



City of Bowie

15901 Fred Robinson Way
Bowie, Maryland 20716

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, JANUARY 16, 2024

CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

The Regular Meeting of the Bowie City Council was held on Tuesday, January 16, 2024, in Council Chambers at City Hall. Mayor Pro Tem Woolfley called the meeting to order at 8:18 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG:

Mayor Pro Tem Woolfley led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

QUORUM:

In attendance were Mayor Adams (virtual), Mayor Pro Tem Woolfley, Councilmembers Brady, Estève, Ndebumadu (virtual), and Rogers (virtual), City Manager Lott, Assistant City Manager Mears, City Attorney Levan (virtual), City Clerk Hernandez, and Staff.

AGENDA ADDITIONS/DELETIONS/AMENDMENTS:

Councilmember Esteve requested to move Item A under Old Business to the next meeting. Council concurred to keep on tonight's agenda.

Councilmember Ndebumadu requested to add under New Business a status update on the renaming of Nash Woods after former Senator Peters.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION:

City Clerk Hernandez mentioned that one comment was received via email, sent to Council and are attached as part of the record.

1. Mr. Scott Cooper from Premier LLC introduced himself and commented on the construction of the storage facility being built by Lidl.
2. Ameka Love – Requested support for small home businesses.

COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mayor Pro Tem Woolfley thanked staff, especially Missy Marlette and her streets crew for a great job in clearing of roads during the snowstorm that began yesterday into this morning.

Mayor Adams thanked the Diversity Committee for the Martin Luther King program and the City's Communications Department for all the updates during the storm.

Councilmember Ndebumadu echoed her colleagues comments on the snowstorm and MLK program. She also mentioned that so far Friendship Charter school has received 154 applications and 30% are dedicated just for Bowie residents.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

City Manager Lott commented that staff is diligently working on the FY 2025 budget for presentation to Council in April.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Councilmember Brady motioned to approve Consent Agenda items: A) Approval of Letter to Prince George's County Council re: CR-84-2023, Proposed Amendments to the Endorsed Sectional Map Amendment for Bowie-Mitchellville and Vicinity; B) Adoption of Amended Resolution R-69-23 Correcting the Amount of the Contract Awarded by Resolution No. R-69-23 and Waiving the Bidding Requirements of Section 61 "Purchasing and Contracting" of the City Charter, for Good Cause Shown, to Allow the City to Enter Into a Contract With Emergency Services Consulting International, Inc. (ESCI) for Police Department Testing Services in the Total Amount of \$55,000. Councilmember Ndebumadu seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

OLD BUSINESS:

A. City's Traffic Calming Policy Discussion – Mr. Jose Aldayuz, Public Works Director summarized the revised Neighborhood Traffic Management Program. The program has four primary goals – improving neighborhood livability by reducing speeds and vehicular traffic on residential streets; promote safe and conditions for residents, pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorists in neighborhood streets; encourage citizen participation in all phases of NTMP and make efficient use of City resources. NTMP traffic management measures for residential neighborhoods are classified in three levels, each progressively more restrictive to motorists using the street.

Councilmember Ndebumadu asked what is a short-term resolution for the streets that do not have speed cameras on them. Assistant City Manager Mears responded that Public Works staff is working with the Planning and Sustainability Department on street markings.

Councilmember Brady commented that it seems that the main issues are on long streets and major cut through arteries, would staff considers installing more chokers and islands similar to what is installed near the ice arena.

Police Chief Preston stated that the City currently has 12 fully active speed cameras that are being rotated among 33 locations throughout the City periodically.

Councilmember Brady asked if they are being rotated with the entire enclosure or just the actual camera. Chief Preston responded that currently it is entire unit but the goal is to have 33 enclosures installed.

Council concurred to have staff continue to look into traffic calming measures besides just speed cameras, as some City streets do not meet the criteria for a speed camera. Those locations could benefit with more signage and pavement markings and more public education.

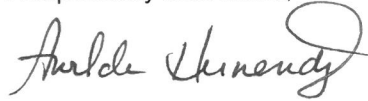
New Business:

A. Status update on renaming of Nash Woods park after Senator Peters – Assistant City Manager Mears stated that back in August when first discussed, the County was in the process of reviewing their policy on renaming of properties/parks after recognizable members of the County. Staff will follow up with the County and report back to Council.

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilmember Esteve motioned to adjourn the regular City Council meeting. Councilmember Ndebumadu seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0. The meeting adjourned at 9:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Awilda Hernandez". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Awilda Hernandez, MMC
City Clerk

Awilda Hernandez

From: Karen Williamson <williamsonkl1125@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 7, 2024 10:17 PM
To: Alfred Lott; Daniel Mears; Awilda Hernandez; Mary Hartig; Timothy Adams; Dufour Woolfley; Wanda Rogers; Michael Esteve; Clinton Truesdale; Rosann Ndebumadu; Dennis Brady
Cc: joann@woodmorehighlands.org
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Subject: Citizen Participation on 01/16/2024: Appreciation for the Installation of Speed Camera on Dunwood Valley Drive

To Mayor Tim Adams, the Council, and the City of Bowie Staff,

I hope this message finds you well. I am writing to express my sincere gratitude for the recent installation of a speed camera on Dunwood Valley Drive. The introduction of this traffic calming measure has been a long-awaited development, and I applaud the City of Bowie for addressing this critical issue.

Since 2016, I, along with fellow residents, have consistently advocated for traffic calming methods in our neighborhood. Numerous letters were penned to former council members and city officials, and concerns were raised during the citizen participation segments of general council meetings over the years. The tireless efforts of our community were driven by the genuine desire to enhance safety on our streets.

The installation of the speed camera comes as a relief, signaling a positive step towards curbing reckless driving in our neighborhood. Personally, my family has experienced the unfortunate loss of four vehicles, and we've witnessed several accidents involving drivers speeding through residential areas. One particularly harrowing incident involved my daughter in an automobile accident caused by a visitor's impatience with a bicyclist near our driveway. The subsequent deployment of police and emergency medical services, along with the impact on our property, underscored the severe consequences of speeding.

The costs associated with such incidents, both in terms of property damage and potential loss of life, emphasize the urgent need for effective traffic calming measures. I am pleased to see that the City of Bowie has taken action by installing the speed camera, which I believe will serve as a valuable deterrent over time.

While the speed camera is undoubtedly a positive development, I would like to propose the consideration of additional measures such as speed warning lights to further enhance safety in our community. Nevertheless, I appreciate the City's responsiveness to our concerns and experiences, and I am grateful for the proactive steps taken to address the issue at hand.

Thank you for listening to the pleas of our community and for delivering a tangible solution. This accomplishment is a testament to the effectiveness of civic engagement, and I am optimistic that our collaborative efforts will continue to foster a safer and more secure environment for all residents.

Sincerely,

Karen Williamson

14206 Dunwood Valley Drive, Bowie, MD 20721

Williamsonkl@msn.com

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