

## **Bowie Public Safety Committee**

Meeting Minutes: 9/14/16

Meeting called to order: 7:31 pm

### Attendance:

Monica Best-James, Chairperson

Del Billings, Vice-Chair/Secretary

Bill Grayson, Member

Earl Braxton, Member

Bill Healy, Member

Jill Hochman, Member

Jackie Rhone, Member

### Absent:

Ron Gill, Member

Jeffrey Cooper, Member

### Ad Hoc Members

Ernest Stanley, Lieutenant, Bowie Police Dept.

Guest:

Debra Williams

Minutes of the July 13, 2016 meeting were approved.

### Reports

Public Safety Awards Breakfast – Bill Healy

- The Fifth Awards Breakfast was held on August 26, 2016 and was very successful with 104 attendees
- Thanks to Pauline Markward, Bowie Chamber of Commerce for their planning and assistance

- Thanks to the Bowie Police Department, Bowie Volunteer Fire Department, Prince George's County Police and Fire Departments for their participation
- A donation was made to HEROES
- A profit of approximately \$2,770 resulted, which is divided between BCC and a PSC fund
- Possible improvements in the identification of awardees could be revisited

#### Police Department Report – Lt. Stanley

- The National Night Out was a big success, with one of the highest turn-outs yet
- The Community Forum was held
  - o Chief Nesky wanted to address the issue in an open and transparent manner as it impacts the BPD and citizens of Bowie
  - o Generally well attended, with some “hard” questions
- Body worn cameras--
  - o Piloting 5-10 Officers are field testing the cameras
  - o So far it has been a success, the quality of video/audio is very good
  - o Integration with in-car cameras is also working well
  - o Full implementation is expected by November 1, 2016
  - o Goal is by the end of September all BWC and vehicles will be operational
- Call Center—
  - o Call center is operating on a 24 hr basis and will begin to take non-emergency calls October 1, 2016.
  - o MOU with County is close

#### Fire Department Report –

- August Run report was provided by Chief Howard

#### Emergency Management --

- Larry Schultz has resigned as Emergency Planning Manager
- PSC discussed recommending additional staffing for the function.
- PSC discussed an increase in staffing of 1.5 FTEs in FY '17-18 for a total of 2.5 FTEs
- Continued development/finalization of a comprehensive ER Plan is necessary and a priority

- With the departure of Mr. Schultz, where does the current plan stand?

#### PSC General

- Members discussed the Emergency Manager's position and responsibilities
  - o Members believe that the responsibilities are more than one individual can handle
  - o Development of the ER plan and Annexes are a high priority and a critical need for Bowie
- PSC will ask Ron Gill (member) to assist in getting information/access to other Emergency Plans for cities in Maryland
- Development issues with Bowie
  - o Impact on traffic of the reopened Market Place Shopping Center and anticipated additional safety impacts on the apartments
  - o Potential safety impacts of the proposed housing development on the "Jesuit property" on Rt. 450. Safety and traffic impacts, as well as potential safety impacts on the City water and sewer system.
- Discussion of the handling of the "profits" from the Public Safety Awards programs

#### Motions:

- Motion to request the Acting City Manager and City Planning Director to the October meeting to address emergency planning issues and impacts of new housing developments—Passed
- Motion to request Mr. Gill's assistance in obtaining other Maryland cities emergency plans—Passed
- Motion to send a letter to the Mayor and City Council supporting the expansion of the Emergency Management staff by 1.5 FTEs, for a total of 2.5 FTEs in the FY '17-18 budget – Passed
- Motion to draft a letter to the Mayor and City Council expressing: PSC appreciation of Mr. Schultz's work; requesting expeditious hiring of a replacement; requesting that the emergency planning be continued as a high priority for the City; and requesting continued PSC involvement in the emergency plan development.—Passed

Next meeting: October 12, 2016

Motion to Adjourn: 9:02 pm--Unanimous