

The Bedford Citizen

THE NEWS YOU NEED TO GUIDE YOUR CITY

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Friday

August 31, 2007

TECHNICAL PROBLEMS AT B-TV CABLE CHANNEL 16

As of 6 a.m. Friday Aug. 31, B-TV Cable Channel 16 was unavailable due to temporary technical problems involving the transmission equipment.

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.

REVIEW BEDFORD 2005 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS**

BECA: BILLY MASON**

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION: GARY LANDERS

HARRIS METHODIST HEB HOSPITAL DAY

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TECHNICAL PROBLEMS AT B-TV CABLE CHANNEL 16

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As of 6 a.m. Friday Aug. 31, B-TV Cable Channel 16 was unavailable due to temporary technical problems involving the transmission equipment. This impacts the City's bulletin system but not the broadcasts of the Aug. 28 City Council meeting.

Stay Tuned for more... From B-TV

To find out more about Community Events in your area tune in to B-TV, Bedford's **NEW** cable channel **16** ! B-TV extends to all areas of the city and offers information about Parks & Recreation programs, Library happenings, employment opportunities, and notices regarding the City Council Boards and Commissions as well as broadcasting special meetings.

Council Meetings

All regularly scheduled Council meetings will air the Thursday & Monday following the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

REVIEW BEDFORD 2005 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS**

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The City Council discussed staff recommendations regarding the higher priority CIP projects that were approved by voters in 2001. We are planning to discuss

this item along with other tax and budget items in our Monday issue.

BECA: BILLY MASON**

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Billy Mason, IT Specialist III, was honored as recipient of a Bedford Employee Commitment Award (BECA) for coincidentally discovering that Fire Department was unable to communicate with the Dispatch Center and taking the initiative to investigate the problem and then follow through until resolution was imminent – all on a Saturday when he was not scheduled to work.

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION: GARY LANDERS

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City Manager Beverly Queen recognized Gary Landers for 10 years of service, "Tonight we're recognizing a gentleman who has worked for our Parks and Recreation Department since August of 1997. He has put in, not only countless hours working here for the City, but many volunteer hours for the benefit of the children in this area both as an employee and as a volunteer. He volunteered for Tri-Cities Baseball for 30 years and Pee Wee football for over 20 years. When he arrived here at the City ten years ago, his skills and his background were just invaluable to us in helping us improve our athletic fields. He is known for being extremely dedicated to his co-workers, his job and all his friends in the community. His work ethic is

unsurpassed. He is the one person that can always counted on to pitch in and help. You will never hear 'it's not my job' coming from him. We're very proud to have him as a member of our team, so please help me recognize for 10 years of service to the citizens of Bedford, Gary Landers."

HARRIS METHODIST HEB HOSPITAL DAY

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To reduce the chance of potentially irreversible brain damage that can occur when a person experiences cardiac arrest outside of a hospital, Harris Methodist HEB Hospital has implemented an innovative treatment using hypothermia to care for patients after cardiac arrest by cooling the body so that the brain requires less oxygen. In recognition, Mayor Jim Story proclaimed Aug. 29, 2007 as Harris Methodist HEB Hospital Day in Bedford.

BE BEDFORD PREPARED MONTH

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Proclaiming September 2007 as "Be Bedford Prepared Month" in Bedford, Mayor Jim Story encourages all citizens to asses their home and work environments for risk reduction in the event of a natural or man-made life threatening event or large scale disaster. He also urges every school to discuss the damaging effects of life-threatening events and large scale disasters as well as prevention and preparedness techniques to lessen their effects.

SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE REGARDING UNATTENDED COMMERCIAL KIOSK

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The Council consented to approve amending Ordinance No. 07-2862 to permit unattended commercial kiosks.

HOLIDAY CLOSURES

Bedford's Municipal Offices will be closed Monday Sept. 3 in observance of the Labor Day holiday.

PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER THE 2007 TAX RATE**

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The public hearing was held to discuss the 2007 tax rate. We plan to discuss this item in detail in our Monday issue.

PUBLIC HEARING AND FIRST READING OF 2007-2008 CITY BUDGET**

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We plan to discuss this item as well as citizen comments in detail in our Monday issue.

CITY INVESTMENT POLICY

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The Council considered and consented to a resolution accepting the City of Bedford Investment Policy.

DATAPROSE UTILITY BILLING

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The Council consented to a resolution authorizing the City Manager to amend the current agreement with DataProse, Inc. to include on line bill presentation.

REIMBURSE EXPENDITURES WITH PROCEEDS OF FUTURE DEBT

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This resolution will permit the City to complete the purchase of the former Food Lion building using available funds with the expectation that those funds will be reimbursed when GO bond funds become available. The Council consented to approval of this resolution.

GAS RELIABILITY INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM (GRIP) RATE INCREASE

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The Council considered and consented to a resolution denying Atmos Energy Corp. a rate increase.

LIBRARY RFP**

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A vote of 4-3 determined that Bedford's public library will remain under local control. Councilmen Cason, Orean and Whistler voted in favor of accepting the proposal and discussed how they had determined that contracting with Library Systems and Services LLC (LSSI) might save the City a quarter of a million dollars

during the next three years. Mayor Story discussed how he had arrived at conclusions regarding staffing, the cost of materials under LSSI as compared with current costs, and potential recovery costs in the event that the arrangement did not work out. Council members Nail and Turner said that they're listening to the residents and hearing only opposition to outsourcing the library. Neither had yet heard from anyone who supported the outsourcing concept. Councilman Savage said that he has been opposed to outsourcing the library from the start.

OPEN FORUM**

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Joshua Santillan, Joseph McGookin, Pam Conley, Joyce Johnson, Keith Quigley, Karen Kersey, and Ralph Good spoke at Open Forum. We plan to cover their talks in our Thursday issue.