

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 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chamber of City Hall, 2000 Forest Ridge Drive on the 11th day of August 2009 with the following members present:

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

Constituting a quorum.

Staff present included:

Beverly Queen	City Manager
Steve Johnson	Deputy City Manager
Stan Lowry	City Attorney
David Flory	Police Chief
Shanae Jennings	City Secretary
John Kubala	Director of Public Works
Maria Redburn	Library Director
Bill Syblon	Development Director
James Tindell	Fire Chief
Mirenda McQuagge-Walden	Managing Director of Community Services

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 item(s) by consent: 2, 5 and 6.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

- **Section 551.071, Consultation with City Attorney regarding pending or contemplated litigation - Bedford Hospitality Investments, LLP.**

- **Section 551.087, Deliberation regarding economic development negotiations relative to Block 2, Lot 1Ra of the Bedford Forum Addition. (Amended Item)**

Council convened into Executive Session pursuant to the Texas Government Code regarding Section 551.071, Consultation with City Attorney regarding pending or contemplated litigation – Bedford Hospitality Investments, LLP, and regarding Section 551.087, deliberations regarding economic development negotiations relative to Block 2, Lot 1Ra of the Bedford Forum Addition at approximately 6:08 p.m.

Council reconvened from Executive Session at approximately 6:30 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

Mayor Story called the meeting to order.

CALL TO ORDER/GENERAL COMMENTS

Regular session began at 6:30 p.m.

INVOCATION (Pastor Stan Hare, Embracing His Grace Church)

Pastor Stan Hare of Embracing His Grace Church gave tonight's invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

OPEN FORUM

Dorothy McWhorter, 1600 Martha Drive, Bedford – Ms. McWhorter spoke about Item 4 on the agenda. Ms. McWhorter proposed questions to Council and asked that they consider them and come back during the public hearing on the budget at the next meeting and provide answers. Specifically, she would like to see a comparison of the following questions between the FY 08/09 budget and FY 09/10 budget.

1. Percentage of increase or decrease for the total proposed budget?
2. Percentage of increase or decrease by departments by budget?

She also asked the Council whether or not they would consider returning money to the tax payers if there is a surplus of funds at the end of the fiscal year.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF ITEMS BY CONSENT

Motioned by Councilman Champney, seconded by Councilman Brown to approve the following item(s) by consent: Item(s): 2, 5 and 6.

Motion approved 7-0-0. Mayor Story declared the motion carried.

PERSONS TO BE HEARD

1. **The following individuals have requested to speak to the Council tonight under persons to be heard:**
 - a) **Robert Earley, President/CEO of John Peter Smith Hospital, 1500 South Main Street, Fort Worth, TX 76104 – Requested to speak to the Council to introduce himself and discuss his vision for JPS.**

Robert Early, 2445 Stadium Drive, Fort Worth – Mr. Early has been the CEO of JPS since February 2009 and he indicated he wanted to introduce himself and extend an arm of service to the City Council in Bedford as well as the entire area. Mr. Early is speaking to all of Tarrant County cities and introducing who he is, what his goal is for JPS and he noted to Council that he wants to ensure that they know he is available to the City. He feels that in the past JPS has not always done a good job of communicating with its constituents and he would like to change that perception. Mr. Early wants to make sure that people know JPS Hospital is aware of and knows what its mission is and that the mission is to serve the citizens, particularly since it is the citizens and community that provide the capital to make the hospital available to everyone. Services can be found through visiting www.jpshealthnet.org or maps and brochures can be found at the local Brown Trail facility in Bedford.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

2. **Consider approval of the following City Council minutes:**
 - a) **July 28, 2009 regular meeting**

This item was approved by consent.

NEW BUSINESS

3. **Consider a proposed tax rate and set public hearings on the proposed tax rate.**

Tom Ross, Director of Administrative Services, presented the proposed tax rate and requested that the Council set the public hearing on the proposed tax rate.

Mr. Ross discussed the difference between the effective rate, effective operating rate, debt tax rate, maximum public hearing rate and rollback tax rate. Tonight the Council is only setting a maximum tax rate; they are not setting the actual tax rate.

If the Council sets a tax rate greater than the effective rate, which is \$0.463348, two public hearings will be required. If the Council sets a tax rate equal to or less than the effective rate there is no need for a public hearing. There will still be a public hearing on the budget regardless.

Motioned by Councilman Savage, seconded by Councilman Champney to consider a maximum tax rate of \$0.463348 per \$100 valuation.

Motion approved 7-0-0. Mayor Story declared the motion carried.

4. **Call a public hearing on the proposed FY 2009/2010 budget to be held on August 25, 2009 at 4:30 p.m.**

Tom Ross, Director of Administrative Services, presented information about calling a public hearing on the proposed FY 2009/2010 to be held on August 25, 2009 at 4:30 p.m. The time for this public hearing has been set early in order to accommodate a TxDOT meeting that will be held on the expansion of 183 which will directly affect Bedford. The TxDOT meeting interferes with the regular Council meeting time; therefore, it has been moved up to accommodate the Council members and staff that both want and need to attend the TxDOT meeting.

Motioned by Councilman Fisher, seconded by Councilman Savage to call a public hearing on the proposed FY 2009/2010 budget for August 25, 2009 at 4:30 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers.

Motion approved 7-0-0. Mayor Story declared the motion carried.

5. Receive the certified anticipated collection rate from the Tarrant County Tax Assessor Collector for the City of Bedford.

This item was approved by consent.

6. Receive the 2009 Ad Valorem Tax Roll from the Tarrant Appraisal District.

This item was approved by consent.

7. Consider a resolution accepting the Bedford Public Library Foundation's proposed naming rights and sponsorship packages and authorizing the Bedford Public Library Foundation to solicit donations for the new Library on behalf of the City of Bedford.

Maria Redburn, Library Manager, presented information to the Council regarding the Library Foundation's proposed naming rights and sponsorship packages and requested authorization for the Bedford Public Library Foundation to be able to solicit donations for the new Library on behalf of the City of Bedford and generally fielded questions.

Council had concerns regarding giving lifetime naming rights and wanted input on the concept and thoughts behind it. There was concern about what occurs if the rules need to be changed. If a lifetime guarantee is provided then it is a very permanent fixture, which concerned some. Also, some felt people will stay more involved and invested in the process if they are paying on a rolling basis instead of a lifetime basis. Some felt that a room should be named permanently and that it was more important to focus on the concept of a benefactor name and not a sponsorship of a business for naming rights.

Jim Davisson, 1612 Arborcrest Drive, Bedford – Mr. Davisson is President of Friends of the Library and he indicated that in this economy the idea behind asking for lifetime naming rights directly correlated to the lack of sponsorships that are coming out of this economy. With the economy not being real sturdy it was felt that people would not commit to this kind of money without the lifetime naming rights.

Duane Wieland, 1308 Glen, Euless – Mr. Wieland is the President of the Bedford Public Library Foundation and he indicated that the lifetime donations would be for rooms and split donations would be for space allocation.

Motioned by Councilman Brown, seconded by Councilman Champney to approve a resolution accepting the Bedford Public Library Foundation's proposed naming rights and sponsorship packages and authorizing the Bedford Public Library Foundation to solicit donations for the new Library on behalf of the City of Bedford with the stipulation that the naming right opportunities page be set as the minimum donation/contribution allowable.

8. Council member reports

a) Councilman Fisher - Give/receive information about the council's strategic plan action steps.

Councilman Fisher indicated that he does not have sufficient information to report regarding the strategic plan action steps from the June 27, 2009 Council work session. However he will have that at a later time.

Mr. Fisher also announced that a longtime resident, Carole May, lost a five week battle with pancreatic cancer recently and for 15 years she was the lead nurse in the operating room at HEB Hospital. She provided a great service to the community of Bedford and he would like to offer his condolences for the loss of Carole.

The Mayor announced that the the Summer Reading Program Library held their awards ceremony and 170 kids read from between 40 to 350 hours during the summer.

9. City Manager/Staff reports

City Manager Beverly Queen had no report during tonight's meeting.

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

No action was necessary as a result of the Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Story adjourned the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

Jim Story, Mayor

ATTEST:

Shanae Jennings, City Secretary