

STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTY OF TARRANT §

CITY OF BEDFORD §

The City Council of the City of Bedford, Texas, met in work session at 4:00 p.m., and regular session at 4:30 p.m. in the Council Chamber of City Hall, 2000 Forest Ridge Drive on the 25th day of August 2009 with the following members present:

Jim Story	Mayor
Chris Brown	Council Members
Ray Champney	
Roger Fisher	
Roy Savage	

Constituting a quorum.

Lori Nail and Roy Turner were absent at tonight's meeting.

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 4:00 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: 3, 5, 6, 7 and 8.

- **Discuss lease contract with Artsnet and Onstage.**

City Manager Beverly Queen requested that Council provide some clarification on whether or not they would like to seek request for proposals (RFP) for a theater group to occupy Onstage or whether the City should work with Onstage to negotiate a lease contract with the City of Bedford, separate and apart from any contractual obligation with ARTSNET.

Council directed staff to negotiate with Onstage, with the requirement that electric bills be paid by the entity. They have been within the City for 25 years, they were just voted as one of the best theater groups in Northeast Tarrant County and the City would like to retain them if at all possible. However, if terms of an agreement cannot be reached then the Council will open negotiations through an RFP process.

REGULAR SESSION

Mayor Story called the meeting to order.

CALL TO ORDER/GENERAL COMMENTS

Regular session began at 4:30 p.m.

INVOCATION (Pastor Bayard Pratt, Martin Methodist Church)

Mayor Story gave tonight's invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

OPEN FORUM

Bob Whistler, 1516 Wimberly Court, Bedford – Mr. Whistler requested to speak on item No. 4. He asked that there be no property tax rate increase and he would like to see the tax rate remain the same as the current year. He noted that there appeared to be some excess spending within the Police Department, and while he hasn't been able to view every department's budget, he does anticipate it is possible there are the same wastes existent within others' departments. Mr. Whistler distributed a handout that can be received through the Office of the City Secretary via an open records request.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF ITEMS BY CONSENT

Motioned by Councilman Champney, seconded by Councilman Savage to approve the following item(s) by consent: Item(s): 3, 5, 6, 7 and 8.

Motion approved 5-0-0. Mayor Story declared the motion carried.

Council members Nail and Turner were absent at tonight's meeting therefore did not vote.

COUNCIL RECOGNITION

1. Employee Recognition

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

Joe Lopez, Police Department – 10 years of service

2. Proclamation proclaiming the month of September 2009 as "Be Bedford Prepared Month" in the City of Bedford.

Mayor Story read and presented a proclamation proclaiming the month of September 2009 as "Be

Bedford Prepared Month” in the City of Bedford.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

- 3. Consider approval of the following City Council minutes:**
- a) August 7, 2009 budget work session**
 - b) August 11, 2009 regular meeting**

This item was approved by consent.

NEW BUSINESS

- 4. Public hearing on the annual budget for the City of Bedford, Texas for the fiscal period of October 1, 2009 through September 30, 2010; levying taxes for 2009.**

Tom Ross, Director of Administrative Services, presented information regarding the 2009 City of Bedford budget and indicated this item is to hold a public hearing to receive citizen comment and input on the proposed 2009 budget.

City Manager Beverly Queen provided a general overview of the budget. The handout regarding this overview was distributed and may be received through the Office of the City Secretary via an open records request.

Mayor Story opened the public hearing at 5:19 p.m.

No one elected to speak during tonight’s public hearing.

Mayor Story closed the public hearing at 5:19 p.m.

No other action is required on this item tonight.

- 5. Consider an ordinance amending Chapter 2 - Administration, Article II of the City of Bedford Code of Ordinances Section 2-31 and repealing all ordinances in conflict therewith (No. 2257, No. 2337 and No. 01-2600) to create a new section providing for the time and date of regular City Council meetings and declaring an effective date.**

This item was approved by consent.

- 6. Consider a resolution giving Tom Ross, Director of Administrative Services, the authority to act, on behalf of the City of Bedford, with regard to any unclaimed money in the possession of the State of Texas that is in the exact or similar name as the City of Bedford.**

This item was approved by consent.

- 7. Consider a resolution accepting the City of Bedford Investment Policy.**

This item was approved by consent.

- 8. Consider approval of a resolution authorizing amendments to the employee personnel policy “Holidays” Section IV-4.**

This item was approved by consent.

9. Update on Providing Marketing Support for Bedford Businesses. *Item requested by Councilman Champney**

Councilman Champney requested that this item be placed on the agenda so that he can report information gathered as a result of direction he received from the strategic plan action steps at the June 27, 2009 Council work session. He addressed ways to help find support for economic development initiatives for existing businesses within the City. One option is to host a mirror website to the City's which would have ads that could be coupons or special promotions. Another option is to use an outside service to host such a website. The costs to the City could be partially offset through fees paid by businesses that want to participate. By providing this support it shows businesses that the City cares about them, it encourages additional sales which lead to increased sales tax revenue, and it would help draw new businesses.

10. Council member reports

Roy Savage indicated that former Council member Jim Griffin's father-in-law passed away and condolences go out to him.

11. City Manager/Staff Reports

City Manager Beverly Queen reminded everyone to come and participate in Bedford Blues and BBQ on Labor Day Weekend, September 5-6, from 2 p.m. to 11 p.m.

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

There was no executive session at tonight's meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Story adjourned the meeting at 5:28 p.m.

Jim Story, Mayor

ATTEST:

Shanae Jennings, City Secretary