

The Bedford Citizen

THE NEWS YOU NEED TO GUIDE YOUR CITY

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DEC. 18 CITY COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

This issue is devoted to an overview of the highlights of last Tuesday's City Council meeting. A more in-depth article about each item marked ** will appear in a future issue of The Bedford Citizen.

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DEC. 18 CITY COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

PERSONS TO BE HEARD

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Paul Moss of TAK Enterprises, Inc., 3620 So. Cooper, Ste. #120, Arlington, TX requested to speak to the Council regarding a proposed 27,000 square foot up-scale retail center on Cheek-Sparger Road between Wal-Mart and Woodpark Lane. The land in question fronts on Woodpark Lane and Cheek-Sparger Road, but Mr. Moss said that this project would not have any access from Woodpark Lane. He also stated that City staff could not find any record of "street escrow fees" having been collected before. Based on these facts, Mr. Moss asked for relief from the requirement to pay street escrow fees. He added that this project should have "a tax value of about \$6 million."

Councilman Orean asked about the orientation of the building on the property. Mr. Moss replied that the back of the building will face Woodpark Lane. He said that the present plan is to leave the tree stand along Woodpark Lane as it is and to landscape the back of the building. Councilman Orean then asked staff to investigate the feasibility of abandoning the portions of Woodpark Lane which abut this project and Wal-Mart to those two landowners, respectively. He asked the staff to contact the homeowners on the north side of the cut to see how they would

feel about accessing Woodpark Lane from Cummings if the north end of the lane were to be closed and abandoned.

City Manager Queen said the staff should be able to offer more information regarding the existence of other escrows for Woodpark Lane at the Jan. 8 City Council meeting.

Sherry Bidardel had requested to speak to the Council, but was unable to attend.

ITEMS APPROVED BY CONSENT

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The City Council considered and approved by consent a resolution authorizing the City Manager to expend funds for an annual payment in the amount of \$32,756.50 for the renewal of the extended maintenance agreement with Innovative Interfaces Inc.

GUIDELINES FOR DRILLING ORDINANCE TOWN HALL MEETING

***Item requested by Councilman Cason.

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The Council discussed Guidelines and Ground rules for the upcoming Town Hall meeting on Jan. 9, 2008.

Following a thorough discussion the Council agreed on the following:

- ◆ Each speaker will be granted only one two and a half minute speech.
- ◆ A timekeeper will hold up a yellow card to indicate 30 seconds remaining.

- ◆ Can submit written questions at the meeting or through the web site in advance and as follow-up to the meeting.
- ◆ A Frequently Asked Questions document will be developed.
- ◆ The meeting will open at 7:00 p.m. and will end at 9:30 p.m. That is, there will be a firm cut-off.
- ◆ There will be a panel of "experts" at this meeting that will make brief presentations.
- ◆ A legal representative will be present.
- ◆ Maps will be available on the web site and on boards at the meeting.

COUNCIL MEMBER AND CITY MANAGER REPORTS

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Each Council member took this opportunity to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Councilman Cason said, "I would like to reflect for just a second over the course of this past year. I think as a Council, as a staff, we've had some moments along the way, but overall I think 2007 has been a pretty decent year for Bedford and I'm well pleased with progress that has been made. There's still a lot of work left to be done, but I would just like to thank everybody for pushing in the same direction this year. I think we've come a long way."

Councilman Turner seconded Cason's

assessment.

In addition to wishing everyone a Merry Christmas, Councilman Whistler wished everyone a safe holiday and asked everyone to be especially careful with regard to fire.

Mayor Story mentioned an organization called Phillip's Wish which collects blankets for those who are left out in the cold. He suggested that, if you need a charity to support, this is a good one. He reported that things are going well at the Bedford Public Library with a growth in circulation of about 35%.

City Manager Queen wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

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Dorothy McWhorter

Suggested that a booklet produced by Chesapeake Energy entitled *Most Frequently Asked Questions* should be made available to the citizens at the Town Hall meeting.

Chris Brown

Supported Councilman Whistler's suggestion that a comparison of drill sites that will be available at the various set back limits should be available to the citizens.

Stuart Updike

Suggested that written questions be taken in advance via the web site so that duplicate questions can be combined and the included in the panel presentations.

In-depth coverage of each item marked ** will appear in a future issue of The Bedford Citizen.