

Bedford City Council met in a Work Session at Bedford City Hall on Monday, December 21, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.

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

Mayor Koci began discussion of the Regular Council Meeting agenda.

Council had no changes to the minutes of the Work Session of December 7, 2020, Regular Meeting of December 7, 2020. There were no corrections to the minutes.

Ordinance No. 9837-20: appropriating City's Corona Virus Relief Fund Program for the fourth and fifth payments and Mr. Gambosi stated that in line with one, two and three distributions that we have Mrs. Kuzma applied for some extra funding that the county has and that amount was for \$140,040.00. He stated that will be the fourth distribution and it is listed in there as to what we will be doing with those funds and they are: for the Fire Department/EMS workers, doors for Ellenwood and City Hall, some PPE costs and \$20,000.00 in food distributions that we are doing and all of that totals \$140,040.00. He also stated that the county also had a distribution of \$959.22 and that is from funds left over from what they had received and distributed out to the different entities in city, therefore that is in there, and that will for PPE for one of the machines that disinfects and supplies that goes with it. He stated that we are adding those two distributions and documenting how we are spending it and Council is giving the authority to go ahead with it and we are in line with how we applied for it with the county. He stated that it is on a reimbursement basis and you will see in the appropriation ordinance this evening that he will have to advance funds from the General Fund to Fund 215 Corona Virus Fund and in doing so he will front it until we get reimbursed back from the county for \$140,040.00 after all the spending has been done and all of the documentation has been sent to the county to receive the reimbursement. He stated that we have received a total of \$1,140,000.00. He continued to state that this in addition to distributions one, two and three. He stated that this is distributions four and five that come in the form of \$140,000.00 reimbursements and the \$929.22 was sent to us directly. Councilman Fluharty inquired if we are going to receive any more when they pass the new relief and City Manager Mallis stated that he new bill does not include any funds for state and local governments. He continued to state that based on some of the reason it was cut out as well as the stimulus dollars that were cut out, that was because the new administration has indicated they want them to begin planning a third stimulus, that is why some of it was cut out. He also stated that included in it is that they did extend some of the restrictions on the timeline of when it can be spent, but additional funds as of right now to local government.

Ordinance No. 9838-20: contract with Allied Door Systems LLC at Ellenwood Center and City Manager Mallis stated that 9838-20 is for the entrance ways at Ellenwood Center and we had two companies quoted for both the east and west entrances and Allied Door Systems LLC came in at \$19,000.00 for the west entrance and \$1,700.00 for the east entrance. He also stated that Allied Door Systems LLC did all of the upgrades around six years ago to the east entrance with doorways and the tempered glass, and they will come to replace the push button with sensors. He stated that the other company was higher for the east entrance but they were lower on the

west entrance, so we looked at it and Allied Door Systems LLC is \$1,000.00 more over all but it made sense to stick with one company to replace both doors. Mr. Gambosi stated that you will see that it will be \$17,540.00 towards the grant and the rest of it will come from the General Fund Recreation Department for the difference. Councilman Fluharty stated that this is a great thing with the doors, because it is so much easier to walk up to a door and it automatically opens up. City Manager Mallis stated that there are four electronic units on the top of the main entrances at City Hall are about 18 years old and Mr. Romito has replaced half of them already, so those electronic units are showing signs of wear. He continued to state that it is something that we would eventually have to do anyway and to spend the money to where they are automatic is beneficial for us, and this goes the same for the west entrance at Ellenwood. He stated that this is an entrance that we are planning to redo anyway, so as far as timing it works out. Mayor Koci asked if any brick work would need to be done and City Manager Mallis replied it depends on what we need to do with the steps, ideally, we would like to tear it out and have a ramp and make both entrance handicap accessible, obviously it will cost more, our first priority is to tackle the men's restroom. He stated that it is in very poor shape and that is included in a grant that we are applying for and the next step would be how to transition that other entrance to handicap accessible.

Ordinance No. 9839-20: contract with Allied Door Systems LLC at City Hall and City Manager Mallis stated that we did get multiple quotes for the public entrances to City Hall which are: main entrances and the entrance way down by the Building and Water Departments. He stated that Allied Door Systems LLC came in at \$20,182.00 and we did receive a second quote from Cleveland Door Controls at \$21,300.00, so Allied Door Systems LLC was cheaper than Cleveland Door Controls at City Hall.

Ordinance No. 9840-20: authorize mandatory pay increase for Clerk of Courts Tom Day and Mr. Gambosi stated that usually elected clerks are 85% of a judge's salary, we have an appointed clerk, but he has asked to be in line with that and that is where he's requested his salary be. Mayor Koci stated that of which we pay 60%, so the hit to the city is a lot less than if we had to pay the whole thing and the county picks up the rest. Mr. Gambosi stated that his salary is included in the allocation process with all of the other cities, so when it comes down to it we are 25% of the 60%, if you look at it that way its even less just to clarify on how it's done. Mayor Koci inquired if that money goes to the court or to the city and Mr. Gambosi replied that the court calculates and charges all of his appropriations including his salary to the city then as the court collects all of the revenue for the court processing everything excluding fines, which is 25% of the 60%. Mayor Koci inquired if his benefits get distributed between the cities as well and Mr. Gambosi stated that every cost of the court is done and there are certain aspects of the court for equipment and things of Capital Nature that the City of Bedford is not allowed to charge and that is where the court by law is to create special funds, hence we can charge all those costs to those directly verses the City of Bedford eating all of the costs directly. Mr. Montello stated that because of COVID-19 Mr. Day has had to readjust schedules and he has been there everyday and he deserves it.

Ordinance No. 9841-20: amending Ordinance No. 9738-19 making additional Appropriations and Mr. Gambosi stated that you can see the money that was earmarked for that grant that we received from the county that is on a reimbursement basis, therefore he is asking to transfer the funds to other account where we will charge off all of the expenses. He also stated that we will then wait for reimbursement from the county and send it back to the General Fund. He also

stated that there were other items that we need to appropriate: funds from SEAL, all of the items associated to the 215 Fund, refuse fund had to appropriate a little bit more, doors for Ellenwood Center that were originally put into the Capital Project Funds, they will now be charged and everyone saw tonight to the 215 Fund and the grant, Council approved the purchase a valve machine awhile back that we are appropriating for, we will not need an escrow account for OWDA, and we did need some extra cost because of overtime with the fire, because the pension went up, along with overtime for waste water as well.

Discussion of the Regular Meeting agenda was concluded.

Mayor Koci began discussion of the Historic Preservation Board. Mayor Koci stated that we should have a special meeting for it in January and invite other parties to come in that would be appropriate to the meeting. He stated some people from the Preservation Board and some of the others that are mentioned in the ordinance of who should be on the board. He stated to check your calendars for a Monday after the first of the year. Mr. Montello apologized for not having something prepared and that he wanted to make sure that Council agrees as to who should be a member of the board before he makes changes to whatever they want to develop. Mayor Koci stated that they may change who should be on the board anyway.

Discussion of the Historic Preservation Board was concluded.

Councilwoman Spinks inquired if Councilman Genutis has been getting any complaints about the Meadowbrook Sign and that she has had a lot of her businesses that are on the other side complain about it and Councilman Genutis stated that the other side of the street has vastly improved and it looks really nice over there. Councilwoman Spinks stated that the tenants that are in there they really like the guys that owns that property now. Mr. Montello stated that Mazda is concerned about it as well as the other side is concerned about the sign so we will see what happens. Councilwoman Spinks inquired if Councilman Genutis receive any calls about the sign and Councilman Genutis replied that he has not received any calls about it.

Mr. Montello stated that the Sunoco station in Ward 4 is asking the city to approve a liquor license. He also stated that with the old Moon Glow that the state has denied our request to extend it further so that we could develop the downtown area, we've showed them the efforts that we've made to try and get a business in there along with our plans and we've been successful. City Manager Mallis stated that they requested them to allow us another extension but we are just waiting to see. Mr. Montello stated that it easier to transfer economic development from one community to the other. Mayor Koci inquired if it is zone for alcohol and Mr. Montello replied that he would look into it.

Adjourned into Executive Session at 7:11 p.m.

Motion made by Genutis and seconded by Spinks to go into an Executive Session to discuss Economic Development: Land acquisition and Personnel: Scheduling. The roll was called. Vote – Yeas: Koci, Spinks, Genutis, Fluharty, Mizesak, Saunders. Nays: None. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Adjourned out of Executive Session at 7:46 p.m.

Work Session adjourned at 7:47 p.m.


Clerk of Council


Mayor - President of Council

Date: January 4, 2021

Bedford City Council met virtually via Zoom for the Regular Session on Monday, December 21, 2020. Mayor Koci called the meeting to order at 8:00 P.M. The meeting was opened by pledging allegiance to the flag.

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

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

Motion made by Mizesak and seconded by Genutis to approve the minutes of the Work Session Meeting of December 7, 2020. The roll was called. Vote – Yeas: Koci, Spinks, Genutis, Fluharty, Mizesak, Saunders. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion made by Spinks and seconded by Genutis to approve the Regular Meeting of December 7, 2020. The roll was called. Vote – Yeas: Koci, Spinks, Genutis, Fluharty, Mizesak, Saunders. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Motion carried unanimously.

City Manager Mallis stated as a reminder that if anybody has any questions or comments send them to citymanager@bedfordoh.gov and they will be read during the Hearing of Citizens portion of the meeting.

City Manager Mallis thanked all of the officers, volunteers and the donors who helped with Shop-With-A-Cop this passed weekend, it was done differently than years past but it turned out to be successful. He also stated that this year has been a challenge for every single one of us, but the holidays are a time to be thankful for and not to lose site on what is important. He also thanked all of the residents for their patience and for being flexible as to how we business. He also thanked the business owners and that some of them have contributed in many different ways such as in: donations and in-kind efforts to help one another. He stated that you get to see what a true community is and he appreciates it. He thanked all of the employees, and that we have changed the way we deliver and do business and it is a silver lining, we've learned a lot, helped on another and helped those in need in the community and you can't get through a year like this year without everybody working together. He continued to thank Mayor Koci, City Council, Mr. Montello, Mr. Gambosi and all the Department Heads for working collectively and we've done a good job pushing forward and we will continue to keep pushing forward. He wished everyone a Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year.

That concluded the City Managers report.

Law Director John Montello he thanked everyone and wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

That concluded the Law Director's report.

Finance Director Frank Gambosi wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. He also thanked Mr. Wagner for doing a great job this year with streaming the videos and he

appreciates all of his efforts. He also stated that his employees and the employees of the City of Bedford did a fantastic job this year with everything considered in what we've gone through this year there was a lot of cooperation with things being done differently this year. He stated that they will be addressing a lot of new issues coming into January and that he will be writing some letters to the public in regards to taxes. He also stated to be thankful for what we have and he wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

That concluded the Finance Director's report.

Councilman Saunders wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and let's hope that things will turn around in 2021. He stated that he was surprised at the number of people in the downtown area for Christmas in Bedford Falls, but he also received several comments that the city did not clean the sidewalks off this year and he hopes that for next year we don't have a similar situation occur again. He stated that nobody is enforcing the hourly parking on Broadway Ave. and that there is certain business that park there all day long, they are taking up parking spaces for customers for some of the retail facilities and inquired about cracking down on it for a while and City Manager Mallis replied that some of it has to do with signage and he will touch on it in the weekly memo. City Manager Mallis continued to state that last year the Supreme Court ruled that you cannot chalk tires and you can't mark tires. He continued to state that someone has to observe it and observe that car hasn't moved for two hours and then we can issue a ticket. He also stated that we have communicated with some of the business owners downtown and we shared some of this with them and this law has changed the game. He stated that this change happened about a year ago. He continued to state that he will have something in this week's memo about the signage and when we did our sign initiative there were discussion as far as additional signage for public lots and thing of that nature, which we are looking at.

Councilwoman Spinks stated that today is the first day of Winter, and it is the Winter Solstice and she wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy Hanukkah. She also thanked City Manager Mallis, Mr. Gambosi, Mr. Montello and both of the Chiefs for doing a splendid job for our city under these very trying times. She also thanked the residents for being very patient through these trying times. She stated that we have so many wonderful traditions here in the City of Bedford. She wished everyone a safe holiday and to be wise when you do get together with your family and to remember what the season is about.

Councilman Genutis stated that a lot of this happened this year that should make all of us very great full and proud of our City Manager, City Officials and all of the staff for managing through this. He also stated that this is the shortest day of the year and from here the daylight increases. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Councilman Fluharty wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. He also thanked City Manager Mallis, Mr. Montello, Mr. Gambosi and everyone at City Hall for keeping everything going for the city throughout this whole ordeal and it's been great to know that no ones been laid off. He also stated that they have come up with some creative ways to pull us through this whole ordeal. He also stated that he hopes things get back to normal and that they get back to regular meetings in Council Chambers.

Councilwoman Mizzak wished everyone a Happy Holidays. She thanked not just the administration, but City Council because they have been on hold for almost a whole year and that we've learned to survive with COVID by doing the right thing here in this area. She continued to state that if we have a good administrative group that cares for the people that live in this city and that we work together here as best as we can. She inquired about if the Bedford University has received any of the COVID vaccines for any of the employees that work there and City Manager Mallis stated that he has not heard and believes that they have not received any as of yet.

Mayor Koci thanked Council and that they are all working for the same goals and it was a trying year and we go through it. He also thanked City Manager Mallis, Mr. Gambosi, Mr. Montello, Mrs. Simons, Administration and all of the employees for doing a great job all year long. He stated that these guys work from the bottom of their hearts and they are concerned about the City of Bedford. He continued to stated that they work so hard and they do so much for the City and it doesn't get seen by the public. He stated that they work hard for all of the residents. He also thanked the residents for hanging in there and that hopefully things will loosen up as we move along through the new year.

ORDINANCE NO. 9837-20: ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING THE CITY'S CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUND PAYMENT RECEIVED PURSUANT TO AMENDED SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 481 TO THE CITY'S COVID-19 RESPONSE AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO DECLARE A PROCLAMATION was read by title only. Motion made by Spinks and seconded by Saunders to suspend the rule requiring the reading of said ordinance on three different days. The roll was called. Vote – Yeas: Koci, Spinks, Genutis, Fluharty, Mizzak, Saunders. Nays: None. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion made by Mizzak and seconded by Genutis to place Ordinance No. 9837-20 on third and final reading and passed.

Mr. Gambosi stated like distributions one, two and three the city was lucky enough to some additional funding from the county, so we are accounting for that in how we will spend it mostly on PPE and supplies. He also stated that we also applied for a grant to receive from the county and additional \$140,040.00, and we will utilize those funds towards food distributions, door repairs, improvements to City Hall and some labor cost on first responders. He stated that in doing so we will be able to get reimbursed from the county for these funds. He stated that we will be able to do some improvements to Ellenwood Center as well as City Hall in making them no touch entrance facilities with no touch entrance ways. Councilman Saunders inquired about the total amount of money that we received in grants this year because of COVID and Mr. Gambosi replied that CARES Funds alone we are at \$1,161,000.00 at this point in relation to improvements that we are doing, along with projects that we are working on and for the first responders is where we are utilizing the funds for right now. City Manager Mallis stated that in the last five years we have received just under \$10 Million in grants. He continued to state that Mr. Gambosi is a big part of it and he keeps track of it all and some of it is to keep us in line to make sure we're following everything that we are supposed to, but he does a great job in applying and locating them, it helps with what we've been doing for projects and those efforts

helped us this year in getting us through these times. Mr. Gambosi stated that in regards to infrastructure repairs the grants are invaluable in regards to obtaining funding from federal, state and county areas as much as possible and that is what we strive to do all the time. He also stated that it does assist us a lot in getting all of our projects done.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 9838-20: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH ALLIED DOOR SYSTEMS INC. 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: Koci, Spinks, Genutis, Fluharty, Mizesak, Saunders. Nays: None. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion made by Mizesak and seconded by Saunders to place Ordinance No. 9838-20 on third and final reading and passed.

City Manager Mallis stated that one of the things that we looked at doing with some of the grant money along with the funds that came in are the public entrance ways at the Municipal Complex as well as at the Ellenwood Center. He continued to state that they are aging, especially the entrance at the Ellenwood Center, we are looking to get sensor doors ways, where they will open automatically at the east and west entrance at Ellenwood Center as well as at the main entrance at the Municipal Complex and the entrance near the Building and Water Departments. He stated that in the next ordinance there is a quote that we received and we recommend going with Allied Door Systems Inc., who came in at \$20,182.00, we did receive a second quote that was over and our recommendation is to go with Allied Door Systems Inc to make those replacements at the Municipal Complex. He also stated that at the Ellenwood Center we received multiple quotes and Allied Door Systems Inc. was the cheapest of the two quotes on the east entrance and a little bit more for the quote on the west entrance, it would make sense to go with the same company. He continued to state that Allied Door Systems Inc. did the door replacements at Ellenwood Center on the east entrance, which will stay but they will be modifying that entry to include the sensors for the doors to operate automatically. He stated that both of these ordinances we will go with Allied Door Systems Inc. and they will be funded through the grants and a small portion will be coming out of the General Fund for the Ellenwood Center improvements.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 9839-20: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH ALLIED DOOR SYSTEMS INC. AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY was read by title only. Motion made by Genutis and seconded by Fluharty to suspend the rule requiring the reading of said ordinance on three different days. The roll was called. Vote – Yeas: Koci, Spinks, Genutis, Fluharty, Mizesak, Saunders. Nays: None. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion made by Saunders and second by Genutis to place Ordinance No. 9839-20 on third and final reading and passed.

Mayor Koci stated that City Manager Mallis thoroughly explained this with the previous ordinance.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 9840-20: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 9750-19, PASSED DECEMBER 16, 2019 PROVIDING COMPENSATION FOR THE CLERK OF COURT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY was read by title only. Motion made by Mizesak and seconded by Genutis to suspend the rule requiring the reading of said ordinance on three different days. The roll was called. Vote – Yeas: Koci, Spinks, Genutis, Fluharty, Mizesak, Saunders. Nays: None. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion made by Saunders and seconded by Genutis to place Ordinance No. 9840-20 on third and final reading and passed.

Mr. Gambosi stated that in regards to the Clerks of Court salary it is a 60% match that the city pays plus 15% of the allocation of the court costs, so with this amount of salary the city is responsible for just slightly over \$18,000.00 for his whole payroll not including benefits. He stated that this is a very reasonable increase compared to other cities, usually the clerk makes 85% of the judge's salary and that is where this keeps them in line with that and it is for most clerks throughout the State of Ohio. Mayor Koci stated that Mr. Day does a great job and he dealt through the Corona Virus remarkably well and he deserves this compensation. He continued to state that the Court has been a good partner with the city.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 9841-20: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 9738-19 MAKING ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT EXPENDITURES OF THE CITY OF BEDFORD, OHIO DURING THE YEAR 2020 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY was read by title only. Motion made by Fluharty and seconded by Spinks to suspend the rule requiring the reading of said ordinance on three different days. The roll was called. Vote – Yeas: Koci, Spinks, Genutis, Fluharty, Mizesak, Saunders. Nays: None. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion made by Mizesak and seconded by Genutis to place Ordinance No. 9841-20 on third and final reading and passed.

Mr. Gambosi stated that we have the \$140,000.00 advanced that we will be putting into the General Fund for the CARES ACT money, we are waiting on the county to reimburse based on what we will submit on that for next year. He also stated that there is \$30,000.00 for the Street M&R Fund, plus payments four (4) and five (5) of the CARES ACT Funds, as well as the valve

machine that was passed at the last meeting, that will help the Water Department to repair all of the valves to the waterlines that we have in the city. He also stated that on the escrow account OWDA will not need it so we will be reducing the budget in the sewer fund by \$49,525.00.

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

Mayor Koci said that concluded the business portion of the meeting and asked if anyone had any comments to send emails to citymanager@bedfordoh.gov.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:39 P.M.


Clerk of Council


Mayor – President of Council

Date: January 4, 2021