

BOWIE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE!



Minutes of the November 23, 2021 (Virtual Meeting)

Meeting called to order: 7:35 pm by the Chair

Attendance:

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

Excused:

Ronnie Gill, Member

Ad Hoc Members

Deputy Chief Preston, BPD
Council Member Harrison
BVFD Chief Howard
Shelemia Griffiths, Chair, Youth Council

Guests

Major Brian Drum, PGPD
Tameka Washington
Bakir Lawson

Meeting Called to Order: 7:35 pm

Approval of June Minutes: Motion by Jill Hochman and seconded by Bill Grayson to accept the minutes. Approved.

Reports:

Bowie Volunteer Fire Department-Chief Jonathan Howard

- Staffing has been low
- 10 members are currently in EMT class
- Santa Claus rides will be conducted in December along with the food drive
- Department is developing plans to purchase a new ambulance for Station 39, purchase of new engines will be planned in the future

Prince George County Police—Major Brian Drum

- Assumed command of Division 2 in September
- Division is again conducting investigations
- PGPD has concurrent jurisdiction with the Maryland State Police on State roadways
- Auto thefts and break-ins remain a problem in the County and Division especially in shopping centers. Honda and Toyota vehicles are commonly stolen. Many are unsecured.

Police Department Report – Deputy Chief Dwayne Preston

- PSC shirts are in and can be picked up at the Station

- BPD is planning to host a series of Town Hall Meetings, Monday November 29 for District 4, December 9, 13 and 16
- Theft from autos remain a problem and will probably increase during the Christmas season
- Recruitment remains a priority, there are 6 actual vacancies with a possibility of 4 additional
- Hired 1 lateral and 2 new Officers. Academy will begin the first week of December and graduation expected in October 2022. 3 candidates are in pending background checks.
- Shop with a Cop is planned for December. Had 84 children last year. Major sponsor dropped out this year. Funds for the City and donations are needed for this year's effort.
- IMPACT-Looking for ways to utilize volunteers, door knocking and emphasizing package theft prevention
- EM Exercise was conducted. City dam failure. Highlighted need to evacuate, care of pets, how the City could survive without County aid, and possibility of reestablishing CERT program
- Deputy Chief is celebrating his 10-year Anniversary

Bowie Public Safety Committee

- IMPACT- Bill G reported on the IMPACT program
 - Volunteerism needed to reach citizens
 - IMPACT@cityofbowie.org to volunteer to participate
- Discussion on how the PSC can assist in posting safety information/awareness of issues

Motion:

A motion was made by Jill Hochman and seconded by Bill Grayson to assign PSC members to attend the Town Hall meetings for their District and report back to the PSC. Motion passed. District 1-Bill Healy, District 2 Bill Grayson and Jill Hochman, District 3-Langston Clay and District 4-Jeffrey

A motion was made and seconded to cancel the December due to the Christmas holiday. Motion passed unanimously.

Next meeting: January 26, 2022, at 7:30 pm (virtual meeting)

Motion to Adjourn: A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Jackie Rhone and seconded by Grayson. Unanimously passed. Meeting adjourned at 9:08 pm.