



City of Bowie

15901 Excalibur Road
Bowie, Maryland 20716

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, APRIL 19, 2021

CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

The Regular Meeting of the Bowie City Council was held on Monday, April 19, 2021, virtually. Mayor Adams called the meeting to order at 8:01 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, Harrison (logged in 8:02 p.m.), Ndebumadu (logged in 8:10 p.m.), and Woolfley, City Manager Lott, Assistant City Manager Mears, City Attorney Levan, City Clerk Hernandez, and Staff.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION:

1. David Young, Overchase Ln – Comment attached.

PRESENTATIONS:

A. Mr. Aaron Marcavitch from the Anacostia Trail Heritage Area, Inc. thanked the City for being active members of the association and introduced the new Executive Director Ms. Meagan Baco.

B. Ms. Jennie Guilbuad with the City's Diversity Committee read an excerpt on Heritage Month.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Mayor Pro Tem Boafu made a motion to approve items A) Approval of April 5 Regular Meeting Minutes; B) Approval of April 12 Special Meeting Minutes; C) Adoption of Proclamation P-6-21 Proclaiming April 24, 2021 as Arbor Day in Bowie; D) Adoption of Proclamation P-7-21 Proclaiming April 22, 2021 as Earth Day in Bowie; E) Adoption of Resolution R-24-21 Accepting Bid Proposal for Construction Inspection and Lead-Based Paint Inspection for the HUD CDBG Housing Rehabilitation Program; F) Adoption of Resolution R-25-21 Accepting Bid Proposal for Energy Audits for the HUD CDBG Housing Rehabilitation Program; G) Adoption of Resolution R-26-21 Authorizing the Issuance of a Purchase Order to Rummel, Klepper & Kahl, LLP for Task Order/RFP#1-08 in Accordance with the Master Contract Approved on October 31, 2018; H) Approval of Letter to Prince George's County Council in Reference to Their FY 2022 Proposed Budget & Capital Improvement Program; I) Approval of Letter to Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission in Reference to their FY 2022 Proposed Budget/CIP; J) Approval of Letter to Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission in Reference to Allen Pond Park Regional Amenity Budget Support. Councilmember Woolfley seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. KFC at Collington Plaza – Mr. Frank Stevens, Senior Planner for the City summarized the staff report. CMS Associates, LLC is planning to convert an existing vacant Capital One Bank building in Collington Plaza to a KFC fast-food restaurant. The property is zoned C-S-C (Commercial Shopping Center). Staff recommends approval of proposed conversion of existing building with the following conditions: 1) pavement striping in the drive-thru area to direct drivers to only use one lane; 2) a pavement-painted crosswalk at the exit of the drive-thru and stop sign at end of drive-thru lane. Mr. Rich Wilkinson, developer of the property agrees with staff recommendations.

Councilmember Woolfley and Gardner stated their concerns with traffic in that intersection and would like to see a safer way for vehicles to come in and out of the parking area.

Developer will work with City staff to address these concerns and present to Council at a future meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilmember Woolfley motioned to adjourn the Regular City Council meeting and move into Budget Worksession #2. Councilmember Gardner seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:37 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

David Young
15500 Overchase La
Bowie, MD 20715
4/18/21

Bowie City Council
15901 Excalibur Road
Bowie, MD 20716

Dear Bowie City Council:

I am writing this letter to ask you to review Code 26-2 (Fences) to reduce the set-back requirements in the code. Code 26-2 was adopted in May of 1992 (29yrs). The main purpose of this code is the **"rapid, free and unobstructed access to residences by emergency vehicles, personnel, and equipment; allow for the unobstructed establishment, maintenance and creation of public rights-of-way along the streets and sidewalks in the City; prevent the obstruction or reduction, by man-made structures, of visibility at corners and intersections for drivers and pedestrians; add to the attractiveness and comfort of the residential district; create a better home environment in the City; preserve an area which is generally regarded by the public as pleasing to the eye; and preserve, improve and project the general character of lands within the City and the improvements thereon."**

My wife, Karen Young and myself purchased the property at 15500 Overchase on June 2nd, 2020. Once we moved in, we decided to have a fence installed in our backyard. The purpose of the fence was for our grandkids and our two dogs. We were told that a PG County Permit needed to be pulled as-well as the approval of the HOA. We sub-mitted to both and received approval from both. At that point the fence company (All American Fences) installed the fence back in July, 2020. In February of 2021 we received a Notice of Violation from the City of Bowie for not pulling a permit. We presented the permits that we had and at that time were told that we needed to pull a City permit. At that point we gathered all of the required documentation that was needed to pull a City Permit. Once we paid and submitted the application for the city permit, we were then told that we could not get a permit and that the fence would have to be moved because of a 15' set-back requirement.

Council Members the fence is in compliance with all of the requirements stated in the purpose of Code 26-2. The fence does not impede with access to the property or any property in case of an emergency, the right-of-way along the street and or sidewalks, the visibility at the corner/stop sign and it is "pleasing to the eye". We have received compliments from our neighbors on the fence. I have attached pictures of the fence showing that it does comply. The fence does stop at the back corner of the house on the street side.

Bowie City Council

4/18/21

Page 2

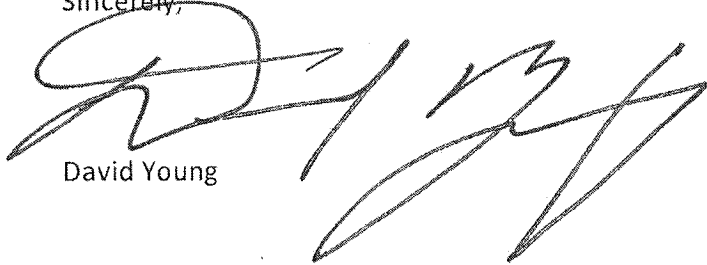
No one from PG County or the HOA told us that we needed to pull a city permit. PG County even referenced the bowie code. We have tried to do everything that we have been asked to do.

If we move the fence back 15', which is a lot of property we will only have 2 to 4 feet off of the back corner of the house on that side. Also, it would be a financial burden on us at this time with the impact that COVID has made on us.

So, in closing I am asking you review code 26-2 to reduce the set back requirements, and allow us to keep our existing fence, please

I appreciate your time in considering my request. If you have any questions please fell free to reach out to me at 202-607-9069 or my email davidaft1@gmail.com

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Young', with a large, stylized flourish extending from the end of the signature.

David Young



