



City of Bowie

15901 Excalibur Road
Bowie, Maryland 20716

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2020

CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

The Regular Meeting of the Bowie City Council was held on Monday, November 16, 2020 virtually. Mayor Adams called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG:

Mayor Adams led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

QUORUM:

In attendance were Mayor Adams, Councilmembers Boafu, Esteve, Gardner (Arrived 8:22 p.m.), Harrison, Ndebumadu, and Woolfley, City Manager Lott, Assistant City Manager Mears, City Attorney Levan, City Clerk Hernandez, and Staff.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION:

1. Joshua Massaquoi – Comment attached.

CITY BOARDS AND COMMITTEES:

Mayor Adams swore-in the following appointees to their respective committees for a 2-year term:

- Diversity Committee: Tameeka Washington, Jessica Fucile, Bonaventure Akinlosotu
- Education Committee: Lynette O'Reggio, Frank Bryant
- Economic Development Committee: Kevin Motley, Billy Louis
- Community Outreach Committee: Bonaventure Akinlosotu
- Arts Committee: Joseph Wright

COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mayor Adams congratulated the Bowie Police Department on obtaining the CALEA accreditation.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

City Manager Lott echoed the Mayors' comment in congratulating the Bowie Police Department on their accreditation and recognized that it is a great accomplishment.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Councilmember Woolfley made a motion to approve items A) Approval of June 1 Regular Meeting Minutes; B) Approval of Proclamation P-15-20 Proclaiming November 2020 as National Lung Cancer Awareness Month in the City of Bowie; C) Approval of Proclamation P-16-20 Proclaiming November 28, 2020 as Small Business Saturday in the City of Bowie; D) Approval of Resolution R-82-20 Authorizing the Issuance of a Purchase Order to Rummel, Klepper & Kahl, LLP for Task Order/RFP #2-05 in Accordance with the Master Contract Approved on October 31, 2018; E) Approval of Resolution R-85-20 Authorizing the Payment of Premium/Hazard Pay to Essential and Mission Critical City Employees During the Spring 2020 COVID-19 Outbreak. Mayor Pro Tem Boafso seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Detailed Site Plan #DSP-99003-01 (EZ Storage) – City Planner, Frank Stevens, summarized the staff report. The applicant is seeking the City's approval to construct a 3-story/48,708 sq. ft./478-unit addition to the existing storage facility on a 4.3-acre site. The property is Zoned I-1 (Light Industrial). Staff recommends approval with the following conditions: 1) If Green Building techniques are used for this project, they are to be submitted for approval to the County Planning Board before final signature of the DSP and 2) Full cut-off shielded lighting shall be installed on all new parking lot lighting poles to meet City's Development Review Guidelines.

Mr. Terry Rodgers, Chair of the Bowie Advisory Planning Board, presented the Board's recommendation of approval.

Mr. Bradley Farrar from the law firm Shipley & Horne, P.A., representing the applicant is in agreement with the Board's and staff's recommendation for approval.

Public Hearing:

There being no comments received, Mayor Adams declared the public hearing to have been held.

Councilmember Woolfley motioned to approve Detailed Site Plan #DSP-99003-01 (EZ Storage). Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

B. Discussion on Potential County Roads Ownership – Councilmember Ndebumadu would like to explore the possibility of the City taking over responsibility of some of the County roads that are within the City limits; this stemmed from a conversation she had with our County representative. It is a discussion for information purposes only and by no means will any action be taken on it this evening.

Public Works Director, George Stephanos briefed Council on the cost of maintaining these roads which includes staffing, and the maintenance of the vehicles that perform the task. The cost would be roughly about \$86,000 per mile annually. This cost does not include streetlight maintenance and traffic signals which can easily put it at \$100k.

Assistant City Manager Mears summarized the breakdown of the revenue the City would receive for taking over of the roads through the Highway User Revenue (HUR) program from the State of Maryland. This funding was cut in 2007 and it is not guaranteed that it will get back to full disbursement anytime soon. This fiscal year the City is to receive \$2.5M from HUR funds, however the City's Streets Department is budgeted at \$6.6M.

Councilmember Ndebumadu asked staff what would prompt a County representative to say that this would benefit the City. City Manager Lott responded that one of the benefits would be that the City would control the scheduling of any maintenance that would need to be done on those roads, but the funding will be difficult.

Council was in consensus to not proceed with ownership of the County roads.

ADJOURNMENT AND MOVE TO CLOSE SESSION:

Mayor Pro Tem Boafo motioned to adjourn the Regular City Council meeting and move to close session Statutory authority of the Md. Annotated Code, State Government Article, §3-305(b)(7): To consult with counsel to obtain legal advice. Councilmember Woolfley seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Awilda Hernandez".

Awilda Hernandez, MMC
City Clerk

Awilda Hernandez

From: Joshua Massaquoi <jemassaquoi@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 9, 2020 10:55 AM
To: cityclerk
Cc: The Borgen Project
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Commenta and Questions for November 16 Meeting

My name is Joshua Massaquoi. I am Political Affairs Ambassador with the Borgen Project and a resident of Bowie. The Borgen Project Project is a non-profit that works to end global poverty. I would like the council to send a joint letter to our congressional leaders urging them to support the International Affairs Budget. Bowie as a diverse population of refugees and international communities living in the city. The International Affairs budget will help and create institutions that will lead to development and sustainability in developing countries. Bowie residents have families that still suffer from poverty in countries around the world. Helping there families will leave Bowie residents feeling a sense a reassurance that their families will be ok. They will thank the city for its stand on ending global poverty. I can be reached at jemassaquoi@gmail.com. Thanks

Best,
Joshua

**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: 11-16-20; Time: 9:01; Location: City Hall;
Motion to close meeting made by: Boato Seconded by Woolfley;
Members in favor: 411; 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 legal counsel	Joint Use Agreement Work Agreements
§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: 9:05

Place: City Hall

Purpose(s): (7) Consult with legal counsel

Members who voted to meet in closed session: Adam Harrison, Gardner, Esteve Woolfley, Dorafo, Mubumadu

Persons attending closed session: Adam Harrison, Esteve Woolfley, Dorafo, Mubumadu, Levan Latt, Peter Meiner, Stephanos

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

Topics actually discussed: Joint Use Agreement - Work agreements

Actions taken: _____

Each recorded vote: _____

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

Place: _____

Persons present: _____

Subjects discussed: _____