

STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTY OF TARRANT §

CITY OF BEDFORD §

The City Council of the City of Bedford, Texas, met in Special Session at 5:30 p.m. in the Building A Conference Room, Work Session at 6:15 p.m. and Regular Session at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 2000 Forest Ridge Drive on the 28th day of June 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 Griffith | City Manager |
| David Miller | Deputy City Manager |
| Cathy Cunningham | City Attorney |
| Michael Wells | City Secretary |
| Cliff Blackwell | Director of Administrative 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 |

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Story called the Special Session to order at 5:30 p.m.

SPECIAL SESSION

- **Interviews for appointments to the Cultural Commission.**

Council conducted interviews with applicants for appointment to the Cultural Commission.

- **Council discussion, if necessary, regarding appointments to Cultural Commission or vacancies on other boards or commissions.**

Council generally discussed the appointment of members to the Cultural Commission and other citizen Boards and Commissions. Appointments will be made at a future Council meeting.

Mayor Story recessed the Special Session at 6:43 p.m. Council will reconvene into Special Session after the Regular Session to continue their discussion.

Mayor Story reconvened the Special Session at 9:23 p.m.

Mayor Story adjourned the Special Session at 9:36 p.m.

WORK SESSION

Mayor Story called the Work Session to order at 6:47 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: 5, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11.

Mayor Story adjourned the Work Session at 6:50 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:

- a) **Pursuant to Section 551.072: to deliberate the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property - properties located in the 100-year floodplain in Sulphur Branch and SB-1.**
- b) **Pursuant to Section 551.074: personnel matters – annual performance review of the City Manager.**

Council convened into Executive Session pursuant to the Texas Government Code regarding Section 551.072: to deliberate the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property - properties located in the 100-year floodplain in Sulphur Branch and SB-1 and Section 551.074: personnel matters – annual performance review of the City Manager at 7:43 p.m.

Council reconvened from Executive Session at approximately 9:22 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 6:51 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER/GENERAL COMMENTS

Mayor Story called the Regular Session to order. He congratulated Councilman Savage and his wife on their 60th wedding anniversary.

INVOCATION (Pastor Mark Christy, Mid-Cities Community Church)

Pastor Mark Christy of Mid-Cities Community Church 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: 5, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11.

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

COUNCIL RECOGNITION

1. Presentation of the Texas Association of Municipal Information Officers TAMI Award for Excellence in Print – External Newsletter for Populations Less than 55,000.

Tom Bryson, President of the Texas Association of Municipal Information Officers, presented Council with the TAMI Award for Excellence in Print for the Bedford Connection Magazine. The Mayor recognized Managing Director of Community Services Mirenda McQuagge-Walden and Communications Coordinator Dominik Pierce for their work on the magazine.

2. Recognition of Jeremy Beekman, Geographic Information Systems Technician, and Erica Guest, Athletics/Aquatics Coordinator, for a Bedford Employee Commitment Award (BECA).

Geographic Information Systems Technician Jeremy Beekman was recognized with the Bedford Employee Commitment Award for helping an elderly woman whose car broke down in the middle of Harwood Road. Athletics/Aquatics Coordinator Erica Guest was recognized with a Bedford Employee Commitment Award for coordinating the Relay for Life walking event at Trinity High School.

3. Employee Service Recognition

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

Michael Martin, Police Department – 5 years of service
Jeanne Green, Community Services – 10 years of service
Jerry Watson, Fire Department – 15 years of service
Michael Gardner, Public Works – 25 years of service

PERSONS TO BE HEARD

4. The following individual has requested to speak to the Council tonight under Persons to be Heard:

- **Ralph Chaney, 3053 Richwood Circle, Bedford, TX 76021 – Requested to speak to the Council regarding smoking.**

Ralph Chaney, 3053 Richwood Circle, Bedford, TX 76021, requested to speak to Council about smoking. He is speaking as a resident and as chairperson of the Library Advisory Board. In building the new Library one thing was left out and that was creating a no-smoking ordinance for the building. Smoking is not permitted inside the building, but the grounds leading up to the building are covered with cigarette butts. Receptacles have been set out, but are often missed. People who sit out on benches, and those with children, are offended by the cigarette butts. Staff and the custodians should not have to clean up. When the Board participated in Clean-Up Bedford Day, the Library grounds were one of the dirtiest things to clean.

On behalf of the Library Advisory Board, Mr. Chaney is asking for a no smoking zone on the grounds leading up to the library and for the entire property, if possible. He would also like to see a no smoking policy for all of the buildings in the City. The Board voted unanimously to ask the Council to create an ordinance that states the Library and its grounds are a smoke-free zone. He does not expect the Police Department to enforce it, but for it to be based on honor and humility. Council was of the consensus to develop such an ordinance. Staff will bring it back to Council at the second meeting in July.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

- 5. Consider approval of the following City Council minutes:**
a) **June 14, 2011 regular meeting**

This item was approved by consent.

OLD BUSINESS

- 6. Presentation by Robert Hinkle, NTE, and Lara Kohl, Bluebonnet Construction, regarding the S.H. 183 expansion.**

Robert Hinkle, Public Affairs for NTE, and Lara Kohl, Bluebonnet Construction, presented information regarding the S.H. 183 expansion. Tommy Williamson, Public Information Coordinator for NTE, was also present. Ms. Kohl stated that the project will provide both transportation relief and serve as an economic engine for this area through job creation. Almost 200 people work directly for NTE Mobility Partners and Bluebonnet and another 700 work through subcontractors. The project is creating a lot of local jobs for the DFW area and North Texas. They have also done an intensive outreach to disadvantaged businesses.

Even though they have to close lanes to reconstruct them, Ms. Kohl stated that they are committed to keeping traffic moving. There have been approximately 300 lane closures since last fall, but most of those have been outside of the peak traffic periods. There have also been more than 200 closures on the frontage roads, with minimal impact to local traffic. The contract with TxDOT lists "black out" dates, for such things as holidays, when they cannot do any construction that impacts traffic.

Ms. Kohl stated that it was important to coordinate with local municipalities. They have regular meetings with all the impacted cities and meet once a month with City staff. They also send out weekly e-mails on Fridays regarding lane closures. They also hold quarterly traffic management meetings with City staff and the Police and Fire Departments to give them a three month look ahead so they can coordinate with local projects.

Ms. Kohl then presented information on the design evolution of the east segment. Their designers were able to take the lanes that were previously elevated and found a way to take them down to grade level and to do so without any additional rights-of-way. They did so by taking out some green space and grassy areas. They have received approval of the design from the Federal Highway Administration. The next step is to hold noise wall workshops with affected property owners at the end of July or early August. She then spoke on the utility relocation process and that it is the first thing that has to happen before any significant road construction. That process is currently underway and they are closely coordinating with cities and utility companies on designs and relocations.

Ms. Kohl then spoke about how this design-build project differs from a traditional TxDOT project in that different elements are happening in tandem. It has been a real challenge to find areas in which to start construction that is not impeded by having to acquire rights-of-ways or relocate utilities. Key areas that they have been able to start are the I-35/820 interchange, between Beach Street and Fossil Creek, the 121/183 split and the Hurstview area. In Hurstview, they are reconstructing the pedestrian bridge and once that is complete, they will demolish the old one. They are also clearing out an area to build a frontage road in that area. At the 121/183 split, the ramp from 183W to 121N has been closed and they will be reconstructing the bridges in that area over the next 18 months.

At the request of City staff, they have put together a construction timeline of what the City could expect over the course of the project. Ms. Kohl stated that these timelines are accurate as of the time they are presented, but can change continually. Construction will start on the general purpose lanes of the highway from Central Drive to Forest Ridge Drive, starting in the fall and continuing for a year. Starting this winter and continuing to the following winter, there will be construction on the general purpose lanes

from Forest Ridge Drive to Stonegate North. Starting next spring and continuing for a year, there will be construction on the general purpose lanes from Stonegate North to just west of Brown Trail. She made a commitment to visit with Council on a regular basis as the timeline evolves.

In regards to communication, Ms. Kohl mentioned the Beat the Traffic online application where anyone who has a smart phone or a computer can get real time traffic reports on the construction, as well as accidents. It is a subscriber-based program, but it is free to anyone who signs up for it through the project website. They also have a presence on Facebook and Twitter and they have a public information center in North Richland Hills.

In answer to questions from Council, Ms. Kohl stated that the residents in Stonegate will be included in the noise wall workshops. Utilities would be relocated in the same manner as they currently exist except in extenuating circumstances. There will be no reduction in the amount of money used towards aesthetics and most of the aesthetics would be located in the gateways into the City. There will be one more meeting with the Aesthetics Committee sometime in late summer or early fall as they want to get the noise wall meetings with residents underway as soon as possible. They will make the City aware of these meetings with residents. In regards to acquiring the necessary rights-of-way, Mr. Hinkle says that they are ahead of schedule and are at about 65% acquisition. They are currently working on critical path properties and major relocations.

In regards to a concrete versus asphalt highway, asphalt has always been included in the project since procurement. It was decided to go with asphalt as it is a quicker build, easier to maintain, and is a smoother ride. Mr. Hinkle mentioned that the current highway is made of asphalt.

NEW BUSINESS

- 7. Consider a resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Tarrant County and to recommend to the County to accept the Reconciliation Change Order No. 1 with Prim Construction, LLC in an additional amount of \$9,491.27 for the City of Bedford 36th Year CDBG Brown Trail Sanitary Sewer & Sidewalk Improvement Project.**

This item was approved by consent.

- 8. Consider a resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract with Ron Wright, Tarrant County Tax Assessor-Collector, and Tarrant County for assessment and collection services of ad valorem taxes levied by the City of Bedford; and providing an effective date.**

This item was approved by consent.

- 9. Consider a resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into an interlocal agreement with the City of Fort Worth for purchase card services as provided by JP Morgan Chase via its Smart Data On Line (SDOL) product.**

This item was approved by consent.

- 10. Consider a resolution to reject the proposal for the Electrical Maintenance Service Price Agreement.**

This item was approved by consent.

- 11. Consider a resolution to reject all proposals for the Plumbing Maintenance Service Price Agreement.**

This item was approved by consent.

- 12. 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**

No report was given.

- ✓ **Beautification Commission- Councilman Turner**

No report was given.

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

No report was given.

- ✓ **Library Board- Councilman Brown**

No report was given.

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

No report was given.

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

No report was given.

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

No report was given.

13. Council member reports

Councilman Savage congratulated Beverly Griffith on her five years as City Manager.

14. City Manager report

City Manager Beverly Griffith reminded Council about 4thFest this Monday. Splash will open at noon, with the children's activities beginning at 4:00 p.m. Music starts at 5:00 p.m. and the fireworks are at 10:00 p.m.. There will be shuttles from Pennington Field and parking at the Old Bedford School and the Library.

15. 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 Regular Session at 9:23 p.m.

Jim Story, Mayor

ATTEST:

Michael Wells, City Secretary