



City of Bowie

15901 Excalibur Road
Bowie, Maryland 20716

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2014

CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

The Regular Meeting of the Bowie City Council was held on Monday, December 1, 2014 in the Council Chambers at City Hall. Mayor Robinson called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG:

Mayor Robinson led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

QUORUM:

In attendance were Mayor Robinson, Mayor Pro Tem Truth, Councilmembers Brady, Gardner (Arrived 8:07 p.m.), Marcos (Arrived 8:26 p.m.), and Polangin; Assistant City Manager Fitzwater, City Attorney Levan, City Clerk Hernandez, Staff, the Press, and the Public.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION:

1. Lynn Beiber, 5000 Rochester Lane – commented about issues with smart meters and fire hazards.

PRESENTATIONS:

- A. Mayor Pro Tem Truth made a motion to approve Proclamation P-17-14 and presented the proclamation to James Elben III recognizing him for his courage and great instincts during a trash truck fire. Councilmember Brady seconded the motion and it passed 5-0.

COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mayor Robinson announced the City Council seat vacancy and the procedures for applying and the City Tree Lighting Ceremony will be held December 7th at 7pm at the Belair Mansion.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Councilmember Polangin moved the approval of Consent Agenda Items: A) Approval of Resolution R-71-14 Deferring the Lease Payment for December 2014 and January 2015 for Bowie Golf Management, Inc.; B) Introduction of Ordinance O-1-15 Declaring a Certain Parcel Located Generally Within the Shopping Center Known as Bowie Marketplace to be Surplus Property and Authorizing the Transfer of Said Property by the City to BE Bowie LLC to Facilitate the Redevelopment of Bowie Marketplace; C) Introduction of Ordinance O-2-15 Amending the Adopted Budget for the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2014 and Ending June 30, 2015, As Embodied in Ordinance O-3-14 and Amended by Ordinance O-9-14, to Appropriate Funds for the Redevelopment of the Bowie Marketplace Shopping Center. Councilmember Brady seconded the motion and it carried 5-0.

MAYOR G. Frederick Robinson **MAYOR PRO TEM** Isaac C. Truth

COUNCIL Dennis Brady ♦ Henri Gardner ♦ James L. Marcos ♦ Diane M. Polangin ♦ Todd M. Turner **CITY MANAGER** David J. Deutsch
City Hall (301) 262-6200 FAX (301) 809-2302 TDD (301) 262-5013 WEB www.cityofbowie.org

OLD BUSINESS:

A. Approval of Ordinance O-9-14 Amending the Adopted Budget for the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2014 and Ending June 30, 2015, As Embodied in Ordinance O-3-14, to Amend the Gymnasium User Fees – Assistant City Manager Fitzwater summarized the ordinance to Council which will change the user fees for court rentals and annual memberships effective January 1, 2015. The increase will provide additional revenue and address the consultant's recommendation of achieving rates closer to area markets.

Public Hearing:

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

Councilmember Polangin made a motion to approve Ordinance O-9-14 Amending the Adopted Budget for the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2014 and Ending June 30, 2015, As Embodied in Ordinance O-3-14, to Amend the Gymnasium User Fees. Mayor Pro Tem Truth seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-1 (Brady).

Councilmember Brady commented that he supports the basis of why this is being done but does not support doing it mid-year of a budget cycle.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. BGE Presentation – Mr. Michael Fowler, External Affairs Manager and Mr. Matt Fiery, Supervisor Customer Reliability Support summarized a presentation to Council on BGE's performance over the past year and outline their future projects in the City. BGE has developed an external customer outreach program that includes direct contact, automated phone messages, flyers, project signage, community meetings, e-mails and social media to keep customers informed and minimize disruptions where appropriate. As of September 30th there have been 12 minor storms and 1 major storm that have interrupted service for Bowie customers. A copy of the presentation is on file in the City Clerk's office.

Councilmember Gardner asked how often BGE increases their rates. Mr. Fowler responded that they had an increase last year.

Mayor Pro Tem Truth asked about the installation procedures of smart meters on older homes. Mr. Fowler responded that when a smart meter is to be installed there is an inspection that needs to be done on the meter box and those terminals to make sure there is no corrosion, no loose fittings; if it does not pass the test, the meter box gets replaced.

Mayor Robinson would like BGE representatives to report back to Council with an assessment of the cause of recent fire on Firtree Lane and also directed staff to draft a letter to the Prince George's Fire Chief for an explanation of this fire.

B. Draft Climate Action Plan – Mr. Joe Meinert, Planning Director summarized the plan to Council. The Draft Climate Action Plan was developed and prepared by the City's Department of Planning and Economic Development, the Green Team Executive Committee and the Environmental Advisory Committee. The plan outlines actions that the City has taken to reduce its Greenhouse Gas Emissions as well as actions it will complete in order to reduce total community Greenhouse Gas Emissions 20% by 2020.

Public Hearing:

1. Lynn Beiber, 5000 Rochester Lane – does not approve with the way the data has been gathered for the plan.

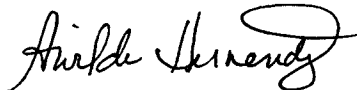
Since there were no more speakers signed up to speak, Mayor Robinson declared the public hearing to have been held.

Councilmember Brady made a motion to have staff prepare responses to public comments and prepare a resolution for City Council approval. Councilmember Polangin seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Pro Tem Trough moved to adjourn the City Council meeting. Councilmember Brady seconded the motion and it carried 6-0. The meeting was adjourned at 9:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Awilda Hernandez, CMC
City Clerk