

BOWIE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE!



Minutes of the February 23, 2022 (Virtual Meeting)

Meeting called to order: 7:38 pm by the Chair

Attendance:

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

Excused:

Bill Healy, Member

Absent:

Jeffrey Cooper, Member

Ad Hoc Members

Deputy Chief Preston, BPD
Council Member Ingrid Harrison
Capt. Rachael Jefferson, BPD

Guests

Tameka Washington

Meeting Called to Order: 7:38 pm

Approval of June Minutes: Motion made by Jill H and seconded by Bill G to accept the minutes was made. Approved.

Reports:

City Council-Council Member Ingrid Harrison (emailed)

- The Council was very proud to swear in three outstanding new Bowie Police Officers last night. It was exciting to welcome these new recruits to the PD!
- During the Council Meeting, the Council approved the use of utility funds, \$50,000, to finance the Water Filtration Rebate Program. This program helps our neighbors who are dealing with brown water. The rebate will be for the actual cost of equipment and installation up to \$1,800 per resident. The \$50,000 will support 27 residents at the cost of \$1,800 per filter.
- On February 17, I attended the PGCMA meeting, and the bulk of the discussion was around HB1184 that would allow municipal police departments to establish their own Police Accountability Boards. During his report to the Council, Chief Nesky elaborated on this bill and shared options on how we may move forward. The hearing for HB1184 is scheduled for Tuesday, March 8, 2022, at 1:00 p.m. Please go to the Maryland General Assembly website for details.

Police Department Report – Deputy Chief Dwayne Preston

- Three new Officers are now on board; two transfers and 1 recruit. Staffing is now 64 out of 67. Agility testing for new prospects will be held this weekend. Also recruiting at the University level.

- Eight shootings so far this year. 1 homicide and 1 roadway (flare gun) have been closed.
- Three juvenile males arrested for attempted robbery. 1 male was wounded by the victim. All three suspects charged.
- Citizens Police Academy will be held in May.
- Plans have been developed to respond to Trucker Convey, if necessary.

Bowie Public Safety Committee

- Officers for the 2022-2023 calendar years are:
 - Chair-Del Billings; Vice Chair-Jill Hochman; Secretary-Open
- Motion made by Bill Grayson and seconded by Monica Best-James as follows:

In support of the Bowie Police Department (BPD) IMPACT^[1] Initiative, the Public Safety Committee (PSC) Chair shall appoint a permanent IMPACT Subcommittee with the following responsibilities:

- Support and assist the BPD in the development and distribution to Bowie residents and businesses of information aimed at crime prevention and reporting, traffic safety promotion, and other such objectives as may be defined by the BPD.
 - Support and assist the BPD in recruiting, orienting, and directing Bowie resident volunteers to participate with the subcommittee in developing and distributing aforementioned crime prevention and reporting and traffic safety information, including via neighborhood door-to-door contacts.
- With concurrence and approval by the PSC Chair and BPD Chief, provide crime prevention and reporting and traffic safety information statements and hard copy materials to members of the Bowie City Council, various City departments and agencies, local businesses, Bowie NGOs,^[2] and others TBD for their distribution in periodic newsletters, handouts, bulletin boards, and similar displays.

^[1] Information Matters - Police and Community Together

^[2] Non-Governmental Organizations such as Civic Groups, Homeowner Associations, Faith-based organizations, youth groups, and others TBD and approved.

- Following discussion, the motion was passed.
- As directed by the above motion, Chair Del Billings appointed the following members to serve on the IMPACT Subcommittee: Bill Grayson, Langston Clay and Bill Healy.

Next meeting: March 23, 2022, at 7:30 pm (virtual meeting)

Motion to Adjourn: A motion to adjourn the meeting was made. Unanimously passed. Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.