

WORK SESSION MEETING BEDFORD CITY COUNCIL
STATE OF OHIO
MINUTES COUNTY OF CUYAHOGA
165 CENTER ROAD BEDFORD, OH 44146

DATE: MARCH 6, 2023

TIME: 6:00 PM

Bedford City Council met in a Work Session at Bedford City Hall on Monday, March 6, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.

Present: Council Members: Sandy Spinks, Walter Genutis, Victor Fluharty, Frank Smith, 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 Jennifer Howland.

• **DISCUSSION OF AGENDA**

Council had no corrections to the Work Session Minutes of February 21, 2023, or the Regular Minutes of February 21, 2023.

RESOLUTION NO. 2598-23: for a purchase agreement with 890 Broadway, LLC
City Manager Mallis: This is regarding the property that we talked about a couple of weeks ago. The owner said that they have no use for what is and that there are leaks in the roof. This could be used as a Community Building. The purchase price was \$90,000.00

Councilman Genutis: It was a wise move to purchase the property.

ORDINANCE NO. 018-23: Contract with National Pump & Process for repairs at WWTP
City Manager Mallis: We did repairs to the towers, and this is the bill for it.

ORDINANCE NO. 019-23: Contract with Best Equipment Company Inc.
City Manager Mallis: This is for the main line equipment, and we have always had a contractor come, and now we want to get our own. We will not have to rely on the County to come out and do it. We did budget for this and can put it on First Reading this evening to find out the life time of it.

ORDINANCE NO. 020-23: CRA Agreement between the City and Cleveland Tank & Supply and **ORDINANCE NO. 021-23:** CRA Agreement between the City and Lake Shore Electric
City Manager Mallis: I would like this to be put on First Reading, and we have always negotiated it with the School Board.

ORDINANCE NO. 022-23: Ordinance to levy delinquent Water Bills
Mrs. Howland: We do this every six months.

• **DISCUSSION OF COUNCIL RULES**

Section 123.01 Order Of Business

Mayor Koci: Regarding Hearing of Citizens to allow people to speak ahead of voting on legislation and to get rid of Standing or Special Committees. Leave it the way that it is. To put Council Reports under Report and maybe put Reports of any committees there as well

Section 123.02 Quorum

Mayor Koci: If a Council Member is going to be absent, that to may put in by text message, telephone, and email.

Section 123.08 Meeting Time

Mayor Koci: To change the Regular Meeting to 7:00 p.m. and start the Work Session at 5:30 p.m.

City Manager Mallis: To announce the change in the meeting's start time at the Ward Meetings and to maybe make the change after the Ward Meetings

Section 123.09 Special Meetings

Mayor Koci: Electronic notification can come in.

Section 123.10 Legislation

Mayor Koci: Have to have four members for a majority.

Section 123.11 Appeals

Mr. Montello: The law is what it is at the time.

Section 123.12 Revivor

Mayor Koci: If one is bad, then we can't change the whole thing.

Section 123.16 Committees

Mayor Koci: Wondered if we really need this section

Section 123.18 Roberts Rules

Mayor Koci: Change it to the current edition.

Section 123.19 Amendment to Rules

Mayor Koci: Keep it a 5 Council Member to pass.

• **DISCUSSION OF BUILDING DEPARTMENT FEE SCHEDULE**

City Manager Mallis: (Present Council with a list of communities that have changed their Building Department Fees) I will send Council what our recommendations are for Building Department Fees.

• **DISCUSSION OF BACKYARD CHICKENS**

Councilman Asbury: I looked up on Google what communities allow and what communities don't allow chickens.

Councilwoman Spinks: There is a gentleman in Oakwood who is in court right now about his chickens. I spoke with the Mayor of Garfield Heights about backyard chickens. And right now, with one building inspector, and soon we will have a Building Commissioner that we will be sharing with the City of Brooklyn; who is going to enforce it?

Councilman Smith: I spoke with the residents in my ward, and most of them do not want chickens.

• **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

VIADUCT PARK/VACANT LAND

LITIGATION:

17500 ROCKSIDE ROAD

MOTION:	Motion made by Fluharty and seconded by Sandy Spinks to adjourn into Executive Session to discuss Economic Development: Viaduct Park/Vacant Land and Litigation: 17500 Rockside Road.
MOVER:	Victor Fluharty
SECONDER:	Sandy Spinks
RESULT:	Pass [7 TO 0]
YEAS:	Koci, Spinks, Genutis, Fluharty, Smith, Asbury, Saunders
NAYS:	
ABSTAIN:	

Adjourned into Executive Session at 7:45 P.M.

MOTION:	Motion made by Smith and seconded by Walter Genutis to adjourn out of Executive Session.
MOVER:	Frank Smith
SECONDER:	Walter Genutis
RESULT:	Pass [7 TO 0]
YEAS:	Koci, Spinks, Genutis, Fluharty, Smith, Asbury, Saunders
NAYS:	
ABSTAIN:	

Adjourned out of Executive Session at 7:59 P.M.

Work Session adjourned at 8:00 P.M.

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165 CENTER ROAD BEDFORD, OH 44146

DATE: MARCH 6, 2023

TIME: 6:00 PM


Clerk of Council


Mayor-President of Council

Date: March 20, 2023



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STATE OF OHIO
AGENDA MINUTES COUNTY OF CUYAHOGA TIME: 8:00 PM
165 CENTER ROAD BEDFORD, OH 44146

1. CALL TO ORDER

Bedford City Council met in a Regular Session at Bedford City Hall on Monday, March 6, 2023. Mayor Koci called the meeting to order at 8:00 P.M.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ROLL CALL

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. Approval of Minutes of the Work Session of February 21, 2023

MOTION:	Motion made by Genutis and seconded by Sandy Spinks to approve the Minutes of the Work Session Minutes of February 21, 2023.
MOVER:	Walter Genutis
SECONDER:	Sandy Spinks
RESULT:	Pass [6 TO 0]
YEAS:	Koci, Spinks, Genutis, Fluharty, Smith, Saunders
NAYS:	
ABSTAIN:	Asbury

- b. Approval of Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 21, 2023

MOTION:	Motion made by Asbury and seconded by Frank Smith to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 21, 2023.
MOVER:	Jeff Asbury
SECONDER:	Frank Smith
RESULT:	Pass [6 TO 0]
YEAS:	Koci, Spinks, Genutis, Fluharty, Smith, Saunders
NAYS:	
ABSTAIN:	Asbury



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5. PRESENTATION

6. OLD BUSINESS

7. REPORTS

a. City Manager

City Manager: I want to give a shout-out to our Parks and Recreation Department. They were just recently awarded a \$15,000 grant through a division of Cuyahoga County that will go towards additional programming, both sports and other programs, at the Ellenwood facility. So I just wanted to give them credit. They've been doing a great job down there as well. As, you know, a couple of months ago, we sent a mailer out from the Parks and Recreation Department, the booklet for the upcoming programs and classes. We also sent out a Good Neighbor guide, and it's something that we've put together over the years and, you know, frequent questions that come up. Helpful phone numbers. Anyone that does not or did not receive a copy let us know. We have some here. Thanks to the staff that works to put that together. Just a quick update on the Pool House renovation project; we are on pace to have that completed in the middle/end of May prior to the swimming season. So that is going according to schedule. We've also hired a new building commissioner, and that person will be looking to start towards the end of March. It's a position that has been hard to fill all across northeast Ohio due to certifications. The City of Brooklyn was in a similar position as we were, and we put our heads together and found a way to basically consolidate, and hire an individual that is going to assist in those managerial duties for both cities. And one, we got an outstanding candidate, which is he's going to fit in great, and so will be it'll be a cost savings to both the City of Bedford and the City of Brooklyn. So I have to give a quick shout-out to former Mayor Gallagher; we spoke with her and came up with this plan prior to her leaving to go to be a member of our county executive Ronan's cabinet. And then Mayor Van Kirk, who took over for Katie, was on board, led the plan, and we were able to get a great candidate. And lastly, I just want to talk about it, and I know Councilman asked a question. The last meeting in February was about the rails, and safety. Do we have a plan? And yes, we have a plan. And, you know, both our police and fire chiefs, as well as the Office of



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Emergency Management, and how we would respond to that. But what I did want to add since the last meeting with the Northeast Ohio Association of Mayors, and City Managers Association obviously has been talking about this topic. We've actually, as an association, drafted correspondence that went to the Federal Rail Administration, but it was also sent to Senator Brown and Senator Vance. There was a congregation of some mayors that were in D.C. last week. They did provide a copy of that letter to not only the senators, as mentioned, but to others throughout Ohio to talk about, obviously, our concerns, You know, some things that we would like to see. At the very least, we think that communities should be notified. When these rail lines are carrying toxic, toxic materials to our communities. What are those materials? How often are they coming through all of that? I can tell you that on March 1st, they acted very, very quickly. And I have to give credit to Senator J.D. Vance, Senator Sherrod Brown. They did introduce a bipartisan partisan bill, and it would tighten the federal oversight of the rail lines, specifically when it deals with hazardous material shipping. That act that's going to be discussed in Columbus over the next couple of months is the Railway Safety Act of 2023. And as I said, it was co-sponsored by both senators. That bill, there's a lot to it. And I'm not going to touch on every single piece, but it will introduce a number of safety requirements for the trains. There are other requirements that are in there. And the last thing is actually something that I'm very excited to see, but it touches on the requirements of train length, train weight, the route analysis of all of the routes, and speed restrictions. And then the last item that they touched on is eliminating the blocked crossings from train delays and train stoppages. I hope that this gets streamlined and passed. We rely on the Office of Emergency Management and then Mutual Aid as well as our obviously our fire and police. But it is good to see that some of these concerns are getting pushed through this bipartisan bill, and hopefully, it does get passed. One of the benefits of working with the Mayors and Managers Association is that you bounce ideas off of one another. And when there's an issue like this that happens to ensure that we can work together and, you know, just one of us sending correspondence to Columbus for our senators, you want to hope it makes a difference. But when you have all of the mayors and city managers from northeast Ohio sending that correspondence, it carries a lot more weight. Hopefully, things get pushed through pretty quickly.

Mayor Koci: And that can't happen quickly enough because Norfolk Southern had



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another derailment down by Columbus, Springfield. Fortunately, it wasn't as catastrophic as East Palestine. So hopefully get that put together quickly.

- b. Law Director
Mr. Montello had no report this evening.
- c. Finance Director
Mrs. Howland had no report this evening
- d. Council Reports
Councilman Smith had no report this evening.

Councilman Asbury: Congratulations to Officer Kempski on his promotion to Sergeant. And also, congratulations to Joshua Armstrong for making Eagle Scout. A very impressive young man. A couple of words in Bedford Downtown Alliance. We'd like to thank everybody that contributed and made the mitten fence a big success this year. It went up in late November, and we just took it down, I believe, last Thursday. Thank you to everybody that donated, all the people that actually knitted things. It was a big help, and that will be going up again in November this year and save the date. The fifth annual Chocolate Walk will be on Saturday, May 13th. The lanes that are down on Maple Dale are Spectrum's lines I know it looks bad. We've been looking at it for about a month or so now. We have contacted them and trying to get them to clean up this mess. Spectrum, I guess, is the easiest to deal with. But we're going to pursue that and try and get that cleaned up. The Good Neighbor Guide, Mike, if I can get a handful of those for some residents that haven't gotten them.

Councilman Saunders: First, I want to thank Mike for pursuing the railroad fiasco that's been going on in the state here. And actually, it's not just our state; it's others, too. It's good to see that action is starting to be taken. I'm worried that a lot of what the state is proposing in this new bill, which I read a lot of it myself, is going to get trumped by the federal government because, technically, the rails are the responsibility of the federal government. And whether you can regulate them to any



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degree is still questionable. But it's good to see some action because then the railroads know that they're being watched. So I'm glad to hear that they're looking at the actual length of the trains because these trains are getting so long that you can sit at a crossing for 15 minutes because there are around 200 cars on some of these trains. In any case, here recently, there have been a lot more people who have been putting their rubbish out on Friday, at least in my ward, it seems like, especially along Northfield Road. We need to somehow inform these people that you can't put your trash out until the day before a rubbish day. And since rubbish days are either Tuesday or Wednesday, that means Monday or Tuesday, not late Friday or Saturday, because animals get into it and everything else.

Councilwoman Spinks: I've gotten about seven calls this weekend about the speeding on Greencroft. And, of course, what's happened, is that the cars are speeding so fast that they lose control. We've had a couple of residents that had cars go up in their tree lawn or their lawn. And the bad part about that, is then when that happens, and it happens in the middle of the night, you get up, you hear it, and then you get up, you have no license plate. So what are you going to do? Are you going to call the police? Why are you going to call the police? I mean, they're going to see the words, but they're in your yard. But what are they going to do? But what's worse is this little lady that takes such good care of her yard now has these huge ruts, and she's responsible now for fixing that. And it's happening more and more. This morning when I was out doing my routes on my way to go teach in Shaker, I must have picked up three bags of liquor bottles; I'm thinking, okay if they're throwing these out their windows. So what does this mean? They're drinking and driving. Any after you clean all that. Well, I'm. Why I'm there. Here comes that. I'm standing right in front of these big, huge signs, which thank you, Mike, for making sure they're all over the place of no trucks. It's big. You can't miss it. Here comes this big 18-wheeler that went in the Mercedes side lot on Greencroft, which is a dead-end street. And I'm out there pointing to the What are they going to do? Mike, the big trucks again; I took pictures, of the company and stuff I will send them to you. I was not here at the Council Meeting regarding the discussion of backyard chickens, and it was on our work session tonight. First, as a resident, let me say that I'm a farm girl. I'm very proud, loved being raised on a farm, and I have a love for animals. I have a big spot for chickens. I like them. They're farm animals. But now I'm speaking as a Council Member that I have only received two



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emails from people wanting chickens. I have asked several people in my Ward. Most of them were like, no, because we've already had so many problems with the deer. You know, people feed the deer, and we have rules against that. My feeling about it is, they are farm animals. And most of our lots here are small; they're not really big. I'm on several different boards, and I'm a very proud board member of NOCA (Northeast Ohio City Council Association). We have weekly meetings, and I was talking to the Garfield Mayor, and they are having trouble with people getting the permits to have the chickens. They're just getting the chickens, and they're just putting them in their backyard. We are a city of over 13,000, and I believe everybody has the right, whether they want something or not. Everybody has the right to decide. Chickens have personalities, and they know they're not like a dog. They don't bark; they don't bite, but they do like to scratch, they will fight with each other, and they do get stressed out. Chicken poop is good fertilizer, but it's also full of parasites and contamination. There are other creatures that love chicken feed, so there's more that goes into it than just putting a couple of chickens out in the backyard or building a coop. In my opinion, our Building Department is already stressed, and we are getting another building commissioner, but we're going to share him. So who's going to enforce this if we can't keep people from driving drunk and going into someone's lawn, possibly hitting their house, mattresses out that aren't covered, and then they stay out for weeks, our trash cans out for weeks, people parking in their lawn, people not taking care of their house, going to court, and then they're given this and that. And that's another thing. Where's all this going to go? Again, this is just my opinion. As a resident, I think farm animals belong on a farm where they can have plenty of space and be healthy.

Councilman Genutis had no report this evening.

Councilman Fluharty: Mike, is there an update on that signage that's supposed to go up on Union Street?

City Manager Mallis: They installed the first sign The second sign when it was installed, we got to get a pole that is stronger to reinforce it because that solar piece, there's also a battery behind that. So the solar charges, the battery, so it doesn't go out. It was up for about a day. We removed it, and we're waiting on that other pole to



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come in, and we'll have that second one up. But the first one is out.

Councilman Fluharty: Also, regarding the Northfield Road Bridge, do we have a date as to when they are actually going to start on that?

City Manager Mallis: I don't have a start date yet, but as soon as we get that, there's going to be a pre-comp meeting as to when that'll be determined, and then we'll have more specifics as far as traffic control and all of that. And I'll share that information at the meeting so shortly after and also put that information in our council's weekly memo.

8. NEW BUSINESS

- a. **RESOLUTION NO. 2598-23:** A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE A PURCHASE AGREEMENT WITH 890 BROADWAY, LLC, FOR THE PURCHASE OF PERMANENT PARCEL NUMBER ("PPN") 812-15-004 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY
Was read by title only.

MOTION:	Motion made by Saunders and seconded by Jeff Asbury to suspend the rules requiring the reading of said ordinance/resolution on three different days.
MOVER:	Donald Saunders
SECONDER:	Jeff Asbury
RESULT:	Pass [7 TO 0]
YEAS:	Koci, Spinks, Genutis, Fluharty, Smith, Asbury, Saunders
NAYS:	
ABSTAIN:	

City Manager Mallis: This property has been vacant since the practice was sold. This is the former Padala Building at Union and Broadway. We've had conversations with the property owner, who came to an agreeable price of \$90,000. We did go through and inspect the property. We own the majority of the property in the surrounding



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across the street and Broadway and Union, as well as the former Moonglow site. Being able to control this for its future development is, I think, important, especially for the agreed-upon price. Long-term, that may come down, or it may be used in some form of attracting a business. Short term, we would use it for potential meeting space for community groups or potentially a police mini station at that site. We will work to get it cleaned up. Landscape things that have been neglected for some time.

MOTION:	Motion made by Fluharty and seconded by Sandy Spinks to place said ordinance/resolution on third and final reading.
MOVER:	Victor Fluharty
SECONDER:	Sandy Spinks
RESULT:	Pass [7 TO 0]
YEAS:	Koci, Spinks, Genutis, Fluharty, Smith, Asbury, Saunders
NAYS:	
ABSTAIN:	

- b. **ORDINANCE NO. 018-23:** AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND RATIFYING A CONTRACT WITH NATIONAL PUMP AND PROCESS INC. FOR REPAIRS TO THE TOWER INFLUENT PUMP AT THE WASTE WATER TREATMENT PLANT (WWTP) AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY
Was read by title only.

MOTION:	Motion made by Spinks and seconded by Victor Fluharty to suspend the rules requiring the reading of said ordinance/resolution on three different days.
MOVER:	Sandy Spinks
SECONDER:	Victor Fluharty
RESULT:	Pass [7 TO 0]
YEAS:	Koci, Spinks, Genutis, Fluharty, Smith, Asbury, Saunders
NAYS:	
ABSTAIN:	



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City Manager Mallis: In December, we passed legislation to remove the affluent and pumps. As stated in the ordinance, they were failing. So there was one ordinance to cover the cost of all that, and we weren't sure what the ultimate repair costs would be. What we wanted to do was utilize a number of the parts from the existing and see what we can do to rebuild. This is the final bill from that rebuild. When we did receive the initial quotes for the removal, the National Pumping Process was the cheaper, and the final repair will be for \$29,460.

MOTION:	Motion made by Saunders and seconded by Jeff Asbury to place said ordinance/resolution on third and final reading.
MOVER:	Donald Saunders
SECONDER:	Jeff Asbury
RESULT:	Pass [7 TO 0]
YEAS:	Koci, Spinks, Genutis, Fluharty, Smith, Asbury, Saunders
NAYS:	
ABSTAIN:	

- c. **ORDINANCE NO. 019-23: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH BEST EQUIPMENT CO. INC. FOR THE PURCHASE OF A ENVROSIGHT ROVVER X BASIC SYSTEM WITH AN INTEGRATED LIFT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**
Was read by title only.

City Manager Mallis: We do have a smaller camera to allow for some of the smaller residential lines. We do not have the ability to televise and analyze the main sewer lines throughout the community. In the past, we have always contracted with a private contractor to do that, costing the city money to help us identify blockage or, you know, annual maintenance in areas that we need to focus on, or we have relied on Cuyahoga County. Cuyahoga County does provide that service, but they provide it to all communities. So sometimes you're in line, sometimes you're waiting. What we did is we went through. We've discussed this for the last few years of purchasing this. We



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did put it on the budget, though, the wastewater sewer plant. In our wastewater budget last fall, we included it in it is a budgeted item, and we would like to go ahead and make that purchase.

MOTION:	Motion made by Spinks and seconded by Walter Genutis to place Ordinance No. 019-23 on First Reading.
MOVER:	Sandy Spinks
SECONDER:	Walter Genutis
RESULT:	Pass [7 TO 0]
YEAS:	Koci, Spinks, Genutis, Fluharty, Smith, Asbury, Saunders
NAYS:	
ABSTAIN:	

- d. **ORDINANCE NO. 020-23:** AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AREA (CRA) AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF BEDFORD AND 14735 HOLDINGS, LLC D/B/A CLEVELAND TANK AND SUPPLY LOCATED AT 15 HEMISPHERE WAY CONSISTING OF 5.8 ACRES OF PPN 814-07-001 (HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO AS "OWNER") AND AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF THAT AGREEMENT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY
Was read by title only.

City Manager Mallis: We received a tax abatement application from Cleveland Tank and Supply. They are the company that is planning to relocate from Cleveland to Bedford with their employees, ultimately increasing their employees. Over the next few years, over 60, they fabricate tanks for school buses, fire departments, both diesel gasoline tanks as well as hydraulic tanks. There will be constructing a roughly 60,000-square-foot facility in Tinkers Creek Commerce Park, and they applied for a ten-year, 70% tax abatement. This tax abatement will mean that it's a brownfield. They are they do have the ability to apply for state abatement, which it could increase that. But they're sticking to the local tax abatement, which is less which is a 70%. And this



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would have to go in front of the Bedford City School for approval as well.

MOTION:	Motion made by Saunders and seconded by Jeff Asbury to place Ordinance No. 020-23 on First Reading.
MOVER:	Donald Saunders
SECONDER:	Jeff Asbury
RESULT:	Pass [7 TO 0]
YEAS:	Koci, Spinks, Genutis, Fluharty, Smith, Asbury, Saunders
NAYS:	
ABSTAIN:	

- e. **ORDINANCE NO. 021-23:** AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AREA (CRA) AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF BEDFORD AND LAKE SHORE ELECTRIC CORPORATION LOCATED AT 5 HEMISPHERE WAY CONSISTING OF 7.46 ACRES OF PPN 814-07-001 (HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO AS "OWNER") AND AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF THAT AGREEMENT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY
Was read by title only.

City Manager Mallis: We received an application from Lakeshore Electric, which is in Bedford. They're located on Willis right now. They leased that facility. They are planning to expand significantly and construct a building of up to 110,000 square feet. Their employment numbers are in their forties right now. Over the next few years, that number will be close to 100. So they are expanding their employment, and they committed for a ten-year, 70% tax abatement on the construction of that new facility. This will also have to go in front of the Bedford City School district or Bedford City School Board for approval as well.

MOTION:	Motion made by Spinks and seconded by Victor Fluharty to place Ordinance No. 021-23 on First Reading.
MOVER:	Sandy Spinks
SECONDER:	Victor Fluharty



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RESULT:	Pass [7 TO 0]
YEAS:	Koci, Spinks, Genutis, Fluharty, Smith, Asbury, Saunders
NAYS:	
ABSTAIN:	

- f. **ORDINANCE NO. 022-23:** 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:	Motion made by Spinks and seconded by Victor Fluharty to suspend the rules requiring the reading of said ordinance/resolution on three different days.
MOVER:	Sandy Spinks
SECONDER:	Victor Fluharty
RESULT:	Pass [7 TO 0]
YEAS:	Koci, Spinks, Genutis, Fluharty, Smith, Asbury, Saunders
NAYS:	
ABSTAIN:	

Mrs. Howland: This is the ordinance to appropriate assessment to go on tax bills for various properties within the city that have not paid their bills for more than 60 days. A lot of times, this is for repeat offenders. These assessments amount to \$25,846.3. This will get assessed on their tax bills.

MOTION:	Motion made by Smith and seconded by Jeff Asbury to place said ordinance/resolution on third and final reading.
MOVER:	Frank Smith
SECONDER:	Jeff Asbury
RESULT:	Pass [7 TO 0]
YEAS:	Koci, Spinks, Genutis, Fluharty, Smith, Asbury, Saunders



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NAYS:
ABSTAIN:

9. HEARING OF CITIZENS

Dot Schwende, 2513 Lamson Avenue, Bedford, OH: I just wanted to say thank you, Councilman Spinks, for your pros and cons about chickens. You gave every thought an angle that I could possibly think of as well. I believe in supporting local farmers, and I love fresh eggs, but I believe in supporting local farmers, too, so. And Mike, thank you so much for talking about the trains. As you know, I live very close to them, so I was wondering if we could put that as a topic for discussion when we come to our ward meetings. That would be great. But I told my friends that if anything were to happen, I'll be knocking on their door. I also wanted to say I love the recreation department. They are a gem to the city. I love going there. The building is so fresh and clean, and it's really the number of people are increasing, and they're doing a wonderful job. And another gem of our city is the Bedford Garden Club. And I'm the new president this year. I know that might be perfect. So yeah, well, we'll see how many gray hairs back up. Well, so we're having our first meeting on the 16th Thursday of March at 7:00. We'll have our membership registration at 6:30 p.m. And I have some forms here with me if any of you care to become a member. I'm looking this year to push active members. I mean, it's great to have 130 people in our garden club, but you know how it goes. So I'm pushing leadership, developing leadership and becoming more active, and taking ownership of the club. So I want to see us get to 100 years for a very close, very close. And we're having a plant still this year for the 35th Annual Plant Sale that will be in May. And so more information will be coming out. So that's about it. Thank you.

Sarah Piller 96 Tarbell Avenue, Bedford, OH: I came here to play specifically because I want to share an experience of mine with you. When I was growing up in Wisconsin, which is a farming community, generally speaking, my family built their home in a new area because the city was moving toward that area next to a family, a wonderful family who had chickens in their backyard. This was attached to their garage, so they were not free-range like they would have on farms. I also, because we were good neighbors, got to take care of the chickens when they went on vacation, which I didn't enjoy, but it was part of being in the neighborhood. One thing that I want to share with you is if you've never lived near chickens and you have a lot of moisture like a heavy dew, or after rainfall, it stinks. And I live in a relatively small lot. And I don't want my



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neighbors on either side of me, either one of them, to have chickens because after it rains and I want to go out and work in my yard because it's easier to pull the weeds. I mean, I smell those chickens in their pool. The chickens are probably less than the pool. So when you come to make a decision, I agree. I love fresh eggs. I think the animals belong on a farm or an area that can support them. My street, my neighborhood, my lot can't. So please give that some consideration when you do make a decision.

Mary Baldwin, 124 Garden Street, Bedford, OH: Sarah asked me to come tonight to speak about the chicken issue, and I said, But I believe the opposite of what you believe. And she said, Come anyway. So thank you for the flexibility. I've had two homes in Bedford. Both of those have had very deep yards. And in one of those cases, my neighbor had chickens, and I found out about it one day because I walked back there and there were chickens walking around, didn't spell them, didn't hear them, and didn't know otherwise. So I guess I don't really have a problem with it, although I can understand in smaller yards where it would be. I wonder if there is some consideration in terms of looking at distance and, you know, having that play into the decision. And also I would also recommend no roosters. They are noisy. So those are my thoughts.

Betsy Lee, 76 Palmetto, Bedford, OH: I am not sure what ward I'm in right now.

Councilman Asbury: You're in Ward 5 now.

Ms. Lee: Anyway, I also am the director of the Bedford Historical Society. We're having our reverse raffle on March 18th. We have tickets, and he has a flier there. She also has tickets. And we also, on the 11th, we're having a speaker series. Jarrett Caldwell and one of the sisters from the convent are coming to talk about the history of the old convent.

10. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION:	Motion made by Saunders and seconded by Jeff Asbury to adjourn the meeting at 9:46 P.M.
MOVER:	Donald Saunders
SECONDER:	Jeff Asbury



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RESULT:	Pass [7 TO 0]
YEAS:	Koci, Spinks, Genutis, Fluharty, Smith, Asbury, Saunders
NAYS:	
ABSTAIN:	


Clerk of Council


Mayor-President of Council

Date: March 20, 2023