

Borough Council

The Workshop Meeting of the Bedford Borough Council was held on the above date at 3 p.m. at the Bedford Fire Department Training Room. The following Council Members were in attendance, Tim Weaverling, Sharon Turkovich, Jeff Rinscheid, Bill Blackburn, John Cessna, and Kenny Fetterman. Borough Manager Barbara Diehl, Borough Secretary Beverly Geller, Assistant Borough Secretary Misty Hizer, Public Services Director Brad Foor, and Tim Cooper, PE, Stiffler, McGraw & Assoc., Inc. were also in attendance.

Council Member Patrick Neff and Police Chief Craig Bowman were absent.  
Will Deshong, Bedford Gazette, and Lloyd Roach, Cessna Communications, were in attendance.

Council Member Turkovich shared a request from the Salvation Army requesting permission to set up by Juli's Wearable Art this holiday season for their traditional kettle drive. Motion was made by Council Member Cessna, seconded by Council Member Fetterman, to approve the request. Motion was carried by unanimous vote (6-0).

Council Member Blackburn requested formal approval to close Huntingdon Avenue from Railroad Street to Mann Street on Saturday, October 10<sup>th</sup> from 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Email approval was previously granted prior to the event. Motion was made by Council Member Cessna, seconded by Council Member Fetterman, formally approving the street closure. Motion was carried by unanimous vote (6-0).

Mayor William Leibfreid joined the meeting at 3:05 p.m.

Council Member Rinscheid shared that the Bed and Breakfast amendment to the Zoning Ordinance is still being discussed and details are still being defined.

Mr. Foor shared that Pitt Street blacktopping is complete. The paving was the final step of the Pitt Street section of the large water and sewer DEP mandated Combined Sewer Overflow project for the Municipal Authority of the Borough of Bedford. Leaf pickup will begin November 2, 2020 utilizing the map and schedule that was implemented in 2019.

Mr. Cooper shared that the Borough Building renovation is proceeding with the rooms laid out on the upper floor, the salt shed is staked out on the property and footers for the retaining wall are complete.

Motion was made by Council Member Turkovich, seconded by Council Member Rinscheid, to approve Requisition #5-2020 (Borough Building Renovation Project) in the amount of \$158,554.69. Motion was carried by unanimous vote (6-0).

Motion was made by Council Member Cessna, seconded by Council Member Blackburn, to approve Resolution 2020-05 and for Manager Diehl to sign three (3) letters for the grant application including a funding commitment noting the Borough's willingness to fund \$100,000.00 (4.24% of the Grant request). Motion was carried by unanimous vote (6-0).

Mr. Cooper shared that part of the \$100,000.00 match for the Streetscape Grant could include ADA ramp funds already spent by MABB and the engineering costs already paid to Stiffler McGraw.

Council entered Executive Session to discuss litigation at 3:15 p.m.

Council exited Executive Session at 4:20 p.m.

Solicitor Crabtree along with Police Officer Troy Nelson entered the meeting at 4:20 p.m. Dave and Mary Heller, Olde Bedford Brewing, Dave and Jessica Frye, Wholesome Living, and Nic Brouse also entered the meeting at 4:20 p.m.

Mr. Heller spoke to Council regarding an Artisan Market in the Olde Bedford Brewing and Wholesome Living Market parking lot held on October 3, 2020. Craft Vendors were in attendance without acquiring transient licenses. The Fall Foliage Festival cancelled in 2020 due to COVID-19. The Bedford Fire Department acquired a temporary Food Sales Permit and was set up along Huntingdon Avenue outside Olde Bedford Brewing.

Mr. Heller shared a presentation on Merchant Sponsored Vendor Events. The presentation shared a vision for filling the streets of Bedford with customers and providing regulatory oversight for someone selling goods and services within the Borough.

The presentation showed increased sales for Olde Bedford Brewing for the first two weekends in 2020 over 2019. Mr. Heller also shared data on annual spending for Dinner at Full-Service Restaurants, Wine Sales and Lamb and Other Meats in regions within 90 miles and extending to 230 miles from Bedford.

Mr. Heller is requesting that the Ordinance be changed to allow merchants to host vendors on their property with the merchant approving the vendors and the Borough collecting a \$10.00 fee from each vendor.

Manager Diehl shared that the Ordinance 13, Part 1, defining a Transient Retail Business and requiring a permit was adopted in 1973 to allow the Borough to be aware of who is selling goods on a temporary basis. In 2012 the Ordinance was amended to increase the fees to the current rates. The fees were raised to persuade vendors to apply and be part of the Fall Foliage Festival.

Mr. Heller brought to Council's attention the appearance of properties and sidewalks along N. Richard Street – former Ressler's Market at 161 N. Richard Street (tax sale scheduled November 23, 2020), property at 154 N. Richard Street (for sale since 2017) and trash behind the I-99 PENNDOT chain link fence. Mr. Weaverling noted that Council has applied for a Streetscape Grant to address some of the issues.

Mr. Weaverling shared that Council would task the Ordinance Review Committee to look at the proposed Transient Retail Application Ordinance change and report back to Council.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made and carried at 5:21 p.m.

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Borough Secretary