

**COUNCIL WORK SESSION
MONDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2014**

6:30 P.M. PROMPT

- **EXECUTIVE SESSION** – (Personnel/Economic Development/Litigation)

- **DISCUSSION OF AGENDA**

- **DISCUSSION OF BEDFORD ARTS & CULTURAL BOARD RE-APPOINTMENT**
(Joyce Daunch)

- **DISCUSSION OF ARTS & CURTURAL BOARD BY-LAWS** (Mallis)

- **DISCUSSION OF ELMER FLICK STATUE LOCATION** (Fiberglass)

- **DISCUSSION OF MENTORING NETWORK** (Mallis)

- **DISCUSSION OF VITAL STATS** (Gambosi)

Bedford City Council met in a Work Session at Bedford City Hall on Monday, October 6, 2014 at 6:35 p.m.

Present: Council Members: Mayor Stan Koci, Walter Genutis, Marilyn Zolata, Paula Mizesak, Don Saunders, Sandy Spinks. Administration: City Manager Michael Mallis, Assistant Law Director John Montello, Clerk of Council Lorree Villers, Finance Director Frank Gambosi, Building Commissioner Calvin Beverly. Absent: Greg Pozar.

At 6:36 p.m., Bedford City Council, the City Manager, Assistant Law Director and Finance Director went into an executive session to discuss Personnel/Economic Development/Litigation.

Executive Session adjourned at 7:41 p.m.

Mayor Koci began discussion of the Regular Council Meeting agenda.

Discussion of Agenda

Council had no changes to the minutes of the Work Session of September 15, 2014 and the Regular Meeting of September 15, 2014.

The motion to accept the August 19, 2014 recommendation of the Planning Commission for Marilyn Wise, 25901 Emery Road, Suite 114, Cleveland, OH 44128 who was seeking to utilize 90 Woodrow Avenue as a group home was tabled on September 2, 2014 and September 15, 2014. This item was discussed in Executive Session. It was determined Mr. Saunders had a couple issues with the group home.

Ordinance No. 9217-14 authorized purchase of Hustler Super 104 in the amount of \$13,380. Mayor Koci determined this would be placed on first reading this evening.

Resolution No. 2487-14 authorized the City Manager to seek financial assistance for the OPWC program. Mr. Mallis explained the City applied for this grant almost every year for infrastructure improvements for residential water meters that was a \$1.7 million project. The current meters were 17 years old and some were running slow. Depending on the slow moving condition of the current water meter some residents could see a slight increase in their bills. On an average these meter should be replaced every 15 years.

DISCUSSION OF BEDFORD ARTS & CULTURAL BOARD RE-APPOINTMENT

Mayor Koci announced Ms. Daunch requested to step down from this Board. Council did not consider a replacement.

DISCUSSION OF ARTS & CURTURAL BOARD BY-LAWS

It was determined these By-Laws were not necessary but some type of Guidelines could be helpful.

DISCUSSION OF ELMER FLICK STATUE LOCATION

It was determined Council and the Administration would not pick a location for the fiberglass statue until it was returned from League Park. The bronze statue would be installed October 8, 2014 at 11:00 a.m.

DISCUSSION OF MENTORING NETWORK (Mallis)

There was no decision made regarding this program. Everyone felt a report of some sort would be helpful outlining how the \$15,000 was being spent. This would be discussed again.

DISCUSSION OF VITAL STATS

It was determined this was State mandated. The State now required a computer be installed for those who wanted to use it for vital statistics research. The problem was the additional work load this was going to create for the two employees in the Water Department. Questions were raised whether there could be an Administrative Fee added to the normal cost or if the computer could be moved elsewhere for use. The City did not make a lot of money annually for this service and the only benefit was for the funeral homes. It was noted since the State laws had changed there were more requests at the counter for this service. There was no decision made this evening

Work Session adjourned at 7:58 p.m.



Clerk of Council



Mayor – President of Council

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ROLL CALL

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. Approval of Minutes of the Work Session of September 15, 2014
- b. Approval of Minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 15, 2014

5. PRESENTATIONS

6. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Motion to accept the August 19, 2014 recommendation of the Planning Commission for Marilyn Wise, 25901 Emery Road, Suite 114, Cleveland, OH 44128 who is seeking to utilize 90 Woodrow Avenue as a group home subject to the attached Conditions, the Criteria for Residency and General Guidelines (Tabled 9/2/14 – 9/15/14)

7. REPORTS

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

8. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Ordinance No. 9217-14 authorizing purchase of Hustler Super 104 (\$13,380)
- b. Resolution No. 2487-14 authorizing the City Manager to seek financial assistance for the OPWC program

9. HEARING OF CITIZENS

10. ADJOURNMENT

**PLEASE TURN OFF ALL CELL PHONES BEFORE COUNCIL MEETING
WORK SESSION PRIOR TO THE REGULAR MEETING - Please be considerate
(Council Minutes and Agendas posted at www.bedfordoh.gov)**

Bedford City Council met in Regular Session at Bedford City Hall on Monday, October 6, 2014. Mayor Koci called the meeting to order at 8:01 P.M. The meeting was opened by pledging allegiance to the flag. The roll was called. Present: Spinks, Koci, Mizesak, Genutis, Saunders, Zolata. Absent: Pozar.

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

Motion made by Genutis and seconded by Zolata to approve the minutes of the Work Session of September 15, 2014. The roll was called. Vote – Yeas: Koci, Mizesak, Genutis, Saunders, Zolata, Spinks. Nays: None. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion made by Saunders and seconded by Mizesak to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 15, 2014. The roll was called. Vote – Yeas: Koci, Mizesak, Genutis, Saunders, Zolata, Spinks. Nays: None. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion made by Spinks seconded by Genutis to remove from the table the August 19, 2014 recommendation of the Planning Commission for Marilyn Wise, 25901 Emery Road, Suite 114, Cleveland, OH 44128 who was seeking to utilize 90 Woodrow Avenue as a group home. The roll was called. Vote – Yeas: Koci, Mizesak, Genutis, Saunders, Zolata, Spinks. Nays: None. Motion carried unanimously. (Tabled 9/2/14 – 9/15/14)

Mayor Koci gave Council members an opportunity to speak prior to the vote regarding the sober living home located at 90 Woodrow Avenue.

Mr. Saunders explained this home was in Ward 6 and after extensive research throughout most of his Ward he understood the problem he heard was not the fact that it's a sober living home but the density of the area and the number of adults in the home. The homes were very close with no side yards. He wished them luck on their new home but he was going to have to vote no from what he understood from his constituents.

Mrs. Spinks stopped by the home and was very pleased with what she saw and experienced. She took into consideration the strict guidelines, the increased value of the neighboring homes, the community support they will be offering downtown. This is her way of being a Christian.

Mrs. Zolata said extensive research was done regarding this issue plus the home has continually worked closely with the Building Department. She felt with all the strict conditions the City had the upper hand. The Administration, Council and the Astraea house staff had been cooperative. She wished she had this group in her neighborhood instead of the some of the homes she had.

Mrs. Mizesak thought the 90 Woodrow Avenue home was pristine and the neighbors will adjust.

Mayor Koci stated the positives and negatives were analyzed and it was his opinion the neighborhood and the City would not be harmed by allowing this home. The owner/staff showed a willingness to work with the City in reaching a reasonable set of conditions. The guidelines were very strict and if these ladies don't comply they forfeit a great deal of money and self-respect. The ladies were looking for a normal life free from their demons. Everyone needed to give them support and respect that they and everyone deserves. If there were any problems they would be dealt with swiftly. With the controls at hand he did not believe the City was heading down a "slippery slope". Should a new group home inquire, it would be dealt with on an individual basis. The City was in the process of revising the group home codified ordinances in a diligent and careful manner and until then he was placing a moratorium on any new group homes.

Motion made by Mizesak seconded by Spinks to accept the August 19, 2014 recommendation of the Planning Commission for Marilyn Wise, 25901 Emery Road, Suite 114, Cleveland, OH 44128 who was seeking to utilize 90 Woodrow Avenue as a group home subject to the attached Conditions, the Criteria for Residency and General Guidelines. The roll was called. Vote – Yeas: Koci, Mizesak, Genutis, Zolata, Spinks. Nays: Saunders. Motion carried.

City Manager Michael Mallis apologized for the delay of West Grace construction; the project should be completed in the next 3 – 4 weeks addressed by the County. He commended the Service Department and the Engineering firm. This project was supposed to be addressed in 2015 but it was moved ahead of schedule. He thanked everyone for their efforts for the past festival. He announced Halloween was Friday, October 31, 2014 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Assistant Law Director John Montello wished Ms. Wise and the ladies good luck.

Finance Director Frank Gambosi said Net Profit Taxes would be this month. The Tax Department would alert every one of the new addresses.

Councilwoman Spinks welcomed the group home to the neighborhood and the members of the School Board. She brought back the Move Program from NLC to the Bedford School system; Bedford and Cincinnati were the only schools in Ohio that practiced this program. It was a win-win situation for the students. She was proud of the recent win of the Bearcats.

Councilman Genutis said congrats to the Bearcats and it was wonderful to hear the marching band. It was heartwarming and important that the extracurricular activities continued; extracurricular activities were probably the most memorable.

Councilwoman Zolata felt the same about the schools and Bearcats. She was pleased with mums planted at the Interstate Park along the fence by the Recreation Department. She announced Shred Day was October 11, 2014 8:00 a.m. to noon. She invited everyone to participate in the Light of Hearts Fall Fest October 12, 2014 starting at noon until 5:00 p.m.; the dinner required reservations. The Light of Hearts facility was a wonderful place to be. She, too, was pleased with the past festival and the involvement/dedication of the staff, employees and Council members. She felt Bedford put more time in the events than any surrounding City. She reminded everyone of the Ellenwood Halloween Party November 1, 2014 10:00 a.m. to noon for the younger children.

Councilwoman Mizesak commended the Dispatch Center on their professionalism; she received a return call from one of the Dispatchers regarding a constituent's concern. She stayed warm at the fire barrel at the past festival. She noted how important it was to volunteer for the events. She urged residents not to rake their leaves in the street; the leaves block the storm sewers and it causes flooding problems.

Councilman Saunders asked if there was a limit of boxes per Shred Day. Mrs. Zolata thought it was 10 boxes. Mr. Saunders thought the 98 little cheerleaders was the cutest thing the school had; it was an adorable sight to see. He noticed how the asphalt was ground on West Grace Street and wondered if they were trying to correct the drainage at the bottom of the hill at the catch basins. Mr. Mallis thought 4-5 were being replaced. The City's Engineer would address certain issues but the City wasn't paying anything for this project; it was all County monies. It was determined the City would not rush the project or settle for poor work especially when the City would be responsible to maintain the road for the next 20 years. There is a completion time of one month. Mrs. Zolata thought the company doing this project should be watched because of the previous job in the City. Mr. Saunders clarified the rumor; his father was the one with the broken hip, not him. He cleaned several catch basins in his Ward due to leaves clogging the drains. It was determined the leaf pickup would start in the next couple of weeks.

Mayor Koci suggested the chipper service should take another sweep through town before the leaves fall. He enjoyed the recent fall event and the 150 gift bags were completely gone before the end of the event. The Historical Society Masquerade Ball Reverse Raffle & Art Auction was November 1, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. The Lights Out for Hunger campaign was December 17, 2014 and donate the funds to a local food bank. He announced the bronze Elmer Flick statue would be installed October 8, 2014 around 11:00 a.m. on the City Square.

ORDINANCE NO. 9217-14, AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT TO PURCHASE WITH BAKER VEHICLE SYSTEMS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY WAS READ BY TITLE ONLY.

Motion made by Spinks seconded by Zolata to place Ordinance No. 9217-14 on first reading.

The roll was called. Vote – Yeas: Koci, Mizensak, Genutis, Saunders, Zolata, Spinks. Nays: None. Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 2487-14, A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO SEEK FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM THE OHIO PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION (OPWC) STATE PUBLIC WORKS PROGRAM TO FUND A CAPITAL INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY WAS READ BY TITLE ONLY.

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

The roll was called. Vote – Yeas: Koci, Mizensak, Genutis, Saunders, Zolata, Spinks. Nays: None. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion made by Mizensak seconded by Saunders to place Resolution No. **2487-14** on third and final reading and passed.

Mr. Mallis explained the City applied for this grant almost every year for infrastructure improvements for residential water meters that was a \$1.7 million project.

The roll was called. Vote – Yeas: Koci, Mizensak, Genutis, Saunders, Zolata, Spinks. Nays: None. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Marilyn Wise, 90 Woodrow Avenue, thanked Council for the blessings; she was very touched for Council's wisdom for those to be heard and understood. She was very impressed with Bedford and the responsibility because of the confidence the City had given them to work especially hard to deserve to be the best neighbors and citizens they could be. She announced an Open House on October 12, 2014 at 2:00 p.m. Deacon Woodruff had already submitted a list of suggestions so everyone could work together. She said it takes a village to raise a child. She hoped the village could be involved in this project to the benefit of the ladies and the village. These ladies would purchase from the local stores and volunteer work for the local establishments. She hoped everyone would benefit from knowing something good was happening. She hoped to be a model for the entire Country. She loved Bedford for the homes, ambiance, friendliness, diversity, the beautiful healing park and the festivals. All this allowed these ladies to experience a "real community". Bedford was rare and she hadn't seen any other City that compared. She understood the concerns but hoped to comfort them as time allows.

Tim Tench, School Board member, 286 Marion Street, introduced Superintendent Sherman Micsak and Board President Debora Kozak. He thanked Council for their kind words regarding the school system.

Debora J. Kozak, School Board President, 17500 Egbert Road, Walton Hills, thanked everyone for their kind words, hard work and support. The Bearcats were fourth in the State in Division 2. She then listed the following points of interest: Safety Town celebrated its 50th birthday this year. It's important because of the history of Safety Town being born here in Bedford in 1964 by a nursery school teacher, Dorothy Chlad. Her dream was for all children being informed about road safety prior to entering school. Through Mrs. Chlad's vision and dream, the program became a National program.

The third grade reading guarantee; all but three students passed. Districts were permitted to use a State alternative testing throughout the testing period or the State mandated test to determine if the child passed or would need retention. We fared very well in comparison to our neighboring districts.

Bedford was 35th out of 611 public school districts with value added progress. To complement the Ohio State report card districts part of the Alliance for Adequate funding have developed quality profiles which can be found on our District website.

High School

- 242 graduates walked the stage and received their diplomas. Acceptance letters to colleges and universities were received by 195 seniors. Post-secondary education would be seen by 80% of our graduates,
- \$1,528,658 for scholarships were earned in the form of academic and athletic awards,
- Seven graduates had GPAs of 3.9 or higher,
- Students chose & committed to serving our country and protect our freedom - 2 – Navy, 1 -Air Force. 1 – Marine and 1 – Army,
- Three graduates maintained a 3.3 or higher thru their high school career. They each took college level English & Biology on our campus. Each was nominated for the National Academy of Future Physicians & Medical Sciences in Washington DC. All three received scholarships to continue their studies in the biology/medical field,
- One senior - a young lady, scored 96% higher than others nationwide on the 2014 National Achievement Scholarship test. She scored a 30 on her ACT with the national average sitting at 21.1%,
- Five athletes received full athletic scholarships to play football in the MAC,
- We graduated an additional 12 young adults at the last board meeting,
- Our Football team is rated 2nd in the State for Division 2.

Report Card

- The State changed the game once again with the overhauling of the report card and upping the passage rate from 75% to 80%. Performance index of “C” overall for the district with 10 out of 24 standards met. By the old measurements, we would have attained 15 standards - up from 8 in 2010 not including the graduation rate or attendance,

- The Progress grade for grades 4-8 showed an “A” for the sub-groups of “all”, “gifted” and “the lowest 20%”. Children with disabilities received a “C”. (Approximately 700 kids throughout the district were special needs.)
- Glendale met 2 out of 2 standards receiving an overall “A” rating,
- The high school obtained 6 out of 10 standards,
- The indicators show that our children exceed one year of expected growth. We continue to make significant gains with three years of continuous improvement on the Ohio Graduation test at the high school. Prior to this year the district was rated as Effective.

Stuff & Finances & Improvements

- The average annual increases in the general fund expenditures over the past five years is 0.2% (two tenths of a percent),
- Worker compensation was reduced by 70% through safety programs and transitional work programs.
- Our annual audits have received unqualified opinions and our Treasurer and her department has been awarded the GFOA Certificate of Excellence (Government Finance Officers Association) which less than 3% of government agencies receive,
- We added \$1,500,000 worth of new technology in the past five year predominately in the classroom for instructional improvement and testing requirements mandated by the State,
- Smart Boards in almost every classroom,
- Furniture has been replaced (desks, cafeteria furniture etc.) totaling \$250,000,
- A new two way radio system was installed as was required and mandated by the FCC enhancing safety for students, staff and visitors that were on our campuses as well as GPS tracking on the buses.

We continue “thanks to the City” to have an SRO (school resource officer) at the high school through the City of Bedford. The agreement is a shared expense of half of the salary. Newly appointed at the last Board meeting was Officer Sean Francis, an 18 year veteran of the Bedford force that has SRO and diversity training along with an impressive resume. After being introduced to the student body, he received a standing ovation.

In maintaining our buildings, interiors of each of the buildings were worked on starting in the spring and throughout the summer to keep them as the quality facilities we all expect. Window replacements were done at Glendale - Central -Columbus and Carylwood - helping our heating and cooling conditions and hopefully seeing a cost savings on the utility bills. Carylwood had a lot of exterior work done including a new entrance.

The BHS gymnasium had an exterior facelift plus new doors, ceiling and roof. The cafeteria received a new standing seam roof along with new windows and new refrigeration units. The clock tower was replaced and is now lighted. Fire alarm systems at the two elementary schools were replaced as was the boiler at the Administration Building.

Annually, the maintenance staff does in house parking lot repairs of crack filling, sealing and painting which increases the life span of the lots. The parking lot at Columbus Road was also expanded.

We have purchased an average of four busses per year at a cost of \$78,000 utilizing Ohio Schools Council and State Term pricing which was our consortium for purchasing to get the best prices. The consortium was also used for purchasing waste disposal, fuel, equipment, furniture, office supplies and insurance.

We established a health care committee to monitor health care costs. The Health Care Committee also has the charge of promoting wellness throughout the District. It offers staff members several "healthy" challenges throughout the year. Our six year average increase is 3.63%. We also self-funded health care benefits with expected savings annually of \$500,000.

The HB264 project at Heskett has provided about \$100,000 in energy savings.

Things that have been paid off:

Maintenance garage, stadium turf, stadium, science labs, bleachers, vocational business department, music department, and Southeast Library Construction.

The Administrative staff and regular certificated and non-certificated staff has been reduced sometimes through attrition or lack of need due to cuts in educational programs that were not drawing student interest. Initial cuts since 2008 amount to about \$2.8 million. We have exercised fiscal responsibility in lieu of losing \$13.5 million in state funds. The Board of Education has made sound financial decisions and wise investments in the classrooms allowing for continued progress for our children. She closed with "That's why we are all proud to be Bearcats"!

Superintendent Sherman Micsak talked about how the City and Schools worked together for the betterment of the overall picture. He passed out a folder with Levy information; the Issue on the Ballot this year was Issue 1 at \$4.9 mills for an operating levy. The funds would be put to very good use. The last operating levy was passed in 2009 at a 1% increased spending over the last five years. If the levy doesn't pass the school would be forced to make \$2 million in cuts in programs and services to the students. He was proud of the students and the current programs. The cost would be \$3.50 for every \$25,000 of value per home in additional taxes. The school had no bonded debt; they own their belongings. It was important to educate others of this Levy by word of mouth and Facebook. These levies were not run on tax payers' dollars but by private contributions and volunteered time. He reiterated that Bedford was 35th out of 611 public schools districts with value added progress. To complement the Ohio State report card districts part of the Alliance for Adequate funding have developed quality profiles which can be found on our District website. Councilwoman Mizesak added the Bedford School System had been ranked in Northeastern Ohio for three years the top work place to work.

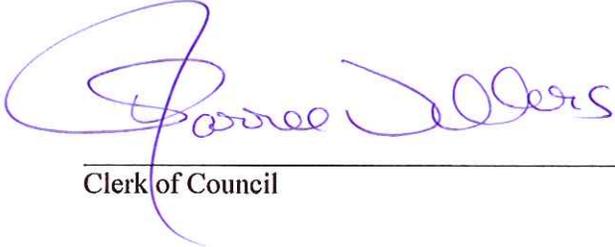
Nancy Lachowski, 197 Wandle Avenue, spoke again about the parking problem in her area along with the two hour parking sign and the problems this was causing. Mr. Mallis explained it was addressed but recently the parking had resurfaced. Additional no parking signs would be installed and these employees would be ticketed. Again, she pointed out the non-working fire hydrant on the corner of Center Road and Ellenwood. Mr. Mallis explained it would be addressed. She noticed the meetings were becoming longer so she felt the speaking limit needed to be enforced.

Jeff Duber, 134 Harriman Street, pointed out there was an Automile banner out of place on the Rockside Road Bridge. Clarification was made on the location of the new Dispatch Center which was to be in Bedford Heights and not the hospital. Mr. Duber spoke about the rubbish pickers that were causing problems throughout the City. Mr. Mallis said he would alert the Officers.

Diane Astalos, 685 Archer Road, said her rental property at 105 West Grace Street has had orange cones marking the catch basin for three months. Mr. Mallis explained original project was to address the street only; however, 4 or 5 catch basins had collapsed so the cones were marking this area as needed and the County would address this as this project moved forward. Mrs. Astalos added these rubbish pickers were also causing traffic problems by stopping in the middle of the road; even though she felt sorry for them. Mayor Koci said she should not feel too sorry for these rubbish pickers because they make about \$100 - \$200 rubbish picking.

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

Meeting adjourned at 9:14 P.M.



Clerk of Council



Mayor – President of Council