



City of Bowie

15901 Excalibur Road
Bowie, Maryland 20716

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2017

CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

The Regular Meeting of the Bowie City Council was held on Monday, September 18, 2017 in the Council Chambers at City Hall. Mayor Robinson called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG:

Mayor Robinson led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

QUORUM:

In attendance were Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Esteve, Gardner, Marcos, Polangin, and Truth; City Manager Lott, Assistant City Manager Fitzwater, City Attorney Levan, City Clerk Hernandez, Staff, the Press, and the Public.

AGENDA ADDITIONS/DELETIONS/AMENDMENTS:

Councilmember Marcos made a motion to remove Item B Charter Amendment Resolution CAR-01-17 under New Business for further review. Councilmember Truth seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION:

1. Fiona Moodie, Ithan Lane – Spoke in regards to the proposed Charter Amendment CAR-01-17. (Copy of comments attached)

CITY BOARDS AND COMMITTEES:

A. Appointments/Reappointments/Swearing-In:

1. Councilmember Marcos moved the appointment of Andrew Roud as a member of the Economic Development Committee for a 2-year term. Councilmember Truth seconded the motion and it carried 6-0. Mayor Robinson swore-in Mr. Roud.

COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mayor Robinson announced that the General Assembly passed SB450/HB880 earlier this year, which prohibits a public body from meeting in closed session unless the public body designates a member to receive training on the Maryland Open Meetings Act by October 1st, 2017. Councilmember Truth and Councilmember Polangin have been designated and will receive the training on the Maryland Open Meetings Act.

MAYOR G. Frederick Robinson **MAYOR PRO TEM** Henri Gardner

COUNCIL Michael P. Estève ♦ Courtney D. Glass ♦ James L. Marcos ♦ Diane M. Polangin ♦ Isaac C. Truth **CITY MANAGER** Alfred D. Lott
City Hall (301) 262-6200 FAX (301) 809-2302 TDD (301) 262-5013 WEB www.cityofbowie.org

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

City Manager Lott reported that the City's Human Resources has been very successful in filling critical vacancies in the past four months.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Mayor Pro Tem Gardner moved the approval of Consent Agenda Items: A) Approval of September 5 Meeting Minutes; B) Approval of Resolution R-55-17 Accepting Bid for the Supply and Installation of Weir Covers on Clarifier #3 Located at the Wastewater Treatment Plant; C) Approval of Resolution R-56-17 By Two-Thirds Vote Authorizing the Waiving of Bidding Requirements to Allow the Bowie Police Department to Utilize the Services of Priority Install, LLC for the Upfitting of Police Vehicles; D) Approval of Letter to Prince George's County Planning Board re: Proposed FY 19 M-NCPPC Budget. Councilmember Polangin seconded the motion and it carried 6-0.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Bowie Indoor Sports Facility – City Manager Lott reported on the directives that Council had tasked City staff with during the June 19th meeting. One of those directives was to conduct a "due diligence evaluation" of the existing ice arena in Bowie to determine the current condition of the facility; determine the costs to renovate this facility to like new condition and determine the costs to maintain the current facility for the next five years. The other directive was to provide all necessary information in reference to placing the decision on referendum.

The City utilized Hughes Group Architects to complete the cost evaluations. It will cost the City approximately \$22,400,000 to renovate the current ice arena to like new condition or approximately \$2,000,000 to maintain the facility for five years considering its current condition. The estimated cost of a special election to place the item on referendum is \$48,000, and would require at least six-month period to prepare for the election.

Given the options presented at the June 19th meeting and the costs presented tonight, staff recommends that City Council choose the option to construct three (3) courts and one rink at the Church Road location for \$23,072,000.

Mr. Keith Driscoll with Hughes Group Architects summarized the due diligence evaluation completed on the current ice arena. (Copy of summary attached).

Public Hearing:

1. Pat Achimovic, Chalford Lane – spoke in support of the two-sheet ice arena.
2. Carrie Bridges, Chair of the Bowie Community Recreation Committee – spoke in favor of having both more courts and the ice arena built.
3. John Henry, Pond Meadow Lane – would like item to be placed in referendum and let the tax payers decide.
4. Herb Briscoe, Chair of Bowie Senior Center Advisory Group, Quantum Leap Lane – spoke in favor of the construction of a larger facility with more court space to help with the overflow for senior activities.
5. Melody Britt, Homestead Drive – spoke in favor of more court space.
6. Wilma Crider, Wollow Creek Road – spoke in favor of more courts.
7. Fiona Moodie, Ithan Lane – spoke against the construction without it first going to referendum.

8. Bill Schmidt, Sarah Lane – spoke in support of new two-sheet ice arena.
9. Sheri Sternberg, Plumwood Court – spoke in favor of additional courts.
10. Lisa Couture, Conor Drive (Stevensville) – spoke in favor of the two-sheet ice arena.
11. Uoe Daverne, East Haven Court – spoke in support of additional court space.
12. Lina Younes, Bracken Court - supports the two-sheet ice arena.

Council received additional comments via email in regards to this matter and they will be added to the record (Copies attached). Since there were no more speakers signed up to speak, Mayor Robinson declared the public hearing to have been held.

Councilmember Marcos stated that he understands it is hard to be able to please everyone but he feels that at the current time the best option would be to do the ice arena with two sheets and possibly look at converting the existing arena into courts in the future once the new one is built.

Councilmember Esteve stated that his chief concern has always been to maintain the fiscal position of the City. Based on the report presented it makes fiscal sense to do a two-sheet ice arena at about \$24,401,000 versus renovating the existing at \$22,400,000. Operation costs is less on the ice arena compared to the courts.

Councilmember Trouth stated that he notes that the return on investment on the ice is greater than the courts but he feels that there is a much larger need for additional courts. Based on the staff report, he is favorable toward their recommendation of the three courts and the one ice arena.

Councilmember Gardner asked Mr. Driscoll what is the \$6M in soft cost that is in the report. Mr. Driscoll replied that it covers design fees, project management fees, permitting fees; it also includes an allowance for program contingencies and other unforeseen conditions.

Councilmember Gardner suggest that staff reach out to large organizations in the community and offer some sort of naming rights or advertising in the facility to help off-set some of the construction costs.

Assistant City Manager Fitzwater responded that offering naming rights does not provide a large return.

Councilmember Polangin asked what is the current size of the existing size of the ice sheet and what is the size of the proposed.

Mr. Driscoll responded that the existing one is 200' x 85' (NHL size) and the proposed ones are 200' x 100' (Olympic size) and 200' x 85' (NHL size).

Councilmember Esteve asked if they decided to do the referendum, what is the soonest that it could be done and once concluded what is the timeframe to get it all done.

City Clerk Hernandez responded at least six months would be needed to prepare for the election; in the staff report, it was recommend to be held on April 10, 2018. Council would get the results of the special election that evening and then Council would have the choice of either scheduling a Special Meeting to take action on the matter or place it on the agenda for the next regular Council meeting scheduled for the month of April.

Councilmember Trouth asked how many of the proposed options can be paid for by cash.

September 18, 2017

City Manager Lott responded that with the current fund balance all of it, but it would exhaust the reserves.

Councilmember Esteve made a motion to construct a two-sheet ice rink at the Church Road location. Councilmember Marcos seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-2 (Gardner, Truth).

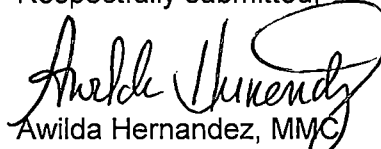
MOVE TO CLOSE SESSION:

Mayor Pro Tem Gardner moved Statutory Authority to Close Session, General Provisions Article, §3-305(b)(9): To conduct collective bargaining negotiations or consider matters that relate to the negotiations. Councilmember Marcos seconded the motion and it carried 6-0

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Pro Tem Gardner moved to adjourn the City Council meeting. Councilmember Truth seconded the motion and it carried 6-0. The meeting adjourned at 9:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Awilda Hernandez, MMC
City Clerk

Comments by Fiona Moodie

Upon winning your election each of you swore to uphold and defend The United States' Constitution.

In my capacity as the teacher of an American Government course, I ensure that my students know that you can only fully understand the Constitution through the context provided by the Declaration of Independence.

The Declaration, states:

“Whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness.”

It could be said that the American Revolution was the world's biggest recall – King George wasn't listening, and the colonies had had enough – so they acted.

After 2 years of refusing to listen to your constituents, as you looked at our homes and our city as your personal Monopoly game – we acted. We put forth a historic effort to recall members of this council. Never before had Bowie taken such drastic steps, but never before had there been such dissatisfaction in your representation.

Simply put, the Charter Amendment Resolution put forth by Ms. Levan is a disgrace.

It is a slap in the face of the more than 2,300 people who joined our movement and it is an attempt to silence them.

More than half of the incorporated Cities in Maryland have a Recall Provision – and ours is the most stringent. With only 30 days to collect 25% of the registered voters signatures, you confine us to an impractically short time period and impose an unnecessary burden on Bowie voters.

Furthermore, Should we be successful in a recall effort after the passage of this resolution, we would then be faced with the process of judicial review, which is tantamount to government helping government.

Would the British courts have sided with the American Revolutionaries? Not a chance. Given the chance to review it, would King George found our recall valid? Never.

This amendment does not serve the interests of Bowie citizens – it provides the council with further opportunities to weasel their way out of the democratic process.

I ask that each of you review the document I have submitted on recall provisions.

I urge you to vote no on this amendment as submitted – and amend it to benefit the citizens you represent

Bowie Ice Arena: Executive Summary – Council Meeting

09.13.2017

Objectives and Methodology

At the request of the City of Bowie HG Architects conducted a Due Diligence Evaluation of the existing Ice Arena in Bowie Maryland to assess the current condition of the facility and provide probable facility overhaul and renovation cost to continue to operate the facility for a period of 40 years. In addition to providing an assessment of existing conditions a comparison between the ice program proposed for the Indoor Sports Facility (ISF) and the existing Bowie Ice Arena has been generated.

To assess existing conditions a team of Architects and Engineers visited the facility August 3, 2017 to assess existing conditions and review operations with building staff. During this visit the potential existence of mold growth was observed resulting in follow up testing conducted by ECS August 31st which confirmed the existence of mold growth.

The report findings are based on site observations, survey data analysis, existing drawings, discussions with ice arena facility personnel, and HG team's experience with similar projects. We have endeavored to obtain reliable data but are not responsible for the accuracy of information or documentation provided by others.



Probable Construction Costs

Probable construction costs were evaluated based extending the facility operations 40 years through items outlined within the scope represent renovations needed to overhaul the facility to extend service life for an additional 40 years. The scope focuses on replacing components and systems to maintain the current program and does not include program upgrades to address changes in market demand.

Summary of Findings

The facility is located adjacent to Patrick Murtagh Soccer fields and shares the site and parking with Allen Pond Park. The original structure constructed in the early 1970's consisted of a refrigerated slab located under large pavilion with open sides. Since opening the facility has been modified several times including enclosing the ice rink and expansions to provide locker room space and mechanical rooms. The most recent construction in 2002 added retail space and renovated the main entry area of the facility. The overall condition of the facility was found to be better than would be expected for a facility of this age however many of the facility's components and systems are near or past the end of their

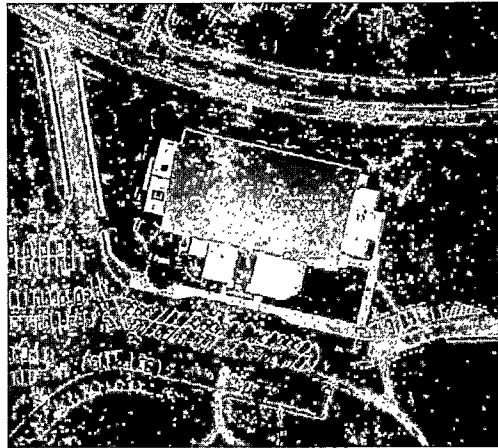
expected service life - maintaining operations at the facility will require a substantial capital investment to overhaul the facility. The primary areas of concern are as follows:

Existing Program to Indoor Sports Facility Program Comparison: Program Comparison provides a space by space comparison between the proposed Ice Program of approximately 83,700 SF included in the Indoor Sports Facility and the existing 39,900 SF Bowie Ice Arena. The proposed program includes provisions for two ice rinks while the existing facility only includes one resulting in approximately 29,000 SF difference in building area. In addition to the absence a second sheet of ice the existing Ice Arena lacks the appropriate number and size locker room and restroom facilities when compared to the proposed program and what is typically provided for a one rink facility. Additionally spectator seating capacity accommodates approximately 350, less than the 500 indicated in the proposed program and the public or common zone is approximately 2200 sf (40%) less than proposed.

Site and Parking: Grading along the north side of the building results in water infiltrating the building with each heavy rain. Installation of a storm water drainage system and regrading is recommended to prevent additional damage to the building.

Accessible parking spaces and marked pathways are provided onsite; however, cross slopes for both are not in compliance with accessibility requirements.

Additionally the parking lot is not configured to provide a 20' Fire Lane and the Fire Department Connection (FDC) is visually obscured and located more than 150' away from the nearest fire hydrant.



Building Envelope: Exterior wall systems are primarily clad with EIFS or Metal Panels and are in fair condition with service life remaining, however, in the case of the metal panel areas provide little to no insulation. Roofing systems are past their service life and staff indicated there are several active leaks. Roofing needs to be replaced in the near term.

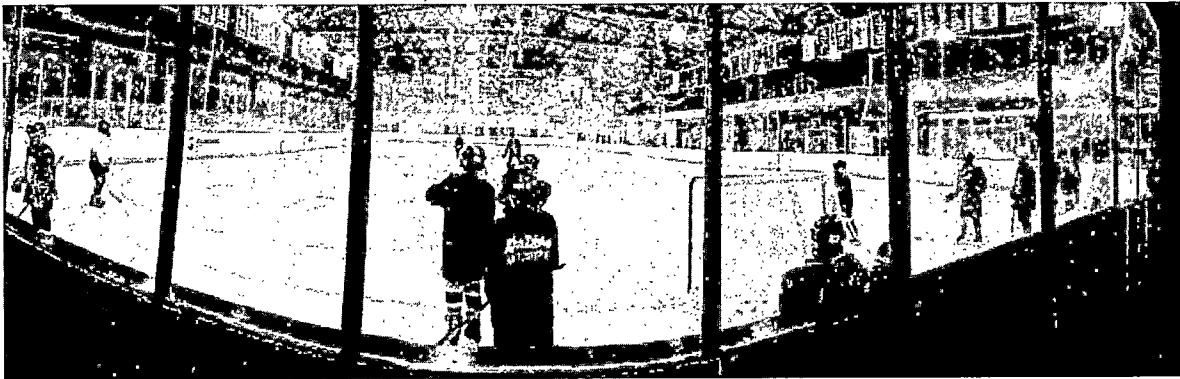
Structural System: Columns and trusses for the volume enclosing the ice rink are wood and date to the original construction. They show signs of strain and shifting as evidenced by cracked web members and misaligned members and are in need of near term repairs. Structural design requirements have become more stringent in the years since the structural system has been designed. It is believed the existing system has a design capacity well short of current requirements, specifically with regard to snow loading, and long range plans should consider complete reconstruction.

Mold growth is evident on the wood trusses and roof deck, air quality testing is recommended to determine the level of hazard to building users and establish remediation requirements.

Ice Rink: The existing refrigeration slab has heaved, likely the result of permafrost below. Without mitigating efforts the slab will continue to deform which will result in damage to the refrigeration piping.

Both the existing refrigeration plant and dehumidification system are at the end of their respective service life, increased equipment failures placing the facility out of service should be expected as should escalating repair costs.

Long range plans should consider replacement of the refrigeration slab and extensive overhaul or replacement to the mechanical systems.



Locker Rooms and Restrooms: Locker Rooms are undersized for this size facility and lack sufficient mechanical systems to deliver an adequate quantity of outside air. Restroom water closet and lavatory quantities are also well short of the quantity required by code to serve the calculated occupancy.

Accessibility: Accessible elements and pathways have been accommodated within the facility however in numerous instances the existing configuration and clearances are not in accordance with current accessibility requirements. Accessible access to the building entry is accommodated via a mechanical lift requiring assistance from facility staff to operate which is not permitted by current regulations. Additionally required clearances are not provided at several doors and mounting heights for counters, restroom fixtures and many accessories are not in accordance with current regulations.

Fire Suppression Systems: Sprinkler piping exhibits signs of rust and corrosion throughout the ice rink venue. Replacement should be considered.

Mechanical and Electrical Systems: Mechanical and Electrical Systems including HVAC, Electrical Service, and Lighting are aged with many components at the end of their services life. These systems do not operate as efficient as modern equipment and are lacking automated control systems resulting in increased operating cost. As a result of their age, increased maintenance and repair cost should be expected. Long range plans should consider system replacement and upgrade.

Probable Construction Cost - 09.13.2017

Facility Overhaul & Renovation - Extended Life Span (40 Year)

Site			\$1,301,000
Building Envelope			\$2,927,000
Structural Systems			\$968,000
Architectural Systems			\$3,353,000
Mechanical Systems			\$4,657,000
Subtotal			\$13,207,000
Design Contingency	10%	\$1,321,000	\$14,528,000
Escalation to 2020	10%	\$1,453,000	
Probable Construction Cost			\$15,981,000
Owner Carried Soft Cost	40%	\$6,392,000	
Total Project Cost			\$22,373,000

Facility Overhaul & Renovation – Extended Life Span (40 year)

Facility Overhaul and Renovation to extend operations through 2057 (40 years), this scope represent renovations needed to overhaul the facility to extend service life for an additional 40 years. The scope does not include program upgrades to address changes in market demand.

A full facility shutdown is required to complete the overhaul. A construction duration of 18 - 24 months is anticipated.

Probable Construction Cost figures above capture cost of construction only and do not include project management, design and permitting expenses or owner contingency funds.

Total Project Cost do not include revenue impact associated with closing the facility during construction.

Escalation has been calculated to the estimated midpoint of construction based construction starting in the 2nd quarter of 2019 and lasting approximately 18 months.

Awilda Hernandez

From: Michelle Mueller <michellkarl@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, September 15, 2017 1:45 PM
To: Awilda Hernandez
Cc: Carrie Robertson
Subject: Bowie Ice Arena funding

Dear Ms. Hernandez,

We are writing to urge the City of Bowie to support ice skating and hockey by improving and expanding the Bowie Ice Rink. We are not Bowie residents, but are happy to pay extra to subsidize Bowie facilities since our old rink, Tucker Road Ice Rink in Oxon Hill, burned down. Our entire family makes use of the Bowie rink because of the quality staff and programs, and the lack of nearby alternatives. Our children have joined the skating team at Bowie, but practice is difficult because of the limited ice time and sometimes crowded conditions during figure skating sessions. You have built a wonderful skating program in Bowie and we urge you to support its growth and success. The team and some of its skaters have won at the national level and made a great name for Bowie. Please give your skaters the resources they need to succeed.

Thank you,
Michelle and Karl Mueller and daughters Kara and Lida Mueller

Awilda Hernandez

From: Lina Younes <lmfyounes@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, September 15, 2017 1:46 PM
To: John Fitzwater; Awilda Hernandez
Subject: BOWIE NEEDS A TWO SHEET ICE ARENA

Dear Mr. Fitzwater and Ms. Hernandez:

As a tax paying resident of the City of Bowie for nearly 23 years, I'm writing to urge the City Council to approve the construction of a new two sheet ice arena in Bowie. The construction of a new facility with two sheets of ice will be a good investment generating more revenue for the city than any of the other indoor sports facilities under discussion.

The existing facility is in need of a lot of repairs and we are unable to provide for the needs of our current users. Renovating the existing facility would be very costly and would result in a 18-24 month shut down. A new two sheet ice arena would allow us to offer more ice time not only to the public but to our user groups as well. A dual sheet facility would allow staff to offer new and expanded programs that we are unable to offer now including: adult hockey leagues, women's hockey, speed skating, special skater programs as well as public sessions and pickup figure skating and hockey sessions at more desirable times. We would have the ability to host larger competitions and tournaments and have leagues - generating additional revenue for the City of Bowie as well as local hotels and businesses.

Unlike basketball, volleyball and wrestling, ice sports cannot be played or practiced at local school gymnasiums or even a park. Ice Sports require a specialized surface and it has been shown time and time again, study after study (over a 20 plus year span) that a second sheet of ice is needed to not only accommodate our current users but to grow the sport and generate additional revenue. Initial construction costs are high but the return on the investment with the ice side is much greater than the court side. The Ice Arena is 46 years old and part of the City of Bowie's history – it has served the community well. It's time to move forward with a new facility.

Both Bowie ISI and the Bowie's hockey teams are award winning teams that currently have to compete for ice time and the current facility that is in serious need of repair.

If a new two sheet facility is not approved, you run the risk of losing more revenue from skaters/players that simply will have to go elsewhere to practice the sport and pursue their dreams on the ice.

Please support the construction of the two sheet ice arena today!

Awilda Hernandez

From: JIM AND LINDA BAILEY <JIMANDLINDA_BAILEY@msn.com>
Sent: Sunday, September 17, 2017 10:09 AM
To: Awilda Hernandez; Mayor; Henri Gardner; James Marcos; Michael Esteve; Diane Polangin; Isaac Trouth; Courtney Glass
Subject: Ice rink construction project - for city council meeting records

To the office of the City Clerk, City of Bowie,

As I will be unable to attend the city council meeting on 18 September, 2017, I wish my comments below to be added to the official record.

In reference to the construction of a new or improved City of Bowie recreation facility, to include an ice rink and basketball/multi-use courts, I wish to express the following:

I believe the city does need a functioning ice rink, ONE functioning ice rink, for the use of the recreational needs of the citizens of Bowie. I believe we may be in need of more court space, but am not sure if the current available court space is being used to capacity, and therefore this need might be reduced due to better management and availability.

I do NOT believe we need dual ice rinks, nor do we require ice rinks that would allow for groups from outside the city of Bowie to look at Bowie as the provider for ice time for the region.

We pay taxes to the M-NCPPC, which takes care of the needs for the region. Even if they do not currently have the funds to increase capacity for ice rink use, it is up to the city of Bowie to lobby for that need when funds become available. It is not the responsibility of the city of Bowie, and our citizens, to provide a regional center.

It is ALSO not the responsibility of the taxpayers of Bowie to provide increased business income for local businesses by providing, through our tax dollars, regional venues so that their business traffic increases. What we put into the budget for this expense will not equal what we get out of the businesses by increased taxes they pay.

In conclusion, I believe the most prudent use of city tax dollars would be to repair the existing rink, as a single rink, and further study the needs for court space after all existing courts are used to capacity.

Linda Bailey
3413 Medina Lane
Bowie, MD 20715

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

Awilda Hernandez

From: Dr H Smith <paulhsmith@verizon.net>
Sent: Sunday, September 17, 2017 7:26 PM
To: Awilda Hernandez
Cc: paulhsmith@verizon.net
Subject: In favor of building a new ice rink -- Bowie City Council

Dear Bowie City Council,

I have been a long-time resident of the city of Bowie (47 years). I moved here in 1970. I currently live at 12616 Quoting Poet Ct, Bowie.

I'm in **total favor for building two sheet ice skating rink for the city** with my TAX dollars. It truly comes down to economics. There is a need for ice skating rink rentals in this area. Therefore, if run properly two sheets of ice should generate revenue for the city to help pay for the cost of the facility in the long run. The existing city ice-skating rink is in desperate need of repairs. I would rather see the money that it would cost to upkeep the existing rink go to towards a new state-of-the-art facility that can be enjoyed for generations to come.

According to both the NHL and USA hockey, ice hockey is the fastest growing sport right now in the US. This would allow the opportunity for more Bowie kids in the future to play ice hockey, figure skate, or just learn to ice skate for fun. I **definitely don't think the city needs another gym**, especially ones that don't bring in any money. Plus a Multi rink facilities can host more tournaments which will bring in more people and revenue for the restaurants, shopping, and hotels in the area. The Bowie Town Center desperately needs an economic boost and more foot traffic.

On a personal note, I've enjoyed watching my grandson play hockey at the Bowie rink for the past 10 years! My son, the former Head Athletic Trainer for the Washington Capitals also co-owns the pro shop in the rink where he is giving back not only to the hockey players and skaters, but directly to the city through rent and taxes.

I hope you will once again **vote in favor of a multi rink ice facility**. I'm still perplexed how the city Council voted on this a few years back and didn't yet follow through with the plan. Please continue to give me hope that the Bowie city Council will once again put the people of the city and surrounding areas first!

Paul and Roberta Smith

Greg Smith
Pivot Physical Therapy
SVP of Strategic Initiatives, Founder
202-329-7004

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Awilda Hernandez

From: Greg Smith <gsmith@washcaps.com>
Sent: Sunday, September 17, 2017 9:52 PM
To: Awilda Hernandez
Subject: In favor of multi ice rink facility

Dear Bowie city Council,

Once again, I want to show my support for the building of a new two ice rink facility. I have been the head trainer for the Washington Capitals hockey team for the past 18 years, and since then I've seen ice hockey take off in the metro area. Bowie could actually profit from these rinks like Arlington county is with the building of the Kettler ice Plex. Currently the county makes approximately \$2 million just based off of ice rink revenue. This does not account for parking, local business tax etc. My son has enjoyed playing for the Bowie bruins ice hockey team since he was 6 years old (currently 15).

I currently own and operate two business with in the City of Bowie, Pivot Physical Therapy and Proskate, LLC. ProSkate is the proshop within the Bowie Ice Rink. I pay city taxes on both entities in addition to rent through Proskate. Although I'm not a resident at this time, I lived in Bowie from 1973 -2000 and graduated from Bowie high school in 1988. Therefore, I believe I'm as qualified as anyone to speak in favor of this proposal. In fact the last time the council approved the building of a facility, I was very fortunate to be able to speak to the city Council. Please don't throw money by repair the existing rink or adding more gym space. If you need my help in anyway, please contact me directly.

Greg Smith
Washington Capitals
202-329-7004

[<http://snagfilms-a.akamaihd.net/96/c2/da5db07b45bd9155b5aeec92e988/new-email-footer.jpg>]<<http://monumentalsportsnetwork.com>>

Awilda Hernandez

From: Mary <maryripkin@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, September 17, 2017 8:25 AM
To: Awilda Hernandez
Subject: Fwd: New Sports Facility

>

> Awilda,

> I would like to show my support for the new Sports Facility. I am unable to attend the City Council meeting on Monday, and would appreciate it if you would forward the following information to the Council.

>

> Council Members,

> I am not an official resident of the City Bowie, I have, however feel like I should be! I have spent a great deal of time in Bowie over the last 9 years. My daughter started figure skating in 2008, when she was 4, and we chose Bowie Ice Area over 3 other rinks, that are closer to where we live. Bowie is our second home! I even started skating again and competed on a couple of teams.

>

> In 2015 I became the secretary of the Bowie Figure Skating Club (which was established in 1973). As a club, we are in competition with other groups for ice time. There are many occasions where we have to shift our activities to other ice rinks because the ice is being used by other clubs.

>

> Keep in mind that our money is not only spent at the rink. We frequent the Bowie Town Center, Bowie Gateway Center, Freestate Mall and Collington Plaza, the movie theater, grocery stores, gas stations, restaurants and even an hotel stay or two.

>

> Also, a new, larger, sports facility is an investment into the community and today's youth. The CDC stats that childhood obesity has tripled since the 1970s. Our children need more opportunities to be active! A new, larger, sports facility will give parents a safe place for their children to get the physical activity they need!

>

> Of course, as a parent of a figure skater and a skater myself, I believe 2 sheets of ice are needed. That will give the Bowie ISI and Bowie Figure Skating Club programs and those of the hockey clubs, room to grow and thrive! There is no doubt that 2 sheets of ice will bring in the revenue needed to justify the investment. Please do this for the community!

>

> Thank you for your time!

>

> Mary Ripkin

> Figure Skater

> Figure Skating Mom

> Secretary, Bowie Figure Skating Club

> 443-786-1951

Awilda Hernandez

From: MARIAN RATCLIFFE <jmratcliffe@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, September 18, 2017 1:02 PM
To: Awilda Hernandez
Cc: John Ratcliffe
Subject: A Bowie Family's Support of a New Sports Complex (with two sheets of ice)

Good Evening Bowie City Council,

I am writing this email in support of the New Sports Complex. Our Family has lived in the "M" section of Bowie for 16 years. We took our daughter to a Tall and Small Class when she was 2 years old at the Bowie Ice Arena. Little did we know that day 13 years ago, that our little girl would fall in love with figure skating? She is a member of both the Bowie ISI Team and the Bowie Figure Skating Club. Both of these teams skate out of the Bowie Ice Arena. It has been an incredible journey. Throughout these 13 years, figure skating and hockey has become very popular in Bowie. I am very proud of this. The only problem, both sports are competing for ice time. Not only is this a constant problem, but the ice arena is aging and will either need to be renovated or replaced. The arena opened three weeks later this summer due to aging equipment, on top of the two months the rink is closed for yearly maintenance. This forced many members of the team to find alternated facilities to practice their skating. Skating is just not a winter sport, a lot of skaters practice figure skating and hockey all year round (my daughter included). This is the time of year that they work on their new programs and skills.

Based on what the teams and my daughter has experience over the years, Bowie needs a new two ice rink facility. This will allow both figure skaters and hockey players the ability to practice year round and to practice more than one night a week (as with the current facility due to space). If the Bowie Ice Arena is shut down for a major renovation, it will need to be closed for 18 to 24 months. Our teams and skaters would need to find other facilities to skate in during this time. We will also loose team members to these other facilities.

In addition to our daughter that figure skates year round, we have a son that has autism. He is semi non-verbal and attends Kennedy Krieger School in Baltimore. I would love him to skate also. As of now, there are no special classes for children with special needs due to size and timing issues. It would be incredible if we could have a Special Olympic figure skating team in Bowie.

Thank you for your consideration! We are proud to live in Bowie. We look forward to our children having the ability to skate in a new facility.

Sincerely,

John and Marian Ratcliffe

Awilda Hernandez

From: Sonia <smith1851@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, September 18, 2017 1:26 PM
To: Awilda Hernandez
Subject: Proposed new sports complex

Good afternoon,

I am 100% in support of the proposed new sports complex.

I am a City of Bowie resident and unfortunately, due to limited ice availability at Bowie, I drive to Odenton, Annapolis and Waldorf each week, to utilize their facilities.

I'd much rather spend my money and time here in Bowie.

Sonia M.
City of Bowie resident
Smith1851@aol.com
Sent from my iPhone

Awilda Hernandez

From: Trisana Cephas <trisana31@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, September 18, 2017 1:41 PM
To: Awilda Hernandez
Subject: Indoor Sports Facility

Ms. Hernandez,

I am writing to express my support of two sheets of ice for the new Indoor Sports Facility. My daughters both skate as part of the nationally-renowned Bowie ISI team for the last two years.

We travel from southern Prince George's County which is a testament to the lack of available ice time for competitive skaters. I am not alone when I state families travel for ice - the more time, the more money.

Specifically, the Bowie Ice Arena has welcomed my girls with open arms. The coaching staff is superb. It's become a home away from home. We have traveled from rink to rink for competitions. Often, we believe that, "We could pull this off and even do it better."

With two sheets of ice, the opportunities would be boundless. Ice skating is a sport which requires significant ice time in order to excel. Unlike other sports, there are no other options to practice.

I appreciate the consideration these remarks.

Respectively,
Trisana V. Cephas

Awilda Hernandez

From: Laila Gutzmann <gutzmannl@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 18, 2017 2:14 PM
To: Awilda Hernandez
Cc: Christine Brinton; Christine Brinton
Subject: Support for proposed new ice arena/sports facility

Dear Ms. Hernandez, Councilmen and Councilwomen:

I am writing to you in advance of tonight's council meeting to express my support for the proposed new ice arena and indoor sports facility.

The City of Bowie offers first class ice skating and hockey programs to many of its residents and its surrounding communities. My family regularly partakes in open skate sessions, skating group lessons, skating camps, skating teams, and hockey programs. When people find out my family skates, they always first ask if we skate at the Bowie Ice Arena. I am proud to say yes. The ice arena and its programs have a reputation of excellence.

In order to maintain and expand your already great programs, a new facility, providing year-round ice time is needed. The current ice arena is well utilized by a wide range of people, sometimes past its manageable capacity. Expanding to a larger, upgraded facility allows for more programs and more teams for so many of its existing and new skaters.

While I am not a resident of Bowie, my family chooses to skate at the city rink because your staff truly cares about its skating programs. The pride is evident in everything they do. And while I do not pay city taxes, I contribute my money to support, not only the Parks and Recreation programs, but various Bowie restaurants and retailers as well. As a skating family, we spent a lot of time and money in your city.

Thank you in advance for your thoughtful consideration. I trust that you will make the best decision to meet the needs of your Parks and Recreation programs and all City of Bowie residents.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely:
Laila Gutzmann
1320 Sundee Drive
Edgewater, MD 21037
410.798.0104
gutzmannL@gmail.com

Awilda Hernandez

From: Erin McElwee <erinmce55@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 18, 2017 2:57 PM
To: Awilda Hernandez
Subject: Bowie Ice Arena

To the City Counsel of Bowie, MD,

My name is Erin McElwee, and I am an employee at Bowie Ice Arena; therefore, I am also an employee of the City of Bowie. At the rink, I am a group lessons instructor, junior team coach and private lessons instructor. While I am not a Bowie resident, two of my private lessons students are. These two girls are 8 years old, and are important members of our competition team.

It is my understanding that the recommended proposal is for the new facility to have 3 more basketball courts and one new sheet of ice. This is grossly unfair to the needs of our facility as it provides a 50% increase in space for the gym space while our programs have no space to grow. Currently, the hockey teams and the figure skating team are competing for limited ice time while each program continues to grow in numbers. We **need** that second sheet of ice in order to meet the needs of both programs.

Frankly, expanding the court space is not as good of an investment as expanding the ice rink. The current rink returns more money per tax dollar than any other facility while the gym is one of the least cost efficient facilities. This was pointed out at the meeting at the beginning of the summer. Additionally, I and other non-residents of Bowie pay more to use the rink than non-residents. If the 2nd sheet is added, more people will be inclined to come to Bowie for their child's hockey or figure skating training, increasing the cost return even more as non-residents pay more for classes and fees.

Having a large and competitive ice rink will also attract tourism to the city. Recently, we had to turn down the opportunity to host a national competition because there wasn't enough time to spare without taking it away from the hockey teams. With two sheets, we will be able to host larger figure skating competitions and hockey tournaments. Visitors from out of state would flock to Bowie hotels and spend their money in places like the Bowie Town Center, stimulating the city's economy. This is a huge business opportunity that I encourage the city to take advantage of.

I also believe it is worth noting that the University of Maryland's Synchronized Skating Team (of which I am a member) reserves ice time at Bowie over the summer. We have been looking to move to a new facility because Herbert Well's Ice Arena does not stay open throughout our entire season. The current space at Bowie has no room for us; however, we would be open to moving to Bowie if another sheet of ice was added.

While I recognize that there is a need for more courts, the ice rink is definitely a wiser business investment for the city's residents and economy. The courts should be placed on a site of their own if there is still support for their construction.

I encourage the city to act fast so the costs of this endeavor don't increase more than they already have. Quick action is desperately needed as the current ice facility broke down over the summer, delaying its opening, costing the city \$25,000 in damages and repair. Coaches dependent on their paychecks from summer camps also lost money as multiple sessions had to be canceled. We need a new facility before more accidents and equipment failures suck up the city's budget and cause members of our programs to seek different rinks.

Awilda Hernandez

From: CROSBY, Karen <KCROSBY@childrensnational.org>
Sent: Monday, September 18, 2017 4:18 PM
To: Awilda Hernandez
Cc: skatecrosby@verizon.net
Subject: Proposed Indoor Sport Facility

Dear Council Members,

My name is Karen Crosby and I am a 21 year resident of the City of Bowie. I would like to voice my opinion on the Proposed Indoor Sports Facility. My parents took me to Bowie Ice Arena when I was 3 years old (this was over 40 years ago!). Needless to say I fell in love with figure skating. Though my skating has taken me to MNCPPC Wells Ice Rink in College Park, due to that facility opening in the mid 1970's and was closer for my parents, my first encounter with skating was at Bowie Ice Arena. I am currently a contracted figure skating instructor with the Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission at Herbert Wells Ice Rink, however, I have had the privilege and honor of teaching ice skating at Bowie Ice Arena when additional instructors were needed. The management, skating director and staff instructors have been nothing but professional, accommodating, kind, and welcoming. Your staff at Bowie Ice Arena is to be commended, they are FANTASTIC; and because they are fantastic, they need to remain EMPLOYED AND ACTIVE at Bowie Ice Arena. Meaning a 18 to 24 month closure of Bowie Ice Arena IS NOT AN OPTION to update an aging facility!!!!!!

Bowie Ice Arena's skating director, Christine Brinton, is Ice Sports Industry District 4 (Maryland, Delaware, Virginia) Director and has worked tirelessly to promote and grow the sport of ice skating within the DC Metro Area, particularly at Bowie Ice Arena. A lengthy shut down of Bowie Ice Arena would be detrimental to their skating program. I DO NOT WANT TO SEE THEIR PROGRAMS COLLAPSE. I have private lesson students that attend Bowie Ice Arena's summer skating camps and my students look forward to skating camp every year. They, too, love the staff, facility and friendships gained.

Although I teach skating during the winter months primarily at MNCPPC Wells, I frequently use Bowie Ice Arena to teach my private lesson students even during the winter months. My private lesson students are not City of Bowie residents and pay higher fees to use Bowie Ice Arena but they do not mind paying the extra money because of the fabulous staff and facility. MNCPPC Wells Ice Rink operates seasonally. This means the facility operates from October to April. My private lesson students use Bowie Ice Arena during the summer and early fall months to keep up with their skating abilities. During the months of May and June when Bowie Ice Arena conducts their yearly maintenance, I am forced, along with my students, to use Piney Orchard Ice Arena. While the staff at Piney Orchard are accommodating, it is much further for myself and students to travel to. In addition to myself, there are several other instructors from the DC Metro area, whose skating rinks are also seasonal, who also use Piney Orchard during May and June. Therefore, teaching at one of only indoor facilities East of Interstate 95, can be challenging for both students and instructors. I'll be honest, I would much rather have my students spend money in Bowie than in other town/city, maybe because I'm a Bowie resident ☺.

Having, specifically, a 2 ice surface facility within the City of Bowie would prove to be worth every penny. With 2 ice surfaces, one surface would be able to undergo its 2 month maintenance while the other surface could maintain operations at least in part. With 2 ice surfaces, your ISI District 4 Director/Bowie Skating Director can sanction and host an Ice Sport Industry National Competition. Your USA Hockey director and coaches can host Regional and National Hockey Tournaments. The facility would also be able to launch an Adult Hockey League. The potential to bring significant income to Bowie businesses really goes without saying. In addition, the ice sports industry is moving forward in its ability to help/assist disabled individuals fulfill their dream of skating, through the use of technology. For example, currently at MNCPPC Wells Ice Rink, the facility has been able to launch a pilot program with specially designed

equipment to help those learn how to "skate" with both physical and mental disabilities. Due to nature of the program it takes 2 or more staff to assist one student. Due to this ratio of personnel to student, the "Adaptive Skating Program" at Wells is limited to a few students. Bowie Ice Arena could possibly launch a similar program, thus, helping to expand this awesome program in the DC Metro area. Another example is currently at The Gardens Ice House in Laurel, in which men and women who do not have use of their legs are able to play ice hockey with the use of specially designed sleds. The ability to expand ice sports in ways which were not even conceivable or available 10-15 years ago is mind blowing. So, you see, there is so much more a 2 ice-surface facility could offer along with the ability to service and meet the needs of citizens (of both Bowie and neighboring towns) is limitless.

Thank you for allowing me to voice my opinion. I trust the City Council will consider not only the services and needs of its own citizens but also of those outside city limits. Thank you for your time.

Respectfully,
Karen Crosby
Meadowbrook Resident

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Awilda Hernandez

From: Shani Bagley <sbagley@nays Shay.com>
Sent: Monday, September 18, 2017 7:49 PM
To: Awilda Hernandez
Subject: Bowie Ice Rink

Good afternoon. I live in the City of Bowie at 13917 Heatherstone Dr., and am writing to express my support to fully fund building 2 sheets of ice in Bowie. My family uses the rink at least 2 times a week. It has been a wonderful place for my daughter to be introduced to figure skating and become a part of a wonderful community of skaters.

The late open this summer caused a major disruption in our summer plans, and the plans of the families that I recommended attend the summer camp.

We rely on the skating rink for exercise and community, and are looking forward to a reliable, and continually functioning space

We would skate more often, but the limited availability of public skate does not allow for her to practice after school.

After reviewing carefully the various memos and analysis, it seems that the ice rink is the only city service that is able to consistently recoup 75% of the costs. This, and the possibility of profits down the road, should be factored into any decision.

--

Regards,
SHÁNI BAGLEY, CAE, PMP
www.shanibagley.com
Twitter [@ShaniBagley](https://twitter.com/ShaniBagley) | LinkedIn/[ShaniBagley](https://www.linkedin.com/in/ShaniBagley)
202-271-0112

**WRITTEN STATEMENT FOR CLOSING A MEETING
UNDER THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT**

Date: 9/18/17 Time: 9:37pm Location: C4182 Motion to close meeting made by: Gardner
Seconded by Marcos Members voting in favor: Robinson, Truth, Gardner, Marcos
Polansky, Estene Opposed: _____ Abstaining: _____ Absent: Glass

STATUTORY AUTHORITY TO CLOSE SESSION, General Provisions Article, §3-305(b) (check all that apply):

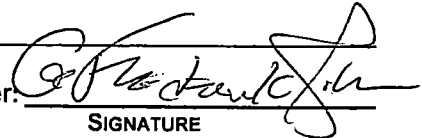
- ☐ (1) To discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom this public body has jurisdiction; or any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals;
- ☐ (2) To protect the privacy or reputation of individuals concerning a matter not related to public business;
- ☐ (3) To consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related thereto;
- ☐ (4) To consider a matter that concerns the proposal for a business or industrial organization to locate, expand, or remain in the State;
- ☐ (5) To consider the investment of public funds;
- ☐ (6) To consider the marketing of public securities;
- ☐ (7) To consult with counsel to obtain legal advice on a legal matter;
- ☐ (8) To consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending or potential litigation;
- ☒ (9) To conduct collective bargaining negotiations or consider matters that relate to the negotiations;
- ☐ (10) To discuss public security, if the public body determines that public discussion would constitute a risk to the public or to public security, including: (i) the deployment of fire and police services and staff; and (ii) the development and implementation of emergency plans;
- ☐ (11) To prepare, administer, or grade a scholastic, licensing, or qualifying examination;
- ☐ (12) To conduct or discuss an investigative proceeding on actual or possible criminal conduct;
- ☐ (13) To comply with a specific constitutional, statutory, or judicially imposed requirement that prevents public disclosures about a particular proceeding or matter;
- ☐ (14) Before a contract is awarded or bids are opened, to discuss a matter directly related to a negotiating strategy or the contents of a bid or proposal, if public discussion or disclosure would adversely impact the ability of the public body to participate in the competitive bidding or proposal process.

FOR EACH CITATION CHECKED ABOVE, THE REASONS FOR CLOSING AND TOPICS TO BE DISCUSSED:

§3-305(b) (9) To discuss collective bargaining negotiations.

§3-305(b) () _____

§3-305(b) () _____

This statement is made by Maya Robinson, Presiding Officer: 
SIGNATURE

WORKSHEET FOR USE IN CLOSED SESSION (CHECKLIST OF DISCLOSURES TO BE MADE IN MINUTES OF NEXT REGULAR MEETING- NOT A PART OF THE CLOSING STATEMENT)

PERSONS ATTENDING CLOSED SESSION: Robinson, Gardner, Marcos, Truth, Polansky, Estene, Lott, Fitzwater

TOPICS ACTUALLY DISCUSSED Collective Bargaining Negotiations Haley, Levan

ACTION(S) TAKEN (IF ANY) AND RECORDED VOTES: _____

TIME CLOSED SESSION ADJOURNED: 9:55 pm

PLACE OF CLOSED SESSION Bowie City Hall

PURPOSE OF CLOSED SESSION: To discuss collective bargaining negotiations

STATUTORY AUTHORITY FOR THE CLOSED SESSION: §3-305(b) (9); () ; ()

MEMBERS WHO VOTED TO CLOSE: Robinson, Gardner, Marcos, Truth, Polansky, Estene