



City of Bowie

15901 Excalibur Road
Bowie, Maryland 20716

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, AUGUST 5, 2013

CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

The Regular Meeting of the Bowie City Council was held on Monday, August 5, 2013 in the Council Chambers at City Hall. Mayor Robinson called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG:

Mayor Robinson led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

QUORUM:

In attendance were Mayor Robinson, Mayor Pro Tem Polangin, Councilmembers Brady, Gardner, Marcos, Truth and Turner; City Manager Deutsch, Assistant City Manager Fitzwater, City Attorney Levan, City Clerk Hernandez, the Press and the Public.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION:

Mr. Michael Uzzo, Founder of Echoes of Nature, briefed Council on a proposed wildlife discovery center that they would like to establish in the City of Bowie.

COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Councilmember Turner stated that the City of Bowie has its own license plate that citizens can apply for via the MVA. More information about the program is on the city's website.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

City Manager Deutsch stated that the State Highway Administration resurfacing project of Rt 197 to Rt 301 and the installation of a traffic signal on Evergreen and Rt 197 should commence within the next 170 days and be completed by early spring.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Mayor Pro Tem Polangin moved the approval of Consent Agenda Items: A) Approval of June 17 Meeting Minutes.; B) Approval of July 1 Meeting Minutes; C) Approval of July 8 Meeting Minutes; D) Approval of Resolution R-50-13 – Approving Variance Application BV-5-13, A Request by Kenneth and Lisa Henkel to Allow Construction of Approximately 140 Linear Feet of Six Foot High Privacy Fencing Within the Side yard Along Church Road When, According to the Prince George's County Zoning Ordinance, Such Fencing Shall Not be More Than Four Feet High, at 14300 Driftwood Road; E) Approval of Resolution R-51-13 – Approving Variance Application BV-6-13, A Request by Terry and Haamid Nuriddin to Allow Construction of Approximately 69 Linear Feet of Six Foot High Fencing Within the Side Yard Along Jennings

MAYOR G. Frederick Robinson **MAYOR PRO TEM** Diane M. Polangin

COUNCIL Dennis Brady ♦ Henri Gardner ♦ James L. Marcos ♦ Isaac C. Truth ♦ Todd M. Turner **CITY MANAGER** David J. Deutsch
City Hall (301) 262-6200 FAX (301) 809-2302 TDD (301) 262-5013 WEB www.cityofbowie.org

Mill Drive When, According to the Prince George's County Zoning Ordinance, Such Fencing Shall not be More Than Four Feet High, at 15201 Johnstone Lane; F) Approval of Resolution R-52-13 – Accepting the Bid Proposal of Reston Limousine and Travel Service, Incorporated in the Amount of \$202,692.86 to Provide a Bowie Business Shuttle Bus Service and Authorizing the City Manager to Negotiate and Sign Agreement for Same. Councilmember Marcos seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Intern Report - Ms. Lindsay Dodd an intern that worked in the City through a Maryland Municipal League internship program briefed Council on several projects she worked on during her tenure in the City. Some of the projects dealt with social media, tree canopy study and emergency preparedness public service announcements.

B. Wall Sculpture in City Hall – Ms. Margaret Suddeth, Co-Chair of the City of Bowie Arts Committee, presented the committees recommendation of Artist Adam Nelson of Baltimore, Maryland to design, fabricate and install a wall sculpture for the City Hall lobby. The budget for the project is \$20,000.

Public Hearing:

Since there were no speakers signed up to speak, Mayor Robinson declared the public hearing to have been held.

Following comments from Council, Councilmember Brady made a motion to approve the artist recommendation from the Arts Committee and direct staff to exercise a contract with the artist. Councilmember Marcos seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Bowie Volunteer Fire Department – Fire Chief Lee Havens presented a brief presentation to Council on the operating status of the department. A full copy of the presentation is on file in the City Clerk's office. The department's main deficiency is the decreasing number of membership.

Prince George's Fire Department Chief Marc Bashoor addressed Council on issues occurring in that department, including EMS response times and the purchase of new apparatus for the department.

Public Hearing:

1. Charles Burton, 12410 Canfield Lane spoke of several fires that have occurred in the city and the lack of timely response from the fire stations.

Since there were no more speakers signed up to speak, Mayor Robinson declared the public hearing to have been held.

Mayor Pro Tem Polangin asked the Fire Chiefs what was the reason for a 50 minute delay of sending an ambulance to a call on July 17th. Fire Chief Bashoor explained that when that call came in there was also a large house fire that the department was responding to and due to the shortage of staffing it caused the delay in responding to the ambulance call. Fire Chief Haven is pushing hard to improve their recruitment process so that this incident does not occur again.

Councilmember Gardner asked what will be the ideal number of committed volunteers needed to serve a city the size of Bowie. Fire Chief Haven responded that it takes about 100 to 120 committed volunteers.

Mayor Robinson thanked Fire Chief Havens and Bashoor for all that they do and their time to do this presentation to Council.

D. City Transportation Priority List – Mr. Joseph Meinert, City Planning Director, summarized the staff report dated August 1, 2013, a copy which is on file at City Hall. MD Route 450 and MD Route 197 are the two highest priorities for State roads, and the need for sidewalk connectivity and pedestrian safety on MD 978 (Hall Road) from Pointer Ridge Drive to Devonwood Drive. With respect to County roadways the City's priorities are Church Road, Mount Oak/Woodmore Roads, Old Stage Road, Race Track Road, High Bridge Road, the Bowie Heritage Trail and Public Transit.

Councilmember Turner would like for staff to include a comment for the potential expansion of WMATA bus service to the Bowie corridor and the extension of the orange line.

Councilmember Trough would like to include the request of better maintenance in regards to grass cutting and trash pickup on MD Route 214 and Hall Road from the State.

Councilmember Brady suggested that the US 50 Trumpet Interchange at Maryland Science and Technology Center project be dropped from the list since the development for that area has changed.

City Manager Deutsch responded to the comment from Councilmember Trough in regards to the grass cutting on state roads. The State Highway Administration has cut back on their mowing frequency and suggests that a letter be sent from Council to Secretary Smith and copying the 23rd Delegation with regards to better maintenance on these roads. From a staff perspective, they agree with Councilmember Brady's suggestion of removing the US 50 Trumpet Interchange project from the list.

E. Approval of Resolution R-48-13 Housing and Community Development Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) FY 2013 - Mr. Jesse Buggs, Director Office of Grant Development & Administration summarized the staff report dated July 2, 2013, a copy which is on file at City Hall. The report identifies the extent to which the City has satisfied specific goals and objectives delineated in its Annual Action Plan for Fiscal Year 2013.

Public Hearing:

Since there were no speakers signed up to speak, Mayor Robinson declared the public hearing to have been held.

Following comments from Council, Councilmember Marcos made a motion to adopt Resolution R-48-13 and have staff forward the report to HUD. Councilmember Brady seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

F. Emergency Management – Ms. Una Cooper, Communications Director and Mr. Alan Creveling, Emergency Management Resource Coordinator for the City, briefed Council on recommendations made by the Bowie Public Safety Committee regarding emergency communications with Bowie residents. One of the recommendations is to have a recorded

information line that is based off site and out of the area. Also, the use of local radio stations and a development of an Annual Storm and Local Emergency Information Guide for citizens. Staff will continue to provide updates on these efforts to Council and to the Public Safety Committee.

Public Hearing:

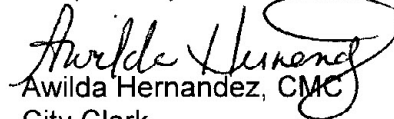
Since there were no speakers signed up to speak, Mayor Robinson declared the public hearing to have been held.

Mayor Robinson thanked staff for the report and reminded citizens of the National Night Out Event that will be held on August 6 at Allen Pond Park from 6-8 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Pro Tem Polangin moved to adjourn the City Council meeting and move into Close Session under State Government Article §10-508(a)(3): To consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related thereto. State Government Article §10-508(a)(7): To consult with counsel to obtain legal advice on a legal matter. Councilmember Truth seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Awilda Hernandez, CMC
City Clerk

**WRITTEN STATEMENT FOR CLOSING A MEETING
UNDER THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT**

Date: 8/5/13 Time: 10:30 Location: City Hall Motion to close meeting made by: Polangin;
Seconded by Truth, Members voting in favor: Robinson, Polangin, Marcos, Brady
Turner, Truth, Gardner Opposed: _____ Abstaining _____ Absent _____

STATUTORY AUTHORITY TO CLOSE SESSION, State Government Article, §10-508(a) (check all that apply):

- ☐ (1) To discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom this public body has jurisdiction; or any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals;
- ☒ (2) To protect the privacy or reputation of individuals concerning a matter not related to public business;
- ☒ (3) To consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related thereto;
- ☐ (4) To consider a matter that concerns the proposal for a business or industrial organization to locate, expand, or remain in the State;
- ☐ (5) To consider the investment of public funds;
- ☒ (6) To consider the marketing of public securities;
- ☒ (7) To consult with counsel to obtain legal advice on a legal matter;
- ☐ (8) To consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending or potential litigation;
- ☐ (9) To conduct collective bargaining negotiations or consider matters that relate to the negotiations;
- ☐ (10) To discuss public security, if the public body determines that public discussion would constitute a risk to the public or to public security, including: (i) the deployment of fire and police services and staff; and (ii) the development and implementation of emergency plans;
- ☐ (11) To prepare, administer, or grade a scholastic, licensing, or qualifying examination;
- ☐ (12) To conduct or discuss an investigative proceeding on actual or possible criminal conduct;
- ☐ (13) To comply with a specific constitutional, statutory, or judicially imposed requirement that prevents public disclosures about a particular proceeding or matter;
- ☐ (14) Before a contract is awarded or bids are opened, to discuss a matter directly related to a negotiating strategy or the contents of a bid or proposal, if public discussion or disclosure would adversely impact the ability of the public body to participate in the competitive bidding or proposal process.

FOR EACH CITATION CHECKED ABOVE, THE REASONS FOR CLOSING AND TOPICS TO BE DISCUSSED:

- (✓) Acquisition of real property - Two properties for open space/Recreation
- (✓) Consult with counsel to obtain legal advice - Subdivision issue
- () Leasing public property, annexation, response to committee letter.

Persons attending closed session: _____

This statement is made by Maya Robinson, Presiding Officer: 
SIGNATURE

***** FOR USE IN MINUTES OF NEXT REGULAR MEETING: *****

TOPICS DISCUSSED AND ACTION(S) TAKEN (IF ANY):

Time closed session adjourned: 11:40

Appendix C
