



# City of Bowie

15901 Fred Robinson Way  
Bowie, Maryland 20716

## REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, JULY 10, 2023

### CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

The Regular Meeting of the Bowie City Council was held on Monday, July 10, 2023, in the Council Chambers at City Hall. Mayor Adams called the meeting to order at 8:04 p.m.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG:

Mayor Adams led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

### QUORUM:

In attendance were Mayor Adams, Mayor Pro Tem Ndebumadu, Councilmembers Estève, Gardner (virtual), Hawkins, Truesdale, and Woolfley (virtual), City Manager Lott, Assistant City Manager Mears, City Attorney Ruff (joined virtually at 8:50 p.m.), City Clerk Hernandez, and Staff.

### CITIZEN PARTICIPATION:

1. Wanda Rogers, President of GBCC – Spoke about the benefits of being part of the Greater Bowie Chamber of Commerce.

### CITY BOARDS AND COMMITTEES:

#### A. Appointments/Reappointments/Swearing-In:

1. Councilmember Hawkins motioned to appoint Ms. Bettye Demps to the Community Recreation Committee for a 2-year term. Mayor Pro Tem Ndebumadu seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0 (Gardner, Woolfley did not vote).
2. Councilmember Esteve motioned to appoint Ms. Nicole Thornton to the Education Committee for a 2-year term. Mayor Pro Tem Ndebumadu seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0 (Woolfley did not vote).
3. Mayor Adams swore in Ms. Demps and Ms. Thornton to their respective committees.
4. Councilmember Esteve moved the reappointment of Linda Fuller, John Scoulios and Valerie H. Yancey to the Administrative Review Board for a 2-year term. Councilmember Truesdale seconded the motion and it carried 5-0 (Gardner, Woolfley did not vote).
5. Councilmember Esteve moved the reappointment of Kathleen Parker to the Arts Committee for a 2-year term. Councilmember Truesdale seconded the motion and it carried 5-0 (Gardner, Woolfley did not vote).
6. Councilmember Esteve moved the reappointment of Gail L. Elkins, Tiffany Monroe and Jacqueline M. Rhone to the Board of Personnel Appeals for a 2-year term. Mayor Pro Tem Ndebumadu seconded the motion and it carried 5-0 (Gardner, Woolfley did not vote).

7. Councilmember Esteve moved the reappointment of Sharon Hunt to the Community Outreach Committee for a 2-year term. Mayor Pro Tem Ndebumadu seconded the motion and it carried 6-0 (Gardner did not vote).
8. Councilmember Hawkins moved the reappointment of Brittany Bunn and Bee Scott to the Diversity Committee for a 2-year term. Mayor Pro Tem Ndebumadu seconded the motion and it carried 5-0 (Gardner, Woolfley did not vote).
9. Councilmember Esteve moved the reappointment of Candi Dailey, Kevin Kennedy, Jr., Sherman Ragland, Andrew M. Roud and Alicia Stukes to the Economic Development Committee for a 2-year term. Mayor Pro Tem Ndebumadu seconded the motion and it carried 5-0 (Gardner, Woolfley did not vote).
10. Councilmember Esteve moved the reappointment of Elmer M. Dengler and Jacqueline Lord to the Environmental Advisory Committee for a 2-year term. Mayor Pro Tem Ndebumadu seconded the motion and it carried 5-0 (Gardner, Woolfley did not vote).
11. Councilmember Esteve moved the reappointment of Ismael "Vince" Canales, John P. "Jay" Fagan, Jr., Alan R. Kolski, Karl Stehmer and Daniel E. Thomas to the Ethics Commission for a 2-year term. Mayor Pro Tem Ndebumadu seconded the motion and it carried 5-0 (Gardner, Woolfley did not vote).
12. Councilmember Esteve moved the reappointment of Carl Robinson to the Financial Advisory Committee for a 2-year term. Councilmember Truesdale seconded the motion and it carried 5-0 (Gardner, Woolfley did not vote).
13. Councilmember Woolfley moved the reappointment of Robert Kellaway and Michael Laguna to the Green Team Executive Committee for a 2-year term. Mayor Pro Tem Ndebumadu seconded the motion and it carried 6-0 (Gardner did not vote).
14. Mayor Pro Tem Ndebumadu moved the reappointment of John Eidsness and Michael Gregory Paines to the Information Technology Committee for a 2-year term. Councilmember Truesdale seconded the motion and it carried 6-0 (Gardner did not vote).
15. Councilmember Hawkins moved the reappointment of Langston Clay and Jeffrey G. Cooper to the Public Safety Committee for a 2-year term. Mayor Pro Tem Ndebumadu seconded the motion and it carried 6-0 (Gardner did not vote).

#### COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mayor Adams congratulated the students that received awards and scholarships from the Inter-Faith Program.

#### CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

City Manager Lott did not have a report.

#### CONSENT AGENDA:

Councilmember Esteve made a motion to approve Consent Agenda items: A) Adoption of Resolution R-45-23 Awarding a Contract to DSI, Inc. to Repair Equalization Tank Flygt Pump #1 at the Wastewater Treatment Plant in the Amount of \$28,403.60; B) Adoption of Resolution R-46-23 Repealing Resolution R-41-23 and Adopting the Housing and Community Development Cares Act Amendment: FY 2021 (HUD FY 2020) Amended Annual Action Plan; C) Adoption of Resolution R-47-23 Approving Deed of Adjustment of Common Line of Division Between Parcels Owned by the City Known as the "Entzian Property. Mayor Pro Tem Ndebumadu seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0 (Gardner did not vote).

OLD BUSINESS:

A. Adoption of Ordinance O-8-23 Granting a Renewal of a Cable Franchise to Comcast of Maryland, LLC, and Authorizing a Franchise Agreement – Ms. Mati Bazurto, Director of Business Operations summarized Ordinance O-8-23, granting a renewal of the renegotiated Cable Franchise Agreement with Comcast of Maryland, LLC (“Comcast”). The terms of the agreement are deemed favorable to the City, and it is in the best interests of the City, its residents, and businesses to renew the cable franchise with Comcast.

**Public Hearing:**

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

Councilmember Esteve motioned to adopt Ordinance O-8-23. Councilmember Woolfley seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. City Lobbyists Briefing – Representatives from Cornerstone, the City’s lobbyist firm, presented a summary of legislative activity from the session and suggestions on how to prepare for next year. Despite projections of a budget surplus, Maryland experienced a sharp reduction of available funds by over \$1 billion this year. The Cornerstone Team secured \$500,000 for the City’s tuberculation request after working with the budget committees. Maryland Horse Racing Act extensions passed and SB0720 took effect July 1, 2023.

Councilmember Hawkins asked if there will be any issues for next year’s budget. Mr. PJ Hogan responded that he has heard of different scenarios but ultimately Maryland is in a good economy compared to other states.

Mayor Pro Tem Ndebumadu asked if the City is in good standing for future requests of Federal funding. Mr. Hogan responded yes, and the key is to prepare early for those requests.

Mayor Adams thanked Cornerstone for their presentation.

B. Bowie Race Track Property Task Force Recommendations – The Chair of the Bowie Race Track Property Task Force, Mr. Robert Day, presented the final findings and recommendations of the Task Force regarding future recreational uses of the Bowie Race Track property (see attached presentation).

**Public Hearing:**

1. Sham Chotoo, Bowie Boys and Girls Club – spoke in support of the recommendations and expanding the sport of cricket in the City.
2. Dennis Brady, Paisley Ln – spoke in support of the recommendations and keeping the residents engaged and informed of the process.

Since there are no other speakers signed up to speak, Mayor Adams declared the public hearing to have been held.

Councilmember Woolfley asked with the recommendations of the fields and being in such close proximity of the river are there any thoughts if the fields would be surface fields or synthetic fields. Mr. Day responded that they are still studying and would depend on exact usage of the fields.

Councilmember Esteve motioned to accept the findings and recommendations of the Bowie Race Track Task Force for recreational use of the Bowie Race Track Property. Councilmember Hawkins seconded the motion. Councilmember Woolfley requested that the recommendations from staff be also accepted in the motion.

Councilmember Esteve modified his motion to accept the findings and recommendations of the Bowie Race Track Task Force as well as staff's recommendations. Councilmember Woolfley seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

C. Retail Centers in Bowie – Mr. Marc Menick, President of KLNb, briefed Council on retail centers development, leasing and operations. Tenants gravitate to certain locations due to foot traffic, vehicle traffic, accessibility and convenience, demographics and market demand. Landlords select their tenants based on financial stability, tenant mix strategy, reputation and branding, tenant credit worthiness and their track record. Bowie is located in a good central location for future commercial growth.

Mayor Admas asked if there is anything the City needs to do to keep and improve our commercial sites. Mr. Menick responded that they should get to know their landlords and what they are looking for in tenants.

Mayor Adams thanked Mr. Menick for his presentation.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Pro Tem Ndebumadu motioned to adjourn the City Council meeting. Councilmember Esteve second the motion. Motion passed 6-0 (Gardner did not vote). The meeting adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Awilda Hernandez', written in a cursive style.

Awilda Hernandez, MMC  
City Clerk