

Bedford City Council met virtually via Zoom for the Work Session on Monday, May 3, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

Present: Council Members: Mayor Stan Koci, Sandy Spinks, Walter Genutis, Victor Fluharty, Paula Mizsak, Jeff Asbury and Donald Saunders. Absent: None. Also Present: Clerk of Council Tracy Simons. Administration: City Manager Michael Mallis, Law Director John Montello, Finance Director Frank Gambosi and Assistant Finance Director Jennifer Howland. Absent: None.

Mayor Koci began discussion of the Regular Council Meeting agenda.

Council had no changes to the minutes of the Work Session of April 19, 2021, Regular Meeting of April 19, 2021.

Resolution No. 2563-21: request County Auditor to advance taxes from tax levy proceeds for 2021 collected in 2022, Resolution No. 2564-21: declaring the necessity to improve certain streets by lighting same, Ordinance No. 9869-21: to proceed with the improvement of certain streets by lighting same, Ordinance No. 9870-21: levying special assessments for the improvement of the street and public places and Ordinance No. 9871-21: levying assessment for garbage/refuse collection, recycling and disposal Mr. Gambosi stated that we are in the time period where we are preparing the Tax Budget for the 2021 tax year for collection in 2022. He stated that A – E will be on First Reading this evening. He continued to state that with the assessments there are two different types of legislation a resolution and the levy assessments with the rate. He stated that it will be the same rate as last year and most of the dollars will be the same and the taxes will stay the same on it. He stated that the assessment for refuse will stay the same as well.

Ordinance No. 9872-21: amending Ordinance No. 9827-20 making additional Appropriations Mr. Gambosi stated that this includes a lot of Worker's Comp, where we were hit with some big fees with the large claims that we had. He stated that the police and fire got hit with huge extras because of their employees getting hurt. He stated that SEAL received some more program income. He continued to state that there were some costs to the Northfield and Rockside Rd. project and we are still working on that. He stated that there are a few grants that are on the program one was for federal help that we did. He stated that we had some Capital Projects and the City Hall doors and we approved all of them with the contract now we are approving the budget. He stated that we are going to move the 403 Fund that were for Union St. and move it to the Street Maintenance and Repair Fund with the gas tax that we've been getting, to pay with the gas tax for that project. He stated that we had some extra costs on roads in picking up Ellenwood Ave. so we have \$64,000.00 that we are going to add to the Road Program. He stated that there are plumbing updates that we approved already for City Hall, Ellenwood and all of the buildings and we are budgeting for Ellenwood Waterline Project, which is \$376,000.00. He stated that we are already starting on some of the engineering costs for the Broadway Ave. Water Main and the NFA Study was on this ordinance also for \$198,990.00 that we approved at the last meeting. He stated that we are catching up with the budgeting on those and asked Council to pass those this evening so that we can go forward as already approved on those projects.

Ordinance No. 9873-21: contract with Pelton Environmental Products City Manager Mallis stated that it is a piece of equipment and down at the plant and it is an ultra-violet disinfection system. He stated that piece of equipment came on board in 2012 and do a lot of the maintenance and we have a lot of the replacement parts that we purchase and keep on hand in case something would go down we are prepared to make those repairs. He stated that we are in line to change out the bulbs and they typically last four to five years and the second bank needs replacement. He stated that they got a quote for other replacement pieces that we tend to go through over time as well as the bulbs. He stated that Pelton Environmental is the sole source distributor and it is for the Trojan Brand of the parts that we are utilizing. He stated that our staff is well trained and we have the ability to do all of these replacements in house and this is basically purchasing the equipment to have it on hand to do so. He stated that if you would like to place it on First Reading that is fine. Mr. Gambosi inquired if we have a situation where we want to get these parts because they are hard to find after ten-years and it would be better to get them while we have the chance and City Manager Mallis replied that it is up to Council and that he at least wanted to get it started and if Council wishes to pass it that is fine. Mayor Koci stated that they don't have a problem passing it this evening and it is necessary stuff. Councilwoman Mizesak stated that if it is under \$25,000.00 it didn't have to come to Council and Mr. Gambosi stated that anything over \$10,000.00. Mayor Koci stated that we will pass it tonight so that we can get the stuff.

Mr. Gambosi stated that in two weeks we will present the Tax Budget and we will have the Public Hearing then and present the budget and we will pass it hopefully at the June Council Meeting. He stated that hopefully we will have two readings on it before we pass it and these are part of building up to the Tax Budget.

Discussion of the Regular Meeting agenda was concluded.

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

Adjourned into Executive Session at 6:42 p.m.

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

Adjourned out of Executive Session at 7:38 p.m.

Work Session adjourned at 7:38 p.m.


Clerk of Council


Mayor - President of Council

Date: May 17, 2021

Bedford City Council met virtually via Zoom for the Regular Session on Monday, May 3, 2021. 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, Mizsak, Asbury and Saunders.

Motion made by Spinks and seconded by Mizsak to approve the minutes of the Work Session Meeting of April 19, 2021. The roll was called. Vote – Yeas: Koci, Spinks, Genutis, Fluharty, Mizsak and Saunders. Nays: None. Abstain: Asbury. Motion carried with Six Yeas and One Abstain.

Motion made by Fluharty and seconded by Asbury to approve the Regular Meeting of April 19, 2021. The roll was called. Vote – Yeas: Koci, Spinks, Genutis, Fluharty, Mizsak, Asbury and Saunders. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Motion carried unanimously.

City Manager Mallis stated that he and the staff participated in a pre-construction meeting with a contractor for Dominion East Ohio, they are looking at another large main gas line replacement project in the area of Woodrow Ave. as well as some of the side streets off of Washington. He also stated that this project will consist of 13,000 ft of pipe and it will not begin until some of the restoration work from the previous projects are completed. He stated that once they begin the project it will take about three or four months. He stated that once they obtain some more details he will inform Council and the public when they are given the notice to proceed.

City Manager Mallis stated that we are working with a lot of our organizations and event coordinator's and look for summer events for later this year. He stated to look for more information in the coming weeks as we continue to navigate a way to start these events back up and do so in a safe manor.

City Manager Mallis stated that there are another round of restaurant revitalization funding and it is posted on the city's website and also on the city's social media page. He stated that the U.S. Small Business Administration will be making funds available to restaurants, bakery's, bars, breweries, food trucks and different types of venues that were impacted by the pandemic. He stated that they will be made available through the American Rescue Plan Act. He continued to stated that if you fall under any of the categories check out our social media page and visit the city's website. He continued to state that if you cannot locate it call us directly and we will help you with that process as well as to try and help you with the application process.

City Manager Mallis stated that Shred Day's will be starting again and the first one will be on June 12th in the City Hall parking lot starting at 9:00 a.m. He stated that the rail road will be closing the crossing near West Grace St. and West Glendale Ave. on May 13th. He stated that the closure will last about three to four days. He continued to stated that they will be meeting internally to discuss the posting of detour routes, as we receive more information or if something were to change we will post it on the city's website and on social media.

That concluded the City Managers report.

Law Director John Montello had no report this evening.

That concluded the Law Director's report.

Finance Director Frank Gambosi stated that the tax deadline is May 17th, please get them in and the state law has penalties thereafter. He also stated that there was a court case hearing on the Ohio Buckeye Institute v. The City of Columbus and the State of Ohio, this was whether or not the case came about where you would be subject to refunds if you worked from home and paid the city of which you worked. He stated that the case was dismissed, therefore the ruling of the previous House Bill 197 Section 29 would prevail and therefore there would not be refunds at this point.

That concluded the Finance Director's report.

Councilman Genutis stated that Spring time in the City of Bedford is so beautiful and he also thanked all of the people who are working hard in cleaning up their yards it looks great and he appreciates it. He also thanked those who go out and pick up trash in the neighborhood.

Councilman Fluharty stated that in his neighborhood over the weekend there was someone trying to break into cars in the middle of the night, so he advised everyone to lock their cars. He wished all the Mother's a Happy Mother's Day.

Councilwoman Mizensak inquired as to who is going to do the First Friday's and City Manager Mallis replied that Bedford Downtown Alliance is still running the First Friday's and that they will be moving forward with the First Friday's Events. City Manager Mallis stated that last they were drive thru events and they will begin this Friday, May 7th.

Councilwoman Mizensak inquired about the Party in the Parks and City Manager Mallis replied that any event or concerts on the square will be ran through the City of Bedford. City Manager Mallis stated that they will have more information on that in the coming weeks and month.

Councilwoman Mizensak inquired about Simmons Grocery Store and City Manager Mallis replied that Mr. Simmons has a pending grant application through the State of Ohio and he is looking to obtain that funding. City Manager Mallis stated that Mr. Simmons is looking to utilize that to finish his project.

Councilwoman Mizensak inquired if the chipper will go around on each street like they did last year and City Manager Mallis replied that we are going to go through the city and he strongly recommend that they call in. City Manager Mallis stated that the chipper is still down and we are renting one right now, so we need to get through as quickly as possible, because it is costing money to rent the machine.

Councilman Asbury stated that the First Friday is this Friday from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. He stated that there is a free raffle, games and a food truck. He also stated that the Bedford Garden Club Annual Plant Sale is online this year from Thursday, May 6th thru Thursday, May 13th and

all information can be found at <http://www.bedfordgardenclub.com>. He stated that the project on Ellenwood Ave. is getting underway, so please try not to park on the street during the day.

Councilman Saunders inquired if the gas company is working on residential streets will we prohibit parking on those streets and City Manager Mallis replied that they haven't made the determination yet as far as no parking on Washington St. City Manager Mallis stated that as we get closer to that project and see their specific plan of action then we will be working with the Police Department to determine if that is necessary. Councilman Saunders stated to video tape the side streets that they will be working on, so we don't end up with a situation like he had on the hill at Ennis St. He continued to state that the gas company beat it up with having so much heavy equipment on it that the hill couldn't take it. City Manager Mallis stated that it is a requirement for them to video tape and they were out all last week.

Councilman Saunders inquired that if we are approving the road program coming up are we going to make those streets public and City Manager Mallis replied that he indicated what they went out to bid and that they are advertising right now. City Manager Mallis stated that our bid opening is next week. He continued to state that they did do one alternate street as mention, but those streets are: Belle Ave., Deborah Ln., and the other half of Ellenwood Ave., we are getting reimbursed for repairs to Egbert Rd. bridge, the top portion of Union St. and the alternate road is Nordham Dr., depending on what the costs are.

Councilman Saunders stated that the underside of the Northfield Rd. bridge is falling off the bridge down below. He stated that not only is it falling down below but it is also blocking sections of the sidewalk and that we should look at closing the sidewalk area on the south side of the bridge is getting really bad and hopefully we can get ODOT to take a look at it again. City Manager Mallis stated that we took over 150 photos of what we thought were concerns over four years ago and submitted them to ODOT. He continued to state that he and the Mayor had a good conversation with them as far as getting it on the schedule to get repaired. He continued to state that the project is schedule for some time next year. He stated that ODOT is scheduling staff to go out there and inspect all of it with additional photos and videos, so that they can identify the scope of the work that will be included in this project.

Councilwoman Spinks inquired if there was any luck with posting the signs on both Broadway Ave. and Center Rd. and City Manager Mallis replied that they sent someone down to the one company that they had talked about and they are looking into the signs. City Manager Mallis stated that nothing is official as of right now if we are going to be installing all new signs, but we are looking at that. Councilwoman Spinks stated that it isn't just the car dealers trucks its other trucks as well and if we could get those signs up it would be great. She stated that they are also coming down Willard Ave. as well.

Councilwoman Spinks stated that people are still using Greencroft Ave. as a second driveway and she has received more complaints about the parking on Greencroft Ave. today. She stated that the people hate to call the police for things like this because the police have so much to do right now.

Councilwoman Spinks stated that this past Friday there was a high-speed chase and they must have been going 80 mph, it is getting crazy everywhere. She stated that she is constantly getting complaints, she is so scared about the seniors and the kids that walk down the street. She continued to state that the guys are out there writing tickets and stuff.

Councilwoman Spinks stated that she is so proud of her six-and-a-half-year-old grandson for receiving an award for running a one-mile endurance race. She also congratulated all of the high school seniors on their graduation this year. She wished all the Mother's a Happy Mother's Day.

Mayor Koci wished all of the Mother's a Happy Mother's Day.

RESOLUTION NO. 2563-21: BEING A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE COUNTY FISCAL OFFICER TO ADVANCE TAXES FROM THE PROCEEDS OF TAX LEVIES FOR THE YEAR 2021 COLLECTED IN 2022 PURSUANT TO SECTION 321.34 OF THE REVISED CODE OF THE STATE OF OHIO, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY was read by title only. Motion made by Spinks and seconded by Asbury to suspend the rule requiring the reading of said ordinance on three different days. The roll was called. Vote – Yeas: Koci, Spinks, Genutis, Fluharty, Mizsak, Asbury and Saunders. Nays: None. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Gambosi stated that these are issues that we do once a year in regards to our tax budget. He continued to state that the first resolution is an advance that if any taxes are collected in the months prior to the settlements in 2022, we would be able to take advantage of advances on those taxes as they are collected through the county verses waiting for the final settlement. He stated that the resolution and the two ordinances regarding the street lighting assessment, that the street lighting assessment pays for the lighting of the city just like the electric bills. He continued to state that they will be issuing the same real estate millage again collected for the year 2022. He stated that the Refuse Fee will remain the same again and it will not go up in 2022.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 2564-21: A RESOLUTION DECLARING THE NECESSITY TO IMPROVE CERTAIN STREETS IN THE CITY OF BEDFORD, OHIO BY LIGHTING THE SAME AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY was read by title only. Motion made by Mizsak 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, Mizsak, Asbury and Saunders. Nays: None. Motion carried unanimously.

ORDINANCE NO. 9869-21: AN ORDINANCE DETERMINED TO PROCEED WITH THE IMPROVEMENT OF CERTAIN STREETS IN THE CITY OF BEDFORD, OHIO BY LIGHTING THE SAME AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY was read by title only. Motion made by Fluharty 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, Mizsak, Asbury and Saunders. Nays: None. Motion carried unanimously.

ORDINANCE NO. 9870-21: BEING AN ORDINANCE LEVYING SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE STREET AND PUBLIC PLACES OF THE CITY OF BEDFORD, OHIO BY LIGHTING OF THE SAME IN ACCORDANCE WITH RESOLUTION NO. 2564-21 AND ORDINANCE NO. 9869-21 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY was read by title only. Motion made by Mizsak and seconded by Asbury to suspend the rule requiring the reading of said ordinance on three different days. The roll was called. Vote – Yeas: Koci, Spinks, Genutis, Fluharty, Mizsak, Asbury and Saunders. Nays: None. Motion carried unanimously.

ORDINANCE NO. 9871-21: AN ORDINANCE TO LEVY ASSESSMENTS FOR THE EXPENSE OF GARBAGE/REFUSE COLLECTION, RECYCLING AND DISPOSAL WITHIN THE CITY OF BEDFORD, OHIO DURING THE TAX YEAR 2021 AND COLLECTD IN 2022 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY was read by title only. Motion made by Mizsak 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, Mizsak, and Asbury. Nays: Saunders. Motion carried with Six Yeas and One Nay.

ORDINANCE NO. 9872-21: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 9827-20 MAKING ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT EXPENDITURES OF THE CITY OF BEDFORD, OHIO DURING THE YEAR 2021 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, Mizsak, Asbury and Saunders. Nays: None. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion made by Saunders and seconded by Asbury to place Ordinance No. 9872-21 on third and final reading and passed.

Mr. Gambosi stated that we are dealing with 2021 and we were hit with some of the larger amounts. He stated that we had a couple items for the Police and Fire Departments for Bureau of Workers Compensation Claims that we were hit with some fees for injuries. He stated that we also have street improvements and out of the 403 Fund we are going to move the Union St. Improvements and pay them out of the Gasoline Tax Funds, which is the 209 Fund. He continued to state that there were some grants this year that we are going to be appropriating to spend the funds, as well as fixing up the City Hall doors with this as well. He also stated that we had some extra increases in our Street Improvements with Ellenwood Ave. for the covering of the whole street. He stated that we did our plumbing updates and the Ellenwood Waterline is on this Ordinance for \$376,000.00. He stated that we are starting the Water Main Study on Broadway Ave. and the NFA Study for \$198,990.00. He stated that a lot of these are things that we approved for the projects and we want to get going to budgeting that and paying accordingly.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 9873-21: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH **PELTON ENVIRONMENTAL PRODUCTS** FOR MAINTENANCE AND INVENTORY TO THE ULTRA-VIOLET DISINFECTION SYSTEM AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY was read by title only.

Motion made by Mizesak 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, Asbury and Saunders. Nays: None. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion made by Saunders and seconded by Genutis to place Ordinance No. 9873-21 on third and final reading and passed.

City Manager Mallis stated that we commissioned our ultra-violet disinfection system back in May of 2012 and we have a lot of the replacement parts on hand. He also stated that our staff does a lot of the replacing as needed. He stated that one of the things that needs changing are the bulbs for our second bank. He stated that Pelton Environmental is the sole source distributor for the replacement parts that we need for this piece of equipment. He stated that he recommends moving forward with this tonight in purchasing these replacement bulbs and other pieces of equipment for that unit.

The roll was called. Vote – Yeas: Koci, Spinks, Genutis, Fluharty, Mizesak, Asbury and 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.

Kaleigh Savnik, Bedford Downtown Alliance Communications Coordinator, stated that the Bedford Downtown Alliance is a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting and improving downtowns business vitality announces the launch of their Annual First Friday Event. She stated that it starts this Friday, May 7, 2021. She stated that the First Friday's provide extended shopping hours, food, music, games, raffles and give a way's for attendees. She stated that the events take place on the First Friday of the month from May thru October from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in Bedford's Historic Downtown District, between Columbus Rd. and Bedford Commons. She also stated to visit <http://www.bedforddowntown.org> for more information.

Harry Carter, 169 Raynor Dr., Bedford, OH states that he walked with his family up to the Talbot Tot Lots weeks ago and it looks great and thanked the Service Department for their work. He also stated that he had a couple of safety concerns [*photos included in email*] about a slide that needs to be addressed right away. He stated that he is bringing it up at a Council Meeting so that maybe we can get all of the other playgrounds and lots in the city looked at as well. He stated that this is just the start of the season and it gets used a lot. City Manager Mallis thanked Mr. Carter for passing along the photos and he will share them with the Parks and Recreation Department. He stated that they are the ones who go around and maintain the parks. He also stated that and agreed that the city has never had a long-term plan to address the tot lots and that we are already working to change it. He stated that the leadership down at the Parks and Recreation Department started in the early part of last year is going around and assessing each of the parks needs and looking at ways that we can improve it. He continued to state that one of the

things that they would like to do is figure out a way to incorporate a line item in our budget annual and create a long-term plan to make substantial improvements to each park every single year.

Mr. Carter stated that Councilman Saunders has talked about that Nordham Dr. is in really bad shape and it is patched yearly and seems to get worse each year. He stated that this street is long overdue for tender loving care. City Manager Mallis stated that he agreed and it is one of the items that when we started the Road Program back up in 2017, one of the challenges was playing catch up and it is very difficult. He stated that we do a road assessment every fall and we also do another road assessment in the spring as well, then we look at the last time that road was replaced and the condition of the road. He continued to state that we then look at the what funds we have to work with, once we identify the streets then we can go out for bid. Councilman Saunders stated that Nordham Dr. hasn't been worked in over the last twenty years, except for a few joint repairs, and now the joint repairs a blowing out as well. He also stated that the Talbot Tot Lot does need work and it is also twenty years old as well. He stated that if we don't do constant maintenance we will end up with areas where some sections start falling apart greatly. City Manager Mallis stated that the repairs made to Nordham Dr. were done in 2013 and that some of the other streets that were included in the bid were last addressed in 1994 and 1998.

Mr. Carter stated that the sidewalks are getting worse each year. He stated that they are rising because of the trees on the tree lawn. He stated that he emailed and called several times in the summer of 2015 and didn't hear back. He also stated that the sidewalk program was a hot topic in 2018-2019 and last year we did not hear anything about it, and wanted to know if there was a program in the works for 2021. City Manager Mallis stated that there is and that we looked into doing last year as well, toward the end of the season we wanted to see what we can spend on capital on our Sidewalk Program. He continued to state that being that it was near the end of the season we rolled those funds over, which will be incorporated into this years Sidewalk Program. He stated that we are looking to do the Sidewalk Program again this year and we will have a little extra funds that was rolled over from last year into this year. He also stated that the streets that where we will address the Sidewalk Program, we will send notices out to the residents informing them.

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: Koci, Spinks, Genutis, Fluharty, Mizensak, Asbury and Saunders. Nays: None. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:54 P.M.


Clerk of Council


Mayor – President of Council

Date: May 17, 2021