

BOWIE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE!



Minutes of the February 23, 2023 (Virtual Meeting)

Meeting Called to Order: 7:37 PM

Attendance:

Del Billings, Chair
Leslie Kaunitz, Member
Bill Grayson, Member
Jackie Rhone, Member
Langston Clay, Member
Jeffrey Cooper, Member

Excused:

Jill Hochman, Vice Chair
Ronnie Gill, Member

Ad Hoc Members:

Deputy Chief Preston, BPD
Deputy Chief Howard, BVFD
Captain Jefferson

Guests:

Tameka Washington
DC-BVFD Robert Johnson
AC-BVFD Tyrone Gale
Raquel Ruiz
Victor Nichols
Kay Dee

Approval of January 2023 Minutes: Motion Bill, Second Langston: Passed

Fire Department Update – BVFD Deputy Chief Jonathan Howard

- Introduced Volunteer Officers in attendance
- Tower 39-Waterway being built and repairs are underway, possibly in service by July
- Nominations and voting for Administrative officers are underway
- New engine purchase is being planned, anticipated cost is approx.. \$900,000 with a 2-year lead time
- Donations cover approx. 30% and State 508 funds the rest
- Incentive plan is being developed and being presented to the Executive Board

- Staffing continues to be a problem. Co. 39 does not have permanent paid staff, done through overtime assignments
- CPR for Bowie is on-going
 - Need instructors
 - Cost is approximately \$45

Police Department Update: Deputy Chief Preston

- Governor Moore announced the appointment of Lt. Col. Roland Butler as Maryland State Police Superintendent. He is a resident of Bowie.
- Several events are planned in June – June 3 – Bowiefest; June 16 movie at Allen Park; June 17- Citizens Day, Bike Ride;
- Crime Issues
 - Non-Contact shooting-Idea of identity of suspect
 - Robbery on Old Chapel Rd-shots fired, dirt bike stolen
 - Stolen auto arrest- P section
 - Juvenile accountability is a challenge
- Partnered with Bowie Town Center to open a Community Outreach Center in the previous Zale's store area. Awaiting occupancy permits, etc.
- Citizen Volunteers are being recruited
 - Volunteers would handle issues that don't necessitate direct Police Officer contact, i.e. theft from auto, other similar reports
 - Possible 1-2 hours per day for 2 days a week
 - Will require detailed background checks

PSC Discussions

- Discussion of having a safety article/notice in the Senior Center newsletter
- Discussion of possible return to In-person meetings. Recommendation to keep virtual meetings, but possible hold quarterly in-person meetings

Next Meeting: March 22, 2023 (virtual)

Adjourn: Motion to adjourn by Bill, seconded by Langston. Passed 9:09 PM unanimously