

Community Ward Meeting for Wards 3 & 5 was held at Bedford City Hall on Monday, April 9, 2018. Mayor Koci called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Present: Council Members: Mayor Stan Koci, Heather Rhoades, Victor Fluharty, Walter Genutis and Donald Saunders. Also Present: Clerk of Council Lorree Villers. Administration: City Manager Mike Mallis, Finance Director Frank Gambosi, Service Director Clint Bellar, Deputy Police Chief Rick Suts, Fire Chief Dave Nagy, Building Commissioner Calvin Beverly, Recreation Director Erin Fach, Assistant Recreation Director Mike Callahan, Economic Director Jennifer Kuzma and Superintendent Shawn Francis.

Mayor Koci welcomed all residents in attendance and introduced those Council members present and Clerk Villers. He praised and appreciated the jobs all the employees did day in and day out. The City was moving in a positive direction so the residents would start seeing some growth around the City.

Mr. Mallis introduced the Department Heads present and announced the Administration was now fully staffed. He explained it was this staff who took care of the day to day operations which he was fortunate enough to work with. He presented a PowerPoint of the State of the City Address. (See attached)

Mr. Mallis explained the Administration and Council continued to discuss the financial condition of the City. He stated the City was very grateful regarding the 81% of the residents supporting the recent income tax increase. The Administration was working on the sidewalk, street and infrastructure programs. He explained Xellia was dedicated to Bedford and was slowly growing but would probably never employ as many as Ben Venue. Bedford had some smaller and larger businesses interested in the City, the Administration continued to work with the largest landowner in the City who owned Meadowbrook where a few new businesses would be placed. There were a couple dedicated Bedford businesses relocating to the Meadowbrook area. The City would be working on rezoning the Meadowbrook area to accommodate various businesses. The dealership renovations continued at the Bedford Auto Mile and the upcoming senior apartments at Villa San Bernardo were underway with a completion date in 2019. The City continued to work on the trail-way / bike path project and a business for the former Moonglow property. He talked about the new direction the Recreation Department would be heading with new programs. He offered the brochure regarding the Heritage Home Program. He talked about the various types of grants the Administration continued to apply for to save money for much needed projects/programs. The Administration was seeking assistance regarding those who were behind on their taxes. The Administration would be working with the Dispatch Center regarding a new system and eliminating the current Code Red and the Automile was gracious enough to assist with the City's second K-9 Officer when the Administration found it appropriate. The local pedal bike shop was donating a bike for an Officer to monitor the downtown area. Deputy Chief Suts explained the Safe Passages Program was created for those who had drug addictions and needed assistance in the application process and recovery information and to date 20 people in need have stepped forward for assistance.

Councilman Fluharty reported the following for Ward 3:

- Pointed out the need to have Northfield Road resurfaced.
- Talked about speeding issues throughout Ward 3.
- Mentioned he would be walking throughout his Ward and reporting exterior maintenance issues, landscaping overgrowth, uncut grass and litter.
- Talked to the mailman because he was parking on the wrong side of the street.

Councilwoman Rhoades reported the following for Ward 5:

- One of her missions was to guide the Administration into the next century better utilizing the internet for better communication between the City Offices and the residents.
- A goal was to revitalize the Historic downtown area through the Main Street Program and DART Program and possibly extend the Historic area further down Broadway Avenue.
- Change the perception of how others think of Bedford.
- Was pleased with the bicycle Officer that would be patrolling downtown.
- Explained the Bedford Tribune was in need of writers and articles.
- Supported the online/internet communication between the City and residents.
- Recently amended the Codified Ordinance §915.03 regarding "Containers; Newspapers and Trimmings" and §915.10 "Removal Requirements".
- In the near future would be working with Councilman Fluharty on "blight" laws.

Mayor Koci opened the meeting to questions from citizens.

A Powers Road resident talked about the junk/rubbish located on Powers Road. Mr. Mallis assured the resident the City was already aware and was working on the problem. He told a story about residents who were piling rubbish that ended up blocking a culvert on Archer Road and flooded a resident's home. He added Ward 3 currently had residents doing the same which was addressed with Councilman Fluharty.

A resident talked about the large amount of litter throughout the City and how it needed cleaned up.

Several residents expressed their concerns about the heavy semi-truck traffic on Broadway Avenue that was damaging the road(s) and felt the trucks should be prohibited to travel specifically Broadway Avenue. It was reiterated several times that Broadway Avenue was a State Route and the City was not sure if anything could be done about eliminating the truck traffic.

A resident pointed out the heavy semi-truck traffic due to the I-271/I-480 highway construction also contributed to the ongoing damage(s) to the infrastructure. A few residents felt the City should set up truck scales and ticket the violators and/or reroute the trucks. It was mentioned maybe ODOT needed to be contacted/involved.

A resident pointed out North Park was starting to washboard due to the semi-truck traffic.

Mr. Mallis explained how the Cuyahoga County Grant scored better because of the joint resurfacing project from Maple Heights through Bedford and the Administration wanted other streets addressed instead of Center Road.

An East Interstate resident talked about the loud music/noise coming from Timko's Tavern on Broadway Avenue and asked what could be done about it. Deputy Chief Suts told him to report it and if the Officer felt if the noise level exceeded eight-five (85) dBa then the bar would have to turn the music down. The resident also pointed out the bar had several tables on the exterior of the building and wondered if they were allowed to have a patio. Mr. Beverly would check the Building Department's records and follow-up accordingly.

A resident had concerns about a possible traffic issue with the new Dollar General on Broadway Avenue. Mr. Mallis explained the various extensive renovations that had to be addressed because of the many years the building sat vacant. The City welcomed Dollar General to the city for the betterment


Mayor – President of Council