

Borough Council

The Workshop Meeting of the Bedford Borough Council was held via a Zoom Voice call on the above date due to COVID-19. The following Council Members were on the call, Tim Weaverling, Sharon Turkovich, Jeff Rinscheid, Bill Blackburn, Patrick Neff, John Cessna, and Kenny Fetterman. Mayor William Leibfreid, Borough Manager Barbara Diehl, Borough Secretary Beverly Geller, Assistant Borough Secretary Misty Hizer, Solicitor Dean Crabtree and Timothy Cooper, P.E., of Stiffler, McGraw & Associates, Inc. were also on the call.

Brad Foor, Public Services Director, and Craig Bowman, Police Chief, were unavailable for the call.

Randy Delozier, Bedford County Free Press, Lloyd Roach, Cessna Communications, and Will Deshong, Bedford Gazette, were also on the call. Michael Lamb of Wessel & Company and Ethan Wilt, Counsel for Christine Hollington were also on the call.

Council President Weaverling called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.

Michael Lamb, of Wessel & Company noted that the 2019 Audit was completed and submitted to DCED by March 31, 2020. A Clean Opinion was issued.

Ethan Wilt, Legal Counsel for Christine Hollington of 238 W. Penn Street, spoke to Council about the Borough seeking a temporary construction easement for her property. Mr. Wilt shared that the property at 238 W. Penn Street was the only property ever owned by Ms. Hollington and she thought of the home as her castle. Ms. Hollington was concerned that trees would be destroyed, and the tree removal and proposed swale would alter the use and enjoyment of her property. Mr. Wilt noted that he was prepared to defend against the temporary construction easement and noted that the easement could have a permanent and long-lasting impact on the property.

Solicitor Crabtree and Engineer Cooper shared that the Salt Shed needs to be moved from the current location to create additional parking spaces. The temporary easement is necessary for the configuration for the needs of the project. Trees can be replanted in like kind except for the age of the trees. Solicitor Crabtree noted that a Resolution to plant trees can be drafted and the property owner has the right to sue for damages.

Councilman Weaverling noted the distribution of an updated Committee List with the combination of Infrastructure, Equipment, and Park and Recreation Committees.

Councilman Fetterman shared that the 2020 Fall Foliage Festival has not been cancelled due to COVID-19, but the Committee was moving forward with planning and looking at alternatives if necessary. A final decision will be made at a date closer to the Festival.

Councilman Rinscheid noted that the Fort Bedford Museum opened the weekend of May 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> and that the Museum will be open seven days a week beginning Memorial Day Weekend. The Fort Museum applied for and received a Payroll Protection Program grant to cover payroll and utility expenses for several weeks.

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Councilman Cessna noted that the underground oil tank removal from the Borough Building site is scheduled to be removed by the end of May by Chris Sechler.

Councilman Weaverling updated Council on the impacts to Revenue & Expenses due to COVID-19. Revenues are currently at 90.15% collected for 2020 which is ahead of 2019 collections.

Manager Diehl shared that the Borough Building Renovation contractors are set to begin the week of June 15<sup>th</sup>. Manager Diehl shared that she met with George Spinelli of PennDOT on May 20<sup>th</sup> to review the 2020 Paving Project but will table the project until the June 1, 2020 Council Meeting.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made and carried at 3:52 p.m.

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Borough Secretary