



City of Bowie

15901 Excalibur Road
Bowie, Maryland 20716

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2015

CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

The Regular Meeting of the Bowie City Council was held on Tuesday, January 20, 2015 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, Marcos, Polangin and Woolfley; City Manager Deutsch, Assistant City Manager Fitzwater, City Attorney Levan, City Clerk Hernandez, Staff, the Press, and the Public.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION:

1. Benjamin Woolery, 12302 Manship Lane – commented to Council on the need of having a paid attorney for the Ethics Commission, since the attorney working with the commission was no longer able to continue her pro bono service.

PRESENTATIONS:

A. Swearing-in of new At-Large Councilmember H. L. Dufour Woolfley, Jr. – Mayor Robinson swore-in Mr. Woolfley and welcomed him on the Council. Mr. Woolfley thanked his new colleagues for selecting him to fill the vacant seat and looks forward to working with them.

Prince George's County Council Member Todd M. Turner congratulated Mr. Woolfley on his appointment and looks forward to a great working relationship with Council.

CITY BOARDS AND COMMITTEES:

1. Ms. Patricia Chastang was appointed during the January 5 Council meeting to the Diversity Committee for a two year term. Mayor Robinson swore-in Ms. Chastang to the Diversity Committee.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

City Manager Deutsch reported on potential budget cuts that were approved by Governor O'Malley that will reduce local Police Aid by about \$34,000; also the construction of the animal holding room has been completed and working on scheduling a date for ribbon cutting ceremony.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Councilmember Brady moved the approval of Consent Agenda Items: A) Approval of January 5 Meeting Minutes; B) Approval of January 10 Special Meeting Minutes; C) Approval of January 12 Special Meeting Minutes; D) Approval of Resolution R-9-15 Accepting a Proposal From Frederick Ward Associates for Professional Services – Development Plan Review, Engineering & Design Services; E) Approval of Revised Bowie Arts Committee Public Art Master Plan. Councilmember Marcos seconded the motion and it carried 7-0.

OLD BUSINESS:

A. Approval of Ordinance O-3-15 Amending the Bowie City Code, to Add Chapter 28 “Storm Drain Illicit Discharge” Prohibiting Certain Discharges Into the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System, Establishing Inspection and Enforcement Procedures and Penalties for Noncompliance. City Planning Director Joe Meinert and Watershed Manager Tiffany Wright summarized the ordinance to Council which is a requirement per the Phase II NPDES Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit from the Maryland Department of the Environment. An illicit discharge is generally defined as any discharge to an MS4 that is not composed entirely of stormwater, with some exceptions that include discharges associated with firefighting activities.

Public Hearing:

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

Councilmember Brady commented that they might want to review the discharge prohibitions in regards to pools in residential properties that might need to pump down due to heavy rains and overflow. Ms. Wright will look into more information and report back to Council.

Mayor Pro Tem Truth made a motion to approve Ordinance O-3-15 Amending the Bowie City Code, to Add Chapter 28 “Storm Drain Illicit Discharge” Prohibiting Certain Discharges Into the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System, Establishing Inspection and Enforcement Procedures and Penalties for Noncompliance. Councilmember Brady seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Auditors Presentation – Mr. Dan Kenney with audit firm CohnReznick LLP presented a review of the City’s finances for Fiscal Year 2014; a copy of the reports is on file in the City Clerk’s office at City Hall. In the opinion of the audit firm, the City’s financial statements are presented fairly, and are in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. Mayor Robinson thanked Mr. Kenney for his report and City staff for its work.

B. Budget Guidance – City Finance Director Byron Matthews, provided a presentation on the budget development schedule, revenue and expenditure policies, capital financing and debt management policies, and the revenue outlook by state, county and city for Fiscal Year 2016. Major factors impacting the FY 2016 Budget will be the decrease in speed camera revenue, state budget cuts which include Police Aid as well as cuts in the Open Space Grant program and the continuation of reduced Highway User Revenues.

January 20, 2015

Councilmember Polangin asked if the city will receive the tax differential once the call center is running. City Manager Deutsch responded no since the County will not be eliminating any of its services.

Mayor Pro Tem Trouth asked about the fees associated with Stormwater Management Program and the Total Maximum Daily Load, what the amount will be and the length of time that it will be in place. City Manager Deutsch responded that the city is still under the old permit and are awaiting the new permit. Once permit is received, the city will have a 12 month planning period prior to implementation of the program.

Councilmember Woolfley asked about the revenues associated with the speed camera program if it's a fixed ratio percentage wise or fixed fee. City Manager Deutsch responded that from the beginning of the program to this day it has been a per citation fee, currently the State is demanding a new program with vendors and moving towards a fixed rate.

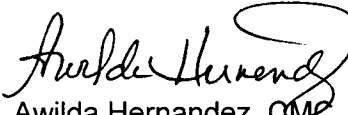
Councilmember Brady commented on receiving a report on changing trash pick-up service to once a week versus twice a week. City Manager Deutsch has spoken to Public Works Director to prepare report for Council.

Mayor Robinson commented that Council is in total support of maintaining the tax rate flat.

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilmember Woolfley moved to adjourn the City Council meeting. Councilmember Polangin seconded the motion and it carried 7-0. The meeting was adjourned at 9:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Awilda Hernandez, CMC
City Clerk