

City of Bedford

City Council Hearing & Public Meeting

August 20, 2024

7:00 P.M.

Minutes

Public Hearing-Greg Pittman

- 1. Public Hearing-Consideration of Additional Appropriation Fire Prevention Fund \$4,500. Billie Tumey stated that the additional for the Fire Prevention Fund is for the purchase of smoke alarms and has the funds available in the account. Greg Pittman asks if there were any public comments they had 2 minutes to speak. Ryan Griffith stated that every child in the schools from kindergarten to 5th grade will receive a smoke detector with the funds.**

With there being no public comments, the Public Hearing was closed.

Prayer: Judy Carlisle

Pledge of Allegiance: Heath Hawkins

Call to Order: Mayor Sam Craig

The Common Council of the City of Bedford, Indiana met for a Regular City Council Meeting on August 20, 2024, at 7:00 P M at Stonegate Arts & Education Center. Mayor Craig presided and called the meeting to order.

Members in attendance:

- Judy Carlisle
- Ryan Griffith
- Kathy Blackburn
- Brad Bough
- Larry Hardman
- Heath Hawkins
- Dan Bortner

Reading/Approval of Minutes:

July 16, 2024 –Regular Meeting

- Larry Hardman made the motion to approve the minutes,
- Ryan Griffith seconded the motion,
- *All votes were in favor of the motion. No One Opposed, Passed*

Old Business

1. Tabled- Second Passage, and Third & Final Passage-Ordinance 14-2024-Amending 151 (Flood Damage Prevention)-Floodplain-Brandon Woodward

- Mayor Craig stated that this was presented in the July meeting and nothing has changed since the July meeting.
- Dan Bortner stated that he would abstain from the voting do to the Department of Natural Resources monitoring the floodplains in the state.
- Ryan Griffith made the motion to approve the Second passage of Ordinance 14-2024,
- Judy Carlisle seconded the motion,
All votes in favor of the motion, no one opposed, one abstaining, passed.
- Brad Bough made the motion to approve the Third and Final passage of Ordinance 14-2024,
- Heath Hawkins seconded the motion,
- *All votes in favor of motion, with one abstaining, No one opposed, passed.*

New Business

1. Request Approval of Using Unrestricted OPIOID Funds for Purchase of Two Police Vehicles-Chief Terry Moore

- Chief Moore requested the council approve the purchase of two police vehicles from the Unrestricted OPIOID Fund.
- He has received quotes from Hubler Chevrolet for two Blazers for the detectives.
- 2024 Chevrolet Blazer-\$33,774
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- With a vehicle trade in at \$9,000.
- Ryan Griffith asked about the vehicles being upfitted for the officers.
- Chief Moore stated that they can use most of the current equipment for the new vehicles.

- Larry Hardman made the motion to approve the purchase of the vehicles from the Unrestricted OPIOID Fund,
- Ryan Griffith seconded the motion,
All votes in favor of the motion, no one opposed, passed.

2. Ordinance 15-2024-Amending Part of Chapter 77-Parking Schedule1-West Side of I Street Between 17th and 18th Street-2 {parking Spots in Front of St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church- from 6:00 AM to 6:00 PM-Monday -Sunday-Chief Terry Moore.

- Chief Moore presented the request last month, but in order for it to be approved, the parking schedule of Ordinance 15-2024 would need to be amended. The city sent out letters to the apartment residents who reside across the street from the church.
 - Mark Coressel who requested the parking restrictions in the meeting last month, was also in attendance with any questions.
 - Mayor Craig asked if any of the residents of the apartment building would like to speak.
 - Karen Saint Rain, owner of the apartment building spoke. She stated that there are four apartments in the building, and she is there to represent them. She said that the residents are upset about the parking issue. The residents have children and at times they have to park away. She stated that she has talked and been considerate to the church for 20 years. She added that it will be a hardship for the residents.
 - An apartment resident Dan, also spoke and expressed his frustration about the parking situation.
 - Mayor Craig stated that for several years, no one parked in front of the church because it was painted yellow, yellow means no parking. The paint has worn off.
 - The church needs to have the parking set aside for funerals, weddings and a drop off for the handicap. Church has mass every day.
 - Chief Moore stated that if the parking along the street was remarked, it may add two parking spots, A parking spot is 15 foot long.
 - A discussion about the time of parking restrictions was discussed. They agreed that changing the time to 7:00 AM to 6:00 PM would allow the residents more time to move their cars if necessary.
 - Chief Moore suggested the street department paint new parking markers along the street.
 - The street department will mark a 15-foot setback from the corners and paint new parking spots. This can be done before the next council meeting. At that time, we will know if the painting of the parking spots added any parking.
- Dan Bortner made the motion of the first passage of Ordinance 15-2024 with an amendment to the time from 6:00 AM to 6 PM -to 7:00 AM to 6 PM,
 - Ryan Griffith seconded the motion,
All votes in favor of the motion, no one opposed.

- Larry Hardman made the motion to approve the second passage of Ordinance 15-2024,
- Judy Carlisle seconded the motion,
All votes in favor of the motion, Third passage and final passage will be at the September 17, 2024, meeting.

3. Ordinance 16-2024-Amending Zone Map-Justin Davis-2115 & 2113 John Willims Blvd-From I-1 to B-3-Brandon Woodward

- Brandon Woodward stated that on June 25th a public hearing was held for Justin Davis/J. Davis Properties LLC with the Board of Zoning and Appeals for a variance request for the proposed new building for a laundry mat and two other businesses to be named at a later date. Public notices were sent out and there was no one present at the meeting to speak for or against the request. Justin provided a site plan to the board that had variance issues on the north side of the property. The Board members reviewed this request and took into consideration for the neighbors and best use of the property. The board then allowed for variance to be approved to make the request work.
- On July 9th a preliminary hearing was held for Justin Davis for the rezone of the property located at 2113 & 2115 John Williams Blvd. from I-1 Light Industrial District to B-3 Business District. Justin wishes to rezone this property to construct a new building for his new business. Justin addressed the planning commission about his request. After hearing this information, the planning commission then approved the request to be sent to a public hearing.
- Prior to the public hearing for the Planning Commission meeting public notices were sent to all adjoining and adjacent property owners as well as advertised in the local newspaper and on social media.
- On August 13th a public hearing was held for the rezone request. The Planning Commission heard from Justin again who advised there were no changes in his request. There was no one present from the public to speak for or against this request at the meeting. After reviewing what the Board of Zoning and Appeals approved the Planning Commission then discussed and applied all the rules and regulations of the zoning code and approved the rezone request be moved to the City Council for final approval.
- I now ask that the Council give the final approval for the rezone of 2113 & 2115 John Williams Blvd from I-1 Light Industrial District to B-3 Business District.
- Justin Davis is present for this meeting if the board has any direct questions for him.
- Due to having already been two public hearings on this request I am asking the Council to consider suspending the rules and making a third and final passage on this request. He is ready to get started and must have state approval also and this would help him get his business started.

- Dan Bortner asked if there was any benefit to suspending the rules. Brandon added that there have already been two public hearings. Dan asked if any of the public hearings were held in the evenings? The answer was no.
- Mayor Criag asked for a motion.
- Dan Bortner made the motion for first passage of Ordinance 16-2024,
- Brad Bough seconded the motion,
- *All votes in favor of the motion, no one opposed.*
- Judy Carlilse made the motion to approve the second passage of Ordinance 16-2024,
- Larry Hardman seconded the motion,
- *All votes in favor of the motion, no one opposed.*
- Judy Carlilse made the motion to suspend the rules and approve the third and final passage of Ordinance 16-2024,
- Kathy Blackburn seconded the motion,
- A poll was taken because the vote was not unanimous.
- **For third passage: Heath Hawkins, Judy Carlilse, Kathy Blackburn & Larry Hardman**
- **Against third passage: Dan Bortner, Brad Bough & Ryan Griffith**
- *The vote must be unanimous, motion failed, Third passage and final passage will be at the September 17, 2024, meeting.*

4. Resolution 19-2024-Additional Appropriations- Fire Department Fire Prevention- \$4,500- Billie Tumey

- Billie Tumey stated that the resolution will allow for the additional appropriation in the Fire Prevention Fund to purchase the smoke detectors.
- Ryan Griffith made the motion to approve Resolution 19-2024
- Brad Bough seconded the motion,
- *All votes in favor of the motion, no one opposed, passed.*

RESOLUTION NO. 19-2024

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION RESOLUTION

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL of the City of Bedford, Indiana:

WHEREAS the proper legal officers of the City of Bedford have determined that it is necessary to appropriate more money than was originally appropriated in the Annual Budget for the purpose of Purchasing Smoke Detectors; now, therefore:

Sec. 1. Be it ordained (resolved) by the Common Council of the City of Bedford, Lawrence County Indiana, that for the expenses of the taxing unit the following additional sums of money are hereby appropriated out of the funds named, subject to laws governing the same:

From: Fire Prevention Fund 2511 -700.000 Unappropriated	\$4,500.00
To: Fire Prevention Fund 2511 001-229.000 Other Supplies	\$4,500.00

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that this resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval by the Mayor and Common Council.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BEDFORD, INDIANA THIS 20th day of August 2024.

5. Request Approval of Police Department Bonus Incentive-Chief Terry Moore.

- Chief Moore addressed the council and stated that due to staff shortages in dispatch and officers, we have extra money available in payroll. He asked the council to use the money to offer a bonus. The clerk treasurer has verified that these amounts do not exceed the payroll for the rest of 2024. Each qualified employee will be required to sign a reimbursement agreement to continue employment through the rest of the year or pay back the entire amount.
 - 7 dispatchers at \$1,000.
 - 32 officers at \$2,500.
 - The department is short one officer and 1 part-time dispatcher.
 - The department has one officer leaving to go to the IU Police Department and another officer possibly leaving for IU.
- Brad Bough made the motion to approve the Police Department Bonus Incentive as presented,
- Heath Hawkins seconded the motion,
- *All votes in favor of the motion, no one opposed, passed.*

6. Contract Partner Agreement with White River Humane Society-Mayor Sam Craig-Sarah Turpen

- Mayor Craig stated that he has been notified that the White River Humane Society will be changing their fees to a per animal intake fee. The dollar amount will increase greatly.
- The current contract rate is \$50,000 a year.
- Sarah Turpen stated that the proposed rate restructuring is per animal. Based on the 2023 numbers the pay per animal rate would be \$380.30. This is what it cost the

shelter for each animal in 2023. The fee to the city based on 2023 numbers would be \$141,471.60. Each governmental entity would have the same contract.

- The shelter is a pro-life shelter, not a no kill shelter. An animal is not put down due to space but only if it is suffering, illness or aggression.
- The shelter would not take feral cats. There was a lengthy discussion on how and what determines if a feral cat and it can take days.
- The shelter will not take police holds. If there is a police hold, sometimes the animal is abused or neglected. If the owner does not post the bond, the animal could be held longer with no financial compensation.
- Mayor Craig stated that the city would have to be a city owned area to keep animals.
- An after hours drop off will add a \$100 fee per drop off time, not per animal.
- A designated kennel would be set up for the shelter partners.

7. Discuss Health Insurance for Council-Mayor Sam Craig.

- Mayor Craig stated that he brought this topic up because there has been some talk about the council members being able to be offered city health insurance. He wanted to see if that is something that the council wanted to look into options or not. The council approves the budget, and it would need to be placed in the budget if needed.
- Dan Bortner stated that this is something he has brought up a few times. You have to budget for it but not all council members would take it. Recruitment of new members, this may be interest in something like this. The Lawrence County Council are offered benefits. Just something he thought might be looked at to see what it looks like.
- Mayor Craig asks about the numbers for the insurance. Billie Tumey passed out to the council the city cost of insurance. The city cost of insurance for the current council at their status if they all took the insurance would be around \$153,000 a year at the 2024 rate. Health insurance will go up 3% for 2025
- Mayor Craig stated that the city costs \$1,500 deductible plan costs are: Employee \$10,822.08-Employee & Child \$20,097.36-Employee & Spouse \$26,121.60 and Family \$28,607.64. HSA high deductible plan cost are Employee \$10,450.48-Employee & Child \$19,395.20- Employee & Spouse \$24,654.92 and Family \$26,821.76
- Mayor Craig wanted to throw the insurance option out there because just like the Humane Society, it has to be budgeted and the money has to come from somewhere.

8. Discussion

- Brad Bough thanked the Fire Department for providing smoke detectors for the children.
- Dan Bortner is happy to see the crowds downtown on the weekends.
- Mayor Craig gave an update on the 16th Street Water Main Project. The city portion is complete. The project has been handed over to INDOT. They will be doing repair work and paving since it is a state road. It is up to the state now as to how quickly it progresses, and they know that we would like the road open as soon as possible.

9. Adjourn

- Judy Carlisle made the motion adjourn.
- Ryan Griffith seconded the motion,
- ***All votes in favor of the motion, No one opposed, meeting adjourned.***

Bedford City Council 2024

- *Judy Carlisle, President* _____
- *Kathy Blackburn* _____
- *Ryan Griffith* _____
- *Heath Hawkins* _____
- *Dan Bortner* _____
- *Larry Hardman* _____
- *Brad Bough* _____

Attest: Billie Turney
Clerk-Treasurer _____