

**COUNCIL WORK SESSION  
MONDAY, JULY 16, 2012**

**5:45 P.M. PROMPT**

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**Dinner will be served**

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- **DISCUSSION OF 2012/ 2013 FIREWORKS (Duber/Nagy/Lewis)**
  
- **DISCUSSION OF BOARDS & COMMISSION RE-APPOINTMENTS**

Harvey Dzomba –	Planning Commission
Kristi Glasier –	Board of Zoning Appeals
James Jeffers –	Civil Service
Robert Schroeter –	Civil Service
John Schultis –	Tree Board
Roman Boldyreff –	Tree Board
Vacant	Arts & Cultural Board
  
- **DISCUSSION OF REGULATIONS WITHOUT COUNCIL APPROVAL (Batten)**
  
- **DISCUSSION OF CITY SIDEWALKS DAMAGED BY CITY TREES (Batten)**
  
- **DISCUSSION OF AGENDA**
  
- **EXECUTIVE SESSION – personnel**

Bedford, Ohio

July 16, 2012

Bedford City Council met in a Work Session at Bedford City Hall on Monday, July 16, 2012 at 5:49 p.m.

Present: Council Members: Mayor Daniel Pocek, Warner Batten, Stan Koci, Marilyn Zolata, Paula Mizsak, Greg Pozar, Donald Saunders. Also Present: Clerk of Council Lorree Villers. Administration: City Manager Henry J. Angelo, Police Chief Greg Duber, Fire Chief Dave Nagy, Parks and Recreation Director Randy Lewis. Absent: None.

Everyone had many concerns because of the unruly children/young adults that were at this year's fireworks and whether there should be fireworks in 2013 for the July 4<sup>th</sup> celebration. Even though the fireworks display was beautiful as usual, certain parts of the city were not as nice. The Mayor was shocked by what he had witnessed. What a shame that it might come to punishing everyone in Bedford because of a bunch of unruly disrespectful children/young adults that were coming from surrounding communities.

Chief Duber explained this was one of the ways these children/young adults got their "street creds" (credits) was by causing these types of scenes and punching people in the face, plus who knew what else they had to do.

Mr. Angelo stated some of the younger people these days were just out of control and they had no fear of police officers or any type of authority. His focus and concern was to keep the officers safe, the residents, children and visitors safe. Something needed to be done before someone got hurt.

Mayor Pocek had contacted the former City Manager Robert Reid which was currently the Cuyahoga County Sheriff and Sheriff Reid thought it was time to discontinue the fireworks. After some discussion, the Mayor suggested a community meeting at the Ellenwood Recreation Center to allow the residents to voice their opinions regarding the 2013 fireworks which would help Council and the Administration in deciding if there should be future fireworks. Council was in agreement that a meeting of this type would be beneficial. A lot of the problems were not Bedford residents but young adults from the surrounding communities causing trouble in attempts of earning their "street creds".

Council discussed several things that needed to be addressed but the entire City of Bedford could not do it alone. The issues at hand were overwhelming and there wasn't one group that could address them all. The surrounding communities needed to be involved to aid in maintaining this area of Cuyahoga County. This was not just a Bedford issue – this was an issue that has reached across the nation. The reality was these children were not being raised in stable homes or taught the basics. There are a lot of broken homes; some of the children were not getting the proper education, respect, love, support, trust, discipline, values, leadership and stability from their own extended families in their lives. Some families needed to revisit the "basics" in raising their children properly. Children are our future for this country and the picture that was currently being painted was very disturbing. One problem was there is a social breakdown in this country and one's hands were tied by political correctness.

Chief Nagy had concerns for the safety of his staff. Firefighters were not trained for combat or armed for this type of situation. He was not willing to post his staff in the same area next year as they were stationed this year. It was too risky.

It was definite - Bedford City Council and the Administration were going to make an attempt to protect what they had worked so hard to build and maintain; a quality place to live. It was time to stand up for what they believed. There was going to be a Special Work Session on Tuesday, August 21, 2012 at 7:00

pm at the Ellenwood Recreation Center for all the residents to attend to discuss whether the 2013 fireworks should be scheduled or not.

Council stepped out of City Hall for a few minutes to view the possible location for the future Elmer Flick statue and plaque. There was no decision made this evening of the actual location.

Council reviewed the list of the Board and Commission reappointments. They were thinking of making a few changes this time around. Nothing had been decided this evening because some of Council wanted to talk to the chairman and/or secretaries regarding certain members performance.

Mr. Batten had concerns regarding some of the event regulations being changed without council approval. He felt some of the banners should be displayed differently and more than one auxiliary police officer should be available at each event. Mr. Angelo explained the City couldn't afford to keep paying for a lot of these events because of all the budget cuts. These were not city sponsored events but rather different organizations holding their event at the city square. It was time the organizations started contributing more toward their own events. Extra auxiliary officers were available if the organizations were willing to pay for them. There were no changes to what Mr. Angelo had put in place as rules.

Mr. Batten referred to a few areas in the City where the city had planted trees that had damaged some of the sidewalks. There was a discussion that one year during the budget meetings there had been a decision that the city wasn't going to repair sidewalks. The consensus was that one year's budget decision must have carried from year to year without realizing the issue needed to be revisited. This topic would be addressed during the 2013 budget discussions with the Service Director. It appears that this was an oversight on everyone's part.

Mayor Pocek began discussion of the Regular Council Meeting agenda.

Council had no issues with the June 4, 2012 Work Session, the June 4, 2012 Regular Council nor the June 5, 2012 Special Work Session minutes.

Resolution No. 2458-12 was a resolution requesting the County Auditor to advance taxes from the proceeds of tax levies for the year 2012 collected in 2013 pursuant to Section No. 321.34 of the Revised Code of the State of Ohio. Mr. Angelo explained this was an annual resolution that was in conjunction with a couple more pieces of legislation this evening.

Resolution No. 2459-12 was a resolution declaring the necessity to improve certain streets in the City of Bedford, Ohio by lighting the same. Mr. Angelo again explained this was an annual resolution that was in conjunction with a couple more pieces of legislation this evening.

Resolution No. 2460-12 was a resolution authorizing the City Manager to prepare and submit an application to participate in the Cuyahoga County Municipal Energy Program (MEP) and to execute contracts as required. Mr. Angelo said this was another way to help save money.

Ordinance No. 8972-12 was an ordinance that determined to proceed with the improvement of certain streets in the City of Bedford, Ohio by lighting the same. Mr. Angelo explained this was an annual ordinance that was in conjunction with more pieces of legislation this evening.

Ordinance No. 8973-12 was an ordinance levying special assessments for the improvement of the street and public places of the City of Bedford, Ohio by lighting the same in accordance with Resolution No. 2459-12 and Ordinance No. 8972-12. Mr. Angelo said the title pretty much speaks for itself with the previous pieces of legislation.

Ordinance No. 8974-12 was an ordinance authorizing the City of Bedford to pay for the cremation expenses of Jason Pickett. Mr. Angelo was very pleased Mr. St. John worked with the City regarding situations like this. Mr. St. John was a very good corporate citizen and he cared about Bedford.

Ordinance No. 8975-12 was an ordinance authorizing the City of Bedford to certify to the county Fiscal Officer the costs associated with police response to 305 Avery Avenue as said homeowner is in violation of Bedford's criminal activity nuisance ordinance. Everyone was aware that this was a repeat offender.

Ordinance No. 8976-12 was an ordinance authorizing the City of Bedford to certify to the county Fiscal Officer the costs associated with police response to 601 Northfield Road as said homeowner is in violation of Bedford's criminal activity nuisance ordinance. Everyone was aware that this was a repeat offender.

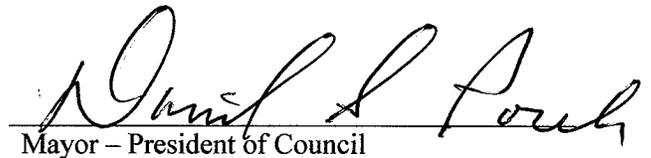
Ordinance No. 8977-12 was an ordinance amending Section 1953.03 (d) (1), Regulation, Entitled "Fences and Hedges" of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Bedford, Ohio. Everyone thought this issue had been amended back in 2002 so they were going to address it this evening.

Discussion of the regular Work Session agenda was concluded.

The Work Session adjourned at 7:59 p.m.



Clerk of Council



Mayor - President of Council

REGULAR MEETING

**BEDFORD CITY COUNCIL**  
STATE OF OHIO  
COUNTY OF CUYAHOGA

DATE: July 16, 2012

AGENDA

TIME: 8:00 P.M.

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1. **CALL TO ORDER**

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

3. **ROLL CALL**

4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- a. Approval of Minutes of the Work Session of June 4, 2012
- b. Approval of Minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 4, 2012
- c. Approval of Minutes of the Special Work Session of June 5, 2012

5. **SWEARING IN CEREMONY**

- *Patrolman - Sean Allred*
- *Patrolman - Ryan Futo*
- *Sergeant - Paul Kellermann*

6. **PRESENTATIONS**

- *Stephen Ringler - Eagle Scout Award Troop 447*

7. **REPORTS**

- a. City Manager
- b. Law Director
- c. Finance Director
- d. Council Reports

8. **NEW BUSINESS**

- a. Resolution No. 2458-12 requesting the County Auditor to advance taxes from tax levy proceeds for 2012 collected in 2013
- b. Resolution No. 2459-12 declaring the necessity to improve certain streets in the City by lighting
- c. Resolution No. 2460-12 authorizing the City Manager to prepare and submit an application to participate in the Cuyahoga County Municipal Energy Program (MEP) and to execute contracts as required
- d. Ordinance No. 8972-12 determining to proceed with the improvement of certain streets in the City by lighting
- e. Ordinance No. 8973-12 levying special assessments for the improvement of street and public places in the City by lighting in accordance with Res. 2459-12 and Ord. 8972-12
- f. Ordinance No. 8974-12 authorizing cremation expenses of Jason Pickett (\$850.00)
- g. Ordinance No. 8975-12 authorizing the City to certify to the County Auditor costs associated with Police response 305 Avery Avenue a nuisance
- h. Ordinance No. 8976-12 authorizing the City to certify to the County Auditor costs associated with Police response 601 Northfield Road a nuisance
- i. Ordinance No. 8977-12 amending Codified Ordinance Section 1953.03 (d) (1) Regulations, Fences and Hedges

9. **HEARING OF CITIZENS**

10. **ADJOURNMENT**

**PLEASE TURN OFF ALL CELL PHONES BEFORE COUNCIL MEETING**  
**(Council minutes and agenda posted at [www.bedfordoh.gov](http://www.bedfordoh.gov))**

Bedford, Ohio

July 16, 2012

Bedford City Council met in Regular Session at Bedford City Hall on Monday, July 16, 2012. Mayor Pocek called the meeting to order at 8:01 P.M. The meeting was opened by pledging allegiance to the flag. The roll was called. Present: Zolata, Batten, Koci, Mizensak, Pocek, Pozar, Saunders. Absent: None.

Motion made by Batten and seconded by Mizensak to approve the minutes of the Work Session of June 4, 2012. The roll was called. Vote – Yeas: Zolata, Batten, Koci, Mizensak, Pocek, Pozar, Saunders. Nays: None. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion made by Koci seconded by Saunders to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 4, 2012. The roll was called. Vote – Yeas: Zolata, Batten, Koci, Mizensak, Pocek, Pozar, Saunders. Nays: None. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion made by Pozar seconded by Zolata to approve the minutes of the Special Work Session of June 5, 2012. The roll was called. Vote – Yeas: Zolata, Batten, Koci, Mizensak, Pocek, Pozar, Saunders. Nays: None. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Pocek welcomed everyone in the audience for the Swearing-In of Patrolman Sean Allred, Patrolman Ryan Futo and Sergeant Paul Kellerman. Mr. Angelo and Chief Duber proceeded with the Swearing-In ceremony of the three officers. The officers introduced their friends and family that were in attendance. Mr. Angelo pointed out that Council took immediate action regarding the placing of these officers because of the urgency for the safety of their fellow officers. He thanked Council for their concern and immediate action. The Mayor introduced the Civil Service Board members that were present in the audience and thanked them for their hard work in testing and placing these officers. Chief Duber invited everyone to the Police Department for a small celebration.

Mayor Pocek then read a Proclamation honoring Stephen Ringler who had received his Eagle Scout rank for Troop 447. Mr. Ringler appreciated and thanked the Mayor for the Proclamation. He said it was a lot of hard work to earn this award but it was worth it and he was proud to be a part of the Bedford Community.

Mayor Pocek announced City Manager Angelo would be covering for Law Director Schuman and Finance Director Gambosi during their absence this evening.

No report from Ken Schuman, Law Director in his absence from the City Manager.

No report from Frank Gambosi, Finance Director in his absence from the City Manager.

Henry J. Angelo, City Manager announced the Cities of Bedford, Bedford Heights, Euclid and Walton Hills participated together in the World Changers program this year. There were 260 kids from 15 churches that participated fixing up 22 homes in the area. He talked about the ice cream social that took place as a little thank you to the World Changers group. The Mayors of Bedford, Walton Hills and Bedford Heights scooped the ice cream for the participants. It was a fantastic event and hoped they would return in 2013.

Councilman Batten was glad to see the Grand Boulevard road project was completed but he hoped in the future that the deadline completion date would be kept. He announced the Street Dance event at the square that would be held this weekend from 5:30 pm to midnight. He listed several different types of foods and the businesses that would be participating. Mr. Batten expressed his opinion regarding the actions of the Historical Society because they barricaded their parking lot during one of the events this year and would not let anyone park in it. He felt this was a selfish act on their part because the Historical

Society was always asking for help and donations and he felt the Historical Society should be a Bedford team player.

Councilman Koci noted the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade was a very nice event. He thanked everyone that participated in wearing the costumes in the parade because of the awful hot humid weather. He thanked all the World Changers participants for all their help in the area. The volunteers were very kind, considerate and very social.

Councilman Saunders thanked everyone that was involved in another successful parade. There was only one car that overheated and one person that needed assistance because of the hot weather. The fireworks display was another excellent show this year. He congratulated Stephen Ringler on his Eagle Scout rank. He has known Mr. Ringler for a very long time.

Mayor Pocek passed on his condolences to Mr. Charlie Aguiar on the loss of his father, former Mayor Aguiar.

Councilwoman Mizsak offered her condolences to Mr. Aguiar too regarding his father. She missed the parade this year due to the hot weather. She welcomed Mrs. Zolata because of her recent injury.

Councilman Pozar talked about the budget cuts that would become reality over the next three years due to local government tax, estate tax and Cat tax. Council will be crunching numbers shortly during the budget discussion this fall to cope with the shortfalls because of the state cuts. He thought it was amazing that the City could continue to deliver the same services when the City was losing over one million dollars a year. Suggestions were welcome from the Board and Commission members that were going to be a participant of the new Master Plan Review Committee. He mentioned an extreme article he found where a Scranton, PA Mayor decreased all its city employees to minimum wage because of the city's deficit. He explained about all the people that were lined up trying to collect their money that was owed to them by the city. This was a sign of cities to come where the city had promised far past what it could deliver. The reality of the tax shortfalls and budgetary shortfalls were coming home to roost. He referenced the promises that were made during the 2009 levy and let this be the first message to the taxpayers of Bedford that there were some issues that needed to be addressed in the upcoming years that would not be pleasant.

Councilwoman Zolata was very happy to be present for this evening's meeting. Her family was kind enough to transport her to the meeting from rehab from breaking her leg. She thanked everyone profusely for the kind words, gifts, cards, candy and flowers because of her accident. She was proud to announce that she still had her perfect Council Meeting attendance record. She was disappointed that she had to miss some of the events throughout the city.

Mayor Pocek read a letter from Manuel Zenick who was nice enough to mail a piece of Bedford, Ohio Walker China he found in the City of Fuganville on the Island of Expiriter Santo in the northern part of the Country Vanuatu in the South Pacific. Mayor Pocek shared the chard artifact he received and entered it as meeting record and he would submit to the Historical Society for preservation. (see attached)

**RESOLUTION NO. 2458-12**, being a resolution requesting the County Auditor to advance taxes from the proceeds of tax levies for the year 2012 collected in 2013 pursuant to Section No. 321.34 of the Revised Code of the State of Ohio, and declaring an emergency was read by title only.

Motion made by Zolata seconded by Batten to suspend the rule requiring the reading of said resolution on three different days.

The roll was called. Vote – Yeas: Zolata, Batten, Koci, Mizsak, Pocek, Pozar, Saunders. Nays: None. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion made by Saunders and seconded by Pozar to place Resolution No. 2458-12 on third and final reading and passed.

Mr. Angelo explained this was addressed annually. There were other pieces of legislation before Council this evening that was in conjunction with this resolution.

The roll was called. Vote – Yeas: Zolata, Batten, Koci, Mizsak, Pocek, Pozar, Saunders. Nays: None. Motion carried unanimously.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2459-12**, a resolution declaring the necessity to improve certain streets in the City of Bedford, Ohio by lighting the same and declaring an emergency was read by title only.

Motion made by Saunders seconded by Batten to suspend the rule requiring the reading of said resolution on three different days.

The roll was called. Vote – Yeas: Zolata, Batten, Koci, Mizsak, Pocek, Pozar, Saunders. Nays: None. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion made by Pozar and seconded by Mizsak to place Resolution No. 2459-12 on third and final reading and passed.

Mr. Angelo explained this piece of legislation identified the street lights throughout Bedford.

The roll was called. Vote – Yeas: Zolata, Batten, Koci, Mizsak, Pocek, Pozar, Saunders. Nays: None. Motion carried unanimously.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2460-12**, a resolution authorizing the City Manager to prepare and submit an application to participate in the Cuyahoga County Municipal Energy Program (MEP) and to execute contracts as required and declaring an emergency was read by title only.

Motion made by Koci seconded by Saunders to suspend the rule requiring the reading of said resolution on three different days.

The roll was called. Vote – Yeas: Zolata, Batten, Koci, Mizsak, Pocek, Pozar, Saunders. Nays: None. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion made by Batten and seconded by Zolata to place Resolution No. 2460-12 on third and final reading and passed.

Mr. Angelo explained this piece of legislation allowed the Administration to apply for a \$200,000+ grant monies for municipal energy improvements.

The roll was called. Vote – Yeas: Zolata, Batten, Koci, Mizsak, Pocek, Pozar, Saunders. Nays: None. Motion carried unanimously.

**ORDINANCE NO. 8972-12**, an ordinance determined to proceed with the improvement of certain streets in the City of Bedford, Ohio by lighting the same and declaring an emergency was read by title only.

Motion made by Saunders seconded by Batten to suspend the rule requiring the reading of said ordinance on three different days.

The roll was called. Vote – Yeas: Zolata, Batten, Koci, Mizesak, Pocek, Pozar, Saunders. Nays: None. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion made by Pozar and seconded by Zolata to place Ordinance No. 8972-12 on third and final reading and passed.

Mr. Angelo noted this legislation was connected with the previous resolution.

The roll was called. Vote – Yeas: Zolata, Batten, Koci, Mizesak, Pocek, Pozar, Saunders. Nays: None. Motion carried unanimously.

**ORDINANCE NO. 8973-12**, being an ordinance levying special assessments for the improvement of the street and public places of the City of Bedford, Ohio by lighting the same in accordance with Resolution No. 2459-12 and Ordinance No. 8972-12 and declaring an emergency was read by title only.

Motion made by Koci seconded by Saunders to suspend the rule requiring the reading of said ordinance on three different days.

The roll was called. Vote – Yeas: Zolata, Batten, Koci, Mizesak, Pocek, Pozar, Saunders. Nays: None. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion made by Mizesak and seconded by Zolata to place Ordinance No. 8973-12 on third and final reading and passed.

Mr. Angelo noted this was the final piece of legislation for street.

The roll was called. Vote – Yeas: Zolata, Batten, Koci, Mizesak, Pocek, Pozar, Saunders. Nays: None. Motion carried unanimously.

**ORDINANCE NO. 8974-12**, an ordinance authorizing the City of Bedford to pay for the cremation expenses of Jason Pickett and declaring an emergency was read by title only.

Motion made by Saunders seconded by Batten to suspend the rule requiring the reading of said ordinance on three different days.

The roll was called. Vote – Yeas: Zolata, Batten, Koci, Mizesak, Pocek, Pozar, Saunders. Nays: None. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion made by Mizesak and seconded by Zolata to place Ordinance No. 8974-12 on third and final reading and passed.

Mr. Angelo explained this was required by the Ohio Revised Code to pay for indigent burials of residents. He appreciated the efforts and cooperation from St. John's Funeral Home. Mr. St. John has worked closely and willingly with the City on handling these types of situations at half the costs.

The roll was called. Vote – Yeas: Zolata, Batten, Koci, Mizesak, Pocek, Pozar, Saunders. Nays: None. Motion carried unanimously.

**ORDINANCE NO. 8975-12**, an ordinance authorizing the City of Bedford to certify to the County Fiscal Officer the costs associated with police response to 305 Avery Avenue as said homeowner is in violation of Bedford's criminal activity nuisance ordinance and declaring an emergency was read by title only.

Motion made by Zolata seconded by Saunders to suspend the rule requiring the reading of said ordinance on three different days.

The roll was called. Vote – Yeas: Zolata, Batten, Koci, Mizensak, Pocek, Pozar, Saunders. Nays: None. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion made by Zolata and seconded by Saunders to place Ordinance No. 8975-12 on third and final reading and passed.

Mayor Pocek noted this address was a repeat criminal nuisance offender.

The roll was called. Vote – Yeas: Zolata, Batten, Koci, Mizensak, Pocek, Pozar, Saunders. Nays: None. Motion carried unanimously.

**ORDINANCE NO. 8976-12**, an ordinance authorizing the City of Bedford to certify to the County Fiscal Officer the costs associated with police response to 601 Northfield Road as said homeowner is in violation of Bedford's criminal activity nuisance ordinance and declaring an emergency was read by title only.

Motion made by Koci seconded by Batten to suspend the rule requiring the reading of said ordinance on three different days.

The roll was called. Vote – Yeas: Zolata, Batten, Koci, Mizensak, Pocek, Pozar, Saunders. Nays: None. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion made by Koci and seconded by Mizensak to place Ordinance No. 8976-12 on third and final reading and passed.

Vice-Mayor Koci added this was another repeat criminal nuisance offender.

The roll was called. Vote – Yeas: Zolata, Batten, Koci, Mizensak, Pocek, Pozar, Saunders. Nays: None. Motion carried unanimously.

**ORDINANCE NO. 8977-12**, an ordinance amending Section 1953.03 (d)(1), Regulation, Entitled "Fences and Hedges" of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Bedford, Ohio and declaring an emergency was read by title only.

Motion made by Zolata seconded by Batten to suspend the rule requiring the reading of said ordinance on three different days.

The roll was called. Vote – Yeas: Zolata, Batten, Koci, Mizensak, Pocek, Pozar, Saunders. Nays: None. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion made by Mizensak and seconded by Saunders to place Ordinance No. 8977-12 on third and final reading and passed.

Mr. Angelo and Council members thought this issue had been addressed in 2002 but apparently it was not so they were taking care of this issue this evening. Mr. Angelo noted that some fences were sold at six (6) foot heights so it made more sense to change the Codified Ordinances from five (5) feet to six (6) feet.

The roll was called. Vote – Yeas: Zolata, Batten, Koci, Mizesak, Pocek, Pozar, Saunders. Nays: None. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Barbara McDaniel, Center Road pointed out that some of the vehicle accident debris was being swept down the storm sewers located at the corner of Talbot Drive. Mr. Angelo explained it was the responsibility of the Service Department to clean-up this type of debris.

Charlie Aguiar, 215-8 Dalepark Drive, spoke on behalf of his mother Mary Aguiar and the family. He thanked City Council and the Administration for their kind words and the Proclamation. He told a story from 1975-76 when the newspapers made Bedford sound like it was the laughing stock of Cuyahoga County because of the revolving administration door. One of the legacies his father (former Mayor Charlie Aguiar of Bedford) left was being the start of stability in Bedford. The stability has carried on since the late 1970's.

Jeff Duber, 134 Harriman Street, was surprised that Council did not comment during the report section of the agenda regarding the firework incidents this year. He heard several stories about arrests and a lot of damage that was done. He wondered if it wasn't time for the City to start thinking of "not" having firework displays anymore. Mayor Pocek explained Council and the Administration were currently in discussions regarding the very same topic. He announced there would be a Special Work Session on Tuesday, August 21, 2012 at the Ellenwood Recreation Center to discuss what happened at the 2012 fireworks and to listen to the opinions of the residents regarding the 2013 fireworks. The meeting will be published at the normal locations plus the water bill. Because Bedford does not have a newspaper, it is difficult to get news to the residents.

Mr. Pozar stated this was a major concern of Council and the Administration. Nothing had been determined as yet but one thing that was certain was the problems that were experienced during the Bedford fireworks also existed in other surrounding communities. The element/reason that was causing the problem, which may be politically sensitive to say, was that young black kids were going out in gangs causing problems. He understood newspapers probably didn't want to touch this issue so Bedford was going to try to deal with it and if this causes the demise of the fireworks display in Bedford, then Council and Administration wanted the residents and people to know exactly what the reason was. Everyone has been sitting back watching society break down in front of their own eyes, the respect and morality that was once enjoyed in Bedford is deteriorating on a year to year basis and there was a reason for it. Either Bedford needed a stronger police force with more flexibility to deal with these types of problems, or Bedford residents needed to get to the point of being outraged and say "it's enough, it's too much". Until people are willing to take that step and state what the exact problem is, here's why it was happening and here's what it's costing the City. Until it was addressed the City wasn't going to get too far. He hoped the August meeting was going to be a catalyst for this kind of action and that the City should not stand by and allow Bedford to deteriorate in the face of these thugs.

Mayor Pocek stated what occurred at the fireworks was a tragedy. He was shocked to witness what was actually happening. It was black on black kids just running amuck. There was plenty of security at the fireworks but the actions of the children not only disrupted the fireworks, but also made its way into Wal-Mart costing them \$49,000 of lost sales because they had to close the store. These actions of these kids running wild also affected Get-Go. Mayor Pocek explained these types of actions were also happening in

the surrounding communities. Shaker Heights had 70 police officers at their fireworks and had to call for more backup from 12 surrounding police departments. He explained in order for these kids to get their "street creds" (credits), they had to punch an innocent person in the face. He noted the cell phone was a great tool, however, it was also a great disadvantage because that was how they were communicating. Bedford Police Department had to use force to try and maintain the situation by using pepper ball pellets. These kids did not come to see the fireworks; they had one thing in mind and that was to cause problems. On one side there were families in attendance to enjoy the fireworks and on the other side was nothing but "chaos" which was absolutely disgusting that it even occurred.

Mrs. Zolata stressed Bedford did have a strong police force but there wasn't enough officers in numbers to compete with that kind of crowd or size of crowd. There had to be hundreds of kids causing this disturbance. She stated it was a tragedy. She congratulated the three officers that were sworn in this evening.

Richard Novak, 1252 Broadway, congratulated the officers and sergeants because they were all doing a great job on the streets. He talked about an incident that happened at his street. At 10:15 or so, there were 6-7 young girls between 12-14 years old out after curfew that rudely cursed him out while standing in his driveway on his property treating him with no respect. He knew actions like this only showed the breakdown of family and the society. This problem was everywhere. He wondered if their parents even knew where they were. The way to make Bedford better was to start at home with the family.

John Whittaker, 126 Noran Circle, pointed out a problem at 101 Noran Circle where the several young kids were riding their bikes and playing in the street. He agreed with what he had heard tonight about the breakdown of respect; the young children today have no respect at all. If they get in trouble and were low income status, the fee was waived. People have to pay for what they do – "If ya want to play ya got to pay and if ya want to do the crime ya have to do the time". The courts need to enforce stricter penalties because some of these kids need discipline. When the schools had the power to discipline the children, the children behaved. He knew teachers that spent more time trying to get some of the children to calm down than actual hours of teaching. The skin color was not the issue but the children having no respect or manners. Mayor Pocek agreed that civility needed to be returned to the country. The country needed to bring civics back into the schools to teach the children what was right from wrong because it was not being taught at home.

Mr. Angelo pointed out the City of Bedford currently was participating financially toward a mentoring program for certain students. He was trying to get the surrounding cities to participate because their children also go to Bedford. This was not a short term project and this could take years before it paid off.

Mr. Whittaker knew of parents that went to the juvenile court system because they had a problem with their child. The court informed them that nothing could be done unless the child physically harms someone.

Mayor Pocek noted one of the problems was the juvenile court judges needed to be accountable during their six year term. He felt the judges needed to come before Council for approval before they began their election process.

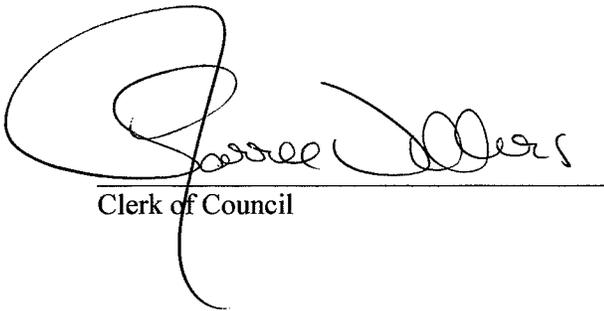
Sandy Spinks, 265 Grand Boulevard, talked about being a mentor through her church and the group was called Kids Hope. She told a story about an abused child that the mother was reported on 17 times. The mother found a loop hole in the system; the mother was not allowed to beat the child anymore so the mother had the grandmother come over and beat the child so the child could not be taken. She was very thankful that the schools were allowing the churches to assist them in mentoring the children. She felt Dr.

Pastor Boquist was the best thing that ever happened to Bedford. She hoped things would get better with people stepping up to the plate and attempting to make a change.

Mayor Pocek announced out of the 10 arrests the evening of the fireworks, eight were adults and two juveniles from Bedford. The others were from Maple Heights, Garfield Heights, Highland Hills, Cleveland Heights, and Warrensville Heights areas.

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

Meeting adjourned at 9:14 P.M.



Clerk of Council



Mayor – President of Council