



City of Bowie

15901 Excalibur Road
Bowie, Maryland 20716

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, APRIL 20, 2020

CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

The Regular Meeting of the Bowie City Council was held on Monday, April 20, 2020 virtually. Mayor Adams called the meeting to order at 8:01 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG:

Mayor Adams led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

QUORUM:

In attendance were Mayor Adams, Councilmembers Boafu, Esteve, Gardner, Harrison, Ndebumadu and Woolfley, City Manager Lott, Assistant City Manager Mears, City Attorney Levan, City Clerk Hernandez, and Staff.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION:

1. Terry Glaze, Grason Ln – Comment attached.
2. Cheryl Hicks, Woodmore Highlands – Comment attached.
3. Viola Underdue, District 3 Resident – Comment attached.
4. Michael Doaks, District 3 Resident – Comment attached.
5. David Oni, Woodmore Highlands – Comment attached.
6. Amy Bogan – Comment attached.
7. Shani Bagley, Old Stage – Comment attached.
8. Michael Brown, Duncannon Ct – Comment attached.
9. Michael Gorman, Althea Ln – Comment attached.
10. Karen Williamson, District 3 Resident – Comment attached.
11. JoAnn Marshall-Hobbs, District 3 Resident – Comment attached.
12. Narvell Hall, District 3 Resident – Comment attached.
13. Isabel Pocurull, Huntington Heritage Society – Comment attached.
14. Cornell Young, District 3 Resident – Comment attached.
15. Lori Jones, President Bowie Hockey Club – Comment attached.
16. Bryan McCormick, District 1 Resident – Comment attached.
17. Gail Elkins, Dunwood Ridge Terr – Comment attached.
18. Brenda James, District 3 Resident – Comment attached.
19. Justin Rhim, District 4 Resident – Comment attached.
20. Kevin Mayes, District 1 Resident – Comment attached.
21. Nicole Belle, District 4 Resident – Comment attached.
22. Milly Hall, District 3 Resident – Comment attached.
23. John McCoy, District 3 Resident – Comment attached.

COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mayor Adams reminded residents to keep safe during this pandemic.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

City Manager Lott reported that City employees are working safely and diligently during the pandemic.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Mayor Pro Tem Boafu moved the approval of Consent Agenda Items: A) Approval of January 21 Meeting minutes; B) Approval of Proclamation P-2-20 Proclaiming April 25, 2020 as Arbor Day in Bowie; C) Approval of Resolution R-27-20 Waiving the Competitive Bidding Requirements of Section 61 "purchasing and Contracting" of the Charter of the City of Bowie Authorizing the City Manager to Enter Into an Agreement With Columbia Telecommunications Corporation D/B/A CTC Technology & Energy for the Design and Engineering of a Redundancy of the City's Fiber Network. Councilmember Woolfley seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0-1 (Mayor Adams abstained from voting, citing that he has done business with CTC Technology in the past).

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Approval of Letters to Prince George's County Council and Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission in reference to their FY 2021 Budgets and Allen Pond Park Regional Amenity Budget Support.

Mayor Pro Tem Boafu made a motion to amend the letter to the County Council to include wording on the City donating land needed to straighten the dangerous s-curves on Church Road. Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Mayor Pro Tem Boafu made a motion to send the letters with the amendment to the County. Councilmember Esteve seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

B. Bowie IcePlex Discussion – Mr. Alvin McNeal with M-NCPPC briefed Council on a potential partnership with M-NCPPC to provide alternative uses of the second sheet of ice to allow for dry court space during off-peak ice time and bolster off-season revenues. If the City decides to go this route there is potential for schedule impacts and cost impacts of approximately 25% increase. The process will involve an MOU between the City, County and the State since some funding would be used from the State.

Mayor Pro Tem Boafu asked what the timeframe is to consider this process. Mr. McNeal responded that it could be added to this upcoming fiscal year's Capital Improvement Program that will be adopted by the County Council in June.

Councilmember Harrison asked where would the funding of this additional cost be coming from. Mr. McNeal responded that it will be from the State but does not have exact amounts needed until further discussion is had by staff.

Councilmember Woolfley asked if the Tucker Road center still on schedule to reopen at the end of this year. Mr. McNeal responded yes, and it is being opened with just one sheet but infrastructure for two sheets is there, lack of funding preventing doing both sheets at this time.

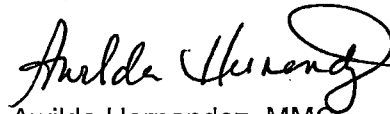
April 20, 2020

Mayor Adams thanked Mr. McNeal for his presentation.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Pro Tem Boafo moved to adjourn the Regular City Council meeting and move to Budget Worksession #2. Councilmember Woolfley seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 9:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Awilda Hernandez", with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Awilda Hernandez, MMC
City Clerk

Awilda Hernandez

From: Dufour Woolfley <dwoolfley@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 13, 2020 7:59 PM
To: Awilda Hernandez
Subject: {EXTERNAL}

Hello Dufour,

I'm writing you regarding the City of Bowie letter about replacing the trees in Gradys Walk.

I know we lose a tree every now and then, but the beautiful canopy of trees is one of the reasons we chose to move to Gradys Walk.

Please don't cut down our beautiful trees & replace them with new small trees that will take years to mature.

I encourage everyone voting to please take a drive through our neighborhood this week to enjoy the beautiful flowering trees. Gradys Walk is one of the most beautiful neighborhoods anywhere, please don't take away our beautiful canopy.

Thank you,

Terry Glaze

11904 Grason Lane

Sent from my iPhone

Awilda Hernandez

From: Cheryl Hicks <dmvonfire@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 15, 2020 8:07 PM
To: cityclerk; hallmilly
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Ice arena budget

Hello,

I was told by the treasurer of the Woodmore Highlands HOA that your offices are doing some unethical things with the budget on the ice arena. It was unfair in the first place that a decision was made for that facility without the full input of all residents. In Bowie we already have an ice arena that is just fine however we also need a basketball facility. The existing one in Bowie town center is NEVER available when we need it. We need another facility for all of the different teams in the area who participate in the Boys and Girls Club programs. Soccer, basketball, lacrosse, and track sports all need additional space to use that's indoors. It's so unfair the way this was voted. Now more money is being put into this arena. I hope that with all the taxes that we pay in Bowie, that in the near future you will find funds to build that basketball facility. As a long time Bowie resident I pray that every resident can have a say in what comes next.

Thank you. Cheryl Hicks

Awilda Hernandez

From: Viola Underdue <viola.underdue@verizon.net>
Sent: Saturday, April 18, 2020 3:10 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}; Need to Stop Construction on Ice Arena; Consider Indoor Pools and Basketball Courts

To the Mayor of Bowie: My name is Viola Underdue I live in District 3. I'm not thrilled with the possibility that we have a proposed ice skate arena that is going to cost more than what we have in our city's budget. Additionally, it will not bring in enough revenues to maintain the ice skate arenas. It doesn't take a genius to figure out that this will lead to a tax increase for the Bowie residents.. It has also been stated on more than one occasion, that the previous city council bended to the will of many outsiders that aren't Bowie residents. I also believe that we have a clear case of "bait and switch." The residents were baited with an ice arena that included several sheets of ice and several basketball courts. However, when the contract was signed, the basketball courts were not included. The City Council in an effort to appease it's angry residents, gave the residents an empty promise of an additional facility with courts. Meanwhile; we have this ice skate arena being built in my neighborhood to benefit mostly non Bowie residents, that will not share in the tax burden, nor the traffic congestion. I recommend that we halt the construction of the arena; conduct a study to determine if a multiplex sports center that has indoor swimming and basketball courts would be more beneficial to our residents, and a better use of our tax dollars. Currently, we only have pools that require membership. We need a public pool, for our residents

Thank you.

Awilda Hernandez

From: Michael Doaks <michaeladoaks@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, April 19, 2020 1:10 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Ice Arena Funding

Dear City of Bowie Mayor and City Council,

I have been a resident of the City of Bowie for 24 years. I moved here because of the peaceful setting, diverse population and excellent services delivered by the City. I realized at settlement for my home that as a resident I would be required to pay a special city tax in addition to that imposed by the State and the county. I was willing to do so for the amenities and services that came with the location. What I did not sign up for was to have my already high taxes increased to pay for a costly and unnecessary recreational facility for which there is no funding except through borrowing funding by way of issuing bonds. There are much greater priorities (i.e., schools, roadway improvements, senior housing) in the city than an ice skating rink. It is my understanding that the City Council insists on pushing through funding for this project amid COVID-19 when the state and the county have made it clear that there will be significant funding cuts as a result of the economic fallout of this pandemic. Gov. Hogan has made it clear that the state's rainy-day fund is depleted and that there will be no new approved spending (such as the recently passed education initiative). Why in the world would our city council even consider new spending for an ice rink during this crisis?! I thought we elected people that could be depended upon to act judiciously and responsibly with taxpayer dollars. This is not the time to load on unfunded spending items to the city budget. The future is too uncertain given these times, which is being compared by some prominent economists to the Great Depression. I would encourage the council to not act carelessly with the economic health of the city and to instead act cautiously and conservatively. This is a time for common sense spending decisions and not a time for funding wish list items such as an ice skating rink.

Sincerely,
Michael A. Doaks
District 3 Resident

Awilda Hernandez

From: david oni <daveoni@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, April 19, 2020 3:32 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: We need smart investment in church street

Dear Mayor Adam and Bowie city council staffers. I am sending the email to voice my concerns over the construction of ice arena on church street . My name is David Oni , I am your neighbor and a concern citizen of Bowie.

Quick questions sir .I will like know the economic importance of building an ice arena in our neighborhood and what we as church street dwellers stand to benefit in the long run. I am of the opinion that the proposed site should be converted into recreational center or sport center that will benefit our kids and property owners in the community. I am all for developments in our community , but is has to be a smart investment.

Sir, we need more social investment which we are seriously lacking in church street . We need to be very strategic with our resources and invest tax payers money on projects that will benefit city dwellers . That being said, I will like Mayor Adams and city staffers to please reconsider this project by providing church street dwellers what they really need and how these investment can up lift our community.

Sincerely
David Oni

Awilda Hernandez

From: Hotmail <kidney.nurse@hotmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, April 19, 2020 8:35 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Monday meeting

To address the additional traffic on Church Road caused by the ice rink, please consider extending Church Road to 450 by the Lidl grocery store. This more direct route would bypass the curves and blind spots on Church Road near the Old Stage and Westview neighborhoods. The existing road could be used as a service road for those who live along Church Road, in the neighborhoods off Church Road, and the existing church.

This would be the safest alternative.

Amy Bogan

Sent from my iPhone

Awilda Hernandez

From: Shani Bagley <sbagley@nayshay.com>
Sent: Monday, April 20, 2020 2:08 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}; Ice Rink Proposal
Attachments: Indoor Court Facility Construction Options(ForCouncilPackageRev6).pdf

Please include for citizen participation in today's council meeting.

Good evening Mr. Mayor and Members of the Council. My name is Shani Bagley, and I reside in the Old Stage section of Bowie. I have reviewed the presentation that is planned for today's Council Meeting regarding the ice rink, and I am concerned about the direction, budget implications, and impacts to a potential courts facility. By my understanding, this proposes we spend 25% more on the project for a few months of off-season access to courts.

This proposal, if accepted, would cost at least \$5.5 million dollars, with minimal benefit for the courts community. In November 2018, the Council heard a presentation on options for a new indoor courts facility (attached to this message). At least three of the options listed would give city residents access to year-round courts for **less** than the additional projected cost of this proposal. Why would we settle for off-season courts when year-round solutions are available at, or near, the same cost? Bowie residents and the courts community deserve better.

Please! No more delays, and no more votes on the Bowie IcePlex. This issue has been litigated for years already. The rink is under construction. You, Mayor Adams, and members of the council must collectively accept this decision, and instead work to ensure the IcePlex is a successful and thriving resource for Bowie residents. You must also serve the Bowie courts community, and begin working in earnest to build a year-round courts facility.

Regards,
SHANI BAGLEY
T: 202.271.0112 | sbagley@nayshay.com
Twitter @ShaniBagley | LinkedIn /ShaniBagley

Awilda Hernandez

From: michael brown <mbrowntv@msn.com>
Sent: Monday, April 20, 2020 3:49 PM
To: cityclerk
Cc: Timothy Adams; countyexecutive@co.pg.md.us; councildistrict4@co.pg.md.us; Council District 1; CouncilDistrict9@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict7@co.pg.md.us; Council District 8; At-LargeMemberFranklin; CouncilDistrict5@co.pg.md.us; Derrick Leon Davis; councildistrict2@co.pg.md.us; Dannielle Glaros; At-LargeMemberHawkins@co.pg.md.us; Adrian Boafo; Henri Gardner; Ingrid Harrison; Michael Esteve; Dufour Woolfley; Rosann Ndebumadu
Subject: {EXTERNAL}; ICEPLEX - CITIZEN PARTICIPATION- Michael Brown

Good Evening Mayor Adams, Council Members and Staff,

After attending several meetings and speaking directly to the Council concerning the Dual Ice Rink Project in Bowie I find it insulting to discover that the approved county budget of 24.2 million for the Dual Ice Rink has been increased to 28,682,800 million.

I won't waste your time to list why this feels wrong on many levels. I don't believe the Council cares at all for the concerns of the residents of District 3. The Council appears to be completely on the side of the developers and the ice skating community.

The entire state of Maryland is now in crisis with COVID-19 and a proposed increase is moving forward for this Dual Ice Rink? There are other areas in Bowie that could surely benefit from this proposed increase for the Dual Ice Rinks. Why is there an increase to what was previously approved?

I'm still amazed at how our taxes will support this project that few people in District 3 wanted. District 3 is supporting a state of the art ice facility for a majority of the supporters who don't live here because the old rink at Allen Pond has fallen into disrepair. I've never gotten an answer as to why the Project had to be here.

I also haven't heard what will be done for District 3. After attending hearings on this Project whenever the subject of Basketball courts came up after a few questions and statements it seemed to just be something that would be discussed at a later date and then right back to the business at hand. Dual Ice Rinks. If Basketball courts are a toxic subject than maybe an indoor swimming pool or tennis courts? Something for District 3 other than just appeasing the Ice community at our expense of traffic and taxes to name a few things.

I would also like to add that when an option was mentioned for Basketball, Volleyball, Pickleball and indoor Soccer could occupy one Rink in the "off season" a local figure skating coach says in a publication that's not an option as the skaters train all year round. I sincerely hope the Council is not taking that into account as to how this facility will be operated.

Awilda Hernandez

From: mmgorman@wiscorp.com
Sent: Monday, April 20, 2020 3:57 PM
To: Awilda Hernandez
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: FW: My initial concerns that absolutely need to be answered clearly, directly, and accurately.

- How did this presentation come to the City?
(<https://www.cityofbowie.org/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Item/3411?fileID=8935>)
- If the Mayor, did he contact MNCPPC directly? Did the Council request that he contact the MNCPPC. If so, when? Which Council meeting and was it a Motion?
- Where did this presentation come from? Which organization authorized the presentation to be created? Who funded the presentation's creation?
- How long would it take to answer the questions or implied cost figures in the back of the presentation. Who would do the analysis? How would that be paid for?
- Has the MNCPPC agreed to re-open its Capital Improvements Program budget to add say, about \$28 to \$30 million?
- Is it the City Council's intentions to pass a Stop Work Motion? What are the costs to the city from the Contractor for stopping the work?
- If yes, what has the City budgeted to defend against the Lawsuit? The contractor expenses to date are likely between \$6 and \$9 million. How will this be paid? Has that money been put into the budget?
- Which Council meeting conducted that hearing. What was the Motion? When passed and who voted Yes or No on the motion?
- Presentation pages 11 – 14 show that the original objective of the building will essentially be destroyed. There are no locker rooms, no Snack bar, No stands for participants. Lowered income, and a likely way too low cost increase of 25%. Thus, from \$24 million to \$30+ million.

Awilda Hernandez

From: mmgorman@wiscorp.com
Sent: Monday, April 20, 2020 4:10 PM
To: Awilda Hernandez
Subject: RE: {EXTERNAL}: FW: My initial concerns that absolutely need to be answered clearly, directly, and accurately.

Michael M. Gorman,

2008 Althea Lane
Bowie, Maryland 20716
Voice: 1-301-249-1142
Mobile: 1-301-706-5885
Web: www.wiscorp.com

From: Awilda Hernandez <ahernandez@cityofbowie.org>
Sent: Monday, April 20, 2020 4:09 PM
To: mmgorman@wiscorp.com
Subject: RE: {EXTERNAL}: FW: My initial concerns that absolutely need to be answered clearly, directly, and accurately.

Thank you for your comment, please send me your name and address for the record in order to get recognized.

Thank you.

Awilda Hernandez, MMC
City Clerk
City of Bowie
www.cityofbowie.org

From: mmgorman@wiscorp.com <mmgorman@wiscorp.com>
Sent: Monday, April 20, 2020 3:57 PM
To: Awilda Hernandez <ahernandez@cityofbowie.org>
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: FW: My initial concerns that absolutely need to be answered clearly, directly, and accurately.

- How did this presentation come to the City?
(<https://www.cityofbowie.org/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Item/3411?fileID=8935>)
- If the Mayor, did he contact MNCPPC directly? Did the Council request that he contact the MNCPPC. If so, when? Which Council meeting and was it a Motion?
- Where did this presentation come from? Which organization authorized the presentation to be created? Who funded the presentation's creation?

Awilda Hernandez

From: K. Williamson <williamsonkl@msn.com>
Sent: Monday, April 20, 2020 4:03 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: (EXTERNAL): Citizen Participation - Bowie City Council Meeting 04/20/2020

To the Honorable Mayor Adams and Bowie Councilmen,
Good afternoon!

I am sending this email to serve as my citizen's participation concerns for the council meeting tonight 04/20/2020. I am a resident in District#3 of Bowie. I live in the Woodmore Highlands community. I am voicing my continued concerns for the development of the ice rink to be located at Church Road. There are a few major points I would like to address:

- The Coronavirus and COVID-19 are going to be a major burden on the City of Bowie resources and its residents. To continue this development at this time is a true waste of the precious and very limited resources of our city. We should expect for our city and community to be hit with major financial impacts. \$23-25 Million dollars has been allocated to an ice rink, which probably can't be used any time soon before there is some tested and proven virus vaccine.
- The Bowie City truly needs to enhance our citizen safety measures and responses given the impact that any virus or natural disaster could have on our area. We clearly need to refocus on this community. I am beginning to think that emails and websites of information are not enough. And not to be funny, no one would have ever considered finding and securing home paper products to be a community issue. Things like this and more need to be considered. We now know that PANIC is real. We need better plans and executions.
- Lastly, I continue to be concerned with, if the ice rink development is to continue, this plan has never really served our community enough. Bowie city residences deserve to have recreational facilities that will be opened and used by our residences. We lack city pools, play areas, and sporting/entertainment facility opportunities given that our community continues to grow and these types of venues need to be in planned transit area for easier access.

Thank you for reading my concerns and combining them in the scope of concerned citizens for our community.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Karen Williamson
District 3 resident near Church Rd.
williamsonkl@msn.com

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

Awilda Hernandez

From: JoAnn Marshall-Hobbs <jhobbs@exclusys.com>
Sent: Monday, April 20, 2020 5:33 PM
To: cityclerk
Cc: Adrian Boaf; Timothy Adams
Subject: (EXTERNAL): Citizen Participation Statement

Good evening Mayor Adams, Council members and City Staff,

My name is JoAnn Marshall-Hobbs and I live in District 3 in Bowie.

Thank you for your service to Bowie, I appreciate all that you do for the City and residents.

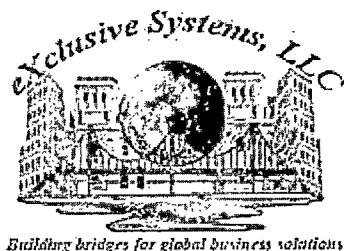
I read on the Bowie Living Blog (bowielivingblog.com) that tonight's meeting will include a presentation about repurposing a portion of the new Bowie IcePlex for non-ice recreation uses. I am interested to hear how the proposal will address the expected traffic increase on Church Road and the dry court capacity issue.

In the study that was conducted for a Bowie sports facility; 36.7% of the Bowie residents participated in basketball (ranking 2nd only to swimming compared to ice hockey whose participation from Bowie residents was 22% and ranked 7th). Seventy-five percent (75%) of the residents were in favor of an indoor sports facility. As you are aware, Bowie is currently not meeting the dry court demands for various activities (basketball, pickleball, volley ball, etc). Adding dry courts would be beneficial to all Bowie residents ranging from the youth to senior citizens.

I am in favor of a dry court solution and I respectfully request that you pursue including this option.

Regards,

JoAnn Marshall-Hobbs
eXclusive Systems, LLC
P.O. Box 518 | Bowie, MD 20718
O: 800.303.2779 | C: 301.538.5677 | F: 301.218.6337
E: jhobbs@exclusys.com
W: exclusys.com



Awilda Hernandez

From: hallna@verizon.net
Sent: Monday, April 20, 2020 5:45 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Bowie Ice Complex (Citizen Participation)

To: The Mayor of Bowie, and the City Council

Being a resident of Bowie for 22 years, I would like to Highlight some concerns and issues I have concerning the proposed building of the new Bowie Ice Complex on Church Road;

*Funding - There is no city budget funding for this project and money has to be borrowed via issuing bonds. Residents tax dollars could be spent more wisely for better and broader community needs.

*Priorities - I would wager that the majority of the Bowie residents would not consider this a priority. Higher needs are infrastructure, schools, smarter development, etc.

*Location - Church Road is currently challenged with increasing traffic. With ongoing and proposed new housing developments; It's being used more and more as a thru way to get to major highways leaving Bowie. Most of us are aware of the unfortunate fatal accident to one of the youth residents in this specific area.

*Current Covid - 19 Situation - As federal and state funding are taking a major hit due to Coronavirus, now is the time to pause, be conservative, look at decisions made Pre Covid -19, and make necessary changes/adjustments to funding/borrowing, like the rest of citizens, companies and all levels of government.

In summary, I do not see the immediate need to build this Ice Complex. The Covid -19 Situation will definitely affect usage and possible events there. As mentioned above in my earlier entries, there are better ways to utilize citizens tax dollars, and higher priorities.

Sincerely,

Narvell Hall

Resident of District 3

Awilda Hernandez

From: Isabel Pocurull <auntizzi@verizon.net>
Sent: Monday, April 20, 2020 5:54 PM
To: Timothy Adams; Adrian Boafu; Henri Gardner; Michael Esteve; Dufour Woolfley; Rosann Ndebumadu
Cc: Awilda Hernandez
Subject: (EXTERNAL): ADDENDUM Re: Huntington Heritage Society Statement to City of Bowie re FY 2021 Budget

To Mayor Adams and Bowie City Council Members:

The Huntington Heritage Society submits the following addendum to our statement read at the City Council FY 2021 Budget meeting held on April 13, 2020. With regard to the Bowie Heritage Trail project we should have said that though we were happy to see some funding for the trail project covered in the proposed 2021 budget, we are however disappointed that you are not hearing us when we say we want to see full funding. We indicated in our statement at the Bowie Listening Session held at the Huntington Community Center on February 13 that this project has been in the making for almost 20 years and Phase 2 (Railroad Museum Improvements "Grace Fielder Design") is being pushed off by six years. This should not be. We know the permits are in hand and Fielder's plans are approved. All it takes now is to fund. The City of Bowie and the City Council have shown support for our history and heritage and we greatly appreciate this. We would very much like for the City Council to take this to its fruition and also fund this phase of project in the FY 2021 budget. Our Railroad Museum is a small gem – let us add to its appeal with funding to complete the Heritage Trail.

Thank you, Isabel Pocurull
Huntington Heritage Society

-----Original Message-----

From: Isabel Pocurull <auntizzi@verizon.net>
To: ahernandez@cityofbowie.org <ahernandez@cityofbowie.org>
Sent: Mon, Apr 13, 2020 6:52 pm
Subject: Huntington Heritage Society Statement to City of Bowie re FY 2021 Budget

Hello Ms. Hernandez,

Please find attached a statement from the Huntington Heritage Society to be presented to the City Council at tonight's budget hearing.

Be well and safe.

Thank you, Isabel Pocurull

Awilda Hernandez

From: Cornell Young <c.young310@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 20, 2020 6:11 PM
To: cityclerk
Cc: Timothy Adams
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Citizenship Participation, Church Road Recreation Facilities

Good evening City Council & Mayor Adams,

My name is Cornell Young, and I am 27 years old from the District 3 area. I have lived in Bowie, Maryland for the majority of my life. Building another basketball facility beside the Bowie City Gym was something I have always wanted to see done in Bowie, Maryland. However, I have yet to see that take place. I'm moving out of my parents home to Upper Marlboro this summer (buying my first house) partially because I could not believe that the Council was considering moving forward with the Hockey sheets. One day I would like to move back to Bowie, but that depends surely on the outcome of this manner.

Best,

Cornell Young

Awilda Hernandez

From: Lori Jones <lorimjones@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, April 20, 2020 6:12 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Bowie IcePlex

Dear City Clerk,

I would like to submit the following to be read at the City Council meeting tonight.

Thank you.

Lori Jones

Dear Mayor and City Council Members,

Prayers and best wishes to all to stay safe and healthy during this pandemic crisis.

Bowie Hockey Club is excited to see the weekly progress pictures and construction updates on the Bowie IcePlex that Costello Construction and the Bowie Ice Arena provide to our members. The reality of two sheets of ice is finally here and Bowie Hockey Club looks forward to expanding our in season programming and the ability to offer year round ice options.

While the Multi-Purpose Sports Complex is a nice afterthought, we can't stop or pause the construction of the new Bowie IcePlex. The current Bowie Ice Arena is well past its useful life and any stoppage or pause on the new Bowie IcePlex construction will seriously jeopardize Bowie Hockey Club's future growth. Bowie Hockey Club celebrates 50 years in 2021 and is one of the oldest youth hockey clubs in the District, Maryland and Virginia area. We look forward to another 50 years in our new home, the Bowie IcePlex.

Bowie Hockey Club still supports the courts community receiving additional space for their winter programming but in separate facilities which will adequately support their year round needs.

The Multi-Purpose Sports Complex presentation is missing a price tag which I'm sure would be substantially more than the 25% budget increase stated. For the past 7 years as a Bowie Hockey Club member, I have participated in Bowie IcePlex discussions and the one constant is that delays cost the city money.

Please do not stop or pause the construction of the Bowie IcePlex. The hourly rates for ice are significantly more than dry floor rentals and ice sports are a year round sport.

Thank you to the City Clerk for reading this email and the City Council for listening. Please stay safe and healthy.

Lori Jones
President
Bowie Hockey Club

Awilda Hernandez

From: Bryan McCormick <bemccor@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 20, 2020 6:21 PM
To: cityclerk
Cc: Timothy Adams
Subject: (EXTERNAL): Citizen Participation for Recreation Center on Church Road

Citizen Participation

Good evening Mayor Adams and City Council members, my name is Bryan McCormick I am from District 1. I'm sending this email due to my strong dislike of the City Council potentially bringing another ice Hockey Arena to Bowie. With me being a 18 year Bowie resident, and a 10 year Bowie High School graduate I can attest to the fact that Ice Hockey sheets are not benefiting this community in no way shape or form. Instead, basketball courts would be in high demand. Reason being over the last 15 years the City of Bowie has had 108 of its youth male citizens go off to college to play basketball (https://basketball.realgm.com/info/birth_cities/1520/Bowie-MD-United-States). This is an average of over 7 students per year over the last 15 years going off to college because they were able to practice at facilities such as Bowie City Gym. This number doesn't even include the numerous girls from the City of Bowie who have gone on to play collegiate basketball. With another facility we can keep even more kids off the streets and help send more to college for free!!

Best,

Bryan McCormick, MPS

Gail L. Elkins

3203 Dunwood Ridge Terrace
Bowie, Maryland 20721
(301) 218-8997

April 20, 2020

Timothy Adams, Mayor
Bowie City Council
City of Bowie
15901 Excalibur Road
Bowie, MD 20716
301-809-3029
c/o Cityclerk@cityofbowie.org

Subject: Citizen Participation

Dear Mayor Adams and Councilmembers:

I write on behalf of the three members in my household to object to the construction of the Iceplex on Church Road in District 3. Why not update the ice rink at Allen Pond? That would be a better use of taxpayer dollars as would be a Recreation Center, Swimming Pool or Health and Fitness Center.

Please consider these options as opposed to the Iceplex.

Sincerely,

Gail L. Elkins

Awilda Hernandez

From: Brenda James <barbarol@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, April 20, 2020 6:29 PM
To: cityclerk
Cc: barbarol@aol.com
Subject: (EXTERNAL): Citizen Participation - Iceplex

Citizen Participation
Brenda James
District 3
Subject: Iceplex

Good evening Mayor Adams, Council members and Staff

I am writing to request that the City of Bowie reconsider plans approved by the prior administration for the Iceplex. I believe we all agree that more recreational activities are needed in Bowie but we need plans and actions that reflect what is appropriate for the the citizens of Bowie. The Iceplex always had a low priority based on prior studies and will serve a very small portion of our citizens. Please use the available funds for recreational activities such as swimming pools, courts, and indoor recreational activities.

Do not make the Iceplex a financial burden for the citizens of Bowie. Give us the recreational activities that first benefit our youth and community.

Brenda James

Awilda Hernandez

From: Justin Rhim <j.rhimap@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 20, 2020 6:31 PM
To: cityclerk
Cc: Timothy Adams
Subject: (EXTERNAL): Citizen Participation - Church Rd Recreation Facility

Citizen Participation

Good evening Mayor Adams and City Council members, my name is Justin Rhim, I am 28 years old from the District 4 area. Basketball means alot to the city of Bowie, Maryland. I haved lived in Bowie, Maryland since I was 10 years old. For 15 years under my parents roof, and for 3 years I have lived on my own in Bowie. Yes, Bowie impressed me so much growing up I decided to buy a house here because I wanted to raise my family here. However, I'm having second thoughts, solely because I noticed that my ever annual raising tax dollars are being used to fund an ice hockey facility that nobody in the community wants or desires. I have so many friends from Bowie who went on to play collegiately and we all over the years have said Bowie needs another recreation basketball facility. Kevin Durant is from Prince Georges County, and has used facilities such as Bowie Gym to hone in on his talent. He has co produced a movie coming out called "Basketball County: In the Water" debuting on the Showtime Network on May 15th 2020; this documentary will talk about how Prince Georges County has the most NBA Players from one couny for over a decade long. Some of those present NBA players being from Bowie, Maryland such as Los Angeles Laker Quinn Cook, Denver Nugget Jerami Grant, & Capital City Gogo player JerianGrant. If this doesn't show what the city of Bowie could do with two primary basketball courts nothing will, and I will surely move to another city where they use our tax dollars on choices that make clear obvious sense.

Best,

Justin Rhim

Awilda Hernandez

From: Rico Mayes <ricomayes18@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 20, 2020 6:38 PM
To: cityclerk
Cc: Timothy Adams
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Citizen Participation regarding the Church Rd Recreation Facility

Good evening Mayor Adams and City Council members, my name is Kevin Mayes, I am 26 years old from the District 1 area. This email has been written to speak about the Ice Hockey Facility being constructed on Church Road. Due to me living in Bowie, Maryland for over 14 years, I have seen the importance of another basketball facility in Bowie. Growing up playing at the Bowie City Gym I always had so much fun but yet such a trivial time. We would have sometimes only two courts to play on at Bowie City Gym because of AAU tournaments and due to hundreds of kids being at the gym which led to overcrowding. When I first saw the city was building a recreation center I was excited, when I found out however it was primarily for ice hockey sheets; I was instantly filled with disappointment, confusion, and even regret for wanting to stay in Bowie because clearly ice hockey is not what the community desires. I hope this email find everyone well and that the city council respects taxpayers desires and needs for a basketball facility.

Best,

Kevin Mayes

Awilda Hernandez

From: Nicole Belle, <ncbelle2@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 20, 2020 6:43 PM
To: cityclerk
Cc: Timothy Adams
Subject: (EXTERNAL): Citizen Participation Recreation Center on Church Road

Good evening Mayor Adams and City Council members,

My name is Nicole Belle, I am 27 years old from District 4. I'm sending this email in regard to the potential ice hockey facility being constructed on Church Road. I have lived in Bowie, Maryland for over 20 years, and I can attest to the fact that basketball is important to the Bowie community. I graduated from Bowie High School, class of 2010, and so many of the alumni from that class met originally at basketball courts such as the Bowie City Gym. I grew up playing basketball myself, from playing with the Bowie Boys and Girls Club throughout elementary school, to playing for Bowie Express AAU teams in middle school and high school, and also playing for the Bowie High School team.

While playing basketball growing up, I often had to travel outside of our community to play at larger facilities. Including myself, a lot of my friends and fellow classmates felt that basketball was a huge part of our upbringing and has instilled hard work, discipline, and healthy competition into our lives. Many of those same friends obtained scholarships to play collegiate basketball and have come home to Bowie to give back by volunteering and coaching. Building a multi-faceted sports facility with more basketball courts will continue to give the youth of our community more activities to do, athletic programs to participate in, and to learn so much about themselves through playing a game that they love. It can also allow an opportunity for more of the youth in Bowie to obtain scholarships for college. A large portion of our community would greatly benefit from new basketball facilities. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Nicole Belle

Awilda Hernandez

From: Milly Hall <hallmilly@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, April 20, 2020 6:43 PM
To: cityclerk
Cc: Timothy Adams; Adrian Bofo
Subject: (EXTERNAL): Citizen participation (Ice Plex)

Citizen participation - April 20, 2020.

Good evening Mayor Adams, Council members and staff.

My name is Milly Hall and i've been a proud resident of Bowie, specifically District 3, for over 21 years. While I support smart growth economically within the city, the proposed Ice Plex is highly concerning as I believe this will severely impact the quality of life for the residents within the impacted area instead of benefiting or enhancing the community as a whole. I'm primarily concerned that the current infrastructure will be unable to handle this type of undertaking the proposed scope of work requires. In addition, our state and nation are dealing with a global pandemic due to COVID-19 which has led to a state wide budget freeze on all non essential spending. I would think that our City should follow suit, especially given the fact we do not know how long the current restrictions will last from a safety and economical standpoint.

If this project should continue in the distant future, I strongly feel this facility should at lease include and be shared with a multi-functional sports courts. In previous surveys conducted within the community, many residents were more united and in favor of multi-functional sports courts serving as the most reasonable of new recreational amenities to be added in Bowie.

I appreciate the opportunity to express my opinion and truly hope that the City takes into account the needs of all citizens of Bowie which would include multi functional sports courts.

Regards,

Milly Hall
District 3

Awilda Hernandez

From: John McCoy <jm79075@icloud.com>
Sent: Monday, April 20, 2020 6:52 PM
To: cityclerk
Cc: Timothy Adams
Subject: (EXTERNAL): Citizen Participation for the Church Rd Recreation Facility

Citizen Participation

Good evening City Council & Mayor Adams my name is John McCoy I am 27 years old from the District 3 area. I have lived in Bowie, Maryland for over 15 years. I'm presently in the process of buying a house in either Bowie or Upper Marlboro, but honestly I'm trending towards Upper Marlboro because I can't believe the city is considering a facility for ice hockey or primary ice hockey usage. Over the years I have never, ever, ever heard any youth say they wanted to go play ice hockey in Bowie. Everytime it's mainly them wanting to play basketball but having no facility to use because Bowie Gym is so booked all the time. Long story short, build a basketball gym, it's an obvious market for it.

Best,

John McCoy

Sent from my iPhone