

STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTY OF TARRANT §

CITY OF BEDFORD §

The City Council of the City of Bedford, Texas, met in work session at 6:00 p.m. and regular session at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber of City Hall, 2000 Forest Ridge Drive on the 26th day of August 2008 with the following members present:

Jim Story	Mayor
Roy Savage	Mayor Pro Tem
Chris Brown	Council Members
Ray Champney	
Lori Nail	
Roy Turner	

Constituting a quorum.

Jeff Cason was absent at tonight's meeting.

Staff present included:

Beverly Queen	City Manager
Steve Johnson	Deputy City Manager
Stan Lowry	City Attorney
Bill Cooper	Deputy Director of Information Services
David Flory	Police Chief
Shanae Jennings	City Secretary
John Kubala	Director of Public Works
Jill McAdams	Director of Human Resources
Tom Ross	Director of Administrative Services
Maria Redburn	Library Manager
Bill Syblon	Development Director
Mirenda McQuagge-Walden	Communications/Special Projects Manager
James Tindell	Fire Chief

WORK SESSION

Mayor Story called the work session to order at 6:00 p.m.

- **Review and discuss items on the regular agenda and consider placing items for approval by consent.**

Council discussed approving the following items by consent: 7, 10, 11 and 12.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

To convene before 7:00 p.m., if time permits, in the conference room in compliance with Section 551.001 et. seq. Texas Government Code, to discuss the following:

- a) **Section 551.087, Deliberation regarding economic development negotiations pertaining to Block 1 Lot 2 of the Bedford Forum Addition.**
- b) **Section 551.087, Deliberation of the offer of a financial or other incentive to a business prospect relative to properties located north of Highway 183, south of Commerce Place, east of Forum Parkway, and west of Reliance Parkway.**

Council convened into Executive Session pursuant to the Texas Government Code regarding Section 551.087, Deliberation regarding economic development negotiations pertaining to Block 1, Lot 2 of the Bedford Forum Addition and Section 551.087, Deliberation of the offer of a financial or other incentive to a business prospect relative to properties located north of Highway 183, south of Commerce Place, east of Forum Parkway, and west of Reliance Parkway at approximately 6:05 p.m.

Council reconvened from Executive Session at approximately 6:58 p.m.

Any necessary action to be taken as a result of the Executive Session will occur during the regular session of the Bedford City Council Meeting.

REGULAR SESSION 7:00 P.M.

Mayor Story called the meeting to order.

CALL TO ORDER/GENERAL COMMENTS

Regular session began at 7:00 p.m.

INVOCATION (Bishop Eric McClellan, The Mercy Seat)

Bishop Eric McClellan of The Mercy Seat gave tonight's invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF ITEMS BY CONSENT

Motioned by Councilman Champney, seconded by Councilman Brown to approve the following item(s) by consent: Item(s) 7, 10, 11 and 12.

Motion approved 6-0-0. Mayor Story declared the motion carried.

COUNCIL RECOGNITION

1. Employee Recognition

The following employee(s) received recognition for dedicated service and commitment to the City of Bedford:

Russell Laurin, Fire Department – 10 years of service
Leo Warren, Fire Department – 10 years of service
Jason Whitehead, Fire Department – 10 years of service

2. Recognition of City of Bedford employees Kelli Agan, Police Administrative Manager and Roger Gibson, Deputy Police Chief for a Bedford Employee Commitment Award (BECA).

Kelli Agan, Police Administrative Manager and Roger Gibson, Deputy Police Chief were recognized with the Bedford Employee Commitment Award for displaying above and beyond the call of duty conduct for going the extra mile as it relates to serving on the employee insurance committee and creating several concise and informative documents including analysis and projections that explain the logic and decisions leading to the committee's recommendation.

3. Proclamation proclaiming the month of September 2008 as "Be Bedford Prepared Month" in the City of Bedford.

Mayor Story read and presented a proclamation proclaiming the month of September 2008 as "Be Bedford Prepared Month" in the City of Bedford.

4. Proclamation recognizing the Bedford Amateur Radio Club.

Mayor Story read and presented a proclamation for recognizing the Bedford Amateur Radio Club.

5. Acknowledgments from Council regarding the passing of Mr. Ralph Good.

Council members provided recognition, condolences and respect to Mr. Good who passed away two weeks ago from liver cancer.

Mayor Story indicated that he wanted to pay tribute to Mr. Good, indicating he was someone who will be missed, who really loved his family, was active with boards and commissions within Bedford and overall was a good and fine man.

Lori Nail stated that Mr. Good was unique and has left his imprint in the hearts and minds of our City. Mr. Good took the time to go over any questions City related or not with Ms. Nail and she appreciates the man of character that he was.

Raymond Champney indicated he had the pleasure to know Mr. Good and felt he was very dedicated to the City with some very fine ideas. He is someone who will be sorely missed.

Roy Savage stated that though he and Ralph didn't always see eye to eye, Mr. Good had a true passion for Bedford and Mr. Savage knew that Mr. Good always felt what he was doing was in the best interest of the City.

Roy Turner indicated he was always so impressed with Mr. Good's forward look and vision for the City of Bedford. He was dedicated to the City and to his family and he will be sorely missed.

Chris Brown said he served on the Charter Review Commission with Mr. Good and knows that Mr. Good was completely in favor of the best for the City of Bedford. He will be missed.

PERSONS TO BE HEARD

6. **The following individuals have requested to speak to the Council tonight under persons to be heard:**

a) **Melanie Curl, 1113 Amherst Drive #1063 – Requested to speak to the Council regarding the Be Bedford Prepared Event and the CERT program.**

Melanie Curl, 1113 Amherst Drive #1063 – Ms. Curl spoke to the Council about the Be Bedford Prepared Event and the CERT program. She informed Council and residents of the event that will be occurring within Bedford this month, which is encouraged by the Department of Homeland Security. Fire and Police Departments will be present at this event with information about programs and safety techniques. The event will be held Saturday, September 20, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. at 2424 Forest Ridge Drive, the future site for the Bedford Public Library. Please attend and enjoy yourself. Ms. Curl also spoke about the CERT program, which prepares the community for emergency disasters generally regarding weather related issues. The CERT team has prepared for emergency disasters through hours of training and a new training class will begin on September 15 and will be held each Monday from 6:30 – 9:30 at the LEC for those interested in applying.

b) **Bob Whistler, 1516 Wimberly Court – Requested to speak to the Council regarding the following items:**

- **Vehicles failing to to (sic) stop at red lights and stop signs and blocking the pedestrian cross walks as it relates to both foot and vehicle traffic safety.**
- **Inquire as to why Bedford does not enforce the codes on citizens and contractors littering our streets with debris.**
- **How Bedford could decrease the amount of street litter.**
- **Ask about the status of employee measurements and productivity indices.**
- **Inquire about the Gatsby (sic) 45 impact on Bedford due to current and future retiree retirement benefits and services.**

Bob Whistler, 1516 Wimberly Court - Mr. Whistler spoke to the Council regarding the above indicated items. He indicated he is concerned about cars crossing the white line of intersections and parking within cross walks in so far that traffic safety is impeded. He would like to see warnings issued at the least. He suggested he is very frustrated with companies blowing their grass clippings into streets and he would like to see more enforcement of this issue. Mr. Whistler also stated he walks every morning and he sees numerous amounts of debris. If it is possible for the Bedford Municipal Court Judge to have community service projects which addressed people picking up debris, it would be a great option for addressing the issue. Mr. Whistler was curious as to a status report regarding employee performance measures and whether or not they are tied to employee performance in the upcoming budget. The City Manager responded to him and indicated there are performance measures, they are tied to the budget and both the Mayor and Council have reviewed them. Finally, Mr. Whistler wanted to address how the GASB 45 would affect the City; overall, he was curious as to the liability for the City.

Director of Administrative Services, Tom Ross, addressed the GASB 45 question and stated that it affects all areas. It requires an actuarial valuation of retiree health benefits and in doing that there is an approximate \$20 million dollar liability that carries forward over the next 30 years. The funding mechanism being discussed is called an annual required contribution, which funds the \$20 million liability. This money will be set aside each year incrementally in a trust at the rate of about \$1 million

each year over the next 20 years. Staff is revising this plan as a working document and will continue to work on this until the end of September 2009 to develop a mechanism to fund this plan as well as consider other options.

c) Jerry Thompson, 2912 White Oak Lane – Requested to speak to the Council regarding a standard of decency for lawns and lawn law enforcement within Bedford.

Jerry Thompson, 2912 White Oak Lane – Mr. Thompson indicated that he has been a proud resident of Bedford for 29 years and is frustrated with the lack of care taken by some residents regarding their lawns. He feels the effects to certain homeowners on their property values are detrimental and he would like to see Bedford enforce picking up junk and trash on front porches and driveways. Mr. Thompson also expressed an interest in what some are calling 'lawn laws' to enforce a standard of decency for lawns so that they do not become unsightly.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

7. **Consider approval of the following City Council minutes:**
a) **August 8, 2008 budget work session**
b) **August 12, 2008 regular meeting**

This item was approved by consent.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business during tonight's meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

8. Public hearing to consider the proposed 2008 tax rate.

Tom Ross, Director of Administrative Services, presented information pertaining to the proposed 2008 tax rate and indicated this item is to hold a public hearing to receive citizen comment and input on the proposed 2008 tax rate.

Mayor Story opened the public hearing at 7:50 p.m.

Nobody elected to speak at the public hearing.

Mayor Story closed the public hearing at 7:50 p.m.

No other action is required on this item tonight.

9. Public hearing on the annual budget for the City of Bedford, Texas for the fiscal period of October 1, 2008 through September 30, 2009; levying taxes for 2008.

Tom Ross, Director of Administrative Services, presented information regarding the 2008 City of Bedford budget and indicated this item is to hold a public hearing to receive citizen comment and input on the proposed 2008 budget.

Mayor Story opened the public hearing at 7:55 p.m.

Nobody elected to speak at the public hearing.

Mayor Story closed the public hearing at 7:55 p.m.

No other action is required on this item tonight.

10. Consider a resolution accepting the City of Bedford Investment Policy.

This item was approved by consent, subject to correcting the date of approval as today's date.

11. Consider a resolution authorizing the expenditure of \$21,880.85 from the Parks Donation Fund for the new equipment for the expanded cardio room and the dumbbells and rack for the weight room at the Boys Ranch Activity Center.

This item was approved by consent.

12. Consider a resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract in the amount of \$109,534.64 with Tarrant County for rehabilitation of the parking lot at Meadowpark.

This item was approved by consent.

13. Consider a resolution casting votes for nominees to the Texas Municipal League Intergovernmental Risk Pool Board of Trustees.

Motioned by Councilman Savage, seconded by Councilman Champney to approve a resolution casting votes for the following nominees to the Texas Municipal League Intergovernmental Risk Pool Board of Trustees:

Michael Nyren in Place 1
Charles Cox in Place 2
Paul Parker in Place 3
Beverly Queen in Place 4

Motion approved 6-0-0. Mayor Story declared the motion carried.

COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

14. a) Chris Brown

- **Report on Library Advisory Board Meeting**
- **Report on Grand Prairie Air Hogs Game**

Chris Brown attended the Library Advisory Board meeting on Wednesday August 20, 2008 and many reports were provided on the status of the new library and it was reported that \$4,000 was raised as a result of the Library Book Club Sale. Concerns were also brought up regarding the tree memorial, which may want to be addressed at a later date. Mr. Brown threw out the ceremonial first pitch at the Air Hogs Game in Grand Prairie and he had a lot of fun.

15. Take any action necessary as a result of the Executive Session.

No action was necessary as a result of tonight's Executive Session.

OPEN FORUM

No one spoke during tonight's open forum.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Story adjourned the meeting at 8:02 p.m.

ATTEST:

Jim Story, Mayor

Shanae Jennings, City Secretary