



City of Bowie

15901 Fred Robinson Way
Bowie, Maryland 20716

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, AUGUST 4, 2025

CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

The Regular Meeting of the Bowie City Council was held on Monday, August 4, 2025, in Council Chambers at City Hall. Mayor Pro Tem Woolfley called the meeting to order at 8:05 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG:

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

QUORUM:

In attendance were Mayor Adams (virtual 8:13 p.m.), Councilmembers Brady, Estève, Ndebumadu (8:08 p.m.), Rogers, Truesdale and Woolfley, City Manager Lott, Assistant City Manager Mears, City Attorney Levan, City Clerk Hernandez and Staff.

AGENDA ADDITIONS/DELETIONS/AMENDMENTS:

Council had a consensus to amend the agenda to add under Presentations representatives of Bowie Volunteer Fire Station requesting grant funding for two projects.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION:

1. Terry Rogers, GBCC – Spoke about new opportunities being offered at the Greater Bowie Chamber of Commerce.

PRESENTATIONS:

A. Mr. Pete Mellits and Captain Jonathan Howard from the Bowie Volunteer Fire Department requested from Council grant funding in the amount of \$57,000 to cover the cost of two projects. One project is the repair of a walkway at the station for \$7,000 and \$50,000 to help offset lack of staffing.

Council asked City Manager Lott to review the requests and prepare a financial report to present to Council at the September 2nd Council meeting for their consideration and adoption.

CITY BOARDS AND COMMITTEES:

A. Swearing-In:

Mayor Pro Tem Woolfley swore in Ms. Henrietta (Awo) Osei-Anto to the Community Outreach Committee.

COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mayor Adams and Mayor Pro Tem Woolfley reminded residents to attend National Night Out tomorrow afternoon.

Councilmember Brady commented that the MAGLEV rail that was at one point considered to go through part of the City, has been cancelled.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

None.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Mayor Pro Tem Woolfley motioned to approve Consent Agenda items: A) Approval of June 16, 2025 Council Meeting Minutes; B) Adoption of Resolution R-50-25 Authorizing the Issuance of a Purchase Order to Mead & Hunt, Inc. for Task Order/RFP #4-13 in the Amount of \$29,459.53 in Accordance With the Master Contract Approved on December 3, 2018; C) Adoption of Resolution R-51-25 Awarding a Contract to Riviera Enterprises for Large Trunk and Right-of-Way (ROW) Sewer Main Inspections and Cleaning in an Amount Not to Exceed \$750,000; D) Adoption of Resolution R-52-25 Waiving the Competitive Bidding Requirements of Section 61 "Purchasing and Contracting" of the Charter of the City of Bowie to Allow the Purchase of Fourteen (14) Police Vehicles and Authorizing the City Manager to Issue a Purchase Order Through a State of Maryland Procurement Contract; E) Adoption of Resolution R-53-25 Waiving the Competitive Bidding Requirements of Section 61 "Purchasing and Contracting" of the Charter of the City of Bowie to Allow the Renovation of the Synthetic Turf Field at Whitemarsh Park, and Authorizing the City Manager to Enter Into an Agreement With FieldTurf USA, Inc. and Issue a Purchase Order in the Amount of \$711,415.00 F) Adoption of Resolution R-54-25 Authorizing the Issuance of a Purchase Order to KCI Technologies, Inc. (KCI) for Task Order/RFP #11-03 in the Amount of \$94,956.87 in Accordance With the Master Contract Approved on January 7, 2019; G) Adoption of Resolution R-55-25 Authorizing the Water Service Connection for Benjamin Tasker Middle School Located at 4901 Collington Road; H) Adoption of Resolution R-56-25 Waiving the Competitive Bidding Requirements +of Section 61 "Purchasing and Contracting" of the Charter of the City of Bowie to Allow the Purchase of Police Vehicle Upfitting Services and Authorizing the City Manager to Issue a Purchase Order Through a Howard County, Maryland Procurement Contract; I) Adoption of Resolution R-57-25 Authorizing the Water Service Connection for One Salon Studios Located at 3327 Superior Lane; J) Introduction of Charter Amendment Resolution CAR-2-25 Amending Sec. 61, "Purchasing and Contracting", and Sec. 62, "Cooperative Bidding", of the City Charter to Authorize the City Council to Set Purchasing Requirements and Procedures by Ordinance; K) Introduction of Ordinance O-8-25 Amending City Code, Chapter 19A, "Procurement, Procedures," Article I, "Procurements Generally", to Increase the Competitive Bidding Threshold and to Prescribe Additional Regulations Relating to City Procurements, Including the Adoption of Alternative Procedures in Appropriate Circumstances. Councilmember Brady second the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

OLD BUSINESS:

A. Adoption of Charter Amendment Resolution CAR-1-25 Amending Sec. 20, "Fixing Penalties for Violations of Ordinances", of the City Charter to Increase From \$1,000 to \$5,000 the Maximum Fine That Can be Assessed for a Violation of the City Code – City Attorney Levan summarized the resolution. During the 2025 legislative session of the Maryland General Assembly, Senate Bill 820 increasing the amount of the fine authorized in Md. Code Ann., Local Gov't Art., §6-101 and §6-102, from \$1,000 to \$5,000, was approved by Governor Moore on May 13, 2025 and becomes effective October 1, 2025. The

change in state law necessitates an amendment to §20 “Fixing penalty for violations of ordinances” of the Charter of the City of Bowie.

Public Hearing:

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

Councilmember Rogers stated that \$5,000 fine could be detrimental for small businesses.

Mayor Pro Tem Woolfley motioned to adopt Charter Amendment Resolution CAR-1-25. Councilmember Brady second the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

B. Adoption of Ordinance O-7-25 Amending the Code of the City of Bowie, Chapter 5 “Building and Property Maintenance”, Article II “Housing and Property Maintenance Code”, §5-6 “Definitions” to Add a Definition of Invasive Bamboo, and §5-7 “Standards,” to Prohibit Planting of Invasive Bamboo and to Require Those Who Currently Maintain Bamboo on Their Property to Contain It to Their Property – Ms. Jamie Braun, Code Compliance Manager summarized the ordinance. This amendment to Chapter 5 in the City Code reflects changes to Maryland law that was passed in the 2023 Legislative Session giving municipalities the authority to regulate invasive bamboo. It allows the City to prohibit planting of the bamboo or letting it grow uncontrolled without proper maintenance and containment measures.

Councilmember Brady asked if this new law applies to other government entities and not just residences. Ms. Braun responded that it excludes stormwater management areas, City owned property, M-NCPPC owned property, State owned property and County owned property.

Public Hearing:

Since no one signed up to speak, Mayor Adams declared the public hearing to have been held

Mayor Pro Tem Woolfley motioned to adopt Ordinance O-7-25. Councilmember Truesdale second the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

C. Strategic Planning Update – Assistant City Manager Mears introduced members of the City’s cross-departmental SPARK Team who will present the current status of the Bowie Brighter Strategic Plan reflecting the ongoing progress of Council, staff, and community input. The mission and vision statements have been drafted by Council, Bowie mid-level managers and community completed surveys, goals have been developed, and the values statement and goals have been reviewed and finalized. Next step will be Senior staff working on the implementation strategies for initiatives and performance measures.

Councilmember Rogers thanked staff for the work done and looks forward to the final document.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Baltimore Gas and Electric (BGE) Presentation – Mr. Brandon Jackson, Mr. Matt Freiry and Mr. Thomas Rosera briefed Council on BGE Emergency Preparedness and Load Growth. BGE’s objective is to minimize customer interruptions and provide effective communication about estimated time of restorations. They use a modified ICS model for emergency operations center mobilization. In line with industry best practices, BGE does not issue ETRs during large ongoing storm events. In these cases, ETRs are published after the extent of system damage is known. BGE has 10 substations near Bowie and will be adding two new feeders in 2026 to supply areas south of South Lake Development and new supply for Levitt Substation which will relieve Priest Bridge Substation.

Mayor Pro Tem Woolfley asked if there are any main concerns or issues with transmission lines. Mr. Jackson responded that they are none.

Mayor Adams thanked the representatives for their briefing.

B. Preliminary Plan of Subdivision PPS-4-24006, 2501 & 2405 Crain Highway – Mr. Arthur Horne with the law firm Shipley & Horne, representing the applicant Rowhit Bowie, LLC summarized the preliminary plan. The property consists of approximately 3.51± acres located in the median of Crain Highway (US 301) about half a mile north of its intersection with Mitchellville Road. The property is currently zoned Commercial Service (CS), applicant is requesting the application be reviewed using the Commercial, Miscellaneous Zone (C-M). It proposes the development of two new automotive dealerships that will replace the two dilapidated automotive buildings that currently exist on the property.

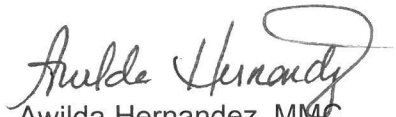
Public Hearing:

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

Mayor Pro Tem Wolfley motioned to approve Preliminary Plan of Subdivision PPS-4-24006. Councilmember Ndebumadu second motion. Motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Pro Tem Woolfley motioned to adjourn the regular City Council meeting. Councilmember Rogers second the motion. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 11:13 p.m.


Awilda Hernandez, MMC
City Clerk

Approved by the City Council of the City of Bowie, Maryland on September 15, 2025.