



City of Bowie

15901 Excalibur Road
Bowie, Maryland 20716

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, APRIL 6, 2020

CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

The Regular Meeting of the Bowie City Council was held on Monday, April 6, 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 Boafo, Esteve, Gardner, Harrison, Ndebumadu and Woolfley, City Manager Lott, Assistant City Manager Mears, City Attorney Levan, City Clerk Hernandez, and Staff.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION:

1. Lisa Smith, Executive Director, Bowie BIC – Comment attached.
2. Milly Hall, Bowie District 3 Resident – Comment attached.

COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Council thanked staff and residents for their efforts during this pandemic.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

City Manager Lott announced that Bowiefest will be cancelled for this year due to COVID-19.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Mayor Pro Tem Boafo moved the approval of Consent Agenda Items: A) Approval of January 6 Meeting minutes; B) Approval of Proclamation P-1-20 Proclaiming the Eighteenth of April as Mayor G. Frederick Robinson Day in Bowie; C) Approval of Resolution R-22-20 Approving Variance Application BV-2-20, A Request by Jefferson Hernandez for Approval "After the Fact" of a Variance of Seven Feet from the Minimum 25 Foot Front Yard Setback Prescribed by Section 27-442(c)(Table IV) of the Prince George's County Zoning Ordinance, to Validate Enclosure of an Open Porch, 18 Feet from the Front Property Line at 13010 6th Street; D) Approval of Resolution R-23-20 Waiving the Competitive Bidding Requirements of Section 61 "Purchasing and Contracting" of the Charter of the City of Bowie to Allow the City Manager to Enter Into an Annual Support Agreement With Convergeone to Provide Managed Services on the Telephone System; E) Approval of Resolution R-25-20 Waiving the Competitive Bidding Requirements of Section 61 "Purchasing and Contracting" of the Charter of the City of Bowie to Allow the City Manager to Enter Into an Annual Support and Licensing Agreement With Avaya to

April 6, 2020

Provide Maintenance for the Telephone System. Councilmember Gardner seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

A. Approval of Resolution R-20-20 Waive Bidding to Allow Issuance of Contract to Washington Gas as a Sole Source Supplier.

Councilmember Ndebumadu asked what the process was to determine that natural gas is better than electricity in a long-term perspective. City Manager Lott responded that city engineers reviewed the fuel efficiency aspect of it and the cost over the long haul and determined that natural gas is the best route.

Mayor Adams commented that as we are going thru this pandemic and the costs associated with it, that all discussions or contracts relating to the IcePlex should be put on hold until Council has had a chance to completely look at the overall expenses.

Councilmember Woolfley also commented that a full discussion of the IcePlex should be brought back at another Council meeting in order to explore other avenues that were not discussed or researched before.

Councilmember Gardner made a motion to approve Resolution R-20-20, Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-2 (Adams, Woolfley), Mayor Pro Tem Boafo abstained.

B. Recognition of former Mayor G. Frederick Robinson - Councilmember Gardner requested to postpone this item for a future date after the COVID-19 pandemic has passed.

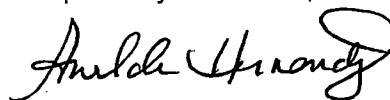
NEW BUSINESS:

A. Countywide Map Amendment – High Density Zoning - Mr. Joe Meinert, City's Planning Director briefed Council on the areas within the City that will be affected by the zoning map changes. Those areas are: Bowie Marketplace; Free State; Hilltop, Bowie Plaza; West Bowie Village; Bowie Crossing; Collington Plaza; Pointer Ridge and the proposed Mill Branch Crossing development. The public hearing with the Prince George's County Planning Board has been suspended until after the state of emergency has been lifted

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Pro Tem Boafo moved to adjourn the Regular City Council meeting. Councilmember Woolfley seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Awilda Hernandez, MMC
City Clerk

**Citizen Participation Comments
Bowie City Council Meeting on April 6, 2020**

Lisa Smith, Executive Director, Bowie Business Innovation Center.

Good evening Mayor Adams and Members of the Bowie City Council. My name is Lisa Smith and I am the Executive Director of the Bowie Business Innovation Center (Bowie BIC). We are a business accelerator and collaborative workspace for technology companies and government contractors. We are located at Bowie State University.

This evening I want to say "Thank You" to the Mayor and Council for its leadership and support for growth-oriented Bowie businesses--for two reasons.

First, I want to thank you for organizing the Covid-19 Virtual Town Hall tomorrow night in Bowie, from 7:30 to 9:00 PM, where business can learn about the range of financial relief programs available during the pandemic, and ask questions specific to their own businesses. I enjoyed working with Councilmember Adrian Boafa to identify some of the Q&A resources for this event, and I appreciate having the opportunity to participate in the Virtual Town Hall as one of those Q&A resources myself.

Second, I want to thank you for the City's continuing financial support for the Bowie BIC. I have given the City Clerk a one-page summary of our activities and impacts in calendar 2019 for the meeting record, but I want to share some quick highlights during this Citizen Participation period.

Bowie BIC has grown and become the largest concentration of business scale-up resources in Prince Georges County. Our business resources include three on-site professional counselors each week, plus training sessions and four volunteer technical business advisors each month that assisted a total of 1,538 entrepreneurs in 2019.

Our 18 business accelerator clients and graduates reported generating \$40 million in revenues and 512 jobs in 2019.

In April 2019, we launched a second accelerator program specifically for government contractors in the 8(a) program. This was developed in close collaboration with the US Small Business Administration (SBA) with funding from Capital One. The Bowie BIC 8(a) Accelerator is America's first 8(a) Accelerator. The 32 participants in our 8(a) Accelerator program reported \$11 million in new contact revenues from July through December 2019.

In November, the Baltimore Business Journal ranked Bowie BIC the 11th largest business accelerator in Maryland, in number of clients, which also means that Bowie BIC is the largest business accelerator in Prince George's County.

In closing, Bowie BIC looks forward to appearing before the Mayor and Council at its June 1st meeting, where we will make a detailed report on our activities for FY2020. Thank you.

Awilda Hernandez

From: hallmilly <hallmilly@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, April 6, 2020 7:04 PM
To: Awilda Hernandez; hallmilly@aol.com
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Citizen participation April 6, 2020. Agendas & Minutes | Bowie, MD - Official Website

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

Good evening my name is Milly Hall District 3.

On the Agenda item ,Old business
G. Fred Robinson Way. Please explain to me
how this street name change will affect the deed of record? Since a title search would have to match the new
address.

Thank you,

Milly Hall
District 3

Sent from my Verizon. Samsung Galaxy smartphone

----- Original message -----

From: Milly Hall <hallmilly@aol.com>
Date: 3/25/20 11:34 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "hallmilly@aol com" <hallmilly@aol.com>
Subject: Agendas & Minutes | Bowie, MD - Official Website

<https://www.cityofbowie.org/138/Agendas-Minutes>