

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2022

CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

The Regular Meeting of the Bowie City Council was held on Monday, February 7, 2022, in the Council Chambers at City Hall. 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 Boafo, Esteve, Gardner, Harrison (arrived at 8:04 p.m.), Ndebumadu (logged on at 8:05 p.m.) and Woolfley, City Manager Lott, Assistant City Manager Mears, City Attorney Levan, City Clerk Hernandez, and Staff.

PRESENTATIONS:

Bowie Youth Council Member Anabel Washington read an excerpt on Black History Month.

CITY BOARDS AND COMMITTEES:

Councilmember Woolfley motioned to appoint Ms. Tiffany Monrose to the Board of Personnel Appeals for a two-year term. Mayor Pro Tem Boafo seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0 (Gardner, Ndebumadu – did not vote). Mayor Adams swore-in Ms. Monrose to the Board of Personnel Appeals.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

City Manager Lott reported that staff is actively working on the preparation of the proposed FY 2023 Budget.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Councilmember Woolfley made a motion to approve Consent Agenda items: A) Approval of January 3, 2022 Meeting Minutes; B) Approval of January 10, 2022 Special Meeting Minutes; C) Approval of January 18, 2022 Meeting Minutes; D) Approval of January 25, 2022 Special Meeting Minutes; E) Approval of Proclamation P-6-22 Proclaiming February 2022 as Black History Month in the City of Bowie; F) Approval of Resolution R-2-22 Authorizing the Issuance of a Purchase Order to KCI Technologies, Inc. for Task Order/RFP#11-01 in Accordance with the Master Contract Approved on January 7, 2019; G) Adoption of Resolution R-4-22 Authorizing the Issuance of a Purchase Order to EBA Engineering, Inc. for Task Order/RFP#2-07 in Accordance with the Master Contract Approved on

October 31, 2018. Councilmember Ndebumadu seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0 (Gardner, Esteve – did not vote).

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Update on Environmental Initiatives – Ms. Abigail Snyder, Chair of the City’s Environmental Advisory Committee briefed Council on the committee’s priorities to reduce solid waste, expand community education on climate initiatives, and City’s engagement at the State and County level on renewable energy legislations. The City currently has a curbside food scrap collection and composting pilot program in several neighborhoods, the committee would like to see that program expand city-wide by the end of 2022.

Councilmember Esteve asked how the composting program has been working. Public Works Director, Jose Aldayuz stated that it has been successful, and many residents are using it. The program is free for participants, and all participants receive a 2-gallon scrap collection bin for their kitchen, a 6-gallon curbside bin for set out. Food waste bins are picked up on Wednesday mornings with yard waste.

Ms. Snyder thanked Council for supporting SB14/HB100: State Funding for Sustainable Maryland which enhances support of communities in Maryland with environmental, economic and social sustainability.

Mayor Adams thanked the Ms. Snyder and the committee for their briefing.

B. FY2022 Golf Course Capital Expenditure Update – Assistant City Manager Mears summarized the staff report. The FY22 Capital Plan included \$2,240,000 in capital funding for the golf course which included \$1,000,000 for repairs to the club house, the replacement of the irrigation system, greens drainage and tree removal. After additional access to the course and in consulting with Indigo Golf Partners, staff is recommending deferring additional investment in the club house and instead prioritizing improvements directly related to golf play. The proposed improvements would be a water source study, the new irrigation pump house and irrigation system, and removal of old/dead trees and stumps. These changes will also reduce the expenditure from \$2,240,000 to \$2,085,000.

Councilmember Ndebumadu asked why staff is recommending to not move forward with the club house repairs. Assistant City Manager Mears responded that for the time being the club house functions well, but these other repairs suggested are needed in order to improve the quality of golf playing which is where the main revenue is coming from.

Councilmember Esteve asked how the golf course is doing under the new management. Mr. Mears responded that November and December were favorable, much better than expected. One of the main feedbacks received from patrons was the availability of reserving play time online.

Councilmember Woolfley asked if the removal of trees and stump could not be done by City Parks and Grounds crew. Community Services Assistant Director Nick Spurgeon replied that the scope of work is beyond staff’s ability.

Councilmember Harrison motioned to approve the reallocation of the FY22 Golf Course CIP money for the water source study, new irrigation pump house, new irrigation system and tree stump removal. Councilmember Esteve seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0

C. Water Filtration Rebate Program - Assistant City Manager Mears summarized the proposed program. City Council requested a program to address the water discoloration experienced by some

Bowie Water customers. The program would entail Bowie water utility staff to verify the sedimentation through a turbidity test conducted at the property and it must show a reading greater than 1.0 NTU. Residents would then need to provide a quote for the water filtration system proposed and be preauthorized by the City of Bowie. The funding is limited to \$50,000, and it will be on a first come, first served basis of eligible applicants. The maximum rebate will be \$1,800 per customer which would include the cost of the equipment and installation.

Councilmember Ndebumadu asked if it would be better to investment the \$50,000 towards the repair of the water service lines. Mr. Mears responded that it will not be a significant scope of change.

Councilmember Woolfley asked if the program can be geared to address houses with severe issues. Mr. Mears responded that a more stringent criteria would have to be placed on the application process.

Mayor Pro Tem Boafo suggests that staff sets up a meeting with the City of Laurel to discuss how they addressed their water issues.

Councilmember Esteve supports reaching out to the City of Laurel and is concerned with the criteria proposed and potential demand.

Council gave a general consensus to have staff setup a meeting with the City of Laurel to discuss how they dealt with their water system issues and have staff rework the criteria for the water filtration rebate program and present to Council at the February 22 meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Pro Tem Boafo motioned to adjourn the Regular City Council meeting. Councilmember Woolfley seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0 (Esteve did not vote). The meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Awilda Hernandez, MMC
City Clerk