

BOWIE CITY ETHICS COMMISSION

Minutes

November 18, 2014 – Open Meeting

A meeting of the Bowie City Ethics Commission was held on Tuesday November 18, 2014 in the City Manager's conference room. Commission members in attendance were Benjamin Woolery, Chair, Vince Canales and Jim Holderbaum. Also in attendance was Betsy K. Dawson, Attorney to the Commission and John Fitzwater, Assistant City Manager and liaison to the Commission. Lee Weimer was excused.

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Chairman Woolery.

The members reviewed and approved the Minutes as amended from the October 21, 2014 Ethics Commission meeting.

The members discussed the meeting they had with the City Council on October 27, 2014. The Commission agreed with the recommendation to make a presentation to City Council on an annual basis to help fulfill the education mandate of the Commission's mission. This presentation will build on the presentation made to City Council earlier this year. The Commission chose March 16, 2015 as the meeting they would like to get on the City Council agenda to make this presentation. Finally, the Commission agreed to prepare a follow-up letter to City Council that reiterates what was discussed and agreed to at the October 27th meeting. Mr. Holderbaum will draft this letter.

The Commission considered changing the time of Commission meetings from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. in order to make it more attractive for prospective members to serve on the Commission. It was agreed to keep the time for meetings at 3 p.m., but to keep open the possibility of changing the meeting time if this was a consideration in someone joining the Commission.

The Commission agreed to cancel their December 16, 2014 meeting.

There being no further business to conduct in an open session, a motion was made (Canales) and seconded (Holderbaum) to close the meeting pursuant to §10-508 of the Maryland Open Meetings Act to discuss administrative matters. The motion was carried unanimously by written vote and the meeting was closed at 3:20 p.m.

Public Minutes of Closed Session

During the closed meeting, the following actions were taken:

The Commission reviewed a request for an advisory opinion.

There being no further business to be conducted in closed session, Mr. Woolery adjourned the meeting at 4:02 p.m.

[The next meeting of the Ethics Commission will be held on Tuesday, January 20, 2015 at 3:00 in the City Manager's conference room.]

John L. Fitzwater
Staff Liaison to the Ethics Commission

STATEMENT FOR CLOSING A MEETING

Nov. 18, 2012

Motion By: Canales

Seconded By: Holderbaum

Vote to Close Session: AYE NAY ABSTAIN ABSENT

Benjamin Woolery, Chairman BJW

Lee Weimer

~~Veda L. Pryor~~

Ismael "Vince" Canales

James Holderbaum



STATUTORY AUTHORITY TO CLOSE SESSION
State Government Article §10-508(a):

- 1. To discuss:
 - (i) the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance, evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom it has jurisdiction; or
 - (ii) any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals.
- 2. To protect the privacy or reputation of individuals with respect to a matter that is not related to public business.
- 3. To consult with counsel to obtain legal advice on a legal matter.
- 4. To consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending or potential litigation.
- 5. To conduct or discuss an investigative proceeding on actual or possible criminal conduct.
- 6. To comply with a specific constitutional, statutory, or judicially imposed requirement that prevents public disclosures about a particular proceeding or matter.

Topics to be discussed in closed session:

Request for advisory opinion on secondary employment