

Bedford City Council met in a work session at Bedford City Hall on Tuesday, February 18, 2020 at 6:06 p.m.

Present: Council Members: Mayor Stan Koci, Walter Genutis, Vic Fluharty, Paula Mizesak, Heather Rhoades, Don Saunders. Administration: City Manager Michael Mallis, Finance Director Frank Gambosi, Law Director John Montello, Clerk of Council Tracy Simons. Absent: Sandy Spinks.

Mayor Koci welcomed Michael Halpern from MuniReg. Mr. Halpern stated that his company tracks who the owners are of the property, they review the current ordinance language for potential enhancements, maintain a website for registering parties to register and municipality to review information, provide reporting to municipality of registration information, and share data with appropriate municipality agencies such as Police/Fire and Economic Development. He continued to state that they research and identify unregistered properties and the owner/interested party and seek registration. And that they update the municipality with all relevant information pertaining non-compliance to allow for escalation and ensure that the related information is updated and accurate on the municipality's website. He also stated that MuniReg compensation is an agreed upon split of the registration fees and that they will receive fees from the registering party and retain an agreed upon percentage and distribute a remainder to the municipality and that there is no out of pocket expense. He stated that they are to capture information as early as possible for property maintenance and foreclosure information. Councilman Saunders inquired if we have a tag on the property and City Manager Mallis also inquired that if the bank owns the home and an LLC buys it do they have access to the information. Mr. Halpern stated that there is no integration and that an ordinance works when the property is vacant and abandoned. He also stated to make it a requirement for the initial registration and deregistration process. Councilwoman Mizesak inquired if they work with the County Tax or the Landbank. Mr. Halpern stated that they work with the good people and that his incentive is to dig and find the information and that they navigate through the maze of information on a piece of vacant property to help identify the right owners and help the Building Department. Mayor Koci stated it is a great idea and to sit have Mr. Halpern sit down with the City Manager, Finance Director, Law Director and the Building Commissioner. Mr. Halpern stated that he wants the Building Commissioner to have some sort of discussion if there are any red flags.

The presentation from Michael Halpern from MuniReg was concluded.

Mayor Koci began discussion of the Regular Council Meeting agenda.

Council had no changes to the minutes of the Work Session of February 3, 2020, and the Regular Meeting of February 3, 2020.

Ordinance No. 9755-20 amending Section 1305.01 "When Required." City Manager Mallis stated that this is some language clean-up and so that our verbiage mimics the States Code.

Ordinance No. 9756-20 upgrading ODOT Systematic Upgrade of Guardrail End Treatments. City Manager Mallis stated that this is an ordinance to allow ODOT to go into the area and that we have not been notified yet as to when or where.

Ordinance No. 9757-20 award bid contract to Cintas for uniforms. City Manager Mallis stated that Cintas signed and turned in their bid in on time and that the other company didn't sign and turn in their bid on time.

Ordinance No. 9758-20 thru 9760-20 are an ordinance for two new police vehicles, a GMC Sierra for the Animal Warden and to outfit the GMC Sierra. These were all placed on First Reading.

Discussion of the Regular Meeting agenda was concluded.

Mayor Koci began the discussion regarding redistricting. Mayor Koci stated that Mr. Montello is still researching information for redistricting.

Discussion to redistrict was concluded.

Adjourned into Executive Session at 7:07 p.m.

Motion made by Spinks and seconded by Genutis to go into an Executive Session to discuss Personnel-Evaluations and Economic Development-Meadowbrook Mixed-Use District, Tinkers Creek Commerce Park and Land Acquisition. The roll was called. Vote – Yeas: Fluharty, Mizsak, Rhoades, Saunders, Koci, Spinks, Genutis. Nays: None. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion made by Rhoades and seconded by Fluharty to adjourn out of Executive Session. The roll was called. Vote – Yeas: Fluharty, Mizsak, Rhoades, Saunders, Koci, Spinks, Genutis. Nays: None. Motion carried unanimously.

Adjourned out of Executive Session at 7:57 p.m.

Work Session adjourned at 7:59 p.m.

  
Clerk of Council

  
Mayor – President of Council

3-2-20  
Date

Bedford City Council met in regular session at Bedford City Hall on Tuesday, February 18, 2020. Mayor Koci called the meeting to order at 8:01 P.M. The meeting was opened by pledging allegiance to the flag.

The roll was called. Present: Fluharty, Mizesak, Rhoades, Saunders, Koci, Spinks. Absent: Genutis.

Motion made by Rhoades seconded by Mizesak to excuse Councilman Genutis. The roll was called. Vote – Yeas: Genutis, Fluharty, Mizesak, Rhoades, Saunders, Koci. Nays: None. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion made by Spinks and seconded by Fluharty to approve the minutes of the Work Session Meeting of February 3, 2020. The roll was called. Vote – Yeas: Fluharty, Mizesak, Rhoades, Saunders, Koci, Spinks. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Motion carried.

Motion made by Mizesak and seconded by Rhoades to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 3, 2020. The roll was called. Vote – Yeas: Fluharty, Mizesak, Rhoades, Saunders, Koci, Spinks. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Motion carried.

At this time Mayor Koci preformed a Swearing Ceremony for Assistant Fire Chief Dan Dopslaf, Lieutenant Tim Grote and Firefighter/Paramedic Rory Coleman.

Fire Chief Nagy thanked everyone outside the Fire Department and Fire Chief's from other Departments. He stated that it speaks volumes about the crew that was promoted and hired this evening. He recognized all the members of the Bedford Fire Department and they are a great team. He congratulated Assistant Chief Dopslaf and Lieutenant Grote on their promotions and he welcome Firefighter/Paramedic Coleman to the team and that he is looking forward to having the new team on board and to continue to elevate ourselves.

City Manager Michael Mallis congratulated the Fire Department on their two promotions and the new member of the Fire Department. Mr. Dopslaf & Mr. Grote are true professionals and they are going to do an outstanding job in their new roles. He also congratulated the Bedford Downtown Alliance on a successful Chocolate Walk. He also thanked everyone who attended the State of the City last week and if you didn't get a chance to see it, it is online and the Power Point presentation is available on the City's website. One of the items that we spoke about at the end of the presentation was a proposed plan to enhance the Commons Area, nothing is a guarantee, it's something that we would like to involve the community in. We will be talking about it at the up coming Ward Meetings and the Town Hall Meeting. He also stated that the plans will be on hand so that everybody can take a look at them, we welcome feedback. He continued to state that this is just a proposal and that there is no intention of using tax dollars right now in 2020, but there are substantial grant funds that we've already identified that is available.

City Manager Mallis stated that in the past month there was some success with First Energy making numerous repairs to some streetlights. We've been sending over our list consistently because we weren't getting much cooperation and in the last thirty days things look like they

have changed by making some repairs in specific areas. He continued to stated that they have come up with a new process for us to report an outage of a streetlight. They now have an online system and we are going to utilize that online system. If you don't have the ability to send us the information we will continue with our program, where our police and auxiliary go out in the spring and fall to identify all the lights that are out and turn them in.

City Manager Mallis stated that Dominion has reached out regarding the next phase of their main gas line replacement and it will be in the area of Grace Street and Ledgewood Drive. He continued to stated that nothing is going to take place not only until the existing work is completed but they still have to do restoration up by Williams Street, all of that has to happen before they move onto Grace Street and Ledgewood Drive and we conveyed that message to them.

City Manager Mallis stated at the State of the City was that we went out last week and did an early assessment of our roads. In 2018 and 2019 the City brought back our Road Program and we were investing about \$400,000.00 every year to resurface roadways. He continued to state that we are increasing that number in 2020 and it will go from \$400,000.00 to \$650,000. - \$670,000.00 and it's their intent to invest that dollar amount every year in resurfacing and road programs.

City Manager Mallis stated they had a very successful meeting with ODOT officials a couple of weeks ago and Broadway was not slated to be resurfaced at the earliest 2026. He continued to stated that due to the work of our Service Department and Engineer they agreed to bump it up to the Fiscal Year 2023, at the earliest that project could start as early as June 2022. He continued to state that ODOT is looking to do all of Broadway throughout the entire City. He stated that we are going to start planning and engineering the replacement of the waterline, which runs through the heart of Downtown Bedford and that planning and engineering will take place this year with the plans to replace the waterline in 2021. He stated that they did engage ODOT officials about the Northfield Road Bridge, specifically the fencing and the walk ways as well as Northfield Road, because that is deteriorating as well and they did not have a timeline for us, but they were going to follow-up with us in thirty days at which point I will provide an update at that point.

That concluded the City Managers report.

Law Director John Montello was absent and excused.

That concluded the Law Director's report.

Assistant Finance Director Jennifer Howland stated that with tax season around the corner just a few reminders that taxes are due Wednesday, April 15<sup>th</sup> and the Tax Departments normal hours are 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Monday thru Friday. She also stated that the Tax Department is also open two Saturdays before the tax due date for your convenience they will be open Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. She also stated that the Efile Tax Preparation Software is available on the website. She continued to state that new this year only when using this system documents like W2's or other sources of earned income are not required

to be sent to our office with your return, unless you are requesting a refund, but that they may be request later for verification purposes.

That concluded the Assistant Finance Director's report.

Councilman Fluharty congratulated the Fire Department on the new hire and the two promotions. He stated that the new lights will be great once they repair and replace in areas that need the new lighting, because it makes a difference. He thanked the new people on third shift from the Service Department, who are patching holes and everything else in the middle of the night, it's great.

Councilwoman Mizzak congratulated the fire fighters and they are a well put together team and they are there for us 24/7. She stated that down in her area the Illuminating Company has been replacing poles. She stated that the State of the City was very impressive and there were a lot of people that were there and it show how well respected our town is. If you missed it you will hear about it in at our Ward Meetings coming up in March.

Councilwoman Rhoades thanked everyone who came to the Chocolate Walk and they appreciate the support. She thanked Ms. Chaiche and Ms. Berry and without volunteer's like them things like the Chocolate Walk don't happen and they did an amazing amount of work to pull that off. She also thanked the other volunteer's who help coordinate and organize that event. She stated that the Service Department also helped out with getting things ready for the Chocolate Walk. She announced that the next "Do Good Nick's Meeting" will be on February 27 at 7:00 p.m. DePompei's. She stated that the Bedford Downtown Alliance is building Bedford's ongoing stories, we build stories and come help build stories. She thanked the City for swapping out the lights on the Downtown crosswalk, it is much brighter and much safer.

Councilman Saunders stated that repairing the streetlights has helped a lot especially down by the cemetery on Broadway. He mentioned that Adams Street has several potholes that need to be addressed and on Ennis Street's they didn't patch the dip that's in the hill and if someone could put something in it or level it off a little bit, because the dip is getting worse. He stated that for anyone that uses Rt 271 for the next couple of months going North on Rt 271 is going to be even worse, because there is going to be a complete traffic pattern change through that whole area. He continued to state that this week they are working on Rockside Road entrance and exit ramps on Rt 271 and that is just a precursor to what will be happening here in the next several weeks as they start changing the traffic patterns through that area. He also stated that Canal Road will have lanes closed now until this coming fall, but they need to close those roads to be able to work on the overhead bridge work.

Councilwoman Spinks congratulated Mr. Dopsلاف and Mr. Grote on their promotions and congratulated Mr. Coleman to the Fire Department. She stated that while doing the Chocolate Walk she stopped in a few businesses that she has never been in. She continued to state that Sirna's is a spectacular job.

Councilwoman Spinks stated that the Historical Society will celebrate Dr. Seuss's birthday on Saturday, February 29, 2020 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., it is free admission.

Councilwoman Spinks stated that the first Ward Meeting will be on March 23<sup>rd</sup> for Ward 1 and Ward 4. She stated that the State of the City was excellent. She stated that Mazda was supposed to open up in February, but they had a few little set backs and hopefully by the end of March they will be open.

Councilwoman Spinks stated that on Friday, February 21<sup>st</sup> she will be celebrating her birthday at the Cuyahoga Falls Art Competition. She continued to state that she has two pieces in the show.

Mayor Koci stated that it is always a good thing about the new promotions and the new hire in the Fire Department and that there are some good guys there. He also stated that the Chocolate Walk was a lot of fun.

**Ordinance No. 9755-20**, an Ordinance amending Section 1305.01 (a) "When Required" of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Bedford and declaring an emergency was read by title only. Motion made by Spinks and seconded by Fluharty to suspend the rule requiring the reading of said ordinance on three different days. The roll was called. Vote – Yeas: Fluharty, Mizesak, Rhoades, Saunders, Koci, Spinks. Nays: None. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion made by Rhoades and seconded by Mizesak to place Ordinance No. 9755-20 on third and final reading and passed.

City Manager Mallis stated that this ordinance is a change of one word and it is a clean up in the language for our Building Code, so that we are following a change that the State Code had made. We want to make sure that our code follows specifically what the state's changes made.

The roll was called. Vote – Yeas: Fluharty, Mizesak, Rhoades, Saunders, Koci, Spinks. Nays: None. Motion carried unanimously.

**Ordinance No. 9756-20**, an ordinance enacted by the City of Bedford, Cuyahoga County, Ohio, hereinafter referred to as the Local Public Agency (LPA), in the matter of the stated described project and declaring an emergency was read by title only. Motion made by Rhoades and seconded by Saunders to suspend the rule requiring the reading of said ordinance on three different days. The roll was called. Vote – Yeas: Fluharty, Mizesak, Rhoades, Saunders, Koci, Spinks. Nays: None. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion made by Fluharty and seconded by Genutis to place Ordinance No. 9756-20 on third and final reading and passed.

Mayor Koci stated that the state is upgrading the crash ends on the guardrails and this is us giving them permission to come into town. He continued to state that it is all on the state's dime and it will cost nothing from the city.

The roll was called. Vote – Yeas: Fluharty, Mizesak, Rhoades, Saunders, Koci, Spinks. Nays: None. Motion carried unanimously.

**ORDINANCE NO. 9757-20**, an ordinance authorizing and directing the City Manager to enter into a contract with Cintas Corporation being the lowest, responsive and responsible bidder and declaring an emergency was read by title only. Motion made by Spinks and seconded by Fluharty to place Ordinance No. 9757-20 on first reading. The roll was called. Vote – Yeas: Fluharty, Mizzsak, Rhoades, Saunders, Koci, Spinks. Nays: None. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Koci stated that this is for the uniforms for the Service Department workers.

**ORDINANCE NO. 9758-20**, an ordinance authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract with Ganley Chevrolet of Aurora, LLC (Ganley) to purchase two (2) 2020 Chevrolet Tahoes and declaring an emergency was read by title only. Motion made by Fluharty and seconded by Spinks to place Ordinance No. 9758-20 on first reading. The roll was called. Vote – Yeas: Fluharty, Mizzsak, Rhoades, Saunders, Koci, Spinks. Nays: None. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Koci stated that is to order two new Tahoes for the Police Department and we might be able to get them a little cheaper.

**ORDINANCE NO. 9759-20**, an ordinance authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract with Jay Auto Group, Inc. (Jay) to purchase one (1) 2020 GMC Sierra 2500 HD and declaring an emergency was read by title only. Motion made by Saunders and seconded by Saunders to place Ordinance No. 9759-20 on first reading. The roll was called. Vote – Yeas: Fluharty, Mizzsak, Rhoades, Saunders, Koci, Spinks. Nays: None. Motion carried unanimously.

City Manager Mallis stated that the GMC Sierra is a new vehicle for the Animal Warden and the Deerskin Manufacturing is the stainless-steel compartment that goes on the back of the truck, with the compartments for the animals. He also stated that the Northcoast Two Way Radio is to outfit the vehicle. The total cost is going to be split 50/50 with Bedford Heights and they also utilize that service as well.

The roll was called. Vote – Yeas: Fluharty, Mizzsak, Rhoades, Saunders, Koci, Spinks. Nays: None. Motion carried unanimously.

**ORDINANCE NO. 9760-20**, an ordinance authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract with Deerskin Manufacturing Inc. (Deerskin) for a six (6) compartment chassis animal control unit for the GMC Sierra 2500 HD and declaring an emergency was read by title only. Motion made by Fluharty and seconded by Spinks to place Ordinance No. 9760-20 on first reading. The roll was called. Vote – Yeas: Fluharty, Mizzsak, Rhoades, Saunders, Koci, Spinks. Nays: None. Motion carried unanimously.

**ORDINANCE NO. 9761-20**, an ordinance authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract with Northcoast Two Way Radio (Northcoast) to outfit the GMC Sierra 2500 HD and declaring an emergency was read by title only. Motion made by Saunders and seconded by Rhoades to place Ordinance No. 9761-20 on first reading. The roll was called. Vote – Yeas: Fluharty, Mizzsak, Rhoades, Saunders, Koci, Spinks. Nays: None. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Koci said that concluded the business portion of the meeting and asked if anyone in the audience had any comments.

Jeff, 134 Harriman Street, Bedford, OH, asked City Manager Mallis about the Emergency Call Activation System, the Code Red System. He stated that he had his phone activated to NOMO ROMO and wanted to know if it will cut out the Code Red. City Manager Mallis stated that it will be a big topic during the Ward Meetings. He continued to stated that the City has utilized the Code Red System for twenty plus years. And that service has cost us between \$7,000.00 to \$8,500.00 a year and one of the benefits to Bedford this year is that those costs are going to be covered by the Chagrin Valley Dispatch Center in Cuyahoga County. He continued to state that our 90% of our data will not be able to be transferred over and we are trying to get clarification on it and everybody who wants to get it will have to get signed up. Look for it on our website and look for the steps to re-enter your information and I will mention it at Council Meetings.

Marge Bryant, 401 Lee Road, Suite 2, Colony Club, Bedford, OH, stated that there are still some ongoing issues at Colony Club and that there is a problem with the swamp land behind her building. She also stated about a hazard from her walk way to her garage stating that they never put any salt down on the walk way.

Mayor Koci asked if there were any further comments. There being no reply, motion made by Spinks and seconded by Fluharty to adjourn. The roll was called. Vote – Yeas: Fluharty, Mizsak, Rhoades, Saunders, Koci, Spinks. Nays: None. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:51 P.M.

  
Clerk of Council

  
Mayor – President of Council

3-2-20  
Date