

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 26th day of April 2011 with the following members present:

Jim Story	Mayor
Chris Brown	Council Members
Ray Champney	
Roger Fisher	
Jim Griffin	
Roy Savage	
Roy W. Turner	

Constituting a quorum.

Staff present included:

Beverly Queen Griffith	City Manager
David Miller	Deputy City Manager
Stan Lowry	City Attorney
Michael Wells	City Secretary
Bill Cooper	Deputy Director of Information Services
Roger Gibson	Interim Police Chief
John Kubala	Public Works Director
Jill McAdams	Human Resources Director
Mirenda McQuagge-Walden	Managing Director of Community Services
Maria Redburn	Library Manager
Bill Syblon	Development Director
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 placing the following items on consent: 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13 and to change the amount on Item #13 from on \$693,000 to \$690,000.

- **Report on the Community Powered Revitalization Program's Spring Blitz.**

Managing Director of Community Services Mirenda McQuagge-Walden introduced Wes and Diane Higdon of 6 Stones Mission Network, who presented information regarding the Community Powered Revitalization Program's Spring Blitz. Mr. Higdon stated that it was a successful event and it was exciting to see all that took place. He appreciates all of the support and response from the City. The purpose of the program is to strengthen, grow and revitalize the community one household and one family at a time. Those involved included the three cities, City employees, churches, organizations, businesses, and youth/adult groups. He presented before and after pictures of the houses that were worked on. The Blitz involved 27 houses total with eight in Bedford and the participation of 200-250 volunteers.

Mayor Story adjourned the Work Session at 6:21 p.m.

**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:

- Pursuant to Section 551.071, consultation with City Attorney regarding pending or contemplated litigation – The Oaks of Landera Apartments.

Council convened into Executive Session pursuant to the Texas Government Code regarding Section 551.071, Consultation with City Attorney regarding pending or contemplated litigation – The Oaks of Landera Apartments at 6:21 p.m.

Council reconvened from Executive Session at approximately 6:38 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 6:30 P.M.**

Regular Session began at 6:39 p.m.

**CALL TO ORDER/GENERAL COMMENTS**

Mayor Story called the meeting to order.

**INVOCATION (Senior Pastor Marty Akins, First Baptist Church of Bedford)**

Senior Pastor Marty Akins of First Baptist Church of Bedford gave tonight's invocation.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

**OPEN FORUM**

Nobody chose to speak under tonight's Open Forum.

**CONSIDER APPROVAL OF ITEMS BY CONSENT**

Motioned by Councilman Champney, seconded by Councilman Turner to approve the following items by consent: 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13 with the stipulation that the amount is changed from \$693,000 to \$690,000 on Item #13.

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

**COUNCIL RECOGNITION**

**1. Proclamation declaring May 2011 as Motorcycle Safety and Awareness Month.**

Mayor Story read a proclamation declaring May 2011 as Motorcycle Safety and Awareness Month. Members of the Patriots Motorcycle Club accepted the proclamation.

**2. Recognition of Gary Clopton, Information Services Specialist II, and Patrick Martin, Senior Engineering Tech, for a Bedford Employee Commitment Award (BECA).**

## Council Minutes April 26, 2011

Information Services Specialist II Gary Clopton was recognized with the Bedford Employee Commitment Award for going above and beyond the call of duty by coming to the aid of a young girl who was almost the victim of an abduction. Senior Engineering Tech Patrick Martin was recognized with the Bedford Employee Commitment Award for his work in revising the City's water-sanitary sewer-roads-drainage specification documents.

### 3. Employee Service Recognition.

The following employees received recognition for dedicated service and commitment to the City of Bedford:

Tony New, Community Services – 5 years of service  
Tonya Smith, Police Department – 15 years of service  
Kirk Roberts, Police Department – 25 years of service  
Donald Smith, Police Department – 30 years of service

### APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

#### 4. Consider approval of the following City Council minutes:

##### a) April 12, 2011 regular meeting

Motioned by Councilman Champney, seconded by Councilman Turner to approve the minutes of the April 12, 2011 regular meeting.

Motion approved 6-0-1. Mayor Story declared the motion carried. Councilman Griffin abstained due to not being present at the April 12, 2011 meeting.

### OLD BUSINESS

#### 5. Presentation regarding amendments to the following sections of the City of Bedford Sign Ordinance: Chapter 6, "Advertising," Section 6-67 "Definitions," and Section 6-71 "Permanent Signs."

Development Director Bill Syblon presented information regarding amendments to the City of Bedford Sign Ordinance. This is a follow-up from discussion at the March 22 Work Session. At that meeting it was discussed that any global or significant changes to the Ordinance would require more research. Minor changes being presented for discussion tonight are a new definition for pylon signs and regulations that apply only to pylon signs. This change is based on requests from shopping center owners and tenants. Pylon signs would be defined as a sign that has two or more poles. The entire area between the pylons could be utilized, with the exception of the first three feet above the ground. The maximum width of pylon signs would be 20 feet. Also being proposed is that each tenant would be allowed 200 square feet of signage along the highway and 100 square feet of signage along non-highway corridors. This is consistent with the current regulations for pole signs. These are the only changes that would be brought back to Council at the May 10 meeting.

Council was of the consensus to bring back these amendments to the Sign Ordinance for approval at the next meeting. Language would be removed from the final ordinance regarding pole and monument signs on the Sign Table, which was included in error.

#### 6. Presentation and possible staff direction regarding a safe passing ordinance. \*\*Item requested by Councilman Brown (Tabled at the April 12, 2011 Council meeting.)

Councilman Brown requested this item be placed on the agenda for discussion and possible staff direction. He stated that this ordinance was resident driven and he was asked to put this on the agenda for discussion. Staff has put together a good packet of information in the agenda packet. Most of the people in support of this ordinance are from the cycling community. One resident who spoke in favor of an ordinance at the last meeting said that she was almost run off the road and was told by the police that

they could not get involved unless she was actually hit. The Transportation Code states that vehicles are required to pass at a safe distance but does not define what that distance is. He asked if any current laws applied to the situation that the resident described, and if the ordinance was passed, would the relationship between cars and vulnerable road users be policed differently. Interim Police Chief Roger Gibson explained that when Governor Perry vetoed this bill in 2009, his reasoning was that there were statutes already in place that covered the same aspects of the bill. The Transportation Code makes a separation in the definition of a vehicle and a motor vehicle. Statutes regarding following too closely and passing without sufficient clearance make reference to the word vehicle. With the current statutes, it is somewhat subjective on how close you can be when following too closely and how much room is safe when passing. These statutes would apply if you are passing another motor vehicle as well as a bicycle. For cities that have already passed a safe passing ordinance, it offers them the opportunity to be clearer for the purposes of an educational program because it defines what that distance is. However, it is still subjective, under both current law and a safe passing ordinance, for an officer making an observation on whether a violation has occurred due to their position and visibility. Of the eight cities that have passed this ordinance, four have large cultural districts with a lot of pedestrian, vehicle, and motor vehicle traffic. The ordinance provides a tool for them to help get an educational message out to promote safety.

Due to Bedford being a small city and no other cities around having this ordinance, the difficulty in enforcing the ordinance, and it being duplicative of current State law, Councilman Brown pulled his support for the ordinance. Chief Gibson stated that if a roadway is 14 feet or wider, the bicyclist must ride as close to the right side curb as possible; however, the roadways in Bedford are 12 feet so bicyclists could travel more in the center of the lane. Statistics from 2009 to the present showed that in a lot of occasions when there was an accident, the culpability rested with bicyclists. A lot of accidents between pedestrians and vehicles occurred in parking lots so the ordinance would not apply in these situations. Most accidents outside of parking lots occurred at intersections.

Council was of the consensus not to pursue this ordinance.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- 7. Consider a resolution to accept the recommendation by the Parks and Recreation Board and Beautification Commission to rename the Bedford Trails West Park to the Harris Ryals Park.**

This item was approved by consent.

- 8. Consider a resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract with SimplexGrinnell for the purpose of installing a CCTV Video Surveillance System at the Boys Ranch Activity Center, Splash and the Boys Ranch Park restroom in the amount of \$27,605.**

This item was approved by consent.

- 9. Consider a resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement for one aquatics season with Kona Ice to provide product for the sale of shaved ice at the Splash Aquatics Center concession stand.**

This item was approved by consent.

- 10. Consider a resolution authorizing the City Manager to purchase medical equipment and related components from Physio Control, Inc., in the amount of \$99,627.**

This item was approved by consent.

- 11. Consider a resolution authorizing the purchase of a replacement digital video recording system and five replacement cameras through Secure Options, Inc. in the amount of \$16,849.50 for the Detention Facility.**

This item was approved by consent.

- 12. Consider a resolution seeking designation as a Management Agency for Wastewater Collection and Treatment within Bedford's City limits in accordance with the requirements of Section 208 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended.**

This item was approved by consent.

- 13. Consider a resolution authorizing the Public Works Director to request financial assistance from the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB); authorizing the filing of an application for assistance; and making certain findings in connection therewith.**

This item was approved by consent.

- 14. Report on most recent meeting of the following Boards and Commissions:**

- ✓ **Animal Control Board- Councilman Griffin**

No report was given.

- ✓ **Animal Shelter Advisory Board- Councilman Griffin**

Councilman Griffin announced the upcoming Spring Pet Fair and Adoption will be from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on April 30 at the Animal Shelter.

- ✓ **Beautification Commission- Councilman Turner**

No report was given.

- ✓ **Community Affairs Commission- Councilman Fisher**

No report was given.

- ✓ **Library Board- Councilman Brown**

Councilman Brown stated that the Library Board met last week. Over 60 children attended the Breakfast with the Bunny sponsored by the Friends of the Library. The new Library has saved \$500.00 in electricity this February compared to last February even though it is double the size. The next Board meeting is May 18 at 7:00 p.m.

- ✓ **Parks & Recreation Board- Councilman Griffin**

No report was given.

- ✓ **Senior Citizen Advisory Board- Councilman Savage**

Councilman Savage stated that the Board met yesterday. April is National Volunteer Recognition Month and volunteers at the Center have contributed 1,246 hours this quarter. AARP 55 and Alive classes were attended by 42 seniors. Senior water aerobics classes will begin Monday May 30 and run through August 19. Classes will be taught Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. The annual judged art show will be held from May 9 through May 31.

Mr. Savage then presented statistics since the Senior Center became an individual center. In January, Bedford had 928 attendees compared to 1,261 attendees from other cities. In February, Bedford had 768 attendees compared to 1,010 attendees from other cities. That represented the lowest attendance ever, due mainly to the extreme weather. In March, Bedford had 1,155 attendees compared to 1,407 attendees from other cities. For the first quarter, the total number of people attending classes was 2,465 for January, 1,859 for February, and 2,773 for March, for a total of 7,097. The actual body count for the quarter was 6,519 people.

✓ **Teen Court Advisory Board- Councilman Champney**

Councilman Champney announced that the Teen Court Banquet is coming up on April 28.

**15. Council member reports**

Councilman Fisher stated that on May 1 at 6:00 p.m. at the First Baptist Church of Euless there will be a coming together of Bedford, Euless, Hurst and the County to celebrate all the good things being done within the community. It will include a live roundtable discussion with the City Managers of each city.

Councilman Champney was pleased with the turnout for the Beautification Awards on Saturday and the awards were well-deserved by the businesses, Lupe's Tex-Mex and Homewood Suites.

**16. City Manager report**

City Manager Beverly Queen Griffith stated that the City is currently accepting applications for the Cultural Commission. Applications are available on-line and can be turned in to City Secretary Michael Wells.

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

No action was necessary as a result of Executive Session.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Story adjourned the meeting at 7:51 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jim Story, Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael Wells, City Secretary