

City of Bowie

15901 Excalibur Road
Bowie, Maryland 20716

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2020

CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

The Regular Meeting of the Bowie City Council was held on Monday, October 19, 2020 virtually. Mayor Adams called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mayor Adams led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

QUORUM:

In attendance were Mayor Adams, Councilmembers Boafu, Esteve, Gardner, Harrison, Ndebumadu and Woolfley, City Manager Lott, Assistant City Manager Mears, City Attorney Levan, City Clerk Hernandez, and Staff.

AGENDA ADDITIONS/DELETIONS/AMENDMENTS:

Mayor Pro Tem Boafu motioned to move Item B under New Business, Approval of Resolution R-81-20 In Support of Local Journalists, to the Consent Agenda. Councilmember Ndebumadu seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

CITY BOARDS AND COMMITTEES:

Mayor Adams swore-in Ms. Andrea Christiansen, Ms. Sarah Earwicker, Ms. Sonia McLain, Mr. Bill Schmidt, and Mr. James Sichelman to the Ice Arena Task Force.

COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mayor Pro Tem Boafu discussed early voting, COVID rates increasing, and congratulated Bowie State University for their online skills training initiative partnership with Google. He and Council congratulated the newly sworn in Ice Arena Task Force members. Lastly, he discussed Resolution R-81-20 In Support of Local Journalism stating that the City of Bowie stands firmly with the local newspaper journalists.

Councilmember Harrison stated that she and Councilmember Gardner were partnering together to offer no cost flu shots to City of Bowie residents. Councilmember Harrison mentioned the CDC recommendations and Prince George's County guidelines for Halloween are on the City website.

Mayor Adams stated that Prince George's County has reached 70% participation in the Census. He thanked everyone for their efforts.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

City Manager Lott stated that there will be many virtual Halloween activities hosted by the City. They do not support trick or treating this year.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Councilmember Esteve moved the approval of Consent Agenda Items: A) Approval of May 27 Special Meeting Minutes; B) Approval of Proclamation P-12-20 Proclaiming November 8-14, 2020 as Elevator Escalator Safety Awareness Week; C) Approval of Resolution R-77-20 Accepting Bid for Concrete Repairs at the Water Treatment Plant; D) Approval of Resolution R-78-20 Waiving the Competitive Bidding Requirements of the City Charter to Allow the City to Enter into Contracts with Various Snow Plow Contractors that May Exceed \$25,000 in Aggregate Value; E) Approval of Resolution R-80-20 Waiving Bidding Requirements to Authorize Purchase of a Building Automation System Full Service Agreement for HVAC Controls at the Bowie Senior Center; and F) Approval of Resolution R-81-20 In Support of Local Journalists. Councilmember Ndebumadu seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Detailed Site Plan #07031-04, Melford, Pod 6 (Encompass Health) – The applicant is requesting the City's approval and recommendation to construct a 60-bed, 61,809 sq. ft., in-patient physical therapy and rehabilitation center on 6.48 acres in Melford. The subject property is located on the south side of Melford Boulevard, near the intersection of Marconi Drive, and is zoned M-X-T (Mixed Use – Transportation Oriented). – Mr. Frank Stevens, City Planning Staff, gave a staff report on the project and stated that the department approves the project.

Mr. Terry Rogers, Chairman of the Bowie Planning Advisory Board, stated that the Board met on October 13, 2020 and unanimously approved the project based on the staff's approval. Mr. Rogers stated that the project is well planned, well laid out, and much needed. He stated that it is a quality project and will provide many years of great service to the City.

Public Hearing:

1. Erica Lancaster – Comment Attached.

Since there were no more speakers signed up to speak, Mayor Adams declared the public hearing to have been held.

Mr. Matthew Tedesco, from the law firm of McNamee Hosea on behalf of the applicant Encompass Health, introduced the members of the Encompass Health project team attending the meeting and presented to Council. The \$47,000,000 project has a groundbreaking date of April, 2021, and an anticipated opening date of May 2022. Mr. Tedesco stated that the project will go before the Prince George's County Planning Board on November 5th. Mr. Tedesco stated that the project was required to get a Certificate of Need from the State of Maryland and that the project has obtained that certificate. Mr. Tedesco thanked everyone for their time. Council thanked Encompass Health for their time and stated that the facility will be an asset to the City.

Councilmember Woolfley made a motion to approve Detailed Site Plan #07031-04 Melford Pod 6 (Encompass Health) as presented. Councilmember Gardner seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously 7-0.

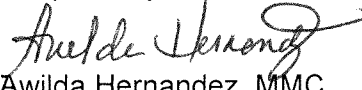
B. Discussion on a Public Safety Self Defense Virtual Training for Young Women and Men - Councilmember Esteve presented that this would be a one-time program to teach self-defense to young men and women on November 17th at 6:00 p.m. Council needs to give staff authorization to work on this event as at the last Council meeting, the direction given was to go through City Committees for these types of programs while staff works out a policy. City Manager Lott stated that they are working on presenting a policy, but that in the meantime, they need Council approval to hold this event as it would require extra staff time and Zoom access and tech support.

Councilmember Ndebumadu made a motion to have staff support this event on November 17th on personal defense and work with the residents to offer this to the broader community of Bowie residents. Mayor Pro Tem Boafo seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously 7-0.

ADJOURNMENT AND MOVE TO CLOSE SESSION:

Mayor Pro Tem Boafo moved to adjourn the Regular City Council Meeting and move to Close Session, Statutory Authority to Close Session, State Government Article §3-305(b)(7): To consult with counsel to obtain legal advice. Councilmember Gardner seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Awilda Hernandez', written in a cursive style.

Awilda Hernandez, MMC
City Clerk

Awilda Hernandez

From: ERICA LANCASTER <ERICA.LANCASTER@LongandFoster.com>
Sent: Saturday, October 17, 2020 1:22 PM
To: cityclerk
Cc: Michael Esteve
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: I SUPPORT the 60 bed PT/REHAB at Melford !! -- Erica

Importance: High

Dear Bowie, please allow the creation of the proposed (mostly Senior) therapy facility.

My mom used the Dialysis Center at Melford and was driven there by Bowie's Free Bus system. This facility would be an additional Elder Support program that keeps money in our city instead of forcing our elderly to use the MetroBus to get to their appointments with facilities out of our city.

I am always proud to share how wonderful Bowie Services were for my mom ; add the \$ benefit to add a local PT business, helping our Seniors, and adding to our city tax revenue creates a ... WIN WIN WIN 😊

ERICA LANCASTER
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**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: 10/19; Time: 8:59; Location: City Hall;
Motion to close meeting made by: Boafo Seconded by Woolfley;
Members in favor: All; Opposed: NA;
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 legal counsel	Lobbying Priorities
§3-305(b) ☐		
§3-305(b) ☐		
§3-305(b) ☐		
§3-305(b) ☐		

4. This statement is made by _____, 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: _____

Place: City Hall

Purpose(s): (7) Consult with Legal Counsel

Members who voted to meet in closed session: Adams Esteve Harrison Dofo Ndebumadu Woodley

Persons attending closed session: Adams Esteve Harrison Dofo Ndebumadu Woodley Levan Lott Pears Gill

Authority under § 3-305 for the closed session: (7) Consult with legal Counsel Stierhoff

Topics actually discussed: Lobbying Priorities Quinn

Actions taken: Proceed with priorities except ANEM Harting

Each recorded vote: _____

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

Place: _____

Persons present: _____

Subjects discussed: _____