



City of Bowie

15901 Fred Robinson Way
Bowie, Maryland 20716

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2025

CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

The Regular Meeting of the Bowie City Council was held on Monday, October 20, 2025, in Council Chambers at City Hall. Mayor Adams called the meeting to order at 8:02 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 (virtual), Councilmembers Brady, Estève, 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. Victor Tapeh – Spoke about a potential music event to be held in the City.
2. Linetra Jackson, Governor Bridge Road – Spoke on issues of rodents at Governors Green Apartment complex.

PRESENTATIONS:

- A. Council presented a proclamation to Charles H. Wesley Lodge No. 147 on the celebration of their 35th anniversary.

CITY BOARDS AND COMMITTEES:

- A. Appointments and Swearing-in:

1. Councilmember Rogers motioned to appoint Carla Carter to the Diversity Committee as a regular member for a 2-year term. Councilmember Estève second the motion. Motion passed 5-0 (Adams did not vote).

2. Councilmember Truesdale motioned to appoint Daniel Mehmedovich to the Community Recreation Committee as a regular member for a 2-year term. Councilmember Brady second the motion. Motion passed 5-0 (Adams did not vote).
3. Councilmember Estève motioned to appoint Rufus Bickersteth to the Administrative Review Board as an alternate member and Advisory Planning Board as a regular member for a 2-year term. Councilmember Brady second the motion. Motion passed 6-0.
4. Mayor Pro Tem Woolfley swore in the members to their respective committees.

COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Councilmember Rogers commented that she was honored to accept the City's Sustainability Award and MML Achievement Award on behalf of the City at the MML Fall Conference last week.

Councilmember Estève thanked Police Department staff for their support during the peaceful demonstrations that took place last weekend in the City.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

City Manager Lott reported that leaf collection service will begin at the end of the month.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Councilmember Estève motioned to approve Consent Agenda items: A) Approval of September 15, 2025 Council Meeting Minutes; B) Adoption of Resolution R-85-25 Accepting the Storm Drain Improvements Constructed Under Permit SDP-0001-24 at Lake Melford Avenue Outfall and the Release of Construction Securities; C) Adoption of Resolution R-86-25 Accepting the Right-of-Way Improvements Constructed Under Permit ROW-0174-20-R2 at Melford Villages Block 3 and the Release of Construction Securities; D) Adoption of Resolution R-87-25 Accepting the Right-of-Way Improvements Constructed Under Permit ROW-0170-20-R1 at the Aspen of Melford and the Release of Construction Securities; E) Adoption of Resolution R-88-25 Request for 80% Performance Bond Reduction for Permit ROW-0129-18-R1 at Melford Town Center – Lake Melford Avenue; F) Adoption of Resolution R-89-25 Accepting the Right-of-Way Improvements Constructed Under Permit ROW-0006-24 at 13123 10th Street and the Release of Construction Securities; G) Adoption of Resolution R-90-25 Allowing for the Release of Securities for the Sediment Control of Rozon Homes, Lots 1 and 2, Improvement at 12601 Lanham Severn Road for Permit SC-0002-23; H) Adoption of Resolution R-91-25 Accepting the Construction of Stormwater Management Constructed Under Permit Number SWM-0001-23 for Rozon Homes, Lots 1 and 2, at 12601 Lanham Severn Road and the Release of Construction Securities; I) Adoption of Resolution R-92-25 Accepting a Bid Proposal for the FY26 Jericho Park Trail Segment Construction Phase 1 and FY27 Phase 2 Project From E&R Services Inc. in the Amount of \$325,084; J) Adoption of Resolution R-93-25 Awarding a Contract for Replacement of Athletic Field Scoreboards at Whitemarsh and Church Road Parks to Empire Graphics, LLC in the Amount of \$110,592.20; K) Adoption of Resolution R-94-25 Approving the Award of the City's Art Committee FY26 Grants; L) Adoption of Resolution R-95-25 Approving the Award of the City's Community Outreach Committee FY26 Grants; M) Adoption of Resolution R-96-25 Approving the Award of the City's Education Committee FY26 Grants; N) Adoption of Resolution R-98-25 Waiving the Competitive Bidding Requirements of Section 61 "Purchasing and Contracting" of the Charter of the City of Bowie to Allow the Purchase of Security Camera Equipment (CCTV) From Skyline Technology Solutions, LLC, and Authorizing the City Manager to Issue a Purchase Order in the Amount of \$140,463.42; O) Adoption of Resolution R-99-25 Accepting a Proposal for the Executive Search Firm to Recruit Candidates for the Position of City Manager From Strategic Government Resources in the Amount of \$29,419. Councilmember Rogers second the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

OLD BUSINESS:

A. Adoption of Ordinance O-12-25 Amending City Code, Chapter 14 "Motor Vehicles and Traffic", Article III, §14-17b, "Speed Monitoring Systems", to Increase the Fines for Certain Violations Thereof. City Attorney Levan summarized the Ordinance. The amendment will increase fines for certain speeding violations detected by the City's speed monitoring system and aligns City policy with recent Maryland General Assembly legislation (House Bill 182), which authorized municipalities to raise fine limits. The City's existing \$40 fine for drivers exceeding the speed limit by 12–15 mph will remain unchanged. New fine tiers are as follows: 1) 16–19 mph over: \$70; 2) 20–29 mph over: \$120; 3) 30–39 mph over: \$230; 4) 40 mph or more over: \$425.

Public Hearing:

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

Councilmember Estève clarified that the base \$40 fine remains unchanged and emphasized public interest in expanding the speed camera program due to its popularity and safety benefits.

Councilmember Rogers noted that the fine increases stem from state legislation, not a City initiative for revenue generation, and reiterated that compliance prevents fines altogether.

Councilmember Brady expressed that the goal is safety, not revenue, and that most citations fall into the lowest tier. He reaffirmed that the City's contractor does not profit from higher fines.

Councilmember Estève motioned to adopt Ordinance O-12-25. Councilmember Brady second the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Adoption of Resolution R-97-25 Authorizing The City of Bowie (The "City") To Issue and Sell Two Separate Series of Its General Obligation Bonds Pursuant To The Authority Described Herein, Such Series of Bonds To Be Respectively Designated "The City Of Bowie Public Improvement Bonds, Series 2025A (Tax-Exempt)" (The "Tax-Exempt Bonds") and "The City of Bowie Public Improvement Bonds, Series 2025B (Federally Taxable)" (The "Taxable Bonds" and, Collectively With The Tax-Exempt Bonds, The "Bonds"), The Proceeds of The Sale Thereof To Be Used and Applied For The Public Purposes of Financing or Reimbursing Costs of the Projects Described Herein and Costs of Issuance As Authorized By Ordinance O-9-25 Identified Herein, All As Further Described Herein; Prescribing the Forms and Tenor of the Bonds and the Terms and Conditions for the Issuance and Sale Thereof at Public Sale By Solicitation of Competitive Bids, Including the Substantially Final Form of the Notice of Sale and Other Details Incident to the Issuance, Sale and Delivery of the Bonds; Authorizing the City Manager to Determine Certain Matters Provided for Herein In Connection With the Sale of the Bonds; Authorizing and Approving the Preparation and Distribution of a Preliminary and a Final Official Statement In Connection With the Sale of the Bonds, and Any Supplements or Amendments City of Bowie Thereto; Designating a Bond Registrar and Paying Agent for the Bonds and Providing for an Agreement With Such Entity; Authorizing the Preparation, Execution and Delivery of a Continuing Disclosure Undertaking Pursuant to SEC Rule 15c2-12 and Covenanting To Provide Continuing Disclosure Relating to the Bonds; Providing for the Appropriation, Disbursement and Investment of the Proceeds of the Bonds; Providing for the Imposition of Any Taxes Necessary for the Payment of Debt Service on the Bonds; Pledging the Full Faith and Credit and Unlimited Taxing Power of the City to the Payment of Such Debt Service; Providing That Debt Service on the Bonds Also May Be Paid From Any Other Lawfully Available Sources of Revenue; Making or Providing for Certain Covenants, Determinations and Designations Relating to

the Tax-Exempt Status of the Tax-Exempt Bonds; Providing That the Provisions of this Resolution Shall Be Liberally Construed; and Generally Relating to the Issuance, Sale, Delivery and Payment of and for the Bonds Authorized Hereby – Assistant City Manager Mears summarized Resolution R-97-25 which authorizes the City of Bowie to issue and sell two series of general obligation bonds - Series 2025A (Tax-Exempt) and Series 2025B (Federally Taxable) to finance public improvements, including the replacement of the City's Ice Arena and utility infrastructure projects.

Lindsay Rader, City Bond Counsel, with Funk & Bolton stated that the combined principal of the two-bond series will not exceed \$33 million. The tax-exempt bonds will mature over approximately 20 years, and the taxable bonds will mature over approximately 30 years. Zions Bank Corporation will serve as the bond registrar and paying agent.

Councilmember Esteve reflected on the long history of this project, noting discussions began in 2013 as part of the City's review of aging amenities. He highlighted that the Ice Arena, over 50 years old, will be replaced with a modern, energy-efficient facility co-located with the Bowie Golf Course, creating operational synergy and long-term cost savings.

Mayor Adams emphasized the Council's plan to follow the Ice Arena replacement with the construction of indoor basketball courts on the site of the existing arena, underscoring the City's continued investment in recreational facilities.

Councilmember Rogers addressed public concerns about fiscal risk, noting that municipal bonds are among the safest investments.

Financial Advisor Jennifer Diercksen affirmed that the bonds' AAA rating and stable market conditions indicate minimal risk and a strong market reception.

Councilmember Truesdale emphasized the need to ensure equitable access to amenities for youth in all districts, particularly District 3, and thanked colleagues for addressing community equity concerns.

Councilmember Brady reiterated that maintaining and modernizing City amenities like the ice arena, gymnasium, and senior center is essential to Bowie's quality of life. He confirmed that the City's AAA bond rating will remain secure despite the new debt and praised the project as a responsible investment in the community's future.

Councilmember Brady motioned to adopt Resolution R-97-25. Councilmember Truesdale second the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

B. Bowie Center for the Performing Arts - Executive Director, Christopher Dwyer, addressed Council with operating challenges, capital needs, and request for increased City support; explore partnership for future events. The center serves as a cultural hub with frequent community and school events and drives foot traffic to nearby businesses. The City's contribution has been \$80,000 a year for the last 20 years. Major improvements need to be made, mainly the roof replacement, carpet installation, restroom upgrades and HVAC replacement. Mr. Dwyer requested Council consider an increase of 25-35% in next year's budget for BCPA.

Mayor Pro Tem Woolfley asked if any discussion has been had with Prince Georges County Public Schools for renegotiating their MOU's. Mr. Dwyer responded that some conversations have been had in the past week. No official commitment made.

Mayor Adams stated that the requests made are reasonable, they are not only cosmetic but address safety as well.

Council thanked Mr. Dwyer for his presentation and provided consensus to include an inflation-adjusted increase for BCPA in the upcoming budget cycle.

C. Grant Resources for Federal Employees – Jesse Buggs, Grants Director, presented Council with a City-funded assistance program, up to \$1,000,000 cap, to support impacted Bowie residents that have been furloughed due to the Federal Government shutdown. Bowie has about 5,400 federal workers. Furloughs and partial paychecks are creating acute hardship, especially for seniors, single-parent households, and renters. WSSC approved \$2.3M relief programs; BGE and Washington Gas offer payment plans and credits.

Councilmember Brady commends staff and urges creative partnerships including philanthropy. Criteria should not exclude non-federal residents in genuine need.

Mayor Pro Tem Wolfley noted many existing aids (eviction/foreclosure pauses, utility relief, interest-free loans, federal back pay). The program should target gaps, not duplicate. Recommended focus: food assistance; water bills (City-controlled; consider forbearance/fee waivers); deliver meaningful aid to highest-need cases rather than dilutive across thousands; include repayment protocols where back pay applies.

City Manager Lott will have staff work on a specific plan which details categories, eligibility, caps, and recoupment for the first Council meeting in November.

D. Update on Rat Infestation at Governor Green Apartments (ROSS Management Services) - Lori Cunningham, Assistant Director, Department of Community Services summarized the update. Code Enforcement to date have issued 7 violations totaling \$1,300. Multiple site visits confirm ongoing rodent activity. Property management has adjusted compactor pickup to Fridays, to avoid Monday overflow. They have cleared shrubbery near dumpster; covered several burrow holes and lined areas with rock. Ongoing work with extermination vendor. Staff's assessment is that the response remains insufficient—additional burrows observed; continued rodent presence near first-floor residences and parking areas.

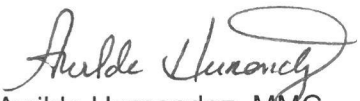
City Manager Lott reiterated that a formal directive letter will be sent which will require submission of a third-party certified rodent extermination inspection report and a remediation plan; a 10-day deadline to comply and remediate to the City's satisfaction. If non-compliance/persistent conditions continue, the City will engage a qualified contractor, perform extermination/remediation, and bill the property including placement on tax bill if necessary.

Council consensus is to proceed with the formal directive letter and 10-day clock; escalate to City-led extermination and cost recovery if standards are not met. They also want a draft ordinance amendment to create a multi-family residential class for sanitation/pest violations; increase fine ceilings (up to \$5,000) for commercial/multi-family cases and present to Council with language ASAP.

ADJOURNMENT AND MOVE TO CLOSED SESSION:

Councilmember Rogers motioned to adjourn the regular City Council meeting and move to closed session under the statutory authority to 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 Truesdale second the motion. Motion passed 6-0. The meeting adjourned at 10:34 p.m.

October 20, 2025



Awilda Hernandez, MMC
City Clerk

Approved by the City Council of the City of Bowie, Maryland on November 17, 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: 10-20-25; Time: 10:33; Location: City Hall;
Motion to close meeting made by: Rogers; Seconded by Truesdale;
Members in favor: All Aye; Opposed: _____;
Abstaining: _____; Absent: Ndeh-madu.

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) ☒	Consult with Counsel	Potential Litigation
§3-305(b) ☒	Litigation	Potential Litigation
§3-305(b) ☐		
§3-305(b) ☐		
§3-305(b) ☐		

4. This statement is made by Jonathan J. ARS, 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: 10:44

Place: City Hall

Purpose(s): Consult with Counsel; Litigation

Members who voted to meet in closed session: Adams Rogers Brady Estess Woolfley Truesdale

Persons attending closed session: Rogers Truesdale Woolfley Estess Brady Adams Lewis

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

Topics actually discussed: Potential Litigation

Actions taken: Consensus to join Settlement

Each recorded vote: _____

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

Place: _____

Persons present: _____

Subjects discussed: _____