

Council Minutes January 12, 2016

STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTY OF TARRANT §

CITY OF BEDFORD §

The City Council of the City of Bedford, Texas, met in Work Session at 5:30 p.m. and Regular Session at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 2000 Forest Ridge Drive, on the 12th day of January, 2016 with the following members present:

Jim Griffin
Ray Champney
Steve Farco
Dave Gebhart
Rusty Sartor
Roy W. Turner

Mayor
Council Members

constituting a quorum.

Staff present included:

Roger Gibson
Kelli Agan
Stan Lowry
Michael Wells
Natalie Foster
Jeff Gibson
Joey Lankford
Jerry Laverty
Kenny Overstreet
Emilio Sanchez
Bill Syblon

City Manager
Assistant City Manager
City Attorney
City Secretary
Public Information Officer
Police Chief
Fire Marshal
Environmental Supervisor
Interim Public Works Director
Planning Manager
Development Director

COUNCIL CHAMBER WORK SESSION

Mayor Griffin called the Work Session to order at 5:30 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: 1 and 5.

Fire Marshal Joey Lankford presented information regarding Item #5. Tarrant County 9-1-1 provides the City money for interoperable communications, with which the City would like to buy replacement radios. In answer to questions from Council, Mr. Lankford stated those funds derive from fees from cell phones and land lines; that the radios will replace those that are reaching their end of life; that there are 95 units that will be replaced gradually over the next four to five years; that staff is looking for options, such as grants, in order to replace them without affecting the budget; and that the current radios are still functional and there are parts available for them.

Councilmember Fisher arrived at 5:34 p.m.

- **Discussion on election of the Municipal Court Judge.**

City Secretary Michael Wells stated that for several years, the Municipal Court Judge has been an elected position. In 2014, the Charter was changed allowing the Council to either appoint or continue to elect the

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Judge. He stated that Bedford is one of four cities in the State that elects a Judge. In response to questions from Council, Mr. Wells stated that the previous Charter allowed only for the election of the Judge for a term of three years and was amended to give the Council the option to either appoint or elect; that the current Judge, having reached the term limit, cannot be appointed at this time; that the current Judge has to sit out one full three-year term and can then be elected or appointed; that the specific language for Bedford in State law has the term as three years; that the current Associate Judge lives in Bedford and served as the Judge in the 1990s; that regardless of being appointed or elected, the Judge will have term limits; and that the current Judge could serve as the Associate Judge.

In response to questions from the Council, the City Attorney stated that the Attorney General does not rule on local matters or interpret local charters or ordinances; that seeking the Attorney General's opinion has to be done through an elected statewide official; that the Attorney General's opinion is not binding; and that it could be 180 days before the City would get the opinion.

The Council was of the consensus to appoint the Municipal Court Judge.

- **Presentation on recent Public Works Department activities.**

Interim Public Works Director Kenny Overstreet presented information on Public Works activities for the previous year. In Water Operations, they repaired 59 water main breaks, repaired 286 meters leaks, installed 550 new water meters, exercised 762 water valves, of which 172 were repaired or replaced, and submitted 728 monthly water samples, which all tested negative for Coliform Bacteria. Other highlights included collaboration with the Tarrant Regional Water District to offer the W.I.S.E. Guys irrigation system evaluation to residents, applying for and receiving a low interest loan from the Texas Water Development Board, and receiving 89 backflow registrations. In answer to a question from Council regarding the backflow registrations, Mr. Overstreet stated that once water has left the City's main and goes into a business, the City cannot control what is then done with the water; that the backflow water returning into the system may not be potable; that private backflow inspectors are allowed to register with the City to test the devices; that they received an inspection from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) the previous April, which led to revisions to the City's policy on backflows and cross connections; that the updated policy was recently approved by the Commission; and that the devices are used to protect the public health. He discussed the completion of the 16 inch water line on Bedford Road from the elevated storage tank to Brown Trail, which is to help with circulation of water through the City to meet requirements on potable water and fire protection; and the completion of the Northwest Pressure Plane, which increased water pressure in the northwest portion of the City by 15 psi. In Wastewater Operations, they cleaned 157,340 feet of wastewater mains, inspected 361 manholes, repaired ten manholes, inspected 62 wastewater mains totaling 15,179 feet, responded to 162 wastewater backup calls with 29 being in the City's main, repaired four wastewater mains, and issued 163 grease/grit trap permits. In Traffic Operations, they replaced 777 various signs, installed 50 new signs, and repaired two signal locations that were damaged by automobile accidents. In Street Operations, they replaced 6,460 square feet of concrete sidewalk, repaired 3,175 square yards of asphalt street, crack-sealed approximately 100,000 linear feet of pavement, and improved 11 ADA curb ramps as mandated by the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation. Other highlights included the completion of two-inch mill overlays on Carolyn Drive from Brown Trail to Blue Quail, on Schumac Lane from Central Drive to Forest Ridge Drive, and at the intersection of Harwood Road and Forest Ridge Drive. Also an asphalt drive was placed at the Simpson Terrace Elevated Tank and Carousel Park. In Storm Water Operations, they performed monthly maintenance and rodent control on 92 miles of drainage; treated 14 creek and channels, and nine drainage locations monthly for mosquitoes; and completed repairs to seven roadway bridges as mandated by the Texas Department of Transportation. Other highlights include education outreach to 901 school children on mosquito awareness, the construction of 41 rain barrels by residents at workshops, and educating 145 people attending five landscape irrigation classes conducted by Texas Agrilife. Mr. Overstreet discussed mandatory reports by the State and showed pictures of new equipment that was purchased.

In answer to questions from Council regarding the traffic lights on Harwood Road, Mr. Overstreet stated that they are still on the City's Traffic Signalization Plan, though one light has since been removed from

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the Plan due to feasibility; and that staff has been in contact with the traffic engineer with Pacheco Koch to examine different signaling patterns to allow traffic to flow better. In answer to further questions from Council, he stated that staff puts out rodent traps, which are checked regularly and refilled with bait once a month as part of rodent control measures; that the intersection at Forest Ridge Drive and Harwood Road was used as a test intersection to install a double blinking left turn signal since it was damaged in the storm on December 26; that there is not a mandate to have the double blinking left turn lights installed by a certain time and that they would not be installed at every intersection due to visibility; that the City has looked into taking over the traffic signals along Highway 183; that those signals are under contract with North Tarrant Expressway (NTE) for 30 years; that NTE does not have a desire to lose control of the signals as they receive supplemental funding from the State to maintain them; and that NTE would still maintain them even if the City's population reached 50,000. In answer to questions regarding taste and odor concerns with the water, Mr. Overstreet stated that on November 2, well water started being injected into the Simpson Terrace tower and mixing with water from the Trinity River Authority (TRA); that the mixing was done two hours a day but was moved up to four hours a day over the previous two weeks when staff started receiving concerns and issues from residents; that the water from the TRA was high on the level of chlorine due to low usage coming out of the Murphy pump station; that TRA has since lowered the level of the chlorine and the water is currently mixing three hours a day; that adjustments will probably need to be made during the summer with the higher water usage; and that the odor complaints were due to the higher dosage of chlorine. In answer to questions from Council regarding restriping the intersection of Bedford Road and Highway 183 to allow for a right-hand turn lane, Mr. Overstreet stated that staff has been in contact with NTE, who did not have an issue with the restriping; that the State approved the striping plan to add the turn lane; that there were concerns with narrowing the lanes leading to damage to curbs and sidewalks from trucks making tight right turns; and that the City was asked if it would be responsible for repairs; that the State has not accepted all of the work from NTE; and that NTE has asked the City not to proceed further until their work is finalized.

- **Presentation on the current mosquito program.**

Environmental Supervisor Jerry Laverty introduced Scott Seeley, Mike Soles and Brent Ecton with the Public Works Department, who perform the mosquito and rodent control in the City. He stated the priority of Public Works is the City, its citizens and employees, and that they work with Tarrant County Public Health. He displayed a chart showing that in 2014, there were 43 positive mosquito traps compared to six in 2015, and that there were more traps and trapping weeks in 2015. He discussed traps used during the season including Gravid Traps used to capture the mosquito that carries the West Nile Virus (WNV); CDC Light Traps that utilize dry ice to release carbon dioxide and are put in storm drains and sewer manholes during the winter; and BG Sentinel Traps used to catch the mosquitoes that carry the Chikungunya and Zika viruses. During the offseason, they trap at Laurel Lane and Stormie Jones Park where they have had the most positive tests. Testing is performed by Tarrant County Public Health, and samples are picked up once a week during the season, and are dropped off once a month during the off-season. The reports from the County are then mailed every week. The tests give information on the number, breed and variety of the mosquitos. The information is compiled by Tarrant County and shipped to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). The City has four static traps and the information gathered helps determine when mosquitoes start coming out and when they go away. Mr. Laverty stated that the City takes a proactive approach, with staff walking the creeks, checking for standing pools of water, performing inspections in back yards, and treating sites with oils and granular products. He discussed the Integrated Mosquito Management Program, which includes public education and the role of the residents, mosquito surveillance, and mosquito control strategies. At the low risk level, there is a low chance of human outbreak and no evidence of WNV, and strategies include public education, larvicide and surveillance. At the medium risk level, WNV has been detected. Strategies include notifying residents within a quarter of a mile, performing inspections, using barrier treatments including spraying with Flit during the day, and notifying the City Manager. If a test site has three positive tests in a row, inspections will be done within a half-mile radius and an adulticide will be sprayed at night. At the high risk level, there has been a confirmed human case of WNV and multiple sites have tested positive. Strategies include notifying the community using Blackboard Connect and working with the City Manager about the use of adulticides. Additions to the Program include new equipment such as a John Deere Gator, which staff has equipped with a backpack blower; the development of a training program, with six

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employees now having Vector licenses; and two employees joining the Texas Mosquito Control Association (TMCA). He discussed an example of staff's proactive stance of treating an area at 6:00 a.m. after being informed by the County of a positive test the previous afternoon. Staff also provides home inspections, gives presentations to various groups, holds mosquito awareness programs at the Senior Center and the Library, treats City event sites and makes funny YouTube videos. He stated that Texas is known as a state that uses adulticide instead of larvicide but that the professors with TMCA believe that every city should do what Bedford does in using larvicide, with adulticide being a last resort. He stated the Program will continue to evolve and new ideas will be added as long as they are cost effective.

There was discussion on the lack of effectiveness with spraying and using adulticides. In answer to questions from Council, Mr. Lavery stated that cities that are fogging their streets are not killing the mosquitoes in the bushes; and that he is unable to get information from the County about the exact location of positive tests in other cities. There was discussion on the City's Program being part of County policy; the budget for mosquito control and that it has not changed over the previous five years; that new, more cost-effective products are being utilized; the reason other cities are not following what Bedford is doing; and that the Program should be regional. City Manager Roger Gibson stated that the City's Program is modeled after that of the County; that what City staff does is more behind-the-scenes and does not have the show that spraying does; that staff is attacking the larva before they become mosquitoes; and that the use of spray down city streets will not reach backyards. There was discussion on putting the mosquito statistics on the website. In answer to further questions from Council, Mr. Lavery stated that the advantages of the Vector license include protection, accountability, guidelines and training. In regards to the Zika virus, he stated that there was one confirmed case in Houston; that it originated from an infected person coming in from Mexico; that it is milder than the Chikungunya virus but can cause birth defects; that humans are the carrier; that people need to hold themselves accountable; and that the virus can possibly be transmitted by bodily fluids.

Mayor Griffin adjourned the Work Session at 6:57 p.m.

REGULAR SESSION

The Regular Session began at 7:04 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER/GENERAL COMMENTS

Mayor Griffin called the meeting to order.

INVOCATION

Councilmember Turner gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance to the flags of the United States and Texas were given. Cub Scout Pack 307 presented the colors.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/UPCOMING EVENTS

Marketing Specialist Natalie Foster reported that the City has entered into a challenge along with the cities of Hurst and Euless, the School District and Texas Health Resources. Residents, businesses, schools and mayors across the state are being challenged to see which communities can demonstrate the greatest commitment to healthy living. Points are earned by participating in a variety of activities such as posting selfies while doing healthy activities. The challenge launched on January 1 and will end on March 31. Winners will receive money for school health initiatives, a trophy and a city banner. She reminded residents that they can sign up or renew their 2016 ambulance subscription program, which is a yearlong subscription for ambulance service fees that are not paid for or reimbursed by insurance. The

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Senior Center will be having a free "Good Eats" class on Thursday beginning at 6:00 p.m. Dinner is included and attendees will learn about nutrition guidelines and healthier options when eating out.

Ms. Foster gave an update on the Boys Ranch Park construction. The fish habitats have been placed at the bottom of the lake and the rock wall surrounding the lake has been mostly completed. The construction crews plan on finishing it and closing the gate the following week to begin letting the area catch water. Concrete has been poured for the handicap ramp for the small pavilion off of Lake View Drive and light poles, the irrigation system and sidewalks will continue to be placed around the park. All three pavilions are approximately 85 percent complete and the signs are being redone. The underground pipes for the fountains have been completed. The target completion date is the following month depending on the weather.

OPEN FORUM

Nobody chose to speak during Open Forum.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF ITEMS BY CONSENT

Motioned by Councilmember Champney, seconded by Councilmember Turner, to approve the following items by consent: 1 and 5.

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

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

1. **Consider approval of the following City Council minutes:**
 - a) **December 8, 2015 regular session**
 - b) **December 23, 2015 special meeting**

This item was approved by consent.

PERSONS TO BE HEARD

2. **The following individual has requested to speak to the Council tonight under Persons to be Heard:**
 - a) **Tom Culbert, 1925 Charleston Drive, Bedford, Texas 76022 – Requested to speak to Council regarding the Sign Ordinance.**

Tom Culbert, 1925 Charleston Drive, Bedford, Texas – Mr. Culbert admonished Council for conducting a two-way conversation at the previous meeting with a person in the audience who was not signed up to speak. He stated that a window that is six feet by eight feet has 48 square feet of space. Twenty-five percent of that is 12 square feet, which is approximately the size of the sign behind the Council dais and he asked why more would be needed. He stated that decorum needs to be maintained, and that Bedford is a bedroom community that does not need gaudy stuff.

Councilmember Gebhart read a letter from Wayne McNeal with Generation X Comics. Mr. McNeal stated that the recent Sign Ordinance did not match those of adjacent cities but greatly exceeded them. Neither Hurst nor Euless restrict neon on window signs except that they must remain stationary and within the total percentage allowed. He stated that Hurst recognizes tacky interior signs, which are regulated as window signs, and nice, well-done exterior signs, which are regulated as wall signs. He asked why the proposed changes were not brought to his attention at the business roundtable he attended in April of 2015, and stated that a focus group could have been assembled as was done in Arlington with their ordinance. He spent three days discussing the ordinance with other business owners and only four knew of the changes and asked why that is. He asked was Bedford really that unfriendly to businesses and what would happen, including with sales tax dollars, when affected businesses moved or closed to go to

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more business friendly environments. He asked that businesses not be overregulated and stated that a more reasonable plan is needed.

NEW BUSINESS

- 3. Public hearing and consider an ordinance extending Article IV Chapter 82, "Offenses and Miscellaneous Law Enforcement Regulations," of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Bedford, Texas, relating to curfews; making it cumulative; providing for penalties; providing a severability clause; and declaring an effective date.**

Police Chief Jeff Gibson presented information regarding this item, which is for the renewal of the City's Curfew Ordinance. The daytime curfew portion of the Ordinance is for juveniles under the age of 17 and covers the timeframe of 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. It does not apply to juveniles being homeschooled or attending private school, those absent from school with a parental excuse, those on a work-study program, and those on an off-campus lunch. Data compiled for juvenile victims over the previous three years shows that there were none. Data compiled for juvenile suspects over that same time period shows that one curfew citation has been issued. In school year 2010-11, when the daytime curfew was first approved, there was one sexual assault victim and ten curfew citations issued. In the school years from 2011-12 through 2015-16, the number of citations issued yearly were nine, zero, two, zero, zero and one. In regards to the nighttime curfew, Chief Gibson stated that, unlike the daytime curfew portion, it does not depend on whether school is in session or not. The nighttime curfew is Sunday through Thursday from 11:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. and Friday and Saturday from 12:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m. The previous five years, there has been one juvenile victim of an assault and one of a robbery. From 2011 to 2015, the number of curfew citations issued were 25, 15, 28, 12 and 17.

In reviewing the decision to continue the curfew, Chief Gibson stated that the School District superintendent does support it. From a law enforcement perspective, State legislation has removed their ability to enforce truancy due to issues with double jeopardy; however, he sees the City as a different entity than the School District and that issuing curfew citations is not a double jeopardy standard as compared to the School District. The daytime curfew is the last tool for law enforcement to try to keep children in school versus a police officer finding a juvenile and taking them back to school. He asked for Council's consideration in approving the Ordinance. He promised the Police Department would not abuse this option and that the statistics show they are not heavy-handed by issuing citations incorrectly.

In answer to questions from Council, Chief Gibson stated that taking a child back to school without writing a citation is an option and police officers can practice discretion in what they do; and that their goal is compliance through various means, not always through an enforcement action. There was discussion on the School Board asking for the City's help with truancy when the daytime curfew was first proposed; discussion amongst the Council and public at that time about violations of civil rights; and the Council's efforts to take that issue out of the Ordinance by including exceptions such as for homeschooled children. In answer to further questions from Council, Chief Gibson stated that without the daytime curfew and the taking away of truancy statutes, police officers would not have the legal authority to ask a juvenile what they were doing barring an exigent circumstance; that law enforcement officers need probable cause and reasonable suspicion to encounter someone; that in regards to any problems and complaints with the exceptions to the ordinance, over 90 percent of their enforcement actions dealt with juveniles that did not attend a school in the City; and that of the other ten percent, there were no situations where parents refuted or argued about the enforcement action. There was discussion on the City being proactive and ensuring young children have the opportunity to take full advantage of their education.

Mayor Griffin opened the public hearing at 7:36 p.m.

Anne Gebhart, 625 Merrill Drive, Bedford – Ms. Gebhart stated that the daytime curfew spurred her interest in local government. She wanted to tell why she feels the daytime portion of the ordinance should be repealed. There is no juvenile crime wave in Bedford and no compelling interest in continuing the daytime portion of the Ordinance. It was initiated in 2008 by the School District to help them keep truants in school. House Bill 2398 passed during the previous legislative session decriminalized truancy and

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therefore, the City is out of the truancy business. She discussed the Supreme Court ruling in *Terry v Ohio* in 1968, which gave the police the ability to stop anyone, including minors, if their actions gave the officer a reason to suspect they may be involved in a criminal action. She stated that a minor outside during school hours may fit many if not all of those descriptions and contrasted that with the curfew ordinance that makes the very act of being outside a crime. An officer would only have to establish that an individual looks young and is out in the public. No real crime has to be committed and it is a waste of police officers' time for them to have to determine who looks young. She stated there are already many laws that deal with crime and that actual criminals need to be targeted with laws that are in place. She stated that as a mom of six homeschooled children, there are many reasons for her children to be out with or without her and that good parents should not be penalized to get to those that are not. She discussed the defenses to prosecution in the Ordinance and asked if Council considered being outside a crime or cause a police officer to have an automatic suspicion just because somebody looks young. She asked if Council thinks being outside should carry the same weight legally of other misdemeanors such as assault, shoplifting and public intoxication. She stated that she did not know what kind of resident the Council hopes to attract if there is a law in place that penalizes non-criminal actions. In answer to questions from Council, Ms. Gebhart stated that she has the same reservations regarding the nighttime curfew but the daytime curfew impacts her more personally and directly; that in regards to her knowledge of people being harassed or unduly threatened because of the curfew, she knows of a case that began in Bedford and accelerated to the point that Euless Police entered a home and asked about curriculum, which is illegal. She discussed the potential abuse of the Ordinance and that it gives a lot of discretion without a lot of direction.

In answer to questions from Council, Chief Gibson stated that it is an option to take a child back to school and not having the daytime curfew would not restrict that capability. There was discussion on the State having to demonstrate a compelling interest to restrict liberties; and combating widespread juvenile delinquency and widespread criminal activity being the original intent behind the State legislature allowing municipalities the capability of creating a daytime curfew. In answer to questions from Council, Chief Gibson stated that he wants the curfew to be a tool afforded to police officers in the event it is necessary to affect the overall good of the community; that the curfew is not something that is being exercised on a consistent, daily basis; and that based on the statistics presented earlier, it can be concluded that knowledge of the Ordinance has lessened enforcement actions.

Tom Culbert, 1925 Charleston Drive, Bedford, Texas – Mr. Culbert stated that he wished the Ordinance was in place when his children were young teenagers.

Mayor Griffin closed the public hearing at 7:53 p.m.

In answer to questions from Council, Chief Gibson stated that *Terry v Ohio* gives law enforcement officers the right under reasonable suspicion to conduct pat downs for officer safety; and that he has no knowledge of the case described previously by Ms. Gebhart. There was discussion on the reduction of truancy being the reason the curfew was put in place; truancy being reduced by a significant amount in the first year of the Ordinance; the curfew being a beneficial tool for students in helping to maintain accountability and discipline; that Hurst never adopted the daytime curfew and Euless recently dropped the daytime curfew; and Hurst and Euless being covered by multiple school districts.

Motioned by Councilmember Farco, seconded by Councilmember Champney, to approve an ordinance extending Article IV Chapter 82, "Offenses and Miscellaneous Law Enforcement Regulations," of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Bedford, Texas, relating to curfews; making it cumulative; providing for penalties; providing a severability clause; and declaring an effective date.

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

- 4. Public hearing and consider a resolution for a site plan for a 2,440 sq. ft. existing building to be used for an Enterprise Car Rental. The property is zoned (H), Heavy Commercial and located in the Master Highway Corridor Overlay (MHC) of the City of Bedford Zoning Ordinance. The address is 1513 Brown Trail and the legal description is Lot 1A, Block 1, Shell Brown Trail Addition. The property is generally located south of Airport Freeway and west of Brown Trail. (S-063)**

Planning Manager Emilio Sanchez presented information regarding this item, which is for the approval of a site plan for 1513 Brown Trail. The site is currently an automotive sales lot. The site is located in the Master Highway Corridor Overlay District (MHC), which requires site plan approval. The applicant has also submitted building elevations showing colors and there are no changes being proposed to the existing building or site. Landscaping has been done with the highway widening project and there is existing landscaping on site as well. The property has had taking on the frontage road portions and has probably changed since it was originally approved with a Specific Use Permit (SUP) to allow for the particular use. Since that SUP was approved, the area has since been included in the MHC. There was discussion on businesses being out of compliance with their site plans as far as landscaping if plants die or are removed. Mr. Sanchez stated that Code Compliance would most likely respond to this issue based on complaints; that dialogue could be opened between Development and Code Compliance, and that they can be provided with approved site and landscape plans; and that the Zoning Ordinance has a clause stating that installed landscaping must be maintained and alive. In answer to a question from Council, Mr. Sanchez stated that this item is a relocation of an existing business.

Mayor Griffin opened the public hearing at 8:03 p.m.

Jeff Halbert, 901 Creekbend Drive, Keller – Mr. Keller stated that he represents the applicant and is available to answer any questions.

Mayor Griffin closed the public hearing at 8:04 p.m.

Motioned by Councilmember Gebhart, seconded by Councilmember Champney, to approve a resolution for a site plan for a 2,440 sq. ft. existing building to be used for an Enterprise Car Rental. The property is zoned (H), Heavy Commercial and located in the Master Highway Corridor Overlay (MHC) of the City of Bedford Zoning Ordinance. The address is 1513 Brown Trail and the legal description is Lot 1A, Block 1, Shell Brown Trail Addition. The property is generally located south of Airport Freeway and west of Brown Trail. (S-063)

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

- 5. Consider a resolution authorizing the City Manager to purchase mobile radios from Motorola Solutions in the amount of \$36,695.33 utilizing the Tarrant County 9-1-1 P25 Assistance Program Funding.**

This item was approved by consent.

- 6. Discussion regarding emergency preparedness plans for animals in the event of a natural disaster. **This item requested by Councilmember Fisher**

Councilmember Fisher requested this item be placed on the agenda for discussion. He stated that December 26 was a rough day for the Metroplex weather-wise as the area was affected by tornadoes and high winds. In the aftermath of the damage and the response that came, people would put information on lost and found animals on Facebook, which became a good exchange place to find animals and get them back to their owners or to a shelter. Council recently restricted the scope of the Animal Shelter Advisory Board and he would like to begin a discussion, based on a request from Barbara Richardson, about what the City's emergency preparedness plan is for animals in the case of a natural or other disaster. He stated it would be prudent to have one written and that the City's Community Emergency Response Team programs could be expanded to deal with animals. He would like report to the Board at their next meeting on the Council discussion.

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Chief Gibson stated that the City has developed a draft plan, which identifies the purpose, planning assumptions and considerations with preparedness response and recovery of any displaced animals. The plan has four different attachments including an animal intake form, an animal care form, an animal at-large form and an animal return form. The plan encompasses all the situations the City would have to deal with in a disaster. He stated that it is only an interim plan. In September, Animal Control supervisory staff attended a meeting at the County and the City is working with them on becoming a member of a multi-jurisdictional plan, which would replace the draft plan. The City has resources but not enough to meet the needs of a disaster; however, it can be accomplished with multiple resources combining together. The interim plan is solid and in three to five months, the County-wide plan should be finalized. He recognized Animal Control staff in attendance. In answer to a question from Council, Chief Gibson stated that the plan is specifically for animals. He recognized Deputy Chief Eric Griffin, Animal Control Supervisor Mark Bellinghausen, and Animal Control Officer Ken Horn, and stated they were instrumental in the information provided to Council.

7. 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 19 at the Law Enforcement Center. He offered his thoughts and prayers to Mark and Jennifer Bellinghausen, as their daughter Allison was in a severe car accident.

✓ Beautification Commission - Councilmember Turner

Councilmember Turner reported that the next Commission meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 18 and they will begin to plan for the spring.

✓ Community Affairs Commission - Councilmember Farco

Councilmember Farco reported that the Commission's first major project of the year is a residential outreach meeting on February 25 at the Old Bedford School. He recognized Commission members Roy Savage, Gary Morlock, Margaret Hall, Steve Grubbs and Sal Caruso who were in attendance and thanked them for their work the previous year.

✓ Cultural Commission - Councilmember Champney

Councilmember Champney reported that the Commission met the previous night. They covered a lot of territory including ArtsFest in April and the upcoming Twilight Thursday concerts. They will be submitting a letter of intent for a cultural district designation and a packet to the Texas Commission on the Arts in June. The newest member of the Commission, Alicia Chick, is an official with the Dallas Black Dance Theatre. In attendance were also Strategic Services Manager Meg Jakubik, Events and Cultural Coordinator Jeff Florey, and Grants Administrator Brandi West, who will work with the Commission on grants and foundations once they have the cultural district designation.

✓ Library Advisory Board - Councilmember Farco

Councilmember Farco reported that the Library's Mardi Gras Casino Night event is Saturday, February 6 at 6:30 p.m. The price is \$50 per person or \$95 per couple.

✓ Parks and Recreation Board - Councilmember Sartor

Councilmember Sartor reported that the Board met on January 7 and they now have a total of nine members. The playgrounds at Brookhollow Park and Monterrey Park have been completed and are now open. The construction of the Boys Ranch Lake is almost complete and the playground is open. He stated that this is the first time a public lake has been used to put in fish habitats under the direction of the Texas Department of Parks and Wildlife. The next meeting is scheduled for February 4.

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

Councilmember Gebhart reported that the Board met on January 8. Many new members were seated on the Board and new officers were elected. There was a lot of discussion on how to increase funds being raised in order to have a good pool for scholarships. They have an active schedule coming up and have dates picked for the next fundraiser and meeting.

✓ **Senior Citizen Liaison - Councilmember Turner**

Councilmember Turner stated that he is in the process of setting up the next meeting with staff and they are proceeding with plans for additional activities at the Senior Center.

8. Council member Reports

Councilmember Farco reported on itstimetexas.org. The three cities, the School District and the hospital are working together on a project for “Experiencing HEB” to get people to put down electronics and get out and experience the community. There are various events and Bedford is a great city and community, and it is time to experience it and let other people know about it.

Councilmember Gebhart reminded everybody that when they give blood, they are saving three lives and it does a world of good. He mentioned that Carter Blood Care is in the City and encouraged everybody to give blood.

9. City Manager/Staff Reports

No report was given.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

To convene in the conference room 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 Commons.**
- c) **Pursuant to Section 551.087, deliberation regarding economic development negotiations relative to “Project Mockingbird.”**

Council convened into Executive Session pursuant to Texas Government Code 551.087, deliberation regarding economic development negotiations relative to Block 1, Lot 1D, Shops at Central Park; Section 551.087, deliberation regarding economic development negotiations relative to Bedford Commons; and Section 551.087, deliberation regarding economic development negotiations relative to “Project Mockingbird”, at 8:23 p.m.

Council reconvened from Executive Session at 9:29 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

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

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

ADJOURNMENT

Council Minutes January 12, 2016

Mayor Griffin adjourned the meeting at 9:29 p.m.

Jim Griffin, Mayor

ATTEST:

Michael Wells, City Secretary