by Tony Longino to suspend the rules requiring the reading of said ordinance/resolution on three different days.
MOVER:	Frank Smith
SECONDER:	Tony Longino
RESULT:	Pass [6 TO 0]
YEAS:	Koci, Spinks, Fluharty, Smith, Salvi, Longino

City Manager Mallis: The City received two quotes for the work. Mid-Ohio was the lowest of the two quotes by about \$3,000. The city will be reimbursed 100% of these funds through a grant.

MOTION:	Motion made by Fluharty and seconded by Sandy Spinks to place said ordinance/resolution on third and final reading.
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MOVER:	Victor Fluharty
SECONDER:	Sandy Spinks
RESULT:	Pass [6 TO 0]
YEAS:	Koci, Spinks, Fluharty, Smith, Salvi, Longino

- j. **ORDINANCE NO. 046-24:** AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH RUSH TRUCK CENTERS OF OHIO FOR THE PURCHASE OF ONE (1) 2025 INTERNATIONAL CAB AND CHASSIS FOR THE WWTP AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY **Was read by title only**

MOTION:	Motion made by Longino and seconded by Frank Smith to suspend the rules requiring the reading of said ordinance/resolution on three different days.
MOVER:	Tony Longino
SECONDER:	Frank Smith
RESULT:	Pass [6 TO 0]
YEAS:	Koci, Spinks, Fluharty, Smith, Salvi, Longino

City Manager Mallis: This item is used to haul sludge from the wastewater plant. Its cost was \$96,214. This was a budgeted item that we did have in this year's budget. We were also provided with the documentation that Rush was awarded the State Cooperative Purchasing Contract through ODOT

MOTION:	Motion made by Fluharty and seconded by Sandy Spinks to place said ordinance/resolution on third and final reading.
MOVER:	Victor Fluharty
SECONDER:	Sandy Spinks
RESULT:	Pass [6 TO 0]
YEAS:	Koci, Spinks, Fluharty, Smith, Salvi, Longino

- k. **ORDINANCE NO. 047-24:** AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH AMERICAN ROADWAY LOGISTICS FOR THE 2024 ROAD MARKING PROGRAM AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY **Was read by title only**

MOTION:	Motion made by Spinks and seconded by Victor Fluharty to suspend the rules requiring the reading of said ordinance/resolution on three different days.
MOVER:	Sandy Spinks
SECONDER:	Victor Fluharty
RESULT:	Pass [6 TO 0]
YEAS:	Koci, Spinks, Fluharty, Smith, Salvi, Longino

City Manager Mallis: The city advertised bids and performed a bid opening for this project. We do this yearly. We received two quotes. American Roadway Logistics was the lowest of the two quotes, totaling \$49,993. We budget \$35,000 annually for this

work. We also received a \$20,000 grant through Cuyahoga County, which will reimburse the city for all materials. So we'll be able to do a bit more and get the remaining covers from their friends.

MOTION:	Motion made by Smith and seconded by Tony Longino to place said ordinance/resolution on third and final reading.
MOVER:	Frank Smith
SECONDER:	Tony Longino
RESULT:	Pass [6 TO 0]
YEAS:	Koci, Spinks, Fluharty, Smith, Salvi, Longino

7. HEARING OF CITIZENS

Willie Adams, Veterans of Foreign Wars, 343 North Hill Road, Bedford, OH: I come before you today because we have a sewer problem, and I can't seem to get answers as to why it's not being taken care of. I also emailed you, Mayor Koci, with no response. I talked with the City Manager on July 16th. He said he'd get back to me. I didn't hear from you again until the 5th of August. I heard from him again on the 9th of August, when he asked me to bring pictures to the Water Department. I still have not heard a response. I also have a copy of the aerial map showing the property line, and it appears that this property belongs to the city of Bedford. We were just here tonight to try and get some answers since we can't get them any other way right here.

City Manager Mallis: I responded and sent crews to look at that and televise that sewer again. While I was out of town, I responded and told you that we would look into it. I did get those photos on Friday. I'm comparing your photos to the video we have and some of the issues in that, you know, I told you, if there's any way we can work to try to remediate the issue, that's fine. Initially, though, you told me it was damaged when Forbes Road was done. We keep all of the detailed records, and unfortunately, we have identified that we had similar discussions with two other individuals who aren't part of the VFW. We identified this problem that you were experiencing in 2016. A video was shared, and it was the same issue, and we shared it with a second person in 2018. Unfortunately, this wasn't damaged when Forbes Road was done because it was done in 2020, and we had shared these issues. We had talked with the two individuals before about the same matter. We'll look into it. Bring me the photos, but I need to determine the length. It said 29 feet or something; I must determine how far that is coming out. If I read the photo correctly, I saw that this morning. Because you did, you dropped it off. We spoke on Friday and then looked at our video documentation to see where we've seen the issues. Based on the ordinance, there's a certain amount of that sewer line going out at a certain distance, which is the responsibility of the property owner. So I'm not disputing any of that, and it's not that we're not giving answers. We shared some of this information going back to 2016. I believe, and what our staff believes, it's the same issue the VFW was running into in 2016. We've had discussions with different individuals in charge of the club or the building. I'm not sure. I don't believe it is on the city's property or the city's responsibility. I will look at the photos that you brought in on Friday.

Mr. Adams: I have a larger picture that depicts where the property line is. The damage appears to be beyond our property line, and it appears to be on the city's property. And I also sent you a picture of the sewer line, which is up under the street where it's misaligned. That's where I

believe that this took place when they resurfaced Forbes Road. That one picture depicts a piece of PVC. We have not done any work on that sewer line.

City Manager Mallis: Somebody installed that sewer line, and I agree it is misaligned. However, that was the same issue we discussed with Mr. Bright in 2016. That was four years before Forbes Road was even done.

Mr. Adams: Are the pictures you have the same as those I sent?

City Manager Mallis: I need to look at our video from when we televised it. That's what I need to look at. Two weeks ago, I went to the Building Department to find out if the VFW ever pulled permits to do any work. Did they have a contractor replace that lateral? You're talking about the lateral sewer going from your property to the main. There was nothing; no permits were ever pulled for that work.

Mr. Adams: Because we haven't done anything. The only work that was done was a resurfacing of Forbes Rd.

City Manager Mallis: But it couldn't have been that because we were dealing with these issues going back to 2016, and Forbes Road was done in 2020, so we couldn't have done that work. But I'm going to look at our televising and details like how many feet are out and whatnot. The photo you dropped off Friday showed a number on the bottom, and I'm trying to correlate that to see if that's okay.

Mayor Koci: Do you have another picture he doesn't have yet?

Mr. Adams: It's a bigger picture of what I gave him. There's our property line, and the damage is actually on that property line. When will we hear back from you?

City Manager Mallis: Give me till Wednesday.

David Copley, Maple Heights: I go to the Giant Eagle on Northfield and Solon Road. I also go up here to the. I guess you would call it a strip mall. They're on Center Road there with a laundry mat. Marco's pizza is. And I have talked to the police department about this several times. And about the parking in the. Board and off areas adjacent to the handicapped spots. They're telling me that the police department cannot enforce that because it is privately owned property. Well, that's not what the revised code says. It says publicly or private because you're not supposed to block the access to the handicapped spots by parking in there and then abstracting the handicapped parking spots from not letting a wheelchair ramp down or opening the door to get a walker or a wheelchair out, and they cannot get in and out of their vehicles. Now, the Ohio Revised Code. I have to unlock my phone. I am reading this from 511.69, which says parking requirements. And if you go down there to paragraph E, it talks about it; paragraph F, one, section eight talks about it. And so this f paragraph two talks about it, and it specifically says that there shall be no parking, standing, or stopping in those boarded-off areas. I was talking to an officer up here Saturday because I recorded it. It was Giant Eagle Saturday when I was in the grocery store picking up my pharmaceutical supplies and ordered a pizza at Marco's.

And as I was going home, I stopped there to get it. And sure enough, there is a car parked right up in that designated area, and it happens to be the deli owner there. And he comes out and says, well, the sergeant told him that they couldn't enforce that because it was privately owned property, which that's not what this Ohio Revised code says if I'm reading this. Right. And so I went to the police station Saturday and spoke to the officer that came out to the window, and he told me if I didn't like it to stay in Maple Heights, it quits coming into Bedford and shopping. You know, I just think that's ridiculous because I live on Steinway. I come across Turney when it's open. I come to the post office box that I have, and then I proceed to go to the Giant Eagle because that's where all my prescriptions are. And, of course, why I'm there. I do grocery shopping, but I do not appreciate somebody in that police department telling me to stay out of the city because I'm not a city resident. Here is what the Ohio Revised Code says about parking here. I'm telling you because if they want to come out and enforce it, you're looking at anywhere from being towed to a \$250 to \$500 fine for this. They tell me it's up to our discretion if we do this. Well, if these officers would start fining these people for this, the word would get out that you don't do that to the disabled people who are trying to park there and patronize that business. I just think it's really sad that the police department does this now. It's actually under the American Disability Act because that's handicapped. I've also had one of them tell me, well, we can't do anything about it because it's not in our city ordinances that has nothing to do with it. So I would like to see this corrected and for them to pay more attention to the people. I don't know exactly which of the officers it was, but I caught one of them in his uniform on his motorbike parked out there. So, I told him he wasn't supposed to be parked there, and all he knew how to do was address it with foul language.

Mayor Koci: After the meeting, if you want to come up, give your phone number to the city manager.

Theresa Brown-Ferguson, 1160 Broadway Ave., Bedford, OH: I'm here today to ask for assistance with some safety issues we're having that are not being handled properly by our property manager or the real estate manager. For three years, we have been dealing with this resident, who has a pit bull that runs freely on the property. She put a leash on him, but he's dragging the leash, so he shouldn't have a leash on. What's the point? You're not controlling the dog. This has happened several times. Our property manager said we have a problem with anybody bringing it to her. Don't take it to the person. As I said, we've been dealing with this dog issue now for three years. Now it has escalated, and this person sits by the door smoking marijuana, and nobody wants to smell bad. We tell our property manager when we never get any results and no follow-up. When you ask the property manager about it, she says I wrote her a big deal. She's still doing it. The minute you leave the property, boom! She's at the door with her friends, smoking marijuana constantly, and the dog is there. Since we can't get anywhere with our property manager, we thought we would bring it to the council to see if they can help us. The person who owns the dog says that she feels like she can do this because, for one, she's handicapped, and the property manager gave her permission for her dog to run loose on the property, which is why the dog warden has come out and talked to her several times about the same issue. It's like the rules don't apply to her. We would like to see something done before someone seriously gets hurt.

Mayor Koci: Again, we can't give you a direct answer without our law director here. I told you I

would set up a meeting, and then the tornado hit.

City Manager Mallis: The animal warden and the property manager spoke with her. I've also sent a written communication that it is in our ordinances that they are required to be on a leash at all times.

Ms. Brown-Ferguson: Yeah, but like I said, nothing happens. If you keep violating your lease, what's the purpose of having rules if you can break them without consequences? She said that she's supposed to be at least 20 feet from the entrance when she smokes and that she can do it because she has a marijuana card.

Pat French, 1160 Broadway Ave., Bedford, OH: I'm following up on her as just letting you know. That's one example of the issues that we've had on animal control. So this is my fourth appearance at the Bedford Council, and I'm seeking help from the seniors. It was promised to us by Testa Corporation back in 2020 that it was to be strictly a 55 and up residence, and yet 30 days after it opened, it was opened to CMHA and that started all the havoc for the seniors. For example, in 2021, 26 police reports were issued. In 2022, 40 police reports were issued and 20,2323 police reports were issued. We only have ten, but I may have missed a few, and I am waiting on a couple more from the police. So the thing is safety, safety, safety is our biggest concern for everyone, our seniors. I believe Bedford passed an ordinance requiring cameras to be installed in apartment buildings. Is that not the case in the last few months? To our knowledge, there are no cameras. There are supposed to be cameras. So when these situations, as Theresa explained, you with the animals, we have asked Testa and our management if the police, you know, when the police are here, if they when police go in and review the cameras, well, there's no one to review them. They can't go and take a look and see what the actual situation was, just as it was the encounter. This is not the first time I have had dogs because I have had that happen to me. I have a police report about a dog running after me. What we were doing was asking the Bedford Council if an ordinance could be passed number one for this dog control issue. The other big issue we have is that we are not allowed to enter buildings A and B; we cannot go into those buildings with our keys. For some reason, they say they are not allowed to change those locks. We're asking if it is possible that an ordinance can be passed mainly for safety because people live in those buildings; they'd rather go there. They don't walk down to the other building and possibly encounter one of these other situations. I have even had my car hit on the property and haven't made a report. I made a police report, and the police reviewed the cameras so they could see the car possibly in it, and we don't have anybody to do that. It's just going back too far. We can't do that. So, it would be great if we could meet with someone from Bedford or the council to meet with Testa. They will not meet with us. We've asked them if we could please have a meeting. And they saying they will only meet one on one. We're not allowed to voice our opinions together.

Terrance Jericho96 Tudor, Bedford, OH: I forgot. When I ride my bicycle around town. We used to have a lot of bike racks around, but there were hardly any. We don't even have one here at the City Hall. I'm sure if you ask our Boy Scouts here they're looking for Eagle Scouts projects. They would be glad to do that. Also, when I ride between Southwick and Allenwood, the weeds are so high between those two dealerships. It's like my knee high. When you ride on the sidewalks, they take a weed whacker. It would be looking much nicer. But my real

complaint is if you go from Greencroft, Jackson to Flora, there is a tree that blocks the stop sign. I almost got hit going down to Flora, and the gentleman got out and yelled at me until he saw there was a stop sign there, and he apologized because he was. I didn't even see it until I got right upon it. Now I know why he almost hit me. Is that a person's responsibility on the tree line or the city's?

City Manager Mallis: That's ours.

Ms. Williams Cathy Williams, 491 Lamson Ave., Bedford, OH: It seems like a quality of life issue all the way around. I remember when the city built the city hall, and we were told that when the driveway of the court and the officers were going to come out of Lee Court, they would not put on their sirens until they got to Broadway. Within the past month, they come barreling out, and I understand they're on a call; they have their lights and sirens on before they get to Broadway. Also, with parking in the street, when an officer sees a vehicle parked in the street, do they go in to see if that permission is there, or is it just when they drive by? I've seen officers just drive by. I can imagine the people that have parked in the street legitimately called. So what is that procedure? Do they get notified if people call in?

City Manager Mallis: If people call to request permission to park in the street, they are already aware of all that.

Ms. Williams: So do they tell the officers?

City Manager Mallis: There have been many instances where I have been told that the officer just drove by and did nothing. They already know that that individual called in because the car might have been broken down or an out-of-state visitor. So yeah, we're not going to stop and just check. They already know of those who have requested permission.

Ms. Williams: So the officers know in advance?

City Manager Mallis: It's in the computer, they would call dispatch and ask for permission. And then our officers are aware of those vehicles that have requested the proper permission and caution and protocol, and then they're aware of that. They don't stop and run the plate. They are already aware of that. If they're on a call, or maybe they're coming back in, they'll say, "Are there any parking permissions on Greencroft or Lamson? I provided the data over the last three years and they're out. They're out addressing overnight parking, and they are on the parking on the lawns. Do we get them all? No, we don't. Well, you know, obviously it's a balancing act. Responding to a hit-skip is more important than a parked car overnight on the street. So some of that's a balancing act. I don't want to give the impression that our officers are not addressing overnight parking because they are. They're substantial. I think from 2022 to 2023, they doubled. You know, 12 years ago we responded to 14,000 calls a year. We have over 25,000 calls a year with the same amount of officers. But if you do the math, that's 12,000 almost more calls, 13,000 more a year. Break it down to per day. Those guys and girls are jamming. I understand the concern about parking and quality of life issues. I do. And that's a big thing for us. But I don't want to have the impression here tonight that our staff aren't doing anything because they are.

Ms. Williams: One night, there were lights on two vehicles; everything was lit up. The officer that drove up, not even slowing down, pulled in, and I thought, is everything okay here? It's a quality of life issue, and it makes you paranoid to think our city is going into a decline. Can the city get those sound cameras that the other cities have to determine if it's a gunshot? It's just that you feel the city is declining, and we've got an aging community. It's something to think about. And I would think that maybe having a town hall meeting or being able to ask questions with the police, the new police chief when he comes in in October, would help to give security to the people.

Mr. Duber Jeff Duber, 134 Harriman St., Bedford, OH: A little over a year ago when the facility came into town seeking to sell medical marijuana. They had to appear in front of council for permission to do that. Or they did appear in front of council for permission to do that now. I don't know if it's true or not, but I read in cleveland.com that that facility is selling recreational marijuana, and I was wondering if they because I had asked the question at the time, what was going to happen if and when did the recreational marijuana issue pass? And the answer at the time was, well, we'll deal that one with that when it happens. So it happened. And then was there any dealing with that? I mean, did they get permission from the council to sell recreational marijuana? And before we even answer that, I have another follow-up question. I read about the distance and, apparently, distance from schools and the sale of marijuana, but I don't know what the distance is. I didn't see what that distance is. I would also like to know what that distance is from school and if daycare-type facilities are included.

City Manager Mallis: I don't know about the daycare facilities, and I have that distance back in the office, but they were there outside of that radius. They wouldn't have gotten the approval from the state of Ohio. That's who grants the approval for a handful of them throughout the state. This was one of them. They did have approval based on the orientation of some of the parks or zoning that is permitted. We had discussions with them about the security plan and all of that. Since they opened with the medical, knock on wood, and not an issue, there have been zero responses to that location. And they actually said they had zero, zero incidents at this site. Regardless, they always have security at the site and they've doubled that. So they've taken the measures to ensure that, especially for the early on, they were to expect, you know, large traffic. We were up there. There were zero issues last week, and I know they've had a number of them that received approval at the state level. The state granted that, Cleveland, Lakewood, and a number of other issues that I'm not sure I can check on that radius for.

Mr. Duber: Do you know if the distance is the same for the medical and recreational?

City Manager Mallis: I don't know.

8. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION:	Motion made by Longino and seconded by Frank Smith to adjourn the meeting at 8:26 P.M.
MOVER:	Tony Longino
SECONDER:	Frank Smith

RESULT: Pass [6 TO 0]
YEAS: Koci, Spinks, Fluharty, Smith, Salvi, Longino
NAYS:
ABSTAIN:


Clerk of Council


Mayor-President of Council

Date: September 5, 2024