

BOWIE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE!



Minutes of the May 26, 2021 (Virtual Meeting)

Meeting called to order: 7:34 pm by the Chair

Attendance:

Del Billings, Chair
Bill Healy, Member
Bill Grayson, Member
Jill Hochman, Vice Chair
Jeffrey Cooper, Member
Monica Best-James, Esq. Member

Ad Hoc Members

Deputy Chief Preston, BPD

Guests:

Lee Cornwell
Steve Orenstein
Tameka Washington

Excused:

Ronnie Gill, Member
Jackie Rhone, Member

Approval of May Minutes: Motion by Bill Grayson, seconded by Bill Healy to accept the minutes. Approved.

Reports:

Bowie Volunteer Fire Department Update – Chief Jonathan Howard

- Not present

Emergency Manager – Lee Cornwell

- All City Offices will be open to the public beginning July 1
 - Senior Center – All employees must be vaccinated, as well as all seniors and guests
 - City Manager requires that all City employees be vaccinated by August 8
 - Public will not be required to wear a mask
 - There will still be a modified telework policy
- Received delivery of a surveillance trailer

- Shelters: Red Cross accepted the Senior Center as a temporary shelter due to lack of restrooms. If necessary, they will bring in mobile bathrooms if longer sheltering is required.
- City has a robust communications plan
- Development of an Emergency Action plan for each City facility is being developed

Police Department Report – Deputy Chief Dwayne Preston

- Two suspensions of officers have occurred and are in no pay status
- Vacancies: 4 in Dispatch and 5 Police Officer positions
- Looking for creative ways to revise recruitments
- Spike in crimes: car jackings, forceful ATM withdrawals
- National Night Out is scheduled for August 3
- Promotional exams have been placed on hold
- Speed cameras outside of school zones on local roads that have speed limits of 35 mph or more have been authorized by the State.

Bowie Public Safety Committee

- NNO suggestion by Bill Grayson to again promote citizens being trained in CPR and the Committee agreed. Also, a suggestion that a survey of Community Policing asking citizens to identify their priorities be available. Bill will chair and coordinate PSC participation.
- Bill Healy provided an update on the Public Safety Awards Ceremony.
- Bill Grayson made a motion that the July meeting be in person. There was not second. Subsequently the motion was not successful.

Next meeting: July 28, 2021, 7:30 pm (virtual meeting)

Motion to Adjourn: A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Monica and seconded by Bill—Unanimously passed. Meeting was adjourned at 8:57 pm.