



City of Bowie

15901 Fred Robinson Way
Bowie, Maryland 20716

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, AUGUST 5, 2024

CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

The Regular Meeting of the Bowie City Council was held on Monday, August 5, 2024, in Council Chambers at City Hall. Mayor Adams called the meeting to order at 8:01 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG:

Mayor Adams led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

QUORUM:

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

AGENDA ADDITIONS/DELETIONS/AMENDMENTS:

None.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION:

1. Les Kaunitz – Spoke about the shortfalls in the County and State budgets and knows Council will have a struggle in preparation for next year's City budget.

PRESENTATIONS:

Mayor Pro Tem Woolfley motioned to adopt Proclamation P-12-24 Proclaiming July 31, 2024, as World Ranger Day in the City of Bowie. Councilmember Brady seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Council presented the proclamation to the City's Park Rangers.

CITY BOARDS AND COMMITTEES:

None.

COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Councilmember Ndebumadu noted that Morgan Hawkins from PBS Student Learning Labs was present at the meeting and was working on a piece on youth views on local government.

Mayor Adams encouraged residents to attend the monthly Prince George's County DPIE presentations on the process of their department. He also reminded residents of National Night Out which will be held at Allen Pond Park at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 6.

Councilmember Rogers commented on the survey that went out to residents for their input on the City's strategic plan.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

Assistant City Manager Mears reported on the change of hours for trash pick-up during the summer months. Trash pick-up will begin at 6:00 a.m. through September 30.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Mayor Pro Tem Woolfley motioned to approve Consent Agenda item: A) Approval of June 3, 2024 Council Meeting Minutes; B) Approval of June 17, 2024 Council Meeting Minutes; C) Approval of July 1, 2024 Council Meeting Minutes; D) Approval of July 8, 2024 Council Meeting Minutes; E) Adoption of Resolution R-49-24 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 Ashton Manor Environmental LLC for Fall Street Tree Planting in City Right-of-Ways; F) Adoption of Resolution R-50-24 Waiving the Competitive Bidding Requirements of Section 62 "Cooperative Bidding" of the Charter of the City of Bowie to Allow the Purchase of Sixteen (16) Police Vehicles Through Two (2) State of Maryland Procurement Contracts; G) Adoption of Resolution R-51-24 Waiving the Competitive Bidding Requirements of Section 62 "Cooperative Bidding" of the Charter of the City of Bowie to Allow the Issuance of a Purchase Order for Police Vehicle Upfitting Services Through a Howard County Procurement Contract; H) Adoption of Resolution R-52-24 Waiving the Competitive Bidding Requirements of Section 61 "Purchasing and Contracting" of the City Charter to Allow the City Manager to Issue a Purchase Order to Deere & Company and Authorize the Purchase of a John Deere 1600 Turbo Terrain Cut Commercial Wide-Area Riding Mower; I) Adoption of Resolution R-53-24 Waiving the Competitive Bidding Requirements of Section 61 "Purchasing and Contracting" of the Charter of the City of Bowie and Awarding a Contract to Jesco, Inc. in the Amount of \$138,610 for the Purchase of One Backhoe, by Piggybacking a Sourcewell Contract; J) Adoption of Resolution R-54-24 Authorizing the Issuance of a Purchase Order to EBA Engineering, Inc., for Task Order/RP #5-07 in the Amount of \$119,759.35 in Accordance With the Master Contract Approved on January 22, 2019; K) Adoption of Resolution R-55-24 Approving an Agreement Between the City and the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees; L) Introduction of Ordinance O-7-24 Amending the Adopted Budget for the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2024 and Ending June 30m 2025, as Embodied in Ordinance O-4-24, to Appropriate Funds for the Following Projects and Grants: an Additional \$122,000 for the Public Arts Bowie Sign Project, \$58,500 for Energy Efficiency and Conservation Strategy, Additional Grant Funding to the Maryland Women's Business Center (MWBC) Totaling \$120,000, and Funding for the Emergency Operations Center in the Amount of \$237,500. Councilmember Truesdale seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

A. Council discussion on street striping to control speeding on neighborhood streets - Mr. Jose Aldayuz, Public Works Director, commented that his department is working with the Planning and Sustainability Department to do street striping on the streets as they are getting paved. There is a process that has to be followed by state regulations in order to do the striping, it has to have a planning effort and then it is reviewed by an engineer to make sure that it complies with the NTUBC. Mr. Aldayuz requested for Council to have a little patience with staff as this is a learning process for this new plan.

Councilmember Ndebumadu would like to be informed frequently on the process in order to be able to communicate the status with residents. She also commented that this could be an opportunity to use Smart Cities Technology.

Council concurred to have staff do the striping on the streets as they are being repaved and provide Council with updates as they are being done.

B. Economic Development Promotion/Marketing – Councilmember Ndebumadu commented that \$50,000 was placed in the budget for a focus on marketing the City and actively recruit new businesses. City priorities need to be provided to Mr. King in order to finalize and RFP.

Councilmember Rogers stated that she would like to know what the best marketing channels are to use for specific businesses.

Councilmember Brady stated that he believes that the City should establish a Bowie Economic Development Corporation.

Councilmember Truesdale stated that whatever strategy is used, it needs to give the City control.

Council concurred to have staff proceed with the RFP focusing on the best ways to market the city to attract new businesses to the city.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Bulk Trash Pick-up, Solid Waste General Rules and Special Agreements – Councilmember Ndebumadu welcomed representatives of several condominium associations within the City of Bowie and invited them to make comments in regard to this matter.

Ms. Patricia Irving, resident of Covington Condominiums, read comments in reference to bulk trash pick-up being stopped at condominiums (Copy of comment attached).

Mayor Adams asked the City Attorney if there is a different law in the City Code or tax bracket differentiating bulk trash removal between homes and condos.

City Attorney Levan responded that she could not answer because she has not been involved in policies regarding bulk trash.

Assistant City Manager Mears stated that not all services that the City provides would be availed to all residents, for example some neighborhoods have sidewalks and are part of the sidewalk maintenance service, or a neighborhood that has a park versus one that does not.

Mayor Adams asked what caused the decision to stop collecting the bulk trash in the condominiums if it was being done.

Assistant Public Works Director, Trey Robbins, stated that to his knowledge if bulk trash pick-up was being done in the condominiums, it was being done improperly and the crews were informed that it would not be continued.

Mayor Pro Tem Woolfley asked if any of the condominiums had a private company pick up bulk trash for them. Mr. Fauzi, Property Manager of For All Residences, LLC stated that Covington never had a private company, but he believes that some of the other condominiums did and once the City started picking up they discontinued that service.

After further discussion, Council concurred to have staff provide detailed information on why, and when did the bulk trash pick-ups stopped at condominiums/multi-family dwellings, as well as how were the costs absorbed in the previous years when it was picked up at Covington, and research if there are

any clauses in annexation agreements that might give light to this on those properties at the next Council meeting.

B. Preliminary Plan #4-24007, Melford Towns – Planning Director, Joe Meinert summarized the staff report. The developer is requesting the City's approval recommendation for a Preliminary Plan of subdivision containing 28 lots and four parcels on 2.59 acres, located on the south side of Lake Melford Avenue, east of Curie Drive, in the Town Activity Center-Edge (TAC-E) Zone. The proposed development will replace one 94,068 square foot multi-family apartment building containing 71 dwelling units previously approved in Detailed Site Plan #22043 for Melford Mansions.

Mr. Robert Antonetti with the Law Offices of Shipley, Horne, representing the developer thanked Council for this consideration and is available to answer any questions.

Public Hearing:

Since there was no one signed up to speak, Mayor Adams declared the Public Hearing to have been held.

Councilmember Brady motioned to approve Preliminary Plan #4-24007, Melford Towns. Councilmember Rogers seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-1 (Woolfley). Councilmember Truesdale was not present at the time of vote.

C. City's Transportation Priority List – Planning Director, Joe Meinert and Transportation Specialist, Ridwan Coker, summarized the priorities on transportation in the City to receive input from Council and be able to draft letters with the priorities to be sent to the County and State. The City's priorities continues to be MD 197, MD 450 and Church Road.

Mayor Pro Tem Woolfley and Councilmember Brady both stated that they would like to see improvement on Church Road in the northern end of it. Councilmember Brady also stated that on US 301 capacity and safety improvements between Excalibur Road and MD 214 are needed.

Council concurred to send the City's Transportation Priority List to the State and County with added recommendations.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Pro Tem Woolfley motioned to adjourn the regular City Council meeting and will not be adjourning to Closed Session. Councilmember Rogers seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 10:33 p.m.


Awilda Hernandez, MMC
City Clerk

Approved by the City Council of the City of Bowie on September 3, 2024.

To the City Council Members, Tim Adams, Mayor and the City of Bowie Staff, Ladies and Gentlemen, Good Evening,

First, let me take this opportunity to introduce myself, Patricia Irving, and I am a resident of Covington Condominium and with me is Mr. Fauzi, Property Manager of For All Residences, LLC. We are here tonight to speak of behalf of the Condominium Associations in the City of Bowie.

Allow me to bring to your attention the matter of Bulk Trash removal for condominiums in the City of Bowie. This is a shared responsibility that appears to be distributed in an unfair manner compared to single-family homes and townhomes in this area. As Homeowners of this community, we feel the need to address this concern.

We must bring to your attention that Bulk Trash Removal Service had been picked up for years in our communities, but abruptly came to a halt several months ago. The Board Members and the Property Manager of Covington Condos have met with the City Manager and the head of Public Works. We feel that the answers we received to our concerns from the City Officials were unacceptable and did not address our concerns justly or fairly. This is why we stand before this Council tonight.

As responsible tax-paying citizens in the City of Bowie, we are neglected regarding bulk trash removal. Therefore, our Associations are subjected to paying an outside contractor to remove bulk trash. This has created undue stress on our Association fees. Trash Removal service is included in the taxes we pay to the City of Bowie as Homeowners.

We feel that not providing Bulk Trash is discrimination to Condo Associations and that we should not be denied the Bulk Trash Removal Service. We are ONLY advocating for the Condo Associations, not apartments which are not property owners.

Here are some of our concerns regarding Bulk Trash Removal Service.

1. Why? We clearly don't understand this neglect to remove Bulk Trash for Condo Associations/Homeowners as the part of the city in which we live.
2. Since, this service is no longer being done, can our Homeowners taxes be adjusted?

3. How can we have Bulk Trash Service restored to the Condominiums in the City of Bowie?
4. Can the Council inform us when and why condos were eliminated from the original Ordinance for bulk trash pickup.
5. Until this situation is rectified, can the Council and or the City of Bowie establish a monthly bulk trash pickup for the Condo Associations in the City of Bowie.

In closing, let me thank you for the opportunity to address this Council and to speak on behalf of the condominium associations in the City of Bowie. If there are any questions, please feel free to address them to Mr. Fauzi, Property Manager, For All Residences, LLC.