



City of Bowie

15901 Excalibur Road
Bowie, Maryland 20716

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, AUGUST 5, 2019

CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

The Regular Meeting of the Bowie City Council was held on Monday, August 5, 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, Marcos, Senn-Carter, Truth, and Woolfley, City Manager Lott, Assistant City Manager Mears, City Attorney Levan, City Clerk Hernandez, Staff, the Press and the Public.

AGENDA ADDITIONS/DELETIONS/AMENDMENTS:

Councilmember Esteve requested to move Consent Agenda Item H under New Business.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION:

1. Carmen House, Health Center Drive – Spoke in regards to issues with the property management company at the Bowen Apartments.
2. Brian Murtagh, Starlight Lane – Spoke with concerns about the all way stops mainly with the increase of traffic throughout the City.

PRESENTATIONS:

A. Bowie Youth & Family Services Volunteer Awards - Ms. Wendy Wilcox, Youth & Family Services Director presented awards to the following volunteers that have spent countless hours making a difference in the lives of our youth: Ms. Diane Polangin, Ms. Karen Parker, Ms. Lynn Hansford, Ms. Carrie Dike, Ms. Jeana Barber, Ms. Helen Van Pelt and the Soroptimist International of Prince George's and Anne Arundel Counties.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

City Manager Lott stated that City employees are working on their goal objectives for the next fiscal year.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Councilmember Marcos moved the approval of Consent Agenda Items: A) Approval of May 6 Meeting Minutes; B) Approval of May 20 Meeting Minutes; C) Approval of Resolution R-55-19 Waiving Competitive Bidding Requirements of Section 61 "Purchasing and Contracting" of the Charter of the City of Bowie by a Two Thirds Vote to Allow for the Rental of Leaf Collection Trucks and Authorizing the City Manager to Enter Into a Contract With Herc Rentals, Inc. in the amount of \$54,075; D) Approval of Resolution R-57-19 By Two-Thirds Vote Authorizing the Waiving of Bidding Requirements to Allow for the Purchase of Two Police Vehicles by Piggybacking the Anne Arundel County Vehicle Bid; E) Approval of Resolution R-58-19 Approving the 2019 Master Agreement With the Maryland Department of Transportation State Highway Administration; F) Approval of Resolution R-59-19 By Two Thirds Vote Authorizing the Waiving of Bidding Requirements to Allow for the Purchase of an Interactive Mobile Situational Awareness Training Simulator by Piggybacking a General Services Administration (GSA) Bid; G) Approval of Resolution R-60-19 Accepting Bid for Remedial Repairs to the East Coast Greenway Trail Located on Route 197 at Mitchellville Road. Councilmember Woolfley seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

OLD BUSINESS:

A. Charter Amendment CAR-2-19 Amending Section 58 of the Charter of the City of Bowie in Order to Provide the Council Authority to Issue Both Privately Negotiated or Solicitation of Competitive Bids to Issue Bonds or Notes – Ms. Lindsey Rader, City Bond Counsel with the law firm Funk & Bolton summarized the purpose of the Charter Amendment. In connection with the proposed upcoming general obligation borrowing for the new Bowie Ice Arena, the City's bond counsel recommends amending Section 58 of the City Charter to provide flexibility in the way it approves, authorizes, or documents general obligation borrowings.

Staff recommends the City Council amend Section 58 of the Charter (i) to confirm the methods of sale by which general obligation debt may be sold, (ii) to remove the current requirement that when general obligation debt is sold at public sale after solicitation of competitive bids the full notice of sale be published in a newspaper circulating in the County or among the investment and financial community, and (iii) provide flexibility for the method by which general obligation debt is authorized by the Council and flexibility regarding how notices of sale are disseminated. Although under the current schedule, the Charter amendments will not be effective in time to be relied upon for the proposed general obligation bond issue for the new Bowie Ice Arena, such amendments will give the City flexibility for any future general obligation borrowings.

Public Hearing:

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

Councilmember Trough made a motion to approve Charter Amendment CAR-2-19 Amending Section 58 of the Charter of the City of Bowie. Councilmember Marcos seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. City Transportation Priority Lists – Mr. Joe Meinert, City Planning Director, summarized the staff report. The city's highest transportation priorities have been the same for years, which are MD 197, #4 in the County's priority list; MD 450, which is #7 in the County's priority list; and Church Road is the highest priority for County road facilities. Council has also indicated the desire to see the upgrading of

US 301 from Excalibur Road to Leeland Road, a new interchange on US 50 at MD 193, so that interchange is a critical point in the regional transportation system. Another project Council has advocated for is a new roadway connecting MD 197 near Bowie State University with MD 3 in Anne Arundel County. Prince George's County has continued the funding for the Race Track Road improvement project, between Idlewild Drive and Clearfield Drive. Council has also marked some projects on trails and sidewalks, to include pedestrian underpass under MD 197 to connect Normal School Road to the MARC Train station at Bowie State University, request MNCPPC funding of a trail link between Dolphin Way in Woodmore Estates and Dunwood Crossing Drive in Woodmore Highlands.

Public Hearing:

1. Dennis Brady, Paisley Lane – Spoke in disappointment with lack of progress on Rt 197 and asks Council to pressure the County for improvements on Church Road.

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

Councilmember Esteve asked if we have an estimate of when the Race Track Road project will commence. Mr. Meinert stated that it should be in about 2 years from now.

Councilmember Esteve would also like to know the status of Rt 197 expansion. Mr. Meinert stated that Rt 197 is in the same status as Race Track Road, in the study design phase.

Councilmember Woolfley asked if the traffic light at Sylvan Drive will be installed. Mr. Meinert was told that it is scheduled to be installed this fall.

Councilmember Truth would like a representative from SHA to attend a future Council meeting and update them on projects especially on Rt 301.

Councilmember Esteve made a motion to approve the transportation priority list. Councilmember Senn-Carter seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

B. All Way Stop Warrants – Mr. George Stephanos, City's Public Works Director, summarized the staff report. The City adopted a policy in 1992 for installation of multiway stop signs; staff has been asked whether the policy remains appropriate. Staff consulted with a traffic consultant, Sabra & Associates, Inc. for recommendations. The following recommendations were presented: a) current City policy is for multi-way stops is appropriate and reasonable; b) some minor changes to the existing policy's supplemental conditions for multi-way stops are recommended; c) stop signs do not lower roadway speeds and are not traffic calming devices.

Councilmember Woolfley has heard the growing concerns with traffic from residents and does believe that all way stops will slow down the speeding of vehicles.

Councilmember Truth asked if we are using speed monitors on any of the streets in Old Bowie. Mr. Stephanos responded that they have six of them and rotate them throughout the City quarterly.

Mayor Robinson thanked Mr. Stephanos for his presentation.

August 5, 2019

C. Introduction of Ordinance O-6-19 Amending the Adopted Budget for the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2019, and Ending June 30, 2020, as Embodied in Ordinance O-1-19 to Appropriate Funds for the Construction of a New Ice Arena.

Councilmember Marcos made a motion to Introduce Ordinance O-6-19. Councilmember Truth seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-2 (Esteve, Woolfley).

ADJOURNMENT AND MOVE TO CLOSE SESSION:

Councilmember Truth moved to adjourn the Regular City Council meeting and move into Close Session, Statutory Authority to Close Session, State Government Article, §3-305(b)(7): To consult with Counsel to obtain legal advice on a legal matter. Councilmember Senn-Carter seconded the motion and it carried 6-0. The meeting adjourned at 9:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Awilda Hernandez, MMC
City Clerk

**PRESIDING OFFICER'S WRITTEN STATEMENT FOR CLOSING A MEETING ("CLOSING STATEMENT")
UNDER THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT (General Provisions Article § 3-305)**

This form has two sides. *Complete items 1 – 4 before closing the meeting.*

1. **Recorded vote to close the meeting:** Date: 8/5/19; Time: 9:31^{pm}; Location: CH 182;
Motion to close meeting made by: Truth Seconded by Senn-Carter;
Members in favor: Esteve, Woolley, Robinson, Truth; Opposed: _____;
Abstaining: Marios, Senn-Carter; Absent: Gardner.

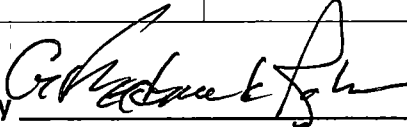
2. **Statutory authority to close session (check all provisions that apply).**
This meeting will be closed under General Provisions Art. § 3-305(b) only:

(1)___ "To discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom this public body has jurisdiction; any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals"; (2)___ "To protect the privacy or reputation of individuals concerning a matter not related to public business"; (3)___ "To consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related thereto"; (4)___ "To consider a matter that concerns the proposal for a business or industrial organization to locate, expand, or remain in the State"; (5)___ "To consider the investment of public funds"; (6)___ "To consider the marketing of public securities"; (7) "To consult with counsel to obtain legal advice"; (8)___ "To consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending or potential litigation"; (9)___ "To conduct collective bargaining negotiations or consider matters that relate to the negotiations"; (10)___ "To discuss public security, if the public body determines that public discussion would constitute a risk to the public or to public security, including: (i) the deployment of fire and police services and staff; and (ii) the development and implementation of emergency plans"; (11)___ "To prepare, administer, or grade a scholastic, licensing, or qualifying examination"; (12)___ "To conduct or discuss an investigative proceeding on actual or possible criminal conduct"; (13)___ "To comply with a specific constitutional, statutory, or judicially imposed requirement that prevents public disclosures about a particular proceeding or matter"; (14)___ "Before a contract is awarded or bids are opened, to discuss a matter directly related to a negotiating strategy or the contents of a bid or proposal, if public discussion or disclosure would adversely impact the ability of the public body to participate in the competitive bidding or proposal process." (15)___ "To discuss cybersecurity, if the public body determines that public discussion would constitute a risk to: (i) security assessments or deployments relating to information resources technology; (ii) network security information . . . or (iii) deployments or implementation of security personnel, critical infrastructure, or security devices."

Continued →

3. For each provision checked above, disclosure of the topic to be discussed and the public body's reason for discussing that topic in closed session.

Citation (insert # from above)	Topic	Reason for closed-session discussion of topic
§3-305(b) (1)	Solar Arrays	Discuss proposal to advance solar array project
§3-305(b) ()		
§3-305(b) ()		
§3-305(b) ()		
§3-305(b) ()		

4. This statement is made by , Presiding Officer.

WORKSHEET FOR OPTIONAL USE IN CLOSED SESSION: INFORMATION FOR SUMMARY TO BE DISCLOSED IN THE MINUTES OF THE NEXT OPEN MEETING. (See also template for summary.)

➤ For a meeting closed under the statutory authority cited above:

Time of closed session: 9:34

Place: Bourie City Hall

Purpose(s): Discuss with Counsel regarding Solar Arrays

Members who voted to meet in closed session: Robinson Marcos Esteve Woolfley Trout Senn-Carter

Persons attending closed session: Robinson Marcos Esteve Woolfley Trout Senn-Carter Lott Levan Mears

Authority under § 3-305 for the closed session: (7) Consult with Counsel to obtain legal advice

Topics actually discussed: Proposal to advance solar array project

Actions taken: Consensus to prepare agreement

Each recorded vote: _____

➤ For a meeting recessed to perform an administrative function (§ 3-104): Time: _____

Place: _____

Persons present: _____

Subjects discussed: _____