



City of Bowie

15901 Excalibur Road
Bowie, Maryland 20716

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, JUNE 17, 2019

CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

The Regular Meeting of the Bowie City Council was held on Monday, June 17, 2019 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, Councilmembers Esteve, Gardner, Marcos, Senn-Carter, Truth, and Woolfley, City Manager Lott, City Attorney Levan, City Clerk Hernandez, Staff, the Press and the Public.

AGENDA ADDITIONS/DELETIONS/AMENDMENTS:

Councilmember Truth requested to add an item D under New Business for consideration at the July 1 Council meeting.

Mayor Robinson requested to move Presentations before Citizen Participation on this evening's agenda.

PRESENTATIONS:

Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments Executive Director, Mr. Chuck Bean briefed Council on the resources and programs COG offers. Membership is comprised of 300 elected officials from 24 local governments, the Maryland and Virginia state legislatures and U.S. Congress. A copy of the presentation is on file in the City Clerk's office. COG's connection with Bowie under the Transportation Improvement Program will provide funding for the widening/upgrade of MD 197 from Kenhill Drive to MD 450 in the amount of \$8.3M and also the widening of MD 450 from Stonybrook Drive to MD Rt 3 in the amount of \$235,000. Bowie participates in COG's Cooperative Purchasing Program with savings in gasoline, diesel fuel, road salt and water and wastewater treatment chemicals.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION:

1. Lisa Couture, Conor Dr – Spoke in support of continuing with the new ice arena with 2 sheets of ice.
2. Will Durkee, English Oaks Ave – Spoke in support of the new ice arena.
3. Shani Bagley, Heatherstone Dr – Spoke in support of the new ice arena and reconsider the decision of a referendum.
4. Lina Younes, Bracken Ct – Spoke in support of the new ice arena.

5. Lori Jones, Drexel Dr – Asked Council to reconsider the vote to end the ice arena project.
6. Carlos Del Castillo, Stafford Ln – Why compare ice with courts, need to make a final decision to keep the new ice arena project moving forward.
7. Felicia Snyder, York Ln – Spoke on behalf of her daughter Abigail Snyder, needs Council to move forward on their commitment to ice.
8. Kara Mueller, Cosport Ln – Spoke in support of ice arena, does not live in City but drives more than an hour to skate at the Bowie ice arena.
9. Carrie Bridges, Hoven Ln – Spoke in regards to Councilmember Esteve's votes and comments against the new ice arena.
10. Natall Sims, Driftwood Rd – Spoke in support of having the residents vote if the new ice arena should be built.
11. Garin Couture, Conor Dr – Spoke to support the new ice arena.
12. Nicole Mulea, Muirfield Dr – Spoke in support of the new ice arena.
13. Christine Wilson – Ice and courts are two separate issues, keep the construction of the new ice arena.
14. Karen Geary, Knowledge Ln – Supports the new ice arena.
15. Rabbi Weisman, Galaxy Ln – Supports the new ice arena.
16. Milly Hall, Dunstable Ct – Does not support the ice arena; put it on the ballot in November.
17. Michelle Groulty, Peachtree Ct – Supports the new ice arena and needs to be kept open year round.
18. Kevin Doby, Philmount Ln – Supports the ice arena but maybe in a different location than Church Road.

COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mayor Robinson reminded residents of the Independence Day Celebration that will take place on July 2 at Baysox Stadium.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Councilmember Senn-Carter moved the approval of Consent Agenda Items: A) Approval of April 10 Special Meeting Minutes; B) Approval of Proclamation P-10-19 Proclaiming June 17-23, 2019 as Pollinator Week; C) Approval of Resolution R-39-19 Authorizing Entering Into an Agreement With the Prince George's Financial Services Corporation to Administer a Revolving Loan Fund; D) Approval of Resolution R-43-19 Approving Variance Application BV-4-19, a Request by Travis and Josiland Chambers to Allow the Construction of Approximately 85 Linear Feet of Six Foot High Wooden Fencing Along Mount Oak Road, When According to the Prince George's County Zoning Ordinance, Such Fencing Shall Not be More Than Four Feet High, at 15901 Agatha Terrace; E) Approval of Resolution R-45-19 Authorizing the Issuance of a Purchase Order to Frederick Ward Associates for Professional Services-Development Plan Review, Engineering & Design Services; F) Introduction of Ordinance O-5-19 Amending Bowie City Code Chapter 26, "Zoning", Article I "In General" Section 26-2 "Fences", to implement Additional the Authority Granted by Prince George's County by CB-01-2019. To Impose Stricter Restrictions on Fences Than Those Set Forth in the County's Zoning Ordinance; to Make Various Corrective and Clarifying Amendments to Chapter 26, Article II, "Municipal Zoning Authority"; and to Repeal chapter 26, Article III, "Service Volume Standards for City Streets". Mayor Pro Tem Gardner seconded the motion and it passed 6-0 (Councilmember Truth not present).

OLD BUSINESS:

A. Approval of Emergency Ordinance O-4-19 Amending the Adopted Budget for the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2018 and Ending June 30, 2019, to Authorize the Transfer of Certain Amounts in the FY 2019 Budget to Pay for Anticipated Expenses – Finance Director Matthews summarized the staff

report. The adjustments total less than 1% of the adopted FY 2019 final budget of \$98,476,900 (all funds)

Public Hearing:

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

Councilmember Marcos made a motion to adopt Emergency Ordinance O-4-19. Councilmember Woolfley seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0 (Mayor Pro Tem Gardner and Councilmember Truth not present).

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Bowie Golf Course Analysis Presentation – Mr. Nick Spurgeon, Community Services Department Assistant Director introduced Mr. Joel Weiman with McDonald Design Group, Inc. the firm hired to prepare the analysis. A copy of the presentation is on file in the City Clerk's Office. There are several repairs that need to be done to the property, which includes irrigation system upgrade, cart paths repaving as well as a complete overhaul of the clubhouse.

City Manager Lott stated that this was an informational presentation for Council to be aware of the exact conditions of the golf course at present time. Further directions will be discussed during the FY 2021 budget cycle.

B. Business Personal Property Tax – Councilmembers Truth and Woolfley asked if there was a way to find out why the dealerships tax base was lower this year than other years, they were wondering if it is because they are now parking the cars across the street in a section that is not in the incorporated City.

Finance Director Matthews responded that the City does not have access to the actual files and documentation that are being submitted by the car dealership. What the City receives is an assessment amount by the state of Maryland and it just provides the billable, assessable amount, which we then apply our property tax rate to, and then charge those individual companies the amount due.

City Counsel Levan stated that the City could investigate whether that information would be subject to a Public Information Act request.

Councilmember Woolfley made a motion to table this item to the July 8 Council meeting to allow time for staff to obtain tax information from the dealership. Councilmember Truth seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

C. Introduction of Charter Amendment CAR-2-19 Amending Section 58 of the Charter of the City of Bowie (The "Charter") in Order to: (1) Provide that the Council Shall Determine Certain Matters by Ordinance and May Determine Certain Matters by Resolution Pertaining to General Obligation Debt of the City; (2) Confirm that General Obligation Debt of the City may be Sold by Private Negotiated Sale Without Advertisement for Publication of Notice or Sale or at Public Sale After Solicitation of Competitive Bids; (3) Authorize or Provide for the Methods by Which General Obligation Debt May be Bid for in Connection With the Sale of the Same by Solicitation of Competitive Bids at Public Sale; (4) Provide for the Manner in Which any Notice of Sale or Summary Thereof May be Published and That Any Notice of Sale May be Made Available by Methods Other Than by Publication; and (5) Provide that the Powers Set Forth in Section 58 of the Charter are Additional and Supplemental to Any Other General Obligation Borrowing Authority Applicable to the City; Providing for Compliance With Certain

Provisions of the Annotated Code of Maryland and the Charter Regarding the Amendments Provided for Herein; Providing that this Title Constitutes a Fair Summary of this Charter Amendment Resolution; and Otherwise Generally Relating to the Charter Amendments Provided for Herein – Finance Director Matthews summarized the staff report. The Charter Amendment Resolution was a suggestion from the City's Bond Counsel; it is an amendment to clarify the way in which the City advertises our bond issuances.

Mayor Pro Tem Gardner made a motion to introduce Charter Amendment Resolution CAR-2-19. Councilmember Truth seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

D. Councilmember Truth made a motion to add an item to Council's next scheduled business meeting on July 1 for the purpose of which would be to reconsider the referendum referral and the ice rink proposal. Councilmember Marcos seconded the motion. Councilmember Esteve had a question on the motion made by Councilmember Truth; would Councilmember Truth consider adding the six items Councilmember Esteve sent to staff via email on Friday. Councilmember Truth did not amend his motion. Motion failed 3-4 (Esteve, Gardner, Senn-Carter, Woolfley).

Councilmember Esteve made a motion to direct staff to look into the six items he sent to them via email on Friday and report back at the July 1 Council meeting (email copy attached). Councilmember Woolfley seconded the motion. Motion failed 2-5 (Robinson, Gardner, Marcos, Senn-Carter, Truth).

Councilmember Senn-Carter made a motion to reconsider referendum referral, ice rink proposal, and have staff provide the answers to Councilmember Esteve's six points at the July 1 Council meeting. Councilmember Marcos seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-3 (Esteve, Truth, Woolfley).

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Pro Tem Gardner moved to adjourn the Regular City Council meeting. Councilmember Truth seconded the motion and it carried 7-0. The meeting adjourned at 10:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Awilda Hernandez, MMC
City Clerk

Awilda Hernandez

From: Daniel Mears
Sent: Friday, June 14, 2019 12:28 PM
To: Awilda Hernandez
Subject: FW: Ice Community Meeting Follow Up

Daniel Mears
dmears@cityofbowie.org
(301) 809-3075

From: Michael Esteve <mesteve@cityofbowie.org>
Sent: Friday, June 14, 2019 12:04 PM
To: Michael Esteve <mesteve@cityofbowie.org>; Alfred Lott <alott@cityofbowie.org>; Daniel Mears <dmears@cityofbowie.org>; Sally Hein <shein@cityofbowie.org>; Mayor <mayor@cityofbowie.org>; James Marcos <jmarcos@cityofbowie.org>; Henri Gardner <hgardner@cityofbowie.org>; Isaac Truth <itrouth@cityofbowie.org>; Dufour Woolfley <dwoolfley@cityofbowie.org>; Darian Senn-Carter <dsenn-carter@cityofbowie.org>
Subject: Ice Community Meeting Follow Up

Good morning,

I'm a little pressed for time this morning, so I'm including a lot of folks in the BCC including my council colleagues, city staff, and residents who've reached out to me in recent weeks about the city ice rink.

We had a community meeting last night with about sixty members of the Bowie ice community. We heard community members' frustration with the process, that they weren't anticipating another delay with the project, and their fear of the existing rink falling into disrepair without council action. We discussed the challenges we're facing and our concern about costs, resident to non-resident user ratios, and balancing the concerns of other user groups who would rather we get out of the ice business entirely.

Next Steps

I'm formally asking staff to add an agenda item to our Monday, June 17 council meeting to discuss the city ice rink. In this agenda item, I would like to do the following:

- Direct staff to meet with MNCPPC to see if they will partner with us to fund a new rink. The dual ice project is shovel-ready and we want to see to what extent that expedites a partnership with them.
- Direct staff to meet with Black Bear Sports Group. We want to know whether BBSG is willing to work with the Bowie ice community to keep open skate time available, what their rates would be, what their relationship with the city would be, that they agree to retain current ice rink staff, and to what extent we can hold them accountable to these requests.
- Direct staff to explore what the rate structure and offerings the new rink would need not only for dual rinks to cover their expenses but to make back sufficient funds to pay for the 25 million dollars in construction costs.

- Direct staff to include the ice community and council in the drafting of language for our currently planned city referendum. I would like for that process to be open, transparent, and inclusive.
- Ask staff for an update on the availability of funds to address potential critical infrastructure repairs at the existing rink.
- Discuss with our council colleagues a path forward that includes ice and courts. I oppose the city building and running new courts in Bowie on its own as I don't believe the city can support them without a tax increase on residents. If there is a potential MNCPPC partnership for new courts, I would be open to that conversation.

I believe this is an accurate summary of where things stand. Please let me know if anyone disagrees or if I've left anything out.

Best,
Michael