

**Council Minutes December 8, 2015**

**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 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 2000 Forest Ridge Drive, on the 8th day of December, 2015 with the following members present:**

Jim Griffin	Mayor
Ray Champney	Council Members
Steve Farco	
Roger Fisher	
Dave Gebhart	
Rusty Sartor	
Roy W. Turner	

constituting a quorum.

Staff present included:

Roger Gibson	City Manager
Kelli Agan	Assistant City Manager
Stan Lowry	City Attorney
Michael Wells	City Secretary
Amy Bourquin	Old Bedford School Coordinator
Cliff Blackwell	Administrative Services Director
Jeff Florey	Events and Cultural Coordinator
Natalie Foster	Public Information Officer
Jeff Gibson	Police Chief
Wendy Hartnett	Special Events Manager
Les Hawkins	Deputy Police Chief
Russell Hines	Building Official
Meg Jakubik	Strategic Services Manager
Jill McAdams	Human Resources Director
Kenny Overstreet	Interim Public Works Director
Maria Redburn	Library Director
Emilio Sanchez	Planning Manager
Bill Syblon	Development Director
Eric Valdez	Community Services Manager

**COUNCIL CHAMBER WORK SESSION**

Mayor Griffin called the Work Session to order at 4:00 p.m.

Councilmember Champney arrived at 4:02 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: 4, 9, 11, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 29, 31 and 32.

Events and Cultural Coordinator Jeff Florey presented information regarding Item #9, which is to

## Council Minutes December 8, 2015

standardize the Cultural Commission with the rest of the City's Boards and Commissions by replacing the Chamber of Commerce position and alternate positions with regular positions. In answer to a question from Council, it was stated that the Community Affairs Commission will still have a Chamber representative.

Human Resources Director Jill McAdams presented information regarding Item #14, which is for a Kronos employee timekeeping system. This item was brought to Council during the budget process. It is a cloud-based system that will be interactive with the City's new Logos system and will allow employees to clock-in in real time. The current system has employees recording their time and submitting it to a timekeeper, who compiles the information into a timesheet that is then submitted to Human Resource. It is a proprietary system that was developed in house and does not have an audit trail mechanism. The Kronos system is the only one that interacts with Logos from a public safety timekeeping standpoint. Employees can clock-in on tablets, smart phones, and biometric time clocks. The system has geo-mapping and geofencing capabilities whereby parameters can be programmed for where employees are able to clock-in, including City buildings. Originally, the software was only going to be on workstations, tablets and smart phones; however, there were some employees that would not want to use their smart phone and did not have access to a tablet or computer, which would slow down the clock-in process. Therefore, the biometric timeclocks were added after the supplemental at an additional annual cost of \$13,608. Once the item is approved, it will take 30 to 60 days to get Kronos scheduled to begin the implementation process; therefore, for the current year, she anticipates the cost being about half. Further, the timeclocks at a facility like Splash can be rented for the months it is open. The costs of the timeclocks would be paid through salary savings. At this time, the programming costs, for which staff has allotted \$17,000, are unknown. In answer to questions from Council, Ms. McAdams stated that it is cheaper to rent the timeclocks; that she believes the system will not pay for itself but will tighten-up timekeeping procedures across the City; that the system will be utilized by every non-exempt employee as under Fair Labor Standards Act rules, if the time of exempt employees were tracked, they would then be considered non-exempt; and that the reason the programming costs are unknown is that Kronos has not yet come in to work on the City's Logos system. Council requested that staff keep them up-to-date on the programming costs.

Library Director Maria Redburn presented information regarding Item #15, which is a renewal of the Innovative Interfaces, Inc. (III) maintenance agreement in the amount of \$47,160. The agreement is an annual technological and hardware support contract for all hardware and software that manages the integrated library systems, which includes the online catalogue, circulation and cataloguing functions, e-commerce, and fines and fees. This portion of the contract is \$39,660, which is an increase of 2.5 percent, and the company is allowed up to a five percent increase annually. Also included is the final payment on the server for \$7,500, which was approved as a supplemental in Fiscal Year 12-13 and was essential for customer service. The maintenance agreement supplies the Library with a turnkey system, which covers 100 percent of software and hardware maintenance, and to install, configure and repair the system when it breaks. In answer to questions from Council, Ms. Redburn stated that this will be the company's last year to support the server; that staff looked at maintenance options including consortiums and other proprietary systems, and have decided to utilize an open source solution; that she will bring an open source contract to Council in the spring; that open source software and new developments by the community are free; that the open-source company would host and support the server; that in regards to migrating sooner, the City has to give III a 90-day notice and staff would have to get everything up and running by Summer Reading Club; that the funds for next year will cover the migration fees; and that the City can make a partial payment to start the migration process and pay the remainder after the beginning of the fiscal year.

In answer to questions from Council regarding Item #16, Special Events Manager Wendy Hartnett stated that the City is charging the organization \$10.00 for a year's worth of rent; that she is not sure when the contract began; and that in the next phase of the Boys Ranch, staff will look into restructuring the contract. There was discussion on the City being reimbursed for actual costs and minimizing the impact without subsidization by the tax payers. Ms. Hartnett stated that staff ran into a time issue with the agreement and in future years, particularly with the upcoming cultural district designation, staff will relook at the agreement. There was Council discussion on both the Arts Council Northeast and Onstage being

## Council Minutes December 8, 2015

valuable assets; the organizations' support of summer arts and the Master Works series, as well as their involvement in the north Texas community; the Arts Council serving as the umbrella organization of the 501(c)(3) for fundraising for the arts district; other cities being interested in having the organizations; staff looking at a different structure next year; that the organizations pay for all utilities as well as interior maintenance, with the City being responsible for the mechanicals and the outside of the building; and the Arts Council having spent money to repaint and redo the carpet.

Mr. Florey presented information regarding Item #19, which is for the City Manager to purchase a cultural district master plan and signage concept from Kimley-Horn and Associates. The Cultural Commission requested a way-finding and concept design for the Cultural District. This would involve a cohesive plan for multi-mobile users in helping to raise awareness of the District. The deliverables would be wayfinding concept plan, signage concepts and integrated landscape and streetscape concepts and renderings for Forest Ridge Drive. There was discussion on wayfinding throughout the City including for trails, parks and other amenities; that Kimley-Horn is working on the signage for the Boys Ranch and the Bedford Trails; Kimley-Horn helping in making the signage throughout the City complete and standard; and having a cohesive plan city-wide. In answer to questions from Council, Mr. Florey stated that multi-mobile means every mode of transportation; that the agreement does not include engineering but includes examples of signage and where it should be located, and other views of what could be done within the District in the future such as street narrowing; that the company would survey the Commission members and maybe the citizens, and interview Council; and that the renderings would give a visual of what this potentially could look like. There was discussion on Kimley-Horn providing a comprehensive plan and recommendations to enhance the City and fully develop the District; the City seeking funding from grants on the basis of the plan; the area between the Old Bedford School and the Boys Ranch being revitalized; the plan dovetailing with Bedford Commons to enhance the entire City and create a greater sense of community; Kimley-Horn creating design criteria that would then go out to sign manufacturers; and a recent health initiative and the possibility of the City becoming a blue-zone community. In answer to further questions from Council, Mr. Florey stated that Forest Ridge Drive would be the main focal point as it is the connector for the District but the City is not bound just to create signage for that street. There was discussion on applying the design standards to the rest of the City; and coordinating with other cities on signs at the boundaries to indicate each other's parks and other designations.

In answer to a question from Council regarding Item #22, Building Official Russell Hines stated that staff has utilized the Buy Board to purchase vehicles the previous two years. There was discussion that the cost of the same vehicle outside of using Buy Board was \$10,000 more.

Interim Public Works Director Kenny Overstreet presented information regarding Item #23, which is for the water line on Tennis Drive. The previous January, Council gave permission to seek grant funding through Tarrant County's Community Block Development Grant (CDBG) program and Tennis Drive fell within the boundaries of the program's requirements. There have been several breaks on the six-inch water line. Funding was approved in the amount of \$138,062. The City's consulting engineer, Dick Perkins, did the design and it was taken out to bid. The City's portion of \$77,097 will come from the Utility Maintenance Fund, with the larger portion coming through the CDBG. In answer to questions from Council, Mr. Overstreet stated that this project falls within their master plan; and that the replacement eight-inch line is the minimal size for fire flow and circulation through the City.

Mr. Overstreet presented information regarding Item #24. He stated that Gregory Drive has a very steep middle crown and the west-side curb line is settling. Baird, Hampton and Brown was hired to do the design work for a street rebuild and the price came in at \$527,532. The project also involves replacing the water line with one made from PVC. The \$135,508 for the cost of the waterline will come out of the Utility Maintenance Fund, with the remaining \$392,000 for the street repair coming out of the 2013 General Obligation bonds left over from the Dora Street project. In answer to questions from Council, Mr. Overstreet stated that the contractor has 70 days to complete the project per the contract and there is a \$100 per day penalty for not completing the project in that time frame.

Mr. Overstreet presented information regarding Item #25, which is for a professional services agreement

## Council Minutes December 8, 2015

with King Engineering in the amount of \$69,460 for design services and creation of a spec book to bid for an Automated Meter Reading (AMR) system. King was asked to coordinate the project to get a system that is all in-house with one company. They will also coordinate with the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) on the specifications and requirements for the AMR and bidding and will work with staff to design the spec book to be packaged with the City's meter reading group books. The project would be paid through the Utility Maintenance Fund. Mr. Overstreet stated that there was a misprint in the information supplied to Council in that the that the funds are a portion of the City's good faith money for projects through the State Water Implementation Fund for Texas (SWIFT) and will not be reimbursed; and that this item is for all meters from  $\frac{3}{4}$  to six inches.

Mr. Overstreet presented information regarding Item #26, which is for larger meters from three to six inches. Many will require a new design in order to fit the AMR as well as going to a compound meter with devices to pick up high flows and low flows, which will require plumbing and re-piping. Bypass lines will also be designed to allow businesses to remain in-service during the meter and vault change out, which will require large and detailed engineering drawings. The \$120,000 will come from the Utility Maintenance Fund, and is part of the good faith money for the SWIFT funding. This will also include design work for some City buildings. In answer to questions from Council, Mr. Overstreet stated that for the smaller meters, it will take 60 to 90 days to get the contracts and plans completed, and after approval by the TWDB and bidding out, an additional 12 to 14 months to do every meter in the City; that there will be an informational campaign including mail outs and brochures; that King will be available to assist staff until the completion of the project; that there are 40 large meters; that the vault designs of the large meters vary; that King will visit each individual site; that the vaults are underground but the lid service is above ground level; that there would be no additional costs to the end user; and that the specifications will be specific to each location and the design to make it work.

Staff recommended that Items #27 and #28 be tabled.

Mayor Griffin presented information regarding Item #29, which is casting votes for the Tarrant Appraisal District. He stated that Mr. Eubanks, who represents the northeast Tarrant County area, is retiring. He has spoken with Mark Wood and he comes highly recommended as a replacement by other area mayors. Council was of the consensus to cast 23 votes for Mr. Wood.

Strategic Services Manager Meg Jakubik presented information regarding Item #31. She stated that it is the action item related to what was discussed at a work session held at the end of October. At that meeting, Sonny Wilkins with Simple Recycling presented a program for curbside collection of soft recyclables at no cost to the City or residents. This would prevent certain items from being put in the landfill. At that time, questions were raised about when the collection would be. Staff has met with representatives with Republic Services and Simple Recycling. Republic raised concerns that there could be some customer service issues with missed pickups and their contract has penalties for missed pickups. It was proposed that Simple Recycling would operate on Wednesdays to avoid misunderstandings on missed pickups. If Council decides to table this item, the timeline presented to Council would have to be pushed back. In answer to questions from Council, Ms. Jakubik stated that Simple Recycling recently signed an agreement with Little Elm; that they are just foraying into the DFW market and they have been operating in the Houston area; that they operate in the northeast with many entities that have Republic as their waste haul provider, which alleviated some of Republic's concerns; and that Republic was not in favor of having Simple Recycling picking up on Republic's recycling days. There was discussion having pickups every day of the week in various parts of the City; calls received by the City for recycle bins being out; and a trial period for the program. In answer to further questions from Council, Ms. Jakubik stated that the contract would be for four years with an out period, and the only stipulation being that the City could not enter into any similar agreements until the four years expires; that she has not yet heard back from the City of Plano regarding entering into an agreement; and that the agreement states Simple Recycling will give prompt and courteous attention to all reported missed collections and complaints, which they have verbally stated is within 24 hours, and is similar to Republic's missed collection window. There was discussion on the City being a trailblazer; having the program on the normal recycling day; removing donation collection bins in parking lots if the program passes; the City getting an average of \$2,000 a year from the program; and having the service on Mondays and

## Council Minutes December 8, 2015

Tuesdays. In answer to further questions from Council, Ms. Jakubik stated that the initial delivery of bags will be through the mail; that Simple Recycling can leave replacement bags anywhere the City wants except for in mailboxes; and that there could be provisions that the green bags be kept three feet from trash bags. There was discussion on the preferred method to leave bags, including securing them somewhere at the front door so they could not blow away; and mailing new bags to residents. In answer to a question from Council, Deputy Police Chief Les Hawkins stated that Code Compliance receives between 20 and 30 calls a week on the recycling bins. There was discussion on creating more problems for Code Compliance.

- **Presentation on Community Affairs Commission activities.**

Community Affairs Commission Chairperson Roy Savage thanked the Council for filling the Commission's membership list. His purpose was to report on their 2014-15 notable activities and to seek approval of their calendar of events for 2015-16. Their first event was a business outreach roundtable held on April 2, which accomplished their goal to reach out to the business community to inform them of plans and opportunities the City has in place for the future of the business community. He discussed a feedback report compiled by Commission Vice Chairperson Steve Grubbs, which was assembled from exit surveys. The next event was the City Expo and Pet Fair, which were combined to give a greater coverage of their presentation. It introduced various City departments and their duties to the general public, which created an atmosphere of the City and feeling of belonging. The dual presentation was a good idea and both events were considered to be a great success, with in excess of 400 participants. A residential outreach meeting was conducted on May 14 and was attended by approximately 100 participants. The exit survey had very positive responses and the most interesting subjects included the Bedford Commons, the Boys Ranch project, and economic development and redevelopment. Another residential outreach meeting was conducted on September 17 and had a similar outcome with just over 100 attendees. The next major events were the block parties held on June 11 in the Rustic Wood Neighborhood and October 1 at Lincolnshire Circle. There were nothing but positive results with approximately 200 participants at each event. He thanked Commissioner Sal Caruso, who is the program manager for these events.

Mr. Savage presented a tentative schedule of events and the Commission will coordinate with City staff to make sure that they do not conflict with other City activities. He stated that the Commission needs to know if it is fulfilling the will of the Council with the format. The first event of 2015-16 was a business roundtable breakfast on November 5, which had a 35 attendees. It was a very successful event, with both positive and negative input, for the Council and staff. He stated that one of the best functions of the Commission is outreach to the community to get their input and to relay that to the Council. On February 25 and in September, they are looking at hosting residential outreach meetings with a town hall format. On April 15 and September 29, they will host residential outreach block parties, which will be located in different parts of the City. On May 12, they will host a business roundtable. The months of June, July and August are open if the Council wants the Commission to hold an event. He thanked the entire membership of the Commission as well as their staff liaison Ms. Jakubik, their Council liaison Councilmember Farco, and the Mayor and Council.

In answer to questions from Council, Mr. Savage and Ms. Jakubik stated that the block party in April would consist of two homeowner's associations in the Cummings Drive area that are close enough in proximity to combine into one event; that the block parties are invitation only due to the issues with food services; and that the events could be referenced as cultural activities. There was discussion on the Commission teaming up with the Police Department to get the word out on National Night Out.

- **Discussion of firms to conduct a citizen satisfaction survey.**

Ms. Jakubik stated that in Fiscal Year 13-14, Council made the decision to reinstate the citizen satisfaction survey, which was ultimately done through the University of North Texas Survey Research Center. At that time, Council's desire was that the survey be repeated every other year in order to see improvements and to have an avenue to query on policy items. This year is the second year at which the survey should be repeated. It was learned that the UNT Survey Research Center closed, so staff went

## **Council Minutes December 8, 2015**

out for bid and received three proposals, all of whom submitted bids during the last Request for Proposal process. At that time, the Council interviewed the top two candidates being the UNT Survey Research Center and ETC. Staff has provided Council all three proposals and in its opinion, ETC provides the closest methodology to UNT with the most similar capabilities in reporting, as well as being the least expensive even if the other components of their proposal were added.

There was discussion on whether the timing of the survey was appropriate; pushing the survey out at least one more year due to leadership changes and organization restructuring, and needing more time to cultivate information from the original survey. Council was of the consensus to withdraw this item. There was discussion on statistical sampling and when to do the survey. In answer to questions from Council, Ms. Jakubik stated that ETC and one other company proposed a statistical study while the other company's methodology was putting the survey on the City's website; that the previous survey had 500 respondents, which was statistically valid within five percentage points; that a survey serves as a useful tool as support for grant proposals; and that policy items addressed from the previous survey include smoking in restaurants, recycling carts and texting while driving. There was discussion on Council getting direct feedback from residents by being out in the community and how long the previous survey would remain viable.

Mayor Griffin adjourned the Work Session at 5:47 p.m.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**To convene in the conference room, if time permits, in compliance with Section 551.001 et. Seq. Texas Government Code, to discuss the following:**

- a) Pursuant to Section 551.087, deliberation regarding economic development negotiations relative to Block 1, Lot 1D, Shops at Central Park.**
- b) Pursuant to Section 551.087, deliberation regarding economic development negotiations relative to Bedford Forum Addition, Block 4 Lot DR1.**

Council convened into Executive Session pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.087, deliberation regarding economic development negotiations relative to Block 1, Lot 1D, Shops at Central Park and Section 551.087, deliberation regarding economic development negotiations relative to Bedford Forum Addition, Block 4 Lot DR1 at approximately 5:48 p.m.

Council reconvened from Executive Session at 6:10 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**

The Regular Session began at 6:30 p.m.

### **CALL TO ORDER/GENERAL COMMENTS**

Mayor Griffin called the meeting to order.

### **INVOCATION (Dr. Timothy Pierce, Woodland Heights Baptist Church)**

Dr. Timothy Pierce of Woodland Heights Baptist Church gave the invocation.

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance to the flags of the United States and Texas were given.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS/UPCOMING EVENTS**

Marketing Specialist Natalie Foster reported that the annual Fire Department pancake breakfast will be on Friday and Saturday from 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. at the Central Fire Station. The cost is \$5.00 and all proceeds to go the Firefighters Awards Banquet Fund. The Senior Center will hold its Christmas Dance on Monday, December 14 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:15 p.m. The cost is \$6.00 and there are special decorations, light refreshments and live music. The City is currently accepting nominees for the Holiday Decorating contest and residents can nominate themselves, friends or neighbors. Entries must be in by 12:00 p.m. Monday, December 14.

Ms. Foster gave an update on the construction at the Boys Ranch. Construction crews are draining water from the recent rains and are continuing to work on the concrete border and ledge surrounding the lake. They have installed gravel and a weed barrier in the playground area and are beginning to lay down mulch. Construction has begun on the dock on the east side of the lake. The Parks Department met with staff from the Texas Department of Parks and Wildlife on building the fish habitats. The target completion date is the end of January 2016.

Mayor Griffin stated that the previous Friday, the City participated in the "Pulling for Hope" at Pennington Field, along with the cities of Euless and Hurst, the School District, and Classic Chevrolet. The objective was to raise money for 6Stones to provide Christmas to children in the School District. Euless won the event and the event raised over \$140,000.

**OPEN FORUM**

Wayne McNeil, owner of Generation X Comics, 3504 Harwood Road #304, Bedford - Mr. McNeil signed up to speak on Item #10. He discussed Section 6, Section 70(h) of the Sign Ordinance, specifically that window signs may only occupy 25 percent of window area. He asked that differences on that section be considered. He stated that the signs in his windows draw people from the highway and asked if some provision can be made such as a permit if a business wants a full window display. He discussed exceptions for signs prohibiting "open carry," which goes into effect January 1; and provisions on existing signage to the effect that they can remain until 50 percent of it must be repaired or replaced.

Dr. Ken Branson, 1220 Airport Freeway, Bedford – Dr. Branson signed up to speak on Item #10. He stated that he has lived in Bedford since 1985 and has operated two successful businesses in the City, which have brought a lot of people into Bedford. He has used 100 percent of the window at both businesses and has had nothing but positive comments. His windows are done tastefully by an artist and it has been very successful for him and his businesses. He stated that he is not interested in Southlake but wants Bedford to stay Bedford. He wants the Council to keep counseling and not to meddle, and asked that his signage either be grandfathered or left alone. He stated that Council should want to promote growth and be kind, and this proposal is not a positive thing and will directly affect his business.

Mark Worcester, owner of Bargain Electronics, 1401 Brown Trail, Bedford - Mr. Worcester signed up to speak on Item #10. His business has been in the City for five years and for the first three years during the highway construction, did not have any signs or window advertising. He lost money for those three years. He finally put some money into vinyl decal signs for his window but he has had the Fire and Police Departments and Code Compliance in his store on numerous occasions due to complaints on his window signs. He is trying his best to be a good and fair businessman and it is just a little family business. He has been a member of Shop Bedford First and advertised in the City magazine to promote his business. He feels Council should try to work with businesses, help promote them and work with them if there is something the Council does not like. He stated that he does not have the kind of money to keep putting money into his business and failing, and that the Ordinance is nitpicky as far as the 25 percent provision.

Amy Sabol, 2209 Pine Thicket Lane, Bedford - Ms. Sabol signed up to speak on Item #31. She applauded the City working on signs in Bedford. She stated that citizens desire more and want the City cleaned up and not be so spotty when it comes to the design of signs. All of her neighbors feel the same way and that the City should have the same ordinance as other municipalities. She stated that businesses

## **Council Minutes December 8, 2015**

can be successful without garish signs and that previously the City has been lax and lenient in what it allowed people to put up as far as signage. In regards to Item #31, she requested that for the sake of Code Compliance, there should not be another trash day and that they will have to deal with more bags. She stated that people will not read the instructions and will put trash in the green bags, which then nobody will pick up. She is all about appearance in the City and she is in favor of making the City look better as a whole.

Shane Bradford, 3008 Meandering Way, Bedford - Mr. Bradford owns a splash window advertising business and has helped a lot of businesses throughout the years to maintain and profit. He stated that the 25 percent rule is a bit farfetched and that the City should be more lenient on this matter.

### **CONSIDER APPROVAL OF ITEMS BY CONSENT**

Motioned by Councilmember Champney, seconded by Councilmember Turner, to approve the following items by consent: 4, 9, 11, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 29 with 23 votes going to Mark Woods, and 32, with Items 27 and 28 being tabled and Item 30 being withdrawn.

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

### **COUNCIL RECOGNITION**

#### **1. Employee Service Awards.**

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

Charles Cottongame, Police Department - 10 years of service  
Wendy Hartnett, Community Services - 10 years of service

#### **2. Proclamation declaring the Glenbrook Homeowner's Association as the Christmas Display of the City of Bedford 2015.**

Mayor Griffin read a proclamation declaring the Glenbrook Homeowner's Association as the Christmas Display of the City of Bedford 2015. Representatives of the Glenbrook Homeowner's Association were present to accept the proclamation.

#### **3. Presentation of a plaque to Mayor Jim Griffin from the American Legion Post 379.**

Michael Regan with American Legion Post 379 presented the Mayor with a plaque in recognition of his assistance with their activities.

### **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

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

- a) November 10, 2015 regular session
- b) November 17, 2015 work session

This item was approved by consent.

### **PERSONS TO BE HEARD**

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

- a) Margaret Antwiler, 1420 Briar Drive, Bedford, Texas 76022 – Requested to speak to Council regarding building a new park in the 1500 block of Briar Drive.



Ms. Antwiler was not at the meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- 6. Public hearing and consider an ordinance to rezone Lot 2, Stone Gate Shopping Center Addition, located at 1313 (1305, Suite C&D) Brown Trail, Bedford, Texas from (H) Heavy Commercial to (H/SUP) Heavy Commercial/Specific Use Permit, specific to Section 3.2.C(2)a, Churches, Temples and Synagogues (places of religious worship) of the City of Bedford Zoning Ordinance, allowing for Grace & Glory Ministries to operate a church. The subject property is generally located north of Bedford Road and west of Brown Trail. (Z-282)**

Planning Manager Emilio Sanchez presented information regarding this item, which is a Specific Use Permit (SUP) for Grace & Glory Ministries to operate a church at 1305 Brown Trail. The location is two buildings in an existing shopping center, which was formally a sporting goods facility. The Planning and Zoning Commission unanimously recommended approval of this item at their November 12 meeting. The Comprehensive Land Use Plan indicates the location to be commercial.

Mayor Griffin opened the public hearing at 7:03 p.m.

Martina Miller with Grace & Glory Ministries stated that they have been existence for ten years. They have been located in Irving but most of their members live in the Bedford area so they wanted a central place to meet and worship.

Mayor Griffin closed the public hearing at 7:04p.m.

Motioned by Councilmember Gebhart, seconded by Councilmember Champney, to approve an ordinance to rezone Lot 2, Stone Gate Shopping Center Addition, located at 1313 (1305, Suite C&D) Brown Trail, Bedford, Texas from (H) Heavy Commercial to (H/SUP) Heavy Commercial/Specific Use Permit, specific to Section 3.2.C(2)a, Churches, Temples and Synagogues (places of religious worship) of the City of Bedford Zoning Ordinance, allowing for Grace & Glory Ministries to operate a church. The subject property is generally located north of Bedford Road and west of Brown Trail. (Z-282)

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

- 7. Public hearing and consider an ordinance to rezone Lot 1, Block 1, Mayfair No-Harwood Oaks Kinder Addition, located at 2928 Blue Quail Lane, Bedford, Texas from (H) Heavy Commercial to (H/SUP) Heavy Commercial/Specific Use Permit, specific to Section 3.2.C(3)e, Adult Day Care Center of the City of Bedford Zoning Ordinance, allowing for Encore Adult Day Care to operate an adult day care. The subject property is generally located east of Blue Quail Lane and north of Harwood Road. (Z-283)**

Mr. Sanchez presented information regarding this item, which is a SUP for 2928 Blue Quail Lane for Encore Adult Day Care Center to operate an adult day care. The location is an existing office building, which was formally a Kindercare facility. The Comprehensive Land Use Plan designates the area as commercial. The Planning and Zoning Commission unanimously recommended approval of this item at the November 12 meeting. In answer to questions from Council, Mr. Sanchez stated that the business is just for daytime observation; that they will have internal locks like a childcare facility; that they target early dementia patients; and that they will have no nightly operations outside of 6:00 p.m. or 7:00 p.m.

Mayor Griffin opened the public hearing at 7:07 p.m.

Laura Lester, 2076 Derby Court, Southlake - Ms. Lester is the owner of Encore Memory Day Care and they currently have a location in Plano. They specialize in dementia care and only take high-functioning guests in the early stages of Alzheimer's and all dementia cases. They have a Veterans Affairs (VA) contract so that the government will pay for veterans to go to Encore. The City is a very good area for them as there are a lot of veterans. Other than the VA contract, they are private pay. Their practices are

## Council Minutes December 8, 2015

based on the latest research in memory care and they work at stimulating patients' long term memories. They will have approximately 55 to 60 patients. There was discussion regarding adding a maximum occupancy limit as part of the SUP. Mr. Sanchez stated that the allowable number of patients is based on State guidelines for these types of facilities and the building occupancy load.

Mayor Griffin closed the public hearing at 7:11p.m.

Motioned by Councilmember Turner, seconded by Councilmember Farco, to approve an ordinance to rezone Lot 1, Block 1, Mayfair No-Harwood Oaks Kinder Addition, located at 2928 Blue Quail Lane, Bedford, Texas from (H) Heavy Commercial to (H/SUP) Heavy Commercial/Specific Use Permit, specific to Section 3.2.C(3)e, Adult Day Care Center of the City of Bedford Zoning Ordinance, allowing for Encore Adult Day Care to operate an adult day care. The subject property is generally located east of Blue Quail Lane and north of Harwood Road. (Z-283)

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

- 8. Public hearing and consider a resolution for a site plan for a 3,000 sq. ft. fast-food restaurant with drive-thru, specific to Section 4.16.b of the City of Bedford Zoning Ordinance. The property is zoned (H), Heavy Commercial and located in the Central Business District Overlay (CBD). The address is 1900 Central Drive and the legal description is Lot 3A, First State Addition. The property is generally located north of Plaza Parkway and east of Central Drive. (S-062)**

Mr. Sanchez presented information regarding this item, which is a request for site plan approval for 1900 Central Drive for El Pollo Loco to construct a new building. A site plan approval is required as the location is in the Central Business District. The Planning and Zoning Commission unanimously recommended approval of this item at their November 12 meeting. The Comprehensive Land Use Plan shows the zoning for the location to be commercial. This will be the applicant's first facility in the Dallas-Fort Worth area, and they have been in the Houston area for ten years and the San Antonio area for 15 years.

Mayor Griffin opened the public hearing at 7:13 p.m.

Nobody chose to speak during the public hearing.

Mayor Griffin closed the public hearing at 7:14 p.m.

Motioned by Councilmember Farco, seconded by Councilmember Gebhart, to approve a resolution for a site plan for a 3,000 sq. ft. fast-food restaurant with drive-thru, specific to Section 4.16.b of the City of Bedford Zoning Ordinance. The property is zoned (H), Heavy Commercial and located in the Central Business District Overlay (CBD). The address is 1900 Central Drive and the legal description is Lot 3A, First State Addition. The property is generally located north of Plaza Parkway and east of Central Drive. (S-062)

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

- 9. Consider an ordinance amending Chapter 2. "Administration," Article IV. "Boards, Commissions, and Committees," Division 4. "Cultural Commission" of the City of Bedford Code of Ordinances; repealing all ordinances in conflict herewith; containing a savings clause; and declaring an effective date.**

This item was approved by consent.

- 10. Consider an ordinance repealing Chapter 6. "Advertising" (Ordinance No. 949), Article III. "Signs," of the City of Bedford Code of Ordinances as amended and replacing with a new Chapter 6, "Advertising," Article III. "Signs" of the City of Bedford Code of Ordinances;**

**providing for an Exhibit 'A,' being the City of Bedford Sign Regulations; providing a savings clause; providing a severability clause; and providing an effective date.**

Building Official Russell Hines presented information regarding this item, which is for revisions to the City's Sign Ordinance. Staff and Council identified areas of the Ordinance that needed attention, primarily on temporary signage, which has had no major changes in years. On permanent signage, electronic messaging signs have been addressed. Previously, there were no regulations for electronic messaging signs so each case has been going to the Building and Standards Commission, which asked for regulations. The new regulations mirror surrounding cities and include measurements for brightness. Additional changes include conformance timelines for existing and temporary signage; flag displays; display of feather and swooper flags, and balloons for grand openings only; adding the State law provisions for political signs; area of coverage of window signs; luminous lighting in storefront windows; existing "building for lease" signs; prohibited signs; and a prohibition on neon tubing on signs. In answer to questions from Council, Mr. Hines stated that no businesses were surveyed to determine the impact of the changes; that for special events, every type of temporary sign listed under Section 6-72 is allowed excluding balloons and feather flags; that special events and grand openings are two separate items; and that there is no limit on the number of times a business can have a special event per year.

Councilmember Fisher stated that this process started almost four years ago with the proliferation of neon magnetic signs. The City took a pragmatic approach of looking at the Sign Ordinance and making the necessary adjustments that would be fair to businesses and citizens. During that time period, what was found was that temporary neon signs became permanent. Further, technology has introduced the ability for LED lights to run rampant among businesses. He discussed painted signs and asked where it stops. He stated that this issue was discussed three years ago, the previous January and June, as well as a few weeks ago, and that every meeting on this item has been open. He stated that he has been the driving factor on cleaning up the signage in the City and he thinks the Ordinance has gone a long way in enhancing the aesthetic appeal of the City. This is a rejuvenation process and he hopes to have the support of Council to pass the Ordinance. He suggested one additional change to limit the color change for LED signs to one to two minutes.

In answer to questions from Council, Mr. Hines stated that the City looked at regulations of other cities and tried to match them for uniformity; that the City is not doing anything out of the ordinary in relation to neighboring cities; and that those regulations were outlined in previous presentations and he has statistics he would be able to share. Councilmember Champney stated that the Ordinance was based on factual information gathered by staff in relation to other cities.

Councilmember Gebhart stated that he visited dozens of businesses over the previous two days and only one business owner knew about the changes being considered. He stated that a common refrain he heard was does Bedford hate business and that many would refuse to do business in the City because of these restrictions. One said they were reconsidering moving their business from Keller to Bedford and another stated that temporary signage occasionally added \$20,000 to their bottom line. Many businesses wanted to be here but could not because they are running a business. Many larger corporations could deal with this change but others do not have huge margins. Retail businesses have to compete for attention and the Ordinance is stripping them of the most economical venue to advertise their business. He read a letter from, the director of operations of the two McDonalds franchises in the City, who is against the changes as it will negatively affect his business and customers by limiting the way he can advertise. He stated that signs on the windows alerted customers about deals and new products to help them save money. The letter further stated that there needs to be more discussion, thought and input from the community and businesses. In regards to window signage, the letter asked why the limit was 25 percent the amount of space chosen and stated that those businesses with fewer windows would be at a disadvantage. He asked why government is involved in this issue at all and stated that it was not effectively communicated to businesses. He requested that the vote on this item be postponed. Councilmember Gebhart stated that he understands the City wants to prohibit signage that is a measureable distraction or annoyance. In his opinion, even though the City is conforming to other cities it does not make it right and that City government should not dictate harshly on matters of taste.

## Council Minutes December 8, 2015

Councilmember Turner stated that the City is business friendly but there are problems with aesthetics and areas that need attention. The most objectionable thing addressed by the Ordinance is the LED lighting around windows. He stated that everybody would agree that they want the City to look nice and attract businesses and people. He asked how the 25 percent limit in windows came about and whether it is valid. He stated that he is comfortable with the rest of the Ordinance but that the City should go to businesses and ask what they would be comfortable with in regards to the window signs. Councilmember Farco stated that there was a lot about the Ordinance he liked including the LED lights and temporary signs; however, on the window signs, there are corporations and chains that have corporate advertising and they are not able to choose the size of the signs. He stated that the City is business friendly and is out there promoting businesses. In regards to special events, it needs to be defined on how many a business can have in a year and he does not agree that they cannot have balloons. Councilmember Sartor stated that he manages 40 retail locations and at first he was opposed to the 25 percent limit on window signage. His concern regarding the limit is that some businesses are tasteful in how they use that signage and he is against a business using 100 percent of their window including for safety reasons. He supports most everything in the Ordinance but that the 25 percent limit for window signs may be too restrictive. He is also concerned about the wording for special events and that it needs to be better defined. Councilmember Champney stated that one of the roles of the Council is maintaining the quality of life in the City and when signage is creating a blight that effects that, it is something reasonable for the Council to discuss. Part of Council's job is to provide the influence to help the City go in the right direction and maintain standards and quality of life, while not being overly restrictive to businesses. He discussed the Shop Bedford First program and looking at other ways to promote businesses. Councilmember Gebhart stated that he has concerns that quality of life is a subjective assessment and that more objective measurements include emergency vehicle response times, maintenance of streets, and cleanliness of water. Nobody he knows frets about the quality of life because a business has a neon light or paint in their windows. He stated that declaring what is in good taste is arrogant. He is not opposed to limiting things that are a true nuisances and are hazards. Councilmember Fisher stated that in regards to a lack of communication, all meetings on the subject have been posted and this subject has been discussed in business roundtable meetings, and asked how else to get that communication out there. He stated that McDonald's and dentist office operates in the same cities that have the ultra-restrictive sign ordinances. Businesses have the right to advertise their business but citizens have the right to live in a City free of clutter. He stated the goal of the Ordinance is not to become like Southlake and Colleyville; however, Colleyville does have higher property values and does not have some of the signage that is in Bedford, while cities with lower property values have more of that kind of signage. He thinks there is a direct correlation with property values and signage and he does not see anything wrong with raising the bar to attract younger residents with more disposable income.

Mr. Hines stated that Council had been presented three options regarding the measurement of window signs including measuring the entire window not including the cladding, measuring the window in-between the mullions, and measuring the entire elevation. He stated that surrounding cities measure the entire window including the mullions but excluding the cladding and their percentages are as follows: Euless – 15 percent; North Richland Hills, Hurst, Colleyville and Arlington – 25 percent; and Southlake 10 percent. Councilmember Fisher stated that the City is as liberal or more liberal with window coverage than many cities and that the City has not taken draconian measures. When the Ordinance passes, the City will be able to attract a new type of resident and enhance the appeal to current residents, and that Council is doing its job to ensure that the aesthetic of the City is pleasing. Mayor Griffin stated that the City diligently tried to communicate this issue. He is conscious of what the business owners are trying to tell Council and while he supports most of the Ordinance, he has concerns regarding special events and on staff coordinating the notification and implementation process. He had asked staff whether it was feasible to pass components of the Ordinance on which everybody agreed and revise those with which Council is struggling; however, that turned out to be a much more complicated process. He suggested taking the time until the next meeting on January 12 to make sure those pieces are covered, solicit more input and to have everybody behind it. He stated that he realizes that not every aspect of the Ordinance would make everybody happy. Councilmember Champney stated that the City is trying to prevent signage from becoming a problem. He stated that it is out-of-the box to say that putting in guidelines to benefit the overall City is arrogant and said that it would then be arrogant to have a rule about the height of grass, screening types of containers or prevent graffiti. He stated that he has not spoken about this Ordinance

## Council Minutes December 8, 2015

but only about the responsibility of Council, but he does support the Ordinance. Councilmember Gebhart stated that his statements are his own personal impressions and one can make an argument on the extreme either of too much or no regulation. In reference to regulations in other cities, he stated that he has traveled to those cities to examine their businesses, and in one city, the fast food restaurants do not obey the 10 percent window coverage law. He wondered if the law was being selectively enforced and wants to shield Bedford from those types of situations. There was Council discussion on getting input from businesses and finding a compromise. Councilmember Fisher discussed how much time has been put into the Ordinance by Council and staff and that it was time for Council to lead. He requested that the Ordinance be put to an up-or-down vote or that the differences get worked during the meeting and an ordinance get passed that the residents support. He stated that it is good for the City to be in control of its aesthetics. There was Council discussion on amending the Ordinance at a later time once it passes. In regards to Special Events, Mr. Hines and Mr. Sanchez stated that they are outlined in the Zoning Ordinance, not in the Sign Ordinance, which only dictates what signs can be used for Special Events. There was discussion on defining what qualifies as a special event and how many a particular business can have as well as time periods; the reason for the delineation; building in a loophole in and around the Sign Ordinance; and allowing balloons and feather flags for Special Events.

Councilmember Gebhart stated that he realizes he is in the minority; that he has concerns that the regulations will hurt those least able to absorb the hits; that shopping centers that are sparsely occupied now will get worse; and that the market should decide who stays in business and who does not. Councilmember Fisher stated that shopping centers that are empty are so because they are tired; that the City has grant funds to help fill those shopping centers, which was successful at Harwood Road and Central Drive; and that an image must be presented to tell businesses that the neighborhood can support businesses and neon signs at every corner sends the wrong message. He proposed that the original motion be made with a restriction that the color on channel letter signs change not less than every two minutes. There was discussion that illuminated signs in windows would be prohibited and adding an exemption to the window limit restriction for state-required signage for open carry.

Motioned by Councilmember Fisher, seconded by Councilmember Champney, to approve an ordinance repealing Chapter 6. "Advertising" (Ordinance No. 949), Article III. "Signs," of the City of Bedford Code of Ordinances as amended and replacing with a new Chapter 6, "Advertising," Article III. "Signs" of the City of Bedford Code of Ordinances; providing for an Exhibit 'A,' being the City of Bedford Sign Regulations; providing a savings clause; providing a severability clause; and providing an effective date. This motion includes channel signs not changing color no less than every two minutes as well as allowing for balloons and feather flags for special events and the exemption for state-mandated signage is exempt from the City's window percentage calculation. Councilmember Fisher amended his motion that September 1, 2016 is when the Ordinance will go into effect.

There was discussion on the amending the Ordinance at a later time. Councilmember Gebhart asked for a point of clarification whether it falls under the existing grandfathering clause so that if a business has signage, it can stay up since it was in compliance with the existing ordinance. Mr. Hines stated that there is no specification section for the grandfathering of signs.

Motion approved 6-1-0. Mayor Griffin declared the motion carried.

Voting in favor of the motion: Mayor Griffin, Councilmember Sartor, Councilmember Champney, Councilmember Farco, Councilmember Turner and Councilmember Fisher.

Voting in opposition to the motion: Councilmember Gebhart

**11. Consider a resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the City of Bedford and the Tarrant County Sheriff's Department for participation in the Tarrant County Combined Narcotics Enforcement Team Interlocal Assistance Agreement (CNET ILA).**

This item was approved by consent.

**12. Consider a resolution of the City Council of the City of Bedford, Texas amending an Economic Development Program Agreement, pursuant to Chapter 380 of the Texas Local Government Code and the City's Economic Development Incentive Policy and Program, with Shops Dunhill Ratel, LLC. (Applebee's)**

Development Director Bill Syblon presented information regarding this item and Item #13, which is for amendments to two existing incentive agreements with the owners of the Shops at Central Park, Dunhill Partners. The agreements are for the expansion of the Movie Tavern and the addition of an Applebee's restaurant. Due to construction delays, the deadlines and timelines in the agreements have been amended.

Motioned by Councilmember Fisher, seconded by Councilmember Farco, to approve a resolution of the City Council of the City of Bedford, Texas amending an Economic Development Program Agreement, pursuant to Chapter 380 of the Texas Local Government Code and the City's Economic Development Incentive Policy and Program, with Shops Dunhill Ratel, LLC. (Applebee's)

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

**13. Consider a resolution of the City Council of the City of Bedford, Texas amending an Economic Development Program Agreement, pursuant to Chapter 380 of the Texas Local Government Code and the City's Economic Development Incentive Policy and Program, with Shops Dunhill Ratel, LLC. (Movie Tavern)**

Motioned by Councilmember Fisher, seconded by Councilmember Gebhart, to approve a resolution of the City Council of the City of Bedford, Texas amending an Economic Development Program Agreement, pursuant to Chapter 380 of the Texas Local Government Code and the City's Economic Development Incentive Policy and Program, with Shops Dunhill Ratel, LLC and to move the percentage of the rebate to 1.5 percent as well as specify that the document must be executed by Dunhill by January 12, 2016.

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

**14. Consider a resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter a contractual agreement with Kronos to lease timekeeping clocks and to provide licenses for software and annual maintenance agreements for employee time keeping purposes.**

This item was approved by consent.

**15. Consider a resolution authorizing the City Manager to expend funds in the amount of \$47,160 for the renewal of the extended maintenance, technical support agreement and server replacement plan with Innovative Interfaces, Inc.**

This item was approved by consent.

**16. Consider a resolution authorizing the City Manager to renew a one-year lease agreement with ONSTAGE relative to the Trinity Arts Theater located within the Bedford Boys Ranch Park.**

This item was approved by consent.

**17. Consider a resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a one-year lease agreement with Arts Council Northeast relative to the Trinity Arts Building located within the Bedford Boys Ranch Park.**

This item was approved by consent.

- 18. Consider a resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a one-year lease agreement with Embrace United Church of Christ to provide meeting space for church services at the Old Bedford School.**

This item was approved by consent.

- 19. Consider a resolution authorizing the City Manager to purchase a Cultural District Master Plan and signage in the amount of \$45,000 from Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc.**

Motioned by Councilmember Champney, seconded by Councilmember Turner, to approve a resolution authorizing the City Manager to purchase a Cultural District Master Plan and signage in the amount of \$45,000 from Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc.

Motion approved 6-1-0. Mayor Griffin declared the motion carried.

Voting in favor of the motion: Mayor Griffin, Councilmember Sartor, Councilmember Champney, Councilmember Farco, Councilmember Turner and Councilmember Fisher.

Voting in opposition to the motion: Councilmember Gebhart

- 20. Consider a resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into the second year of a three-year contract with B&B Wrecker Services, Inc. to provide towing and storage for City-initiated vehicle tows; and providing an effective date.**

This item was approved by consent.

- 21. Consider a resolution accepting and awarding the bid to Impact Promotional Services dba Got You Covered in Fort Worth, Texas, for the purchase of public safety uniforms and accessories.**

This item was approved by consent.

- 22. Consider a resolution authorizing the purchase of a 2016 Chevrolet Silverado truck for the Fire Department's Building Inspection Division in the amount of \$22,520 through the State of Texas Buy Board Purchasing Program.**

This item was approved by consent.

- 23. Consider a resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Tarrant County and to recommend to the County to accept the bid and award a contract to Tejas Commercial Construction, LLC in the amount of \$215,160 for the City of Bedford 41st Year Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Tennis Drive Water Line Improvements Project.**

This item was approved by consent.

- 24. Consider a resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract with McClendon Construction Company, Inc. in the amount of \$527,532 for the Gregory Avenue Reconstruction and Water Improvement Project.**

This item was approved by consent.

- 25. Consider a resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a Professional Services Agreement with King Engineering Associates, Inc. in the amount of \$69,460 for design services for the city-wide Advanced Metering Reading (AMR) System Project.**

This item was approved by consent.

- 26. Consider a resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a Professional Services Contract with King Engineering Associates, Inc. in the amount of \$120,160 for the design, bidding and technical specifications for the approximately 40 large diameter water meters.**

This item was approved by consent.

- 27. Consider a resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a Professional Services Agreement with King Engineering Associates, Inc. in the amount of \$164,600 to lead the assessment efforts to identify sections of the water distribution system in need of replacement.**

This item was tabled by consent.

- 28. Consider a resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a Professional Services Contract with WK Dickson in the amount of \$514,000 for Waterline Condition Assessment Services for 20 miles of the approximately 52 miles of water distribution lines located south of SH 121/183.**

This item was tabled by consent.

- 29. Consider a resolution casting votes for candidates to serve on the Board of Directors for the Tarrant Appraisal District.**

This item was approved by consent with 23 votes going to Mark Wood.

- 30. Consider a resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with \_\_\_\_\_ for the FY 2016 Citizen Satisfaction Survey.**

This item was withdrawn by consent.

- 31. Consider a resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a four-year agreement with Great Lakes Recycling, Inc. dba Simple Recycling for collection of soft recyclables.**

Ms. Jakubik stated that Sonny Wilkins with Simple Recycling was present to answer any questions and that Jeri Harwell with Republic Services had to leave but conveyed to her that Republic could work out anything that was Council's desire and would be amenable for the program to be on non-recycling trash days. In answer to questions from Council, Mr. Wilkins stated that it would not be feasible or sustainable to mail out replacement bags, and would delay their effectiveness; that other options for leaving the bags include tying them to carts, mail slots or door knobs; that in their other locations, floating bags have not been an issue; and that they will pick up missed bags within 24 hours. There was discussion on Simple Recycling's communication process; making sure the program is as seamless as possible; having the program on a non-recycle day; and having a standardized way to leave the bags for every home while also having a back-up plan. In answer to questions from Council, Mr. Wilkins stated that the City can cancel the service without financial penalty with a 45-day written notice; and that if Simple Recycling does everything it is supposed to do and the City still cancels the service, that there is a clause that the City could not enter into another agreement for curbside soft recycling for the remainder of the term of the original agreement. It was stated that Ms. Harwell related to members of Council that based on her discussions with Simple Recycling and her peers in the northeast, Republic would not have an issue with the program being on a non-recycle day.

Motioned by Councilmember Turner, seconded by Councilmember Champney, to approve a resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a four-year agreement with Great Lakes Recycling, Inc. dba Simple Recycling for collection of soft recyclables.

In answer to further questions from Council, it was stated that the program is on a voluntary basis.

Motion approved 6-1-0. Mayor Griffin declared the motion carried.



## Council Minutes December 8, 2015

Voting in favor of the motion: Mayor Griffin, Councilmember Gebhart, Councilmember Sartor, Councilmember Champney, Councilmember Turner and Councilmember Fisher.

Voting in opposition to the motion: Councilmember Farco

### **32. Consider a resolution appointing members to Bedford's Citizen Boards and Commissions.**

This item was approved by consent.

### **33. Report on most recent meeting of the following Boards and Commissions:**

#### **✓ Animal Shelter Advisory Board - Councilmember Fisher**

Councilmember Fisher reported that the Board will meet on January 8, 2016.

#### **✓ Beautification Commission - Councilmember Turner**

Councilmember Turner reported that the Commission did not meet due to the holiday.

#### **✓ Community Affairs Commission - Councilmember Farco**

No report was given.

#### **✓ Cultural Commission - Councilmember Champney**

Councilmember Champney reported that the Commission did not meet due to the holiday.

#### **✓ Library Advisory Board - Councilmember Farco**

Councilmember Farco reported that from December 1 through 15, patrons have the opportunity to go to the Library and petition to get off Santa's naughty list. The Library will be accepting non-perishable food items for 6Stones and/or the Bedford Animal Shelter, and will waive \$1.00 of fines for every acceptable item donated. There is still an opportunity to get letters to Santa by addressing a letter to Mrs. Clause and include the names of the child's siblings, pets, sports and hobbies, and latest accomplishments. Santa will then send a letter to the child from the North Pole.

#### **✓ Parks and Recreation Board - Councilmember Sartor**

Councilmember Sartor reported that the Board did not meet in December due to the holidays and will next meet on January 7, 2016.

#### **✓ Teen Court Advisory Board - Councilmember Gebhart**

No report was given.

#### **✓ Senior Citizen Liaison - Councilmember Turner**

Councilmember Turner reported that the Senior Center had a very successful and well-attended holiday luncheon at Thanksgiving.

### **34. Council member Reports**

Councilmember Fisher wished everybody a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. He thanked the Council and staff for their courage in helping to move the City forward aesthetically, which is supported by many people.

## Council Minutes December 8, 2015

Councilmember Turner wished everybody a Merry Christmas and a Happy Hanukkah to the City's Jewish citizens.

Councilmember Farco wished everybody a Merry Christmas and a happy holidays. He stated that he is very proud of staff. There have been a lot of changes and the City has grown closer as a community. Staff has stepped up to that task and helped move the City forward. He wanted to remind everybody that as they are enjoying Christmas, Police and Fire personnel are still working and that people should thank them for their sacrifice.

Councilmember Champney wished everybody a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. He stated that staff does a fantastic job and Council does everything in the best interest of the City.

Councilmember Sartor wished everybody a Merry Christmas and a happy holidays.

Councilmember Gebhart stated that as much as Council has disagreements, he enjoys wrestling with these issues. He respects everybody on Council and though the members may have differences of opinion, it has never become personal and each one is earnestly pressing to sell their vision of what it takes to improve Bedford. He is happy and honored to be working with the rest of Council to work out these ideas together. He congratulated staff for their hard work and wished everybody a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Mayor Griffin wished a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Years to all the citizens. He stated that staff is fantastic and is supportive in all the Council does. He finds it rewarding to hear people from other cities brag about how great Bedford is becoming how proud they are of working together, which is a testament to staff.

### **35. City Manager/Staff Reports**

City Manager Roger Gibson stated that he and staff are very appreciative of the Council and public for their support and patience. They are also appreciative of the Council's leadership and guidance.

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

Item #12 and #13 were voted on in the Regular Session.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Griffin adjourned the meeting at 9:09 p.m.

---

Jim Griffin, Mayor

ATTEST:

---

Michael Wells, City Secretary