

WORK SESSION MEETING BEDFORD CITY COUNCIL

DATE: APRIL 17, 2023

STATE OF OHIO

MINUTES

COUNTY OF CUYAHOGA

TIME: 6:30 PM

165 CENTER ROAD BEDFORD, OH 44146

Bedford City Council met in a Work Session at Bedford City Hall on Monday, April 17, 2023, at 6:30 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**

There were no corrections to the Work Session or Regular Meeting Minutes of April 3, 2023.

Ordinance No.:020-23: CRA Agreement with Cleveland Tank & Supply Co. & Ordinance No.: 021-23: CRA Agreement with Lake Shore Electric Corporation: City Manager Mallis: this can be removed from the Table and passed this evening.

Ordinance No. 031-23: Amending Chapter 123 Titled "Rules of Council": Mayor Koci: This will be on First Reading this evening, and the only big change is that the Regular Council Meeting will start at 7:00 P.M.

Ordinance No. 032-23: Purchase from Stryker EMS: City Manager Mallis: We would like to purchase this now, but we will not get it until next year.

Ordinance No. 033-23: Demolish the property located at 64 Center Rd. & Ordinance No.: 034-23: Demolish property at 244 W. Glendale Ave.: City Manager Mallis: The property located at 64 Center Rd. is in arrears, and it is getting ready to sit in an estate sale, and nothing has been done on the home. We will be working to do an Administrative Warrant on this home, and then the Landbank will get the property. The property located at 244 W. Glendale Ave. is one of the parcels Creager Properties owns, and the home is getting worse. We need to get these properties worked thru the county.

Ordinance No. 035-23: Amending Ordinance No. 017-23 for an additional \$50,205.50: City Manager Mallis: The Broadway Ave. The project went out to bid, and Shelly Company came in as the lowest bidder. The city has to pay an additional \$50,205.50.

Ordinance No. 036-23: Contract with Industrial Appraisal Services: City Manager Mallis: This is done annually, and the company comes in and does appraisals in the city.

Ordinance No. 037-23: Contract with ODOT for 2023-24 Rock Salt: City Manager Mallis: ODOT annually goes out to bid for the price of rock salt. The city had to give ODOT an estimated amount of tonnage. We are still looking at options for a new dome. We are looking to see if the old one can be torn down and have a bigger one built.

• DISCUSSION OF THE SUMMER SCHEDULE

Mayor Koci: Summer Meeting Schedule is as follows:

Monday, June 5, 2023, at 8:00 P.M.

Monday, June 26, 2023, at 8:00 P.M.

Monday, August 7, 2023, at 8:00 P.M.

There will be no meetings in July, and in September, the Council Meetings will start at the new time of 7:00 P.M.

• EXECUTIVE SESSION

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

LAND ACQUISITION

TAYLOR & WILLIS PROPERTY

NOPEC GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

MOTION:	Motion made by Spinks and seconded by Walter Genutis to adjourn into Executive Session to discuss Economic Development: Land Acquisition, Taylor & Willis Property, and NOPEC Grant Opportunities at 7:29 P.M.
MOVER:	Sandy Spinks
SECONDER:	Walter Genutis
RESULT:	Pass [7 TO 0]
YEAS:	Koci, Spinks, Genutis, Fluharty, Smith, Asbury, Saunders
NAYS:	
ABSTAIN:	
MOTION:	Motion made by Asbury and seconded by Sandy Spinks to adjourn out of Executive Session at 7:56 P.M.
MOVER:	Jeff Asbury
SECONDER:	Sandy Spinks
RESULT:	Pass [7 TO 0]
YEAS:	Koci, Spinks, Genutis, Fluharty, Smith, Asbury, Saunders
NAYS:	
ABSTAIN:	

Work Session Meeting adjourned at 7:57 P.M.


Clerk of Council


Mayor-President of Council

Date: May 1, 2023



REGULAR MEETING

BEDFORD CITY COUNCIL
STATE OF OHIO

DATE: APRIL 17, 2023

AGENDA MINUTES

COUNTY OF CUYAHOGA
165 CENTER ROAD BEDFORD, OH 44146

TIME: 8:00 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER

Bedford City Council met in a Regular Session at Bedford City Hall on Monday, April 17, 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 April 3, 2023

MOTION:	Motion made by Spinks and seconded by Walter Genutis to approve.
MOVER:	Sandy Spinks
SECONDER:	Walter Genutis
RESULT:	Pass [7 TO 0]
YEAS:	Koci, Spinks, Genutis, Fluharty, Smith, Asbury, Saunders
NAYS:	
ABSTAIN:	

b. Approval of Minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 3, 2023

MOTION:	Motion made by Smith and seconded by Jeff Asbury to approve.
MOVER:	Frank Smith
SECONDER:	Jeff Asbury
RESULT:	Pass [7 TO 0]
YEAS:	Koci, Spinks, Genutis, Fluharty, Smith, Asbury, Saunders
NAYS:	
ABSTAIN:	

5. PRESENTATION

6. OLD BUSINESS



REGULAR MEETING

BEDFORD CITY COUNCIL
STATE OF OHIO

DATE: APRIL 17, 2023

AGENDA MINUTES

COUNTY OF CUYAHOGA
165 CENTER ROAD BEDFORD, OH 44146

TIME: 8:00 PM

- a. **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 (1st Rdg.: 3/6/23, 2nd Rdg.: 3/20/23, Tabled: 4/3/23)
Was read by title only.

MOTION:	Motion made by Genutis and seconded by Victor Fluharty to remove Ordinance No. 020-23 from the Table.
MOVER:	Walter Genutis
SECONDER:	Victor Fluharty
RESULT:	Pass [7 TO 0]
YEAS:	Koci, Spinks, Genutis, Fluharty, Smith, Asbury, Saunders
NAYS:	
ABSTAIN:	
MOTION:	Motion made by Asbury and seconded by Donald Saunders to suspend the rules requiring the reading of said ordinance/resolution on three different days.
MOVER:	Jeff Asbury
SECONDER:	Donald Saunders
RESULT:	Pass [7 TO 0]
YEAS:	Koci, Spinks, Genutis, Fluharty, Smith, Asbury, Saunders
NAYS:	
ABSTAIN:	

City Manager Mallis: This CRA Agreement is with Cleveland Tank and Supply. For those of you that are not aware, that is a company that's going to be relocating from Cleveland to Tinkers Creek Commerce Park. They're acquiring 5.8 acres to build their facilities. This is approving a ten-year, 70% tax abatement and they will be relocating, within the first few years. They'll have about 65 employees at the site.



REGULAR MEETING

**BEDFORD CITY COUNCIL
STATE OF OHIO**

DATE: APRIL 17, 2023

AGENDA MINUTES

**COUNTY OF CUYAHOGA
165 CENTER ROAD BEDFORD, OH 44146**

TIME: 8:00 PM

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

- b. **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 (1st Rdg.: 3/6/23, 2nd Rdg.: 3/20/23, Tabled: 4/3/23)**
Was read by title only.

MOTION:	Motion made by Spinks and seconded by Victor Fluharty to remove Ordinance No. 021-23 from the Table.
MOVER:	Sandy Spinks
SECONDER:	Victor Fluharty
RESULT:	Pass [7 TO 0]
YEAS:	Koci, Spinks, Genutis, Fluharty, Smith, Asbury, Saunders
NAYS:	
ABSTAIN:	

City Manager Mallis: This is another CRA Agreement. This one is between the City and Lakeshore Electric, which is currently located on Willis Street. Lakeshore has been in need of expansion. They have no more room at the current facility. They went in front of the planning commission, and they're going to be constructing a facility north of 100,000 square feet and roughly 7.5 acres within, I believe the application stated within the first five years. They are looking to double their employment and



REGULAR MEETING
AGENDA MINUTES

BEDFORD CITY COUNCIL
STATE OF OHIO
COUNTY OF CUYAHOGA
165 CENTER ROAD BEDFORD, OH 44146

DATE: APRIL 17, 2023
TIME: 8:00 PM

will be over 100 employees. And this is also a ten-year, 70% tax abatement for the new facility.

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

7. REPORTS

a. City Manager

City Manager Mallis: City did notify Cuyahoga County that we are in agreement and they will be coming out and doing crack sealing on all of Center Road at 100% of the county's expenses. It won't cost us anything. Union Street does not need crack sealing, but they're going to put down what they call rejuvenate to extend the life of the roadway. They're going to be doing that as well along, not the entire length, but the area that was just resurfaced a couple of years ago and that as well as at 100% of county's expenses. The city does have a couple of large projects coming up. One the waterline project on Harriman, we have a pre-construction meeting scheduled for Wednesday. So by the next council meeting, we will have a notice to proceed date that will be able to share on our website for those projects. And when those get started, the city will also be going out to bid shortly as we're finishing up the construction documents and the plans for the Lincoln Waterline replacement. That is also going to take place this year. But we have not gone to bid for that one yet. And lastly, the large item is Broadway. There's some legislation that we're going to be a council will be voting on shortly regarding the cost of Broadway; it is an ODOT project. They did this project earlier this year; the bids came in, and they were reasonable. Out of the four bids, the lowest bid was from Shelley Company, and they were at \$3,047,272.00. Depending on how the vote goes, that will proceed this year. We have not had a pre-construction meeting for that so look for updates on our



REGULAR MEETING

**BEDFORD CITY COUNCIL
STATE OF OHIO**

DATE: APRIL 17, 2023

AGENDA MINUTES

**COUNTY OF CUYAHOGA
165 CENTER ROAD BEDFORD, OH 44146**

TIME: 8:00 PM

website and social media. They will have to maintain traffic. But I'd be lying if I said it's going to be a challenge right there. They're resurfacing all at Broadway. There are going to be repairs at a number of locations; all of the handicapped ramps on the sidewalks, all of those will be replaced. That portion is 100% on the city. So look for more information to come out in the coming weeks as far as notice to proceed and when that project's going to get underway. As far as a schedule of events, the community organizations that have work to submit applications as well as Community Shred Days and other community events that have been posted, I believe, on the city website.

b. Law Director

Mr. Montello had no report this evening.

c. Finance Director

Mrs. Howland: reminded everyone that their municipal income tax and federal income tax are due tomorrow.

d. Council Reports

Mayor Koci: Dates for the Summer Schedule will be on Monday, June 5th, Monday, June 26th, and on Monday, August 7th.

Councilwoman Spinks: This past Friday, we had an excellent turnout for the Bedford Historical Society Speaker Series; it was Mr. Backo. We have the Speaker series every second Friday, and the next one will be the second Friday in May; it will be on Walker China at 7:00 p.m. at the old church. The Ward Meeting for Wards 1 and 3 will be next Monday at 7:00 so if you live in Ward 1 or Ward 3, please come to it.

Councilman Genutis: I want to thank everyone for doing such a good job, maintaining your yards and whatnot. We have a tendency to focus on the very worst yards and pulling down houses, and that becomes our focal point a lot of times. But I think we too often take for granted all the beautiful, charming yards and properties in our city and all the people who are doing a really good job doing what they can to keep their yards up and whatnot. So I think everyone for that.

Councilman Fluharty: I want to remind everybody to start taking care of your yards.



REGULAR MEETING

**BEDFORD CITY COUNCIL
STATE OF OHIO**

DATE: APRIL 17, 2023

AGENDA MINUTES

**COUNTY OF CUYAHOGA
165 CENTER ROAD BEDFORD, OH 44146**

TIME: 8:00 PM

Councilman Smith: The City of Bedford, Bedford Heights, Oakwood, and Walton Hills will be doing a Juneteenth celebration this year. It's going to be June 19th. It's going to be at Bedford City schools at Bearcat Stadium. It's going to be from 5 p.m. To 7 p.m. There will be food trucks, health and wellness vendors, and voter registration. We will be including the Historical Society since that was one of the stops on the Underground Railroad. More information will be coming out to the citizens. I would like to mention that the Ward Meeting for Wards 2 and 4 will be on May 8th.

Councilman Asbury: Today started the computer and hazardous waste round-up at the service garage located at 100 Solon Rd. This runs Monday through Friday, 8 p.m. to 3 p.m., and the same thing next week, Monday through Friday, 8 p.m. to 3 p.m. Check our website for the items that are available to be dropped off like that. The Bedford Downtown Alliance's, Fifth Annual Chocolate Walk will be on Saturday, May 13th, from noon to five. Tickets are on sale now at bedforddowntown.org. Is the pool house still on schedule to open up on time?

City Manager Mallis: Tentatively the project should be completed by the end of May.

Councilman Asbury: The Chipper Service for May is the week of May 1st through May 5th. Make sure you call the Service Department to get on the list. Hopefully, by the end of the month, we will have a date for the Community Garage Sale.

Councilman Saunders: As everybody has heard Ward 6 is going to get torn up this year because we've got the waterline going on. Now, I assume those all three streets all have temporary water lines. Are we letting the residents know that they are going to get connected basically through an outside facet of those mains and how they're doing it?

City Manager Mallis: I don't know. I have to go through the full pre-con meeting with the contractor, which is Wednesday. I don't have all those specifics, but any resident affected will get notifications.

Councilman Saunders: But it will be a slight inconvenience for the residents. But we're going to be replacing these 1920 water lines that in some cases have been blowing quite a bit here. So we will get some improvements here in the ward. So just want to make sure that everybody's aware of the fact that be on the lookout. If you're



REGULAR MEETING

BEDFORD CITY COUNCIL

DATE: APRIL 17, 2023

AGENDA MINUTES

STATE OF OHIO
COUNTY OF CUYAHOGA
165 CENTER ROAD BEDFORD, OH 44146

TIME: 8:00 PM

on those three streets, you will be getting notifications.

8. NEW BUSINESS

- a. **ORDINANCE NO. 031-23:** AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 123 TITLED "RULES OF COUNCIL" OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF BEDFORD ADMINISTRATIVE CODE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Was read by title only.

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

Mayor Koci: The new rules will be effective at the first meeting in September to give people some time to check it out. The big change will be that the meetings will start at 7:00 instead of 8:00. Some of this is bookkeeping stuff. Another change is that an ordinance has to be signed by the Mayor or other presiding officer, by the Clerk of Council, and by the Law Director. These rules date back to 1932, so they needed to be tweaked a little bit. We used to have a lot of committees that were on the books. We don't operate by committee; we operate by a Council-As-A-Whole, but we still left it in there. If we need such, the Mayor may appoint such other committees as he or she deems appropriate. The Mayor may choose not to establish said communities and discuss matters with the committee as a whole, which is what we normally do. Another change was to Roberts Rules, which was the 1951 edition, now it'll be the latest edition of Roberts Rules that we use, which is trying to get it to highlight that that's pretty much the big things that were in it. [00:22:00][123.9]



REGULAR MEETING

BEDFORD CITY COUNCIL
STATE OF OHIO

DATE: APRIL 17, 2023

AGENDA MINUTES

COUNTY OF CUYAHOGA
165 CENTER ROAD BEDFORD, OH 44146

TIME: 8:00 PM

- b. **ORDINANCE NO. 032-23:** AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO PURCHASE A LIFEPAK 15 V4 CARDIAC MONITOR/DEFIB FROM STRYKER EMS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Was read by title only.

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

City Manager Mallis: This is for the purchase of a cardiac monitor, and it was something that we budgeted for this year. But that being said, we won't get this cardiac monitor until 2024. So we wanted to go ahead and get this quote in and get this in front of Council as soon as possible.

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:	

- c. **ORDINANCE NO. 033-23:** AN ORDINANCE DECLARING THE PROPERTY AND STRUCTURE LOCATED AT 64 CENTER RD. (P.P.N. 812-12-027) A



REGULAR MEETING

**BEDFORD CITY COUNCIL
STATE OF OHIO**

DATE: APRIL 17, 2023

AGENDA MINUTES

**COUNTY OF CUYAHOGA
165 CENTER ROAD BEDFORD, OH 44146**

TIME: 8:00 PM

**NUISANCE AND THEREFORE CONDEMNING THE PROPERTY, ORDERING
ACTION 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:	

City Manager Mallis: We have violation notices on this property dating back to last year; the property went through two separate tax foreclosure sales with no purchaser. There's it is currently \$95,000 plus in arrears in taxes. This is the start of the process. And in conjunction with the land bank working to remediate the blight.

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:	

- d. **ORDINANCE NO. 034-23: AN ORDINANCE DECLARING THE PROPERTY AND STRUCTURE LOCATED AT 244 W. GLENDALE AVE. (P.P.N. 812-24-005) A NUISANCE AND THEREFORE CONDEMNING THE PROPERTY, ORDERING ACTION AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**



REGULAR MEETING
AGENDA MINUTES

BEDFORD CITY COUNCIL
STATE OF OHIO
COUNTY OF CUYAHOGA
165 CENTER ROAD BEDFORD, OH 44146

DATE: APRIL 17, 2023
TIME: 8:00 PM

Was read by title only.

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

City Manager Mallis: This property has had violation notices for some time. They are currently the corporation that owns this home owned multiple properties throughout the city and walked away from these properties following the housing crisis. This one is currently 109,000 plus in arrears in property taxes, and this is allowing us to take the steps to remediate it, and besides, just in arrears and taxes, these houses are really horrible shape too.

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:	

- e. **ORDINANCE NO. 035-23: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 017-23 AUTHORIZING AN ADDITIONAL PAYMENT OF FIFTY THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED FIVE DOLLARS AND FIFTY CENTS (\$50,205.50) TO THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (ODOT) FOR FEDERAL**



REGULAR MEETING

**BEDFORD CITY COUNCIL
STATE OF OHIO**

DATE: APRIL 17, 2023

AGENDA MINUTES

**COUNTY OF CUYAHOGA
165 CENTER ROAD BEDFORD, OH 44146**

TIME: 8:00 PM

PROJECT NO. E200384, CUYAHOGA COUNTY, CITY OF BEDFORD, S.R. 014
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 is in regard to the Broadway Avenue project specifically regarding the bid results; as I mentioned, the Shelley Company came in as the lowest bidder. They were roughly \$250,000 less, and the next closest, which was Ronyak Paving. Based off of the percentages that we were required to pay, which is 15% of the overall project, the difference comes out to be that the City would be responsible for an additional cost of \$50,000. Should we not agree to pay that there is a strong possibility actually, the project would not go forward. The state would reevaluate and go through the bidding process again, and there is no guarantee that it would come in lower. Our recommendation is for this amount of money to move along so this project can start this year authorizing the payment to ODOT, which oversees the entire project. As it said, overall, it's a total of just over \$3 million.

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



REGULAR MEETING

BEDFORD CITY COUNCIL
STATE OF OHIO

DATE: APRIL 17, 2023

AGENDA MINUTES

COUNTY OF CUYAHOGA
165 CENTER ROAD BEDFORD, OH 44146

TIME: 8:00 PM

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

- f. **ORDINANCE NO. 036-23:** AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT WITH INDUSTRIAL APPRAISAL COMPANY FOR PROFESSIONAL APPRAISAL SERVICES AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Was read by title only.

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

City Manager Mallis: This is for professional appraisals, and we're required to establish a value for insurance purposes on all of our structures, as well as equipment. And this is the contract, and they'll work to identify those values.

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



REGULAR MEETING

BEDFORD CITY COUNCIL
STATE OF OHIO

DATE: APRIL 17, 2023

AGENDA MINUTES

COUNTY OF CUYAHOGA
165 CENTER ROAD BEDFORD, OH 44146

TIME: 8:00 PM

- g. **ORDINANCE NO. 037-23:** AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ODOT WINTER CONTRACT (2023-24) FOR ROAD SALT 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:	

City Manager Mallis: This is authorizing us to partner with ODOT, who will be going out and bidding on the salt contract. This allows us to obtain salt at the bid price. We have to determine and give a rough guess of the tonnage that we're going to go through next year. Typically, we're always around 3,500 tons, but this year we're requesting 2,800 tons from ODOT. What they do is they compile all of those numbers added in and put it out to bid so they can secure the lowest price per ton when they add all of that up. So the challenge is that by coming up with that number, we are required to pay for 90% of that one way or another. We did come in a little under this year, so we will have access to salt, which is why we're looking to go a little lower next year.

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:	



REGULAR MEETING

BEDFORD CITY COUNCIL
STATE OF OHIO

DATE: APRIL 17, 2023

AGENDA MINUTES

COUNTY OF CUYAHOGA
165 CENTER ROAD BEDFORD, OH 44146

TIME: 8:00 PM

ABSTAIN:

9. HEARING OF CITIZENS

Mark Roberts, 47 Woodrow Ave., Bedford, OH: I'm sure most of you are aware of the situation we had this past weekend and have had since late last summer. I know the city has ordinances and legislation where all cities are handcuffed with the Airbnbs and the short-term rentals. That is not why I'm here. I understand that the owners are here as well. And we have discussed this, and there is reason to believe they might not have known these things were happening. What I am here for is the reaction to these occurrences. We started calling the police in late August. Since then, not much was done. Because of this, I had to resort to staying elsewhere on the weekends. So last fall I decided to stay in a camper on Friday and Saturday nights in Auburn, which I'm building on 11 acres, which wasn't fun to do. Telling your kids every weekend they have to go stay somewhere else because they don't feel safe. I called on Friday at about 11:15 p.m. so that there is numerous girls fighting in the front yard. Please come. The problem is these they have scanners. They hear the call come in. And I saw Friday night a man pull the two girls by their hair into the house and told everyone to shut up. The cops came by, but they didn't get out of their vehicles. I asked a couple of the gentlemen still on the road. Was there fighting occurring? They said no. So we got a couple of calls that there are people fighting. No, we're just having fun. We're all right. All right, man. Just stay inside. Not even 10 minutes pass. Now there are 60 kids in the road fighting. And I have an hour and 45 minutes of video of this whole thing. I witnessed guns being loaded into trunks of vehicles and the vehicle fishtailing out of my driveway through Washington and continuing on at high speeds. And let's address the situation that's going on there, why chase? The cops then took more than an hour to gain control of 50 to 60 people. And while I'm standing on my front porch videotaping the whole occurrence, I'm seeing guns being stashed around the community. I am telling the sergeant, and the officers about the guns being stashed in bushes, and not a single officer attempted to look for guns in the neighborhood. I have this all on video of me asking cops to do their due diligence and do what they signed up for, and you know what their excuse was "There's not much we can do." I understand everyone has their hands tied with these guns across the country. Some people should have and some people should. That might be as far as the eye can see. Criminal activity. Everywhere I looked, assaults, gun violence, underage drinking, all the people. You don't want to have guns. Have these guns. What can I do? For an hour and 15 minutes. Nothing was done. It's all on video. The scariest part. After making sure my family was safe by calling my 72-year-old mother-in-law to come pick up my children because they are no longer safe in the city, that I



REGULAR MEETING

**BEDFORD CITY COUNCIL
STATE OF OHIO**

DATE: APRIL 17, 2023

AGENDA MINUTES

**COUNTY OF CUYAHOGA
165 CENTER ROAD BEDFORD, OH 44146**

TIME: 8:00 PM

grew up in. The worst-case scenario was right in front of me. After loading my truck at about 4:45 in the morning, I hear two guys arguing on the corner about how dumb the other one is for stashing a gun. They don't know whether they put it. So while I'm loading my truck, I see three guys walking through Bob Reid's rental property looking for guns in the bushes. I have 15 kids that play in my house in the summer. What am I supposed to do if I tell the people that are supposed to protect and serve? Stickers and guns getting scattered across the community and they don't do anything. Who will know what they say, which is disheartening? The courts and the cops gotta get on the same page. That's for the last 18 months. Every time. In case this isn't a single occurrence, my wife's car got stolen out of the front yard, and numerous gunshots, night after night. The bar at the end of the street. It's not a safe neighborhood no more. And no one wants to do anything. Why? And to be honest, I'm not doing this for me anymore. I'm too much living in where I want to live. I'm doing this for the neighborhood kids that play in my house. Why can't they be safe in this community anymore? I know that night things weren't handled appropriately. They're just as handcuffed as the guys who should have been that night. What can they do if the court doesn't back them up? If the court can't say yes, if it's an Airbnb, it's a public nuisance where its citizens are at home, put zip ties on their backs, take every single one of these and take these guns off the street. Why can't it be done if what you guys are saying is that we're doing what we can? You guys are all lying to yourself, plain and simple. So this is something I usually don't do. Like I said, I'm not doing this for me. I'm not doing this for my family. I'm doing this for Bedford. If nobody wants to listen, I will make people listen. I'm not just sitting around and watching. So as much as I don't want this to be a super huge thing, something has to change. Keep these kids safe. Why should these kids be nervous? Why should I have to feel cut? You know, as a good human being, I need to contact the whole neighborhood and make sure that they know what I saw that night. There are things I don't even want to tell you guys what I saw there. They put pistols in my garbage can behind my shed. What do I do with that? To say all kids will be kids. No, that's not how we should be living and until this community bands together and does what they need to do. And it's not on the property owners; they could not have known. This isn't the same Bedford. When are people going to wake up and do something about this? It's sad that for an hour and 45 minutes with four cops in front of my house, my wife and kids still weren't safe while four cops were standing in front of my house. How is that possible? How is that possible that it happened for an hour and 45 minutes? And the sickest part is they know their occurrences ever happened. I have it on video of them hanging out the window with wads of money, offering Bedford Police money, and you know what they do, they laugh about it. To me, that's bribing an official; that's range for action right there. Criminal activity as far as the eye can see. And no actions were made, plain and simple. Is that acceptable to you guys? Is



REGULAR MEETING

**BEDFORD CITY COUNCIL
STATE OF OHIO**

DATE: APRIL 17, 2023

AGENDA MINUTES

**COUNTY OF CUYAHOGA
165 CENTER ROAD BEDFORD, OH 44146**

TIME: 8:00 PM

it or not?

Corrine Kelly, Solon, Ohio: So first of all, we want to say we completely agree. I mean, it's entirely unacceptable. We do run an Airbnb there. You have said this has been going on for a while. We truly did not know, regardless now we do, and we will make sure it stops. We never got a call from the police not even after this weekend. I won't bore you all with the details of how was booked on Airbnb and so forth, but we put in a request to Airbnb today. We let them know that there was a party going on there. I mean, the stuff that was happening is just absolutely not okay for the neighborhood and so forth. So we will do everything in our power to make sure that those do not happen anymore.

Mayor Koci: How do these people rent it? What did they tell you what they were going to do?

Ms. Kelly: So the way that it works is we get a booking come in, and after I heard this and I looked back at the bookings that come in, it seems that we've had a mix. It seems that we've had a couple of legitimate folks that have some good reviews and so forth. And then there are also the ones that I think are doing this. It's usually a woman's name. We can't tell you kind of what she is, but it usually says one or two guests. We list really clearly in the House rules on Airbnb that we don't allow parties of any kind. There's been a few people that have reached out to us and said, Hey, we want to have a poker night or so forth. And we've said, No, this is a family neighborhood. We don't do that. So I think we're relatively new to Airbnb. This is the only Airbnb we currently have. We have other long-term rentals, so we weren't aware that people are booking Airbnb's to have these parties. Now we know what to look for, and we will make sure it doesn't happen anymore. But they just get booked on an Airbnb.

Air BnB Owner: And to add to we haven't gotten a call from the police, neighbors, or anyone. I mean, we've never even had anyone even alert the city of things. I spoke to my neighbor here. I mean, we see each other regularly. We've never even had any type of communication of any of these things ever going on. He said he assumed that we knew, but we never had any type of understanding of this. And we agree.

Ms. Kelly: This is an investment for us. This is how we make our money. This was a house that we furnished. We don't want anything to do with this stuff going on so I agree with everything.

Brenda Motzko, 303 Center Road, Bedford, OH: When you said that you have no idea what was



REGULAR MEETING

BEDFORD CITY COUNCIL

DATE: APRIL 17, 2023

AGENDA MINUTES

STATE OF OHIO

TIME: 8:00 PM

COUNTY OF CUYAHOGA

165 CENTER ROAD BEDFORD, OH 44146

happening. I know when I've used Airbnbs throughout the country, it takes quite an effort when I'm leaving to make sure that I leave it really nice and tidy. So are you letting me know that all of these bookings, they've left the property inside and out? Very nice that you wouldn't have known that anything sort of untoward went on. These guys cleaned up?

Ms. Kelly: They don't. I wouldn't say they clean up really nicely. Now we have had some excess trash, Right? This led us to believe that there was more than one person that never to the extent of what was happening, you know, but nothing has been broken inside. They've used more bed sheets and towels than we would have.

Ms. Motzko: So there was maybe activity on your property or the result of the activity that would maybe clue you in that one or two guests wanting to see historic Bedford weren't really what was going on. And I don't mean to be combative with you, but I'm also very passionate about, you know, I'm 40, almost 49 years old in a month. And I was born in this town, raised in this town. My father died there a year ago. So I came back to take over his home. And I'm very concerned about all the different things that make this a really, really different feel and a real lack of that sense of security and pride in this town that had been mine. So please know, I'm not mean to be combative with you, but I, I like to challenge the idea. A lot of us have willful ignorance of the things around us. So I ask you to please not have willful ignorance or blinders on to what's happening there.

Ms. Kelly: I think that that is totally fair. And I would say that we expect that sometimes like you know, two people make a good name for and they have four or five or if it is true, I expect anything can happen.

Ms. Motzko: When we are saying that things are provable that maybe our community is changing, and here are some numbers or statistics to back that up with or even that things feel different. I don't feel as safe, or I don't feel like we're the community that we used to be. Some of those things are intangible, but I think that we can agree that if you start breaking this down, it's the small things that lead to a little bit of bigger things that lead to something like what happened with the AirBnB, and please know that I'm not picking on you guys. However, at 303 Center Road, day and night especially on the weekend there's more traffic but the booming systems coming down the street and it really, really interrupts the peaceful neighborhood, and we've got great people there. On the corner of Southview Rd. And Center Rd. there's a multiple-family home with broken windows with plastic over them, and I stopped and took pictures.



REGULAR MEETING

**BEDFORD CITY COUNCIL
STATE OF OHIO**

DATE: APRIL 17, 2023

AGENDA MINUTES

**COUNTY OF CUYAHOGA
165 CENTER ROAD BEDFORD, OH 44146**

TIME: 8:00 PM

There was a police officer in the church parking lot one morning, and I explained to the officer about the radios at all hours of the night, and he was very polite to me, but it was really quite a brush-off. He said "Yes, ma'am, and thank you for telling me. We'll keep an eye out. Several years ago, we tried to do that, and we focused on it a little bit and worked a little bit. But, you know, people will be people." So I want to offer to you that whatever we can do and whatever all of you can do for us to please do, take the little things seriously, but please focus on that. Thank you for your time, everyone, and please give this a lot of consideration.

Mayor Koci: But I can assure you that those little things are high on our priority list. The police are aware of that. Yeah, they do. Those still broken window theory of one's broke, then the next door ones get broken. But we do take all that seriously because it is the little things that build up. And I still think this is a great town to live in. I do not feel unsafe in my town; unsafe in these instances that so things we have to become aware of and then we can deal with them when we don't know about them and we do take that seriously

Ms. Motzko: You're exactly right; each thing leads to another. And this is not about me. This is about everything else. Right. And so myself and this great neighbor, we're both ready to go. And though I haven't physically been there the entire 30 years, we're a solid block of people who really take great care of things. And both of these properties have the potential to go empty in the next couple of years. But I'm repeating myself, Thank you for your time.

Jennifer Roberts, 47 Woodrow Avenue, Bedford, OH: Aside from last, this weekend's events long before our neighbor's house was an Airbnb. I feel unsafe in our neighborhood. I feel my children aren't safe in this city. And you're sitting here telling me this was a big problem, that brush-off that she felt over her minor complaint. I felt like I was being brushed off by the police this weekend. I felt as if we were a nuisance. Was my husband having high emotions during that time? Yes, because we were scared and he was treated as if he was doing something wrong. We were treated with animosity and attitude by the police officers dealing with this. We've made multiple noise complaints, which we did anonymously because we didn't want our names over the scanner. We didn't want to be associated out of fear. The police officer then told us that it was our the reason that they couldn't do anything about the noise complaints was that we made anonymous complaints. If that is the truth, if they need our name in order to follow through with the complaint, why are dispatchers not telling us this? Why was I allowed to make all of these anonymous complaints not being told? But that gave the complaint less power? That party we called at least twice before we called about the fight and the police drove by and did nothing,



REGULAR MEETING

BEDFORD CITY COUNCIL
STATE OF OHIO

DATE: APRIL 17, 2023

AGENDA MINUTES

COUNTY OF CUYAHOGA
165 CENTER ROAD BEDFORD, OH 44146

TIME: 8:00 PM

and when we finally encountered them, we were treated as if we were a nuisance. They stood there and just watched, saying very little. These people disperse, and we were being treated as if we were a nuisance. It was my honest feeling. But I think it's important that you know, that you have people in this community. I did not grow up here as my husband did, but I have lived in our home for 14 years. I got married at that home. I had my children at that home, and I am afraid in that home, and not because of this weekend's events.

Felicia Washington, 97 East Interstate, Bedford, OH: I've lived in Bedford and Oakwood area all my life. Cuyahoga County. And I do understand, and I did what you say. I do believe Bedford is still a great place to live, but it has become a difference. And I think it's because a lot of people have not been held accountable for their actions. And I'm an African-American woman, as you see. And I believe that the things that are going on in the world today are because of a big difference in race. And when it comes to African-Americans, some people kind of stand back a little bit because of their fear of being called a racist or whatever, but call it for what it is. Just because you're black doesn't mean you have to act black. But it's become a political and foolish thing. Because like I said, it's a lot of disrespect. And if we don't stop it and it starts in the home, and if we don't stop it, it's going to get worst. There is too much, gun violence, loitering and just doing things because you think you can because you think you can get away with it. And like I said, I will repeat again, yes, I'm an African-American woman, and I am not going to sugarcoat anything about the truth. Okay. I call it for what it is. I don't care what color you are, but if I see something, I'm going to call it out. And I see today's world that African-Americans, young black people, brown people, they think that there's a target. I can do this, and I can get away with it because I can use the race card. And that's the truth. And pretty much all of you are Caucasian except that gentleman right there. And as I said, I'm not going to sugarcoat anything. I'm going, to tell the truth. And when you tell the truth, things will be better. Hold these parents and children accountable. Put them in a location where they could start doing some work around here, cleaning up the neighborhoods or something. We see children unaccounted for with their parents loitering around and looking foolish, and looking like they're going to be disrespectful, we're going to call you out, and you and your parents are going to be held accountable. Don't be afraid to say something because it's a race card; call it for what it is. It's not a race card for me is the truth. Are you going somewhere to do something positive? What are you doing in the Bedford City schools to need to be held accountable? That's where they're coming out of. Bedford City schools need to be held accountable for what they're doing with these children up there. Just letting them lollygag and do whatever they want to do to and fro, it's like it's embarrassing. So something needs to be done about it. I don't care if you don't



REGULAR MEETING

AGENDA MINUTES

**BEDFORD CITY COUNCIL
STATE OF OHIO**

**COUNTY OF CUYAHOGA
165 CENTER ROAD BEDFORD, OH 44146**

DATE: APRIL 17, 2023

TIME: 8:00 PM

like me or whatever, but I'm going, to tell the truth, and shame the devil. I want to live in a peaceful neighborhood. If we want different city schools in the city of Bedford to be the best city that people can live in, so people like them do not want to move for me, and I'm not going to move in where I live, that it's always the bar is right there and I won't. I will go out, I have a bullhorn, and I will tell them, shut it down real quick. You know, I'm not afraid of it because I want peace, you know, And I will tell them in a minute, you know, settle down, stop the arguing. People don't get involved anymore because they're afraid. Don't be afraid if we all get together and they'll see. Because if we don't tell them right from wrong, how will they know? I'm not just saying this with black people. I'm saying it because I'm black. But I'm saying it because I'm an African American. the cell phones and everything has become the parents. I don't have time for that, kids. So we buy these expensive cell phones to give to the children, and that's what they're living off of, and that's what they learn. And then when you talk to them and the parents, if you try to help the children, the parents will say, that's my kid. I don't need you talking to my child like that. You talk to me. But then when you talk to them, you still talk to the kids because they are just like their children. So, you know, something needs to be done about that. We just all have to get together and let them know that we love them and we care about them. But being rogues and roguish in thuggish and foolish and all that, and then walking around with your pants sagging, somebody has to have the decency to get to these people, you know? Because we really have to do something about this because today might not be tomorrow with the way we're going. It's just too much. But we don't want the gun violence to get so bad where we're we don't even want to go outside. We don't want that. We don't want to be fearful of being able to walk down the street with our dogs, cats, or whatever. The police really have to stop being fearful because that's what they were doing. They were fearful because I believe they probably were African-American people.

Sabrina Future, 15 Charles Street, Bedford, OH: I purchased that home to be a ministry home to help young ladies and children go to a good school other than Cleveland. I chose Bedford because it reminded me of where my family was in Southern Illinois. I like Bedford. It's family-friendly. I was traumatized by what they said, and I'm getting weak in the knees now because I grew up in Warrensville, and I experienced a time when I was afraid because the police couldn't handle what was going on. And I literally heard the police tell my family if they catch that person before they did, they'll come pick up the body. And guess what? They came and picked up the body. So fear, I know all about it, but I'm a woman of God now. I'm not afraid to die, and I'm not afraid of people. Everything that I've heard today is a reality. And the truth of the matter is, we are all guilty. Every system in America is broken the schools, our healthcare, our cities,



REGULAR MEETING

**BEDFORD CITY COUNCIL
STATE OF OHIO**

DATE: APRIL 17, 2023

AGENDA MINUTES

**COUNTY OF CUYAHOGA
165 CENTER ROAD BEDFORD, OH 44146**

TIME: 8:00 PM

and our government. I don't mean to discriminate, but it's for the people who love God and who love people. We all are accountable, and we are at fault. I was at the YMCA, the youth program director for the Teen Court program. I worked with the late Detective Harry at Root and Officer Collins, and we had a program that was very successful, the teenagers that came to deal with breaking the law. And the success rate was 95 to 98%. And the reason is that we were all involved the schools, the Y, and the police. We came together and had monthly meetings talking about the troubled kids. What are we doing with our kids here when they get in trouble? We have nothing. We have nothing, and we need to fix this. We need committees because we need more than just your voice; we need the residents, the citizens, and the business owners involved. I want to volunteer and help our kids, but I want to do it at the park. I need the benches there so I can bring these kids and their parents. We need to get to the table and talk about our issues. We need to have these talks about the biases we all have, so we can get to know each other, learn how to communicate, and relate with each other in a healthy, respectful way. So I thank you for listening. I'm here, I'm here. Take it. And we are going to work this thing together. Because as she said, I'm not going anywhere. I'm here to stay because this is what I know. God called me. So God bless you. Thank you for your service. But don't think that we can't do it together. God bless you.

Air BnB Owner: Property Owner from 43 Woodrow. I know we said a lot about the police in the neighborhood or whatnot, but Mark and I have always had a good report. I actually graduated from Bedford. I do like the area. And as you guys said, I won't be going anywhere either. But if you use me as an example of the Bedford School System, I do not feel like it is failing, and I have yet to see any gun violence in Bedford. I'm not saying that it which you said didn't happen. I'm just saying I haven't seen and I've been in Bedford for the majority of my life. But I do want to point out that me and my partner Cory, we take full accountability for the actions of the party, even though we weren't aware. I don't want to rest it all on the police's shoulders because if we would have known about this, we will not let that happen. And now that we do know it will not happen, so we won't we don't want to put that directly on the police system. I want to say that we take accountability for that. And what you were saying here earlier in our speaking, we were saying, you know, just pull up on some of these black kids and exclaim, what are they doing every day going there? Right. There can be a problematic situation, right? I don't think that that's something that we should be encouraging because like I say that's more so racially profiling is what I would call it.

Mayor Koci: I agree with what you guys are saying, and I believe it. And we can talk about this



REGULAR MEETING

**BEDFORD CITY COUNCIL
STATE OF OHIO**

DATE: APRIL 17, 2023

AGENDA MINUTES

**COUNTY OF CUYAHOGA
165 CENTER ROAD BEDFORD, OH 44146**

TIME: 8:00 PM

after, you know, with the matters at hand. I agree that not to shut you down or say it's not important. It is important. And I believe what all you're saying and in your case there I know we're looking into that more with the police to see just what did happen. The police are required to go once a year for sensitivity training our guys do it once or twice a month. that is way more than what they have to learn in how to do these things and how to talk to the kids. So this stuff is happening here in town.

Bob Detrich, 37 Santin Circle, Bedford, OH: I came across something about a decision made at the Work Session Meeting on March 20, 2023, about an increase of \$9,110 in the Economic Development budget to pay increases for the Economic Development Director on here. And as I go through, I am trying to understand exactly what that director is. Is she an employee of Bedford?

Mayor Koci: Yes.

Mr. Dietrich: Is there an issue of a conflict of interest with the fact that she's also the head of the First Suburbs Consortium?

Mayor Koci: No.

Mr. Dietrich: When I read what they're what's being done, especially with regards to housing there, I'm thinking to myself, that's not Bedford, though. Those are parts of Cleveland that are so old. What exactly does she do here? I understand she worked with you on Tinker's Creek, but what activity is taking place right now in finding other businesses to fill in the gaps here? But I'll tell you what got me is because I was in the assurance business and I saw a note about \$7,500 going in to pay for medical insurance, and what gets to me is if she is the director of the First Suburb Consortium, and she is also the Economic Director of Bedford, who is her primary income, she's working full time in Bedford.

Mayor Koci: She's part-time at Bedford.

Mr. Dietrich: How many hours?

Mayor Koci: Roughly 20 - 25.



REGULAR MEETING

**BEDFORD CITY COUNCIL
STATE OF OHIO**

DATE: APRIL 17, 2023

AGENDA MINUTES

**COUNTY OF CUYAHOGA
165 CENTER ROAD BEDFORD, OH 44146**

TIME: 8:00 PM

Mr. Dietrich: I remember speaking for the City of Bedford after Obamacare in 2010, at which point the city of Bedford reduced hours for some of the employees who are making who had 30 hours so they can drop it below so they wouldn't have to pay for medical insurance on that one, very understandably, because that law required that any employer is and correct me if I'm wrong, it's been a while since I've been in that. But when there were employees having 30 hours or more, they were considered full-time and therefore had to be covered under the insurance. Now she's doing 20 hours. Are you offering full-time medical benefits for everyone else who works in City Bedford that's doing 20 hours? Are you offering that to the lifeguards who are doing 20 hours? So what's the exception to the rule? \$70,500 is a lot of money and the \$9,000 increase that's a lot of money.

City Manager Mallis: You're targeting an employee and let me just make something clear that what you're reading as far as an increase based on our Finance Director's appropriations, that money gets moved around. She was not granted a \$9,000 pay increase that was granted. Well, I know an assumption. I take a little offense to that because you're assuming we're arbitrarily giving somebody a \$9,000 raise, which couldn't be further from the truth. So that is, she was hired as a part-time Economic Development to work in that department, and she works the other time as the First Suburbs Development Counsel. Understand that there's benefits associated with her job, and what the costs are for her medical every other community the first suburbs based on their dues the first suburbs reimburses Bedford so we had a full-time employee effort would have to pay roughly \$18,000 for benefits, and we're paying our employee half of that. As far as what she does, I mean, I don't want to go through the laundry list of items because it's substantial. All the grant dollars that the city has received over the course of the last five years, She's been a direct rider of all of those grants, all of those hundreds of thousand dollars a year, some of them last year, she brought in \$700,000 to redo the commons. The city's expenses for that one employee is just under \$50,000. I know you have it in your craw because you've questioned it and now you publicly brought up that that employee received a seven or \$9,000 raised. That's an appropriation because based on the way we have to budget, all of that doesn't go into one pool, sir. There's the city of Bedford's economic development budget, which is roughly we'll just talk salary, just under \$50,000. Then the city, just like Cleveland Heights, was when she was employed with Cleveland Heights. The city is required to be the fiduciary agent of the first suburbs for salaries in there, too. When it comes to pay, you move money to cover the pay. I know you're confused and we can sit down and go over that. But that's the way we budget. We don't control the suburb's budget. It's voted on by every mayor and city that does that. Okay. The Finance Director is the fiduciary agent of that entity. We don't have control. If



REGULAR MEETING

**BEDFORD CITY COUNCIL
STATE OF OHIO**

DATE: APRIL 17, 2023

AGENDA MINUTES

**COUNTY OF CUYAHOGA
165 CENTER ROAD BEDFORD, OH 44146**

TIME: 8:00 PM

they choose to give you a raise, they vote on it. They pay the dues. The dues come into the city, and it's in a separate account.

Mayor Koci: What does it say?

Mr. Dietrich: She was granted a \$9,000 raise. Well, that's what she said. I went to the Work Session Meeting, from the Bedford City Council meeting regarding approximations, and I read this part says a \$9,110 increase in the Economic Development budget due to an increase for Economic Development Director. It didn't say Economic Development Director for me and I'm asking, was she given a \$9,110 raise?

City Manager Mallis: No.

Mr. Dietrich: Well, I mean, that's what I'm reading from. It says no. If it's not, that's great. I'm glad. That's what I'd like to know, that it wasn't that on that. I'm not questioning that, but what I'm reading here is confusing because it says different amounts, but it was at \$9,000 that stood out to cause me.

Mayor Koci: You just read it. It's a \$9,000 budget increase, not a raise.

Mr. Dietrich: All right.

Mayor Koci: It's into the total budget of that position.

Mr. Dietrich: To pay the increase for the Economic Development Director, was that \$9,000 then into the Economic Development Department on that to be spread apart?

Mr. Montello: Why don't we talk to you after the meeting and try to explain it? I think we're all very pleased with Mrs. Kuzma's efforts, and on behalf of the city, she does a lot that you're unaware of.

Mr. Dietrich: I am not aware of that. What I would really like to know about.

Mr. Montello: She's doing it more than covers her salary.



REGULAR MEETING

**BEDFORD CITY COUNCIL
STATE OF OHIO**

DATE: APRIL 17, 2023

AGENDA MINUTES

**COUNTY OF CUYAHOGA
165 CENTER ROAD BEDFORD, OH 44146**

TIME: 8:00 PM

Mr. Dietrich: I don't question that. The thing is, I like to know I'd like to know what is happening because when all we see is a budget, and we see this number on that. I would come to my mind if someone asked me what I did and they didn't tell him, but I told them I made so much money doing nothing at all like that or not to see and do anything. But people ask me, and I wouldn't tell them what they did then I would they would. I would expect them to question how much why I make that much. If I even made that much, I don't really. But the point there is the statement here about an increase in a salary of a person over \$9,000. I think most people would look upon that and say, well, it sounds like someone got \$9,000.

Mayor Koci: And it was explained.

Mr. Dietrich: Not on this piece of paper here that came from the webpage.

Mayor Koci: You know how we appropriate budgets all the time to switch money. We vote on it regularly.

Mr. Dietrich: I don't know how you do that.

Mayor Koci: Well, then we'll explain it later.

Ms. Future: If we're going to move forward as a city, he had a legitimate question. I appreciate someone checking and balances. I mean, because you guys know, but we should know. There shouldn't be any confusion, Mr. Mallis. Don't get upset with this man for doing his job. I'm grateful that he's here because I don't understand this. So we're going to move forward. No one is above the law. We should all be held accountable for these cities, with corruption. And this is how we avoid it. So everybody grows up and gets some patience and maturity because some of us don't know what we're doing. But for those who do, let's roll with them and answer his questions so we can understand.

Mayor Koci: That's what we did: We understand all that. And we're going to look into the other since they are looking at the other situation.

10. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION:

Motion made by Saunders and seconded by Jeff Asbury to adjourn the meeting at 9:36 P.M..



REGULAR MEETING

**BEDFORD CITY COUNCIL
STATE OF OHIO**

DATE: APRIL 17, 2023

AGENDA MINUTES

**COUNTY OF CUYAHOGA
165 CENTER ROAD BEDFORD, OH 44146**

TIME: 8:00 PM

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


Clerk of Council


Mayor-President of Council

Date: May 1, 2023