



City of Bowie

15901 Fred Robinson Way
Bowie, Maryland 20716

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, FEBRAURY 3, 2025

CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

The Regular Meeting of the Bowie City Council was held on Monday, February 3, 2025, in Council Chambers at City Hall. Mayor Adams called the meeting to order at 8:03 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, Councilmembers Brady (virtual), Estève, Ndebumadu, Rogers, Truesdale and Woolfley, City Manager Lott, Assistant City Manager Mears, City Attorney Levan, City Clerk Hernandez and Staff.

AGENDA ADDITIONS/DELETIONS/AMENDMENTS:

None.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION:

1. Paul Nadler, Heatherstone Dr. – Spoke on the 10th Anniversary of the Animal Holding Room.
2. Rhonda Billingsley, Durham Dr. – Stated her concerns with the Economic Development of the City.
3. Maureen Fine, Knighthill Ln. – Asked Council to support the Bottle Bill along with other municipalities.
4. Charlene Bearsto, Morningside Ln. – Commented on concerns of the budget.

PRESENTATIONS:

- A. Mayor Adams swore-in Police Officer Darius Jackson, Police Officer Kristopher Zajur and Police Officer Roy Dobson. Police Chief Preston presented a Certificate of Promotion to Lieutenant Robert Stevenson to Captain.
- B. Lambda Gamma Gamma Chapter was not present. Proclamation will be presented at a future meeting.
- C. Mayor Pro Tem Woolfley motioned to adopt Proclamation P-4-25 Honoring Bowie Resident and Recently Retired President and CEO of the Prince George's County Economic Development Corporation David Iannucci. Councilmember Truesdale second the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Mayor Adams presented Mr. Iannucci his proclamation.

CITY BOARDS AND COMMITTEES:

A. Appointments/Reappointments/Swearing-In:

1. Councilmember Esteve motioned to appoint Ms. Destinee Parker to the Community Outreach Committee as a Regular Member for a 2-year term. Mayor Pro Tem Woolfley second the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Adams swore in Ms. Parker to the committee.

COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Councilmember Ndebumadu stated that she has been in contact with SHA representative about the trash along Rt. 301, and also with the City's Code Enforcement Department on conditions at CVS.

Councilmember Truesdale honored Black History Month.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

City Manager Lott introduced the City's new Planning and Sustainability Department Director, Mr. Richard Hall.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Mayor Pro Tem Woolfley motioned to approve Consent Agenda items: A) Adoption of Proclamation P-2-25 Affirming the City's Commitment to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion; B) Adoption of Proclamation P-3-25 Recognizing February 2025 as "Black History Month" in the City of Bowie; C) Adoption of Resolution R-9-25 Awarding a Contract for Bowie Golf Course Covered Driving Range Building and Course Improvements; D) Adoption of Resolution R-10-25 Awarding a Contract for the Design, Fabrication, and Erection of an Agricultural Building; E) Adoption of Resolution R-11-25 Awarding a Contract to Com-Bro Contracting, Inc. to Repair and Upgrade the Aeration System at the Water Treatment Plant in the Amount of \$63,500; F) Adoption of Resolution R-12-25 Waiving the Bidding Requirements of Section 61 "Purchasing and Contracting" of the City Charter to Allow the City Manager to Enter Into a Three-Year Support and Licensing Agreement With Avaya to Provide Maintenance for the Telephone System; G) Adoption of Resolution R-13-25 Waiving the Bidding Requirements of Section 61 "Purchasing and Contracting" of the City Charter to Allow the City Manager to Enter Into a Three-Year Support Agreement With ConvergeOne to Provide Managed Services for the Telephone System; H) Adoption of Resolution R-14-25 Accepting a Proposal for an Environmental Action Plan With Blue Strike Environmental in the Amount of \$145,275. Councilmember Clinton seconded the motion. Motion failed 6-1(Ndebumadu). Mayor Pro Tem Woolfley motioned to reconsider the approval of Consent Agenda items. Councilmember Truesdale seconded the motion. Councilmember Ndebumadu stated that she is not in support of approving items of purchase by waving the bidding requirements. Motion passed 6-0-1 (Ndebumadu abstained).

OLD BUSINESS:

A. Adoption of Ordinance O-1-25 Repealing in its Entirety and Re-Enacting With Amendments Chapter 26 "Zoning", Article II "Municipal Zoning Authority" of the Code of the City of Bowie to Reflect Changes Required Due to the Prince George's County Zoning Ordinance Rewrite and CB-015-2024, the Zoning Ordinance of Prince George's County – Omnibus Bill – Planning Director, Rich Hall summarized the ordinance. This amendment will be revising the City's Code to reflect the current, updated County zoning regulations related to the existing delegated authority granted to the City that was adopted in 2018 and took effect along with the Countywide Map Amendment in 2022.

Public Hearing:

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

Mayor Pro Tem Woolfley motioned to adopt Ordinance O-1-25. Councilmember Brady seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0. This ordinance will be sent to the Prince George's County Council Sitting as the District Council for their approval and shall become effective upon their approval, which shall be at least 30 days after its enactment by the City Council.

B. Adoption of Ordinance O-2-25 Amending the Adopted Budget for the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2024 and Ending June 30, 2025, As Embodied in Ordinance O-4-24 and Amended by Ordinance O-7-24, to Appropriate Funds for the Following Projects: \$185,000 for Additional Bulk Trash Collection, \$389,000 for Funding for a Replacement Street Sweeper, \$590,000 for Street Resurfacing, \$8,200 for the Parks and Grounds Agricultural Building, \$143,000 for the Driving Range Rehabilitation, \$41,500 for Lowlift Pump Station Rehabilitation and \$286,000 for the Water Treatment Plant Filter System Replacement – Finance Director, Mr. Byron Matthews, summarized the ordinance.

Public Hearing:

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

Mayor Adams asked if any of these items could be moved to further years. Mr. Matthews responded that staff has researched and found that these are the best pricing, and it would not benefit to move into further years.

Councilmember Ndebumadu asked why these amendments are being requested now when the new budget is being finalized in the next few months. City Manager Lott responded that some of the projects are currently budgeted for this fiscal year budget, but bids came in higher and the equipment that was damaged is an unexpected expense.

Mayor Pro Tem Woolfley motioned to adopt Ordinance O-2-25. Councilmember Esteve seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Old Town Bowie Revitalization Update – Mr. Mark Lawrence with Inncuvate, updated Council on the revitalization plan for Old Town Bowie. The survey that was sent out early December has garnished 300 responses to date. Top three responses for businesses desired: 1) Cafes and Coffee Shops; 2) Restaurants or Bars; and 3) Grocery or Farmer's Market. Fundraising has been accomplished so far from TEDCO, Prince George's County Planning Department and State of Maryland DHCD.

Councilmember Esteve asked what the biggest obstacles at the moment are. Mr. Lawrence responded that real estate is the biggest one, trying to get in touch with current property owners and engaging them in the plans.

Mayor Adams thanked Mr. Lawrence for his presentation.

B. Environmental Advisory Committee Annual Update – Watershed Manager, Tiffany Wright, introduced Mr. John Teasdale, the Chair of the committee who will present the update. The committees FY26 priorities focused on food waste composting, ecological landscaping pilot program at the Midwood

Lane Stormwater Pond site and completing the climate action plan. The Committee would also like for the Council to support HB 232 Maryland Beverage Container Recycling Refund and Litter Reduction Program.

Councilmember Rogers commented that in order for the expansion of waste composting to be successful, especially in District 3 and 4, education will be vital.

Councilmember Brady commented that the property where the iceplex was going to be built on Church Road, could possibly be a good site for a solar array.

Mayor Adams thanked Mr. Teasdale for his presentation.

C. Police Department Update – Police Chief Preston updated Council on department stats for 2024. Staffing is authorized at 67, currently have 8 vacancies. Calls of service in 2024 were 30,709, lower than 2023. Significant increase in commercial burglaries. Auto thefts slightly down. Photo Enforcement Citations significant increase due to the additional 12 cameras installed. They continued with Community Service events that includes Community Matters meetings, Shop With A Cop Event, HOA meetings, Drug Take Back Program and National Night Out.

D. Council Discussion on Stop Sign Designation and Placement – Council discussed reviewing the City's guidelines for stop signs as well as speed hump placement throughout the City. They also requested a status update for the street stripping project that was requested last year. City Manager will report back in March with these answers.

E. Council Discussion on City of Bowie Shopping Center Standards – Council discussed their concerns with the lack of property maintenance at different shopping centers. Also, their standards for a community feel. Code Compliance will work on possible new laws to bring before Council for their consideration.

ADJOURNMENT AND MOVE TO CLOSE SESSION:

Mayor Pro Tem Woolfley motioned to adjourn the regular City Council meeting and move to closed session under the statutory authority of the Md. Annotated Code, General Provisions Article §3-305(b)(7): "To consult with counsel to obtain legal advice", and §3-305(b)(8): "To consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending or potential litigation". Councilmember Esteve second the motion. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 11:01 p.m.


Awilda Hernandez, MMC
City Clerk

Approved by the City Council of the City of Bowie on April 7, 2025.

**PRESIDING OFFICER'S WRITTEN STATEMENT FOR CLOSING A MEETING ("CLOSING STATEMENT")
UNDER THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT (General Provisions Article § 3-305)**

This form has two sides. *Complete items 1 – 4 before closing the meeting.*

1. **Recorded vote to close the meeting:** Date: 2-3-25 Time: 11:00^{pm}; Location: City Hall;
Motion to close meeting made by: Woolfley Seconded by Esteve;
Members in favor: All Aye; Opposed: _____;
Abstaining: _____; Absent: _____.

2. **Statutory authority to close session (check all provisions that apply).**
This meeting will be closed under General Provisions Art. § 3-305(b) only:

(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; 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"; (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." (15) ☐ "To discuss cybersecurity, if the public body determines that public discussion would constitute a risk to: (i) security assessments or deployments relating to information resources technology; (ii) network security information . . . or (iii) deployments or implementation of security personnel, critical infrastructure, or security devices."

Continued →

3. For each provision checked above, disclosure of the topic to be discussed and the public body's reason for discussing that topic in closed session.

Citation (insert # from above)	Topic	Reason for closed-session discussion of topic
§3-305(b) ☒ 7	Consult with Counsel	Offer to discuss real estate
§3-305(b) ☒ 8	Litigation	Potential litigation
§3-305(b) ☐		
§3-305(b) ☐		
§3-305(b) ☐		

4. This statement is made by Samuel J. Al, Presiding Officer.

WORKSHEET FOR OPTIONAL USE IN CLOSED SESSION: INFORMATION FOR SUMMARY TO BE DISCLOSED IN THE MINUTES OF THE NEXT OPEN MEETING. (See also template for summary.)

- For a meeting closed under the statutory authority cited above:

Time of closed session: 11:11pm

Place: City Hall

Purpose(s): Consult with Counsel, Litigation

Members who voted to meet in closed session: TA, WR, DB, ME, DW, CT, RN

Persons attending closed session: Adams, Rogers, Brady, Estève, Wadley, Truesdale, Ndabumindu, Haley, Leary, Lott, Nears

Authority under § 3-305 for the closed session: (7), (8)

Topics actually discussed: Potential Litigation - offer to meet on real estate

Actions taken: _____

Each recorded vote: _____

- For a meeting recessed to perform an administrative function (§ 3-104): Time: _____

Place: _____

Persons present: _____

Subjects discussed: _____