

BOWIE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE!



Minutes of the September 28, 2022 (Virtual Meeting)

Meeting called to order: 7:33 pm by the Chair

Attendance:

Del Billings, Chair
Jackie Rhone, Member
Bill Grayson, Member
Jeffrey Cooper, Member
Langston Clay, Member
Ronnie Gill, Member

Ad Hoc Members

Deputy Chief Preston, BPD
Council Member Ingrid Harrison
Capt. Rachael Jefferson, BPD
Deputy Chief Jonathan Howard, BVFD
Lee Cornwell, Bowie Emergency Manager

Guests

Monica Best-James, esq.

Excused:

Jill Hochman, Vice Chair
Bill Healy, Member

Approval of September Minutes: Motion made by Jackie and seconded by Langston to accept the minutes was made. Approved.

Reports:

City Council-Council Member Ingrid Harrison

- No Report

Bowie Volunteer Fire Department- Deputy Chief Howard

- Plans for a new ambulance at Co. 39 are underway hopefully in service early 2023
- Held some good recruiting events
- Retention of current members remains a challenge
- Fire Prevention Day event is scheduled for October 15, 2022 at Co. 39

Emergency Management Update- Lee Cornwall, Bowie Emergency Manager

- Discussed the After-Action Report on the recent weather events, which was distributed to the PSC
 - The tornado was an EF-1 with 90 mph winds, 150 yards wide and 1 mile in length
 - Approximately 178 households without power, 95% was restored by Thursday
 - The July Supercell had 80 mph winds up to 100 mph gusts
 - Several hundred households without power
 - Took 4-5 days to restore power to most households
- Discussed what recommendations should be made to BG&E to improve future expectations, especially providing more realistic timelines

Police Department Report – Deputy Chief Dwayne Preston

- 2 recruits graduated this week; 3 more in class, but lost 1
- Strategic Plan
 - In person meeting
 - Performed a detailed analysis of the draft plan
 - Approximately 75% completed
 - Goal is to finish next week for final comments
- Will meet tomorrow with Freshman Class at Bowie State University
- BPD currently has 9 vacancies, including 1 Lieutenant position who took a job with the Federal Reserve
- Promotional exam will be conducted next week
- BPD's second blood hound graduated training
- MOU developed for the blood hound to be called out for County assistance

Bowie Public Safety Committee

- The PSC now has 1 vacancy
- Discussion of the Strategic Plan
- Questions about how the new speed cameras will be used
 - Currently in vendor testing
 - Only warning notices are being issued
- Discussed perceptions that school buses are speeding in specific areas
- Discussion on traffic issues on Northview due to the location of the school driveways
- The 911 Diversion Process will begin October 3 for a 6-month trial program

Guest Discussion: Monica Bes-James, esq.

- 17 candidates are under consideration for appointment to the County Police Accountability Board
 - County will nominate 5 and the Council will appoint another 5

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

Motion to Adjourn: A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Ronnie and seconded by Bill G. Unanimously passed. Meeting adjourned at 9:04 pm.