

Bedford City Council met in a Work Session at Bedford City Hall on Tuesday, February 22, 2022, at 6:00 p.m.

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

Mayor Koci began the discussion of the Regular Council Meeting agenda. He also stated that everything on the agenda this evening will be placed on First Reading. He also stated that if something needs to be passed in an urgent matter they can do Three Separate Meetings.

Council had no changes to the minutes of the Work Session of February 7, 2022, Regular Meeting of February 7, 2022, on First Reading till the next Council Meeting.

Council had no changes to the minutes of the Work Session of February 22, 2022, Regular Meeting of February 22, 2022.

Ordinance No. 9936-22: declare 312 Marion Dr. a nuisance and therefore condemning, City Manager Mallis recommended to defeat it and Mayor Koci stated that Council has to vote to remove it from the Table and then vote to defeat it.

Ordinance No. 9951-22: to allow Virtual Meetings, Mayor Koci stated to vote it down on Third Reading.

Resolution No. 2577-22: apply for 2022 Replanting Program, Mayor Koci stated that this will be on Second Reading.

Ordinance No. 9953-22: contract with Hach for Overflow Monitoring Equipment, City Manager Mallis recommended to put in on Second Reading and to amend it on the Third Reading.

Ordinance No. 9954-22: contract with Aecom for services to Overflow Monitoring Equip., Mayor Koci stated that this will be on Second Reading.

Ordinance No. 9955-22: levy assessments for delinquent water bills, Mayor Koci stated that this will be on First Reading.

Ordinance No. 9956-22: contract with Axon Enterprise for the purchase of Tasers for the Police Department, City Manager Mallis stated that this is the price out the door and that any new equipment that the Police Department needs the company will provide. He also stated that they are a sole source provider.

Discussion of the Regular Meeting agenda was concluded.

Mayor Koci began the discussion of the Redistricting of Ward Maps, Councilman Asbury stated that in the draft the numbers are by population, which they went by the data from the census, and

according to the City's Charter it is by voter strength. He continued to state that they took the wrong information. Mr. Montello then started to read Subsection 731.06 (E) of the Ohio Revised Code which states:

(E) The legislative authority may authorize and provide for conducting a census of the population of the city at any time in order to carry out the powers granted by this section.

Mayor Koci stated who takes presidency the City or the State. Councilman Saunders stated that Ward 6 is down in voters and in population. Councilman Genutis stated that going by electoral strength is not right, that population strength is better.

Discussion of the Redistricting of Ward Maps was concluded.

Mayor Koci began the discussion of the Summer Schedule, Mayor Koci stated that the Summer Schedule is usually the First Regular Meeting for the months of June, July, and August, then back to the regular schedule of meeting in September. The dates for the Summer Schedule are Monday, June 6, 2022, Tuesday, July 5, 2022, and Monday, August 1, 2022.

Discussion of the Summer Schedule was concluded.

Mayor Koci began the Discussion of the Ward 4 Vacancy, Mayor Koci stated that letters will go out to all the residents in Ward 4. He also stated that they must be a registered voter, be a resident of the City for at least six months and that a background check will be done. City Manager Mallis stated that when the individual sends in their resume or when they drop it off to have them sign a waiver for the background check. He also suggested posting it on the City's website. Mayor Koci stated that the deadline should either be four weeks or thirty days and then after the deadline Council will then schedule interviews.

Motion made by Spinks and seconded by Genutis to go into an Executive Session to discuss Economic Development: Historic District and Personnel: Employee Policy/Handbook and Charter Review Appointments. The roll was called. Vote – Yeas: Koci, Spinks, Fluharty, and Asbury. Nays: None. Motion carried unanimously.

Adjourned into Executive Session at 7:05 p.m.

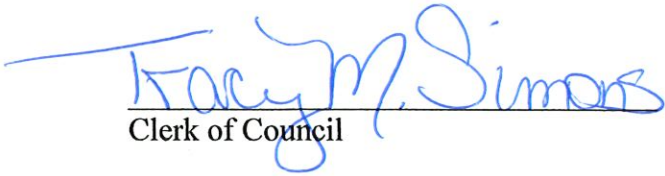
Motion made by Asbury and seconded by Genutis to adjourn out of Executive Session. The roll was called. Vote – Yeas: Koci, Spinks, Fluharty, and Asbury. Nays: None. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Work Session adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Bedford, Ohio

March 7, 2022


Clerk of Council


Mayor-President of Council

Date: March 22, 2022

Bedford City Council met in Regular Session at Bedford City Hall on Monday, March 7, 2022. 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: Koci, Spinks, Genutis, Fluharty, and Asbury. Absent: Saunders.

Motion made by Spinks and seconded by Genutis to place the minutes of the Work Session Meeting of February 7, 2022. The roll was called. Vote – Yeas: Koci, Spinks, Genutis, Fluharty, and Asbury. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion made by Asbury and seconded by Genutis to place the minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 7, 2022. The roll was called. Vote – Yeas: Koci, Spinks, Genutis, Fluharty, and Asbury. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion made by Spinks and seconded by Fluharty to place the minutes of the Work Session Meeting of February 22, 2022. The roll was called. Vote – Yeas: Koci, Spinks, Fluharty, and Asbury. Nays: None. Abstain: Genutis. Motion carried with Four Yeas and One Abstain.

Motion made by Asbury and seconded by Spinks to place the minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 22, 2022. The roll was called. Vote – Yeas: Koci, Spinks, Fluharty, and Asbury. Nays: None. Abstain: Genutis. Motion carried with Four Yeas and One Abstain.

Mayor Koci stated that since there isn't a quorum to suspend the rules for Three Readings everything will be on First or Second Reading this evening.

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

Motion made by Asbury and seconded by Spinks to remove from the Table Ordinance No. 9936-22. The roll was called. Vote – Yeas: Koci, Spinks, Genutis, Fluharty, and Asbury. Nays: None. Motion carried unanimously.

ORDINANCE NO 9936-22: AN ORDINANCE DECLARING THE PROPERTY AND STRUCTURE LOCATED AT 312 MARION DR. (P.P.N. 811-38-023) A NUISANCE AND THEREFORE CONDEMNING THE PROPERTY ORDERING ACTION AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY was read by title only. Motion made by Asbury and seconded by Spinks to place Ordinance No. 9936-22 on Second Reading. The roll was called. Vote – Yeas: Koci, Spinks, Genutis, Fluharty, and Asbury. Nays: None. Motion carried unanimously.

ORDINANCE NO 9951-22: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 107.01 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF BEDFORD RELATING TO LOCATION AND ATTENDANCE OF MEETINGS was read by title only. Motion made by Asbury and seconded by Fluharty to place Ordinance No 9951-22 on third and final reading and passed. The roll was called. Vote – Yeas: None. Nays: Koci, Spinks, Genutis, Fluharty, and Asbury. Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 2577-22: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO APPLY AND ACCEPT A GRANT THROUGH CUYAHOGA COUNTY PURSUANT TO ITS HEALTHY URBAN TREE CANOPY GRANT PROGRAM AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY was read by title only. Motion made by Spinks and seconded by Fluharty to place Resolution No. 2577-22 on Second Reading. The roll was called. Vote – Yeas: Koci, Spinks, Genutis, Fluharty, and Asbury. Nays: None. Motion carried unanimously.

ORDINANCE NO. 9953-22: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH HACH FOR THE PURCHASE OF OVERFLOW MONITORING EQUIPMENT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY was read by title only. Motion made by Asbury and seconded by Spinks to place Ordinance No. 9953-22 on Second Reading. The roll was called. Vote – Yeas: Koci, Spinks, Genutis, Fluharty, and Asbury. Nays: None. Motion carried unanimously.

ORDINANCE NO. 9954-22: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH AECOM FOR SERVICES RELATING TO THE PURCHASE OF THE OVERFLOW MONITORING EQUIPMENT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY was read by title only. Motion made by Spinks and seconded by Fluharty to place Ordinance No. 9954-22 on Second Reading. The roll was called. Vote – Yeas: Koci, Spinks, Genutis, Fluharty, and Asbury. Nays: None. Motion carried unanimously.

City Manager Michael Mallis stated that the City is advertising for the Broadway Improvements, specifically throughout the Historic District. He said that there will be substantial repairs to the waterline, numerous sewer repairs, electrical upgrades, and curb replacements. He stated that the bid opening is scheduled for March 25th, and there is a plan to have a public meeting to talk more about the project when the time comes. He stated that the project must be done this year; ODOT will be resurfacing all of Broadway Ave. next spring. He also said that ODOT has sent over some initial plans for the Northfield Rd. bridge, and there will be some substantial improvements there. He stated that there is a long list of items that the City is currently reviewing, and they have sent comments back to ODOT. He noted that the project would start next spring. He stated that Dominion East Ohio would be some improvements, and in the next month and a half, they will start the main gas line replacement project in the Archer Rd. area, as the City gets more information on its locations, it will be shared. He stated that there would be some emergency line repairs taking place in the area of Paul St. and Charles St. that will be taking place in the next couple of weeks. He stated that any restoration work will occur when the weather is nice out and not now. He also said that Dominion would be out in the Washington St. area for restoration work when the weather breaks. He stated that the Illuminating Company would be doing inspections of all their transmission lines, and it will take place over the next month. He also noted that the Illuminating Company put out a press release about their Financial Hardship Assistance Program, and the City posted it online; if anyone is experiencing any challenges with their bills, take a look at it. He stated that the information is online and if they can't find it visit the City's social media platforms or contact the City. He noted that the disconnection moratorium is lifted, and the Illuminating Company will resume shutoffs come April 15th. He stated that the City was awarded a small recycling grant, and it will allow us to have multiple shred days.

That concluded the City Manager's report.

Law Director John Montello had no report this evening.

That concluded the Law Director's report.

Finance Director Frank Gambosi wished Councilman Saunders a speedy recovery. He reminded everyone that it is tax season and if they want the City to prepare the returns and give them a bill to have it turned in by early March so that payments can be made by the deadline of April 15th.

That concluded the Finance Director's report.

Mayor Koci stated that they are working on the Ward 4 replacement, and letters will be sent out to everyone in Ward 4; if you are interested, send in a letter and resume. He stated that it would be posted online. He said that thirty days is the deadline for responses and that there will be some background checks done for those who are interested. He stated that a waiver would need to be signed to do a background check. He said it would be a minor background check because it is an appointment. He stated that the appointment only runs until November; our Charter states that if they want to continue as the Council Member, they would have to run in the next General Election. He said it would only be for one year to fill out Councilwoman Mizzak's term, which is up the following November. He stated that if they choose, they can run again in November 2023. He said that during COVID, the State suspended getting your license and tags for that year; that extension expired a year ago. He reminded everyone to renew their licenses and registration.

Councilman Asbury wished his wife and oldest son a Happy Birthday. He inquired about the community garage sale, and City Manager Mallis replied that it is one of the events they are talking about while working through the calendar. City Manager Mallis stated that as they get details on how it will work out, they will share it. Councilman Asbury noted a sign posted about Hudson Wines opening up downtown. He stated that the Bedford Downtown Alliance Chocolate Walk would be on Saturday, May 14th. He said that tickets would go on sale around April 1st. He noted that the Historical Society would have their Reverse Raffle and Silent Auction on Saturday, April 9th, from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at La Casa Bella in Oakwood. He stated that reservations are due by March 31st. He noted that the Service Department would have the computer and hazardous waste roundup starting April 18th, and more details will be available as the event approaches.

Councilwoman Spinks stated that the Bedford Historical Society's Reverse Raffle tickets are on sale now, and the deadline is March 31st. She noted that this year's theme is "Through the Looking Glass," and it is one of their big fundraisers. She stated that this Friday, March 11th, from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., is the Bedford Historical Society Speaker Series Celtic Rush. She said that it would be held in the Community Hall, and there is a \$5.00 cover charge; the band does require that everyone wear a mask due to it being a small area. She stated that the dates for the Strawberry Festival had been set for the second weekend in June as well as the Art and Artisan dates have been selected for the second weekend in September. She stated that Meals-

On-Wheels needs volunteers. She said that Dominion just finished a big job on Westview Rd. up to Meadowgate. She stated that there was a water main break on the side of the road last week on Thames Ave. The Water Department jumped on it right away and repaired it. She stated that there was a lot of speeding and that cars were passing the bus on Willard Ave. in the morning and noticed the police there. She wished everyone a Happy Saint Patrick's Day.

Councilman Genutis stated that what impressed him about Councilwoman Mizesak was that she had a good sense of humor. He noted that the past couple of days have been like spring, and hopefully, everyone got out and got some vitamin D. He stated that when the snow melts, the City looks ugly with all the trash and that he is going to join Councilwoman Spinks in picking up the trash. He also stated that if the City could pick up the garbage along Solon Rd. from Archer Rd. to Wellmon St. He said that Earth Day is in April and to pick up a little trash then.

Councilman Fluharty inquired if the chipper service would start in April, and City Manager Mallis replied that it is the first whole week in April. Councilman Fluharty stated that the light at Justin St. and Paul St. is out again, and a few other lights are out around the neighborhood. He inquired if the Police Department had marked any of them down, and City Manager Mallis replied that they were marked and turned in. City Manager Mallis stated that it is done every spring and fall, and they are turned into the Illuminating Company. He noted the caution tape is to help identify the lights that are out to the Illuminating Company, and it is to be removed when finished.

That concluded Council's report.

ORDINANCE NO. 9955-22: 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 made by Asbury and seconded by Spinks to place Ordinance No. 9955-22 on First Reading. The roll was called. Vote – Yeas: Koci, Spinks, Genutis, Fluharty, and Asbury. Nays: None. Motion carried unanimously.

ORDINANCE NO. 9956-22: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH AXON ENTERPRISE, INC. FOR THE PURCHASE OF TASERS FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY was read by title only. Motion made by Genutis and seconded by Spinks to place Ordinance No. 9956-22 on First Reading. The roll was called. Vote – Yeas: Koci, Spinks, Genutis, Fluharty, and Asbury. Nays: None. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Jeff Duber, 134 Harriman St., Bedford, OH, inquired if there has been any action on the fireworks situation, and Mayor Koci replied that it is on for discussion in the next meeting. Mr. Duber asked if it is the proposal that they will be working on Broadway Ave. and Northfield Rd. simultaneously; City Manager Mallis replied that it is unnecessary and that it is too far out, most likely the Northfield Rd. bridge will be after Broadway Ave. City Manager Mallis stated that he

doesn't have an exact timeline yet, but the sale of the job will be around the same time, and it is something that they will bring into question.

Diane Astalos, 685 Archer Rd., Bedford, OH, thanked Councilwoman Spinks and that Meals-On-Wheels is a program in Bedford, and you wouldn't believe the people who don't have food. She stated that they are getting one meal a day from Meals-On-Wheels, and many of them have no food in their refrigerator other than one meal. She said that they needed help desperately. She stated that if you want to volunteer, call (440)439-0302. She stated that it's for one day a week for an hour and a half a day. She said that it is something that we need to concentrate on in the City. Mayor Koci stated that it is gratifying and it is not a job.

Scott Martin, 635 West Glendale Ave. stated that at the corner of Edgewood Ave. and Grace St. is a home with shrubbery that is about six and a half feet tall, it's impeding the vision on Broadway Ave. coming down across the railroad tracks. He stated to see if maybe the City could ask the resident to open up the line of sight.

Penny Wood, 395 Columbus St., Bedford, OH, inquired when the Charter Review Commission will be put together, and Mayor Koci replied that it would be done this week. Mayor Koci also stated that Council has made their final decisions this evening and that he will get with the Clerk of Council tomorrow morning to get notifications out to those who have been selected.

Mr. Gambosi stated that the Rotary's Rib Burn Off is on July 22nd, 23rd, and 24th.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:39 P.M.


Clerk of Council


Mayor-President of Council

Date: March 7, 2022