City of Bowie

15901 Excalibur Road
Bowie, Maryland 20716

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, MAY 18, 2020

CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

The Regular Meeting of the Bowie City Council was held on Monday, May 18, 2020 virtually. Mayor Adams called the meeting to order at 8:03 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 Boafo, Esteve, Gardner, Harrison, Ndebumadu and Woolfley, City Manager Lott, Assistant City Manager Mears, City Attorney Levan, City Clerk Hernandez, and Staff.

AGENDA ADDITIONS/DELETIONS/AMENDMENTS:

Mayor Pro Tem Boafo motioned to move Item A Under Old Business, Adoption of FY 21 Budget and CIP to a Special Meeting before May 30. Councilmember Ndebumadu seconded the motion. Councilmember Esteve requested to amend the motion to make it a specific date of May 27. Mayor Pro Tem Boafo accepted amendment to his motion. Motion passed 5-2 (Gardner, Harrison).

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION:

1. Michelle Joyner – Commented that she would like the City to resume regular bulk trash pick-up.
2. Jeffrey Cooper – Commented in opposition of the proposed increase of property taxes in the City.

COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Councilmember Harrison reminded residents to fill out the 2020 Census and exercise their right to vote.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Councilmember Woolfley moved the approval of Consent Agenda Item: A) Approval of Proclamation P-4-20 Celebrating Memorial Day 2020. Mayor Pro Tem Boafo seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

B. Approval of Ordinance O-3-20 Amending Bowie City Code Chapter 11, "Health and Sanitation", to Renumber Section 11-5, "Penalties" as Section 11-7 and to Enact Section 11-5, "Public Health Officer" and Section 11-6, "Access to Healthcare Resources" – Mayor Adams stated that this position is in consideration of working with the County to help with any health emergencies/pandemics that arise that are widespread. Councilmember Esteve also stated that this position will help the City's Code Enforcement department on issues dealing with group housing and assisted living homes and making sure they are meeting the City and State requirements.

Public Hearing:

Since there are no speakers signed up to speak, Mayor Adams declared the Public Hearing to have been held.

Councilmember Woolfley made a motion to table this item for a vote to the May 27 Special Meeting. Councilmember Esteve seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

C. EDC's COVID Business Recovery Plan Recommendation – Economic Development Committee Chair, Sherman Ragland summarized the plan to Council. The committee's recommendation is to have the City allocate $2M for the program and distribute that amount in the following manner: 1) $1.5M to be used in the form of direct grants to Bowie based businesses in the amount of $5,000 and follow the guidelines set by the County as part of their COVID-19 Economic Relief Program; 2) $150,000 to FSC First for the purpose of administrating the program; 3) $300,000 to the Bowie Innovation Center and the Bowie Chamber of Commerce for providing training and assistance Bowie based small businesses through the next 12 months. A copy of the report is on file in the City Clerk's office.

Councilmember Esteve made a motion to accept the report and have staff review and prepare for a Public Hearing and Eligible for Action at the June 1st Council meeting. Mayor Pro Tem Boafo seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Approval of Resolution R-29-20 Adopt Development Annual Action Plan Fiscal Year 2021 (HUD FY 20) - Mr. Jesse Buggs, Director, Office of Grant Development and Administration, summarized the staff memorandum. As an Entitlement Community, the City of Bowie receives Community Development Block Grant funds directly from the US Department of Housing and Community Development (HUD). Annually, the City is responsible for producing, with citizen participation, two major documents for HUD: (1) The Annual Action Plan for the upcoming fiscal year, and (2) The Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) to detail the performance of the previous fiscal year. City Council is required to review and approve these two documents prior to submittal to HUD.

Public Hearing:

Since there were no speakers signed up to speak, Mayor Adams declared the public hearing to have been held.

Councilmember Woolfley made a motion to approve Resolution R-29-20. Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

B. Introduction and Approval of Emergency Ordinance O-4-20 Imposing Certain Restrictions on the Movements of Persons in the City and on the Operation of Businesses in the City During the Present

State of Emergency Arising From the Widespread Presence and Spread of the Infectious Disease Known as COVID-19.

Public Hearing:

1. Marianne McGucken, resident – Comment attached.
2. Angela Rocca, resident – Comment attached.
3. Resident – Comment attached.
4. Sharon Jarrett, resident – Comment attached.
5. Lindsay Vaughan, Brunswick Ln – Comment attached.
6. Elaine Beckman, Kitmore Ln – Comment attached.
7. Martha Wolf, Yorktown Dr. – Comment attached.
8. Jason Johnson, resident – Comment attached.
9. Therese Hessler, resident – Comment attached.
10. Shannon Jessup, Forge Ln – Comment attached.
11. Stephen Orenstein, resident – Comment attached.
12. Madelyn Pressley, North Dale Ct – Comment attached.
13. Brandi Norris, Belair Dr – Comment attached.

Since there were no more speakers signed up to speak, Mayor Adams declared the public hearing to have been held.

After discussion from Council, the Ordinance died due to a lack of a motion.

C. Bowie IcePlex – Council discussed the future of the IcePlex and options for building another basketball court.

Public Hearing:

One hundred and ninety-one (191) comments were received for this Public Hearing. City Clerk Hernandez read each comment for the record. Copies of the comments are attached.

Since there were no more speakers signed up to speak, Mayor Adams declared the public hearing to have been held.

Councilmember Gardner made a motion to table this item for continuation on May 20 due to it being so late in the night. Councilmember Esteve seconded the motion. Motion failed 2-5 (Adams, Boafo, Harrison, Ndebumadu, Woolfley)

Councilmember Woolfley commented on his concerns of the expense to build the new IcePlex and made it known that he has been against this construction from the beginning. He feels that it can be done at a much lower cost.

Mayor Adams stated that with the current uncertainty of the pandemic and how it will affect the City in the future, that it is appropriate to stop this construction and use the funds for other projects.

Councilmember Harrison stated that the City has already invested several million dollars in this project and stopping it now will cost about $8M to $9M. It is a mistake to stop it.

City Manager Lott explained that staff will need clear direction from Council on how to proceed with the construction of the new IcePlex and if the construction is stopped, how does Council want to handle the repairs that are needed to the current Ice Arena.

Following Council comments, Councilmember Woolfley made a motion to stop construction and cancel the contract for the Bowie Ice Rink and that we direct staff to repurpose existing site for a multi-generational indoor court facility currently in the CIP and utilize remaining bond proceeds for the projects in the CIP and ultimately either pursue renovating the current ice rink ourselves or pursuing a public private partnership to do so. Councilmember Ndebumadu seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-3 (Esteve, Gardner, Harrison).

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Pro Tem Boafo moved to adjourn the Regular City Council meeting. Councilmember Woolfley seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 5:03 a.m. (5/19/20).

Respectfully submitted,

Awilda Hernandez, MMC
City Clerk

CP

Awilda Hernandez

From: Michele <michelle.joyner@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 2:59 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Question for city council tonight

Hello,
I am a resident of Bowie for the last 17 years and I think we are all doing the best with the situation at hand. My only concern is the change of trash/recycling/bulk trash pickup. We all have big boxes for recycling or bulk trash that is piling up. If this new policy stays any longer it will be almost impossible to pick up the two months plus backlog of items that won't fit in a bag. If it has been sitting outside I am sure there is no threat to the guys on the truck. I have seen some with masks and some without. Can we please go back to bulk trash pick up ASAP. This virus is not going anywhere anytime soon. Plus the health officials say the sunlight kills it within 60 seconds.
Thank you
Michelle Joyner

Awilda Hernandez

From: Jeffrey Cooper <md3407@icloud.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 5:04 PM
To: Awilda Hernandez
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: City Budget

Good Afternoon Mayor and City Councilmembers

I want to state for the record and to be included in the minutes for tonights meeting my opposition to the proposal to increase property taxes in the City of Bowie.

Sincerely,
Jeffrey Cooper
Bowie Taxpayer

Sent from my iPhone

Text Message Received 5/18/20 at 3:47p.m. 240-643-6170

Re: Emergency Ordinance O-4-20

I am against more restrictions for COVID than already placed by the County. We should be less restrictive in Bowie and following the Governor's mandate.

Marianne McGucken a long time resident of Bowie. Over 60 and work in healthcare so I am very familiar with this situation.

Text Message Received 5/18/20 at 3:50p.m. 240-417-2594

Re: Emergency Ordinance O-4-20

Regarding the Emergency Ordinance, that is being voted on tonight, which if it wasn't for Bowie Living, the residents of the City would not have known. This goes against EVERY constitutional right. Governor lifted the stay at home order, the county extended it until June1st, which again is against our rights.

I'm disgusted this City Council would even consider this, even more so that the public, the city residents you are suppose to be the voice of were not made aware until the day of.

Angela Rocca

Awilda Hernandez 0-4-20

From: kaschwatka <kaschwatka@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 3:20 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Proposed emergency ordinance

I urge the council to vote NO on the proposed indefinite stay at home ordinance. This will destroy the city economically and force residents who are not employed in fields that permit work from home into poverty. This is a gross overreach by the city. I am stunned especially with the litigation over Governor Hogan's order that the city attorney would even consider this. If this passes I will be looking at my options for leaving Bowie and Maryland for a location that actually respects the US and state constitutions.

Sent from my Sprint Samsung Galaxy S9.

Awilda Hernandez

From: Sharon Jarrett <littleonemd@msn.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 3:30 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Emergency meeting, emergency funding, and ice rink

I am 100% against any further stay at home order for its citizens or businesses, as well ANY relief package put forth by the city. IT IS NOT NEEDED. What is needed is for businesses to open up, life to get back to normal, people back to work to earn a living to provide for their families. Not receiving city, state or federal handouts.
This is also a GRAVE misjustice against our U.S. Constitution. If this is allowed to proceed, there will be lawsuits and protests. The initial reaction to this virus was set in motion because of fear, fear fueled by media and others projecting immense numbers of deaths. This has not come any where near fruition. Yes any death is tragic. However, it was not enough to justify the actions taken. It is barely 1% of the population. The numbers have been declining over 2-3 weeks now. Hospital admissions and icu admissions for Covid, have also decreases tremendously. Not to mention the fact that Anne Arundel hospital just furloughed at least 1000 staff members. The hospitals, whether we like it or not, are also a business. The operate and make money as a business. They have also been affected by not just this virus with patients being sick from Covid but also because there is no business. The tests that are showing as positives have also included antibodies positives, which should be a separate of data. Just because you are positive, does not mean you currently have or will get the virus.
This is ridiculous, DO NOT proceed with a continued or indefinite lock down!

In regards to the ice rink. This is a done deal and the excuses our Mayor has used is abominable. This funding is and has been secured. Mr Mayor, you will be doing the city and yourself a horrible disservice by stopping or even holding up the construction of the ice rink. The amount used from the 24 million dollar bond may only be 8 million dollars, but you fail to remember that, it has to be paid back, not reallocated. That by holding up construction, the costs continue to rise thereby making the entire project more than the costs when started. By stopping contructuon altogether, you open the city to a massive lawsuit by the construction company for breach of contract, which will go beyond remaining 16 million dollars on the bond. The construction company still has to pay their employees and their suppliers for equipment and material ordered for this project. Also add in court costs, laywers etc. It will also majorly affect our AAA bond rating that our city has been so proud of over the last several years.
It is a disgrace that because you dont agree with the facility that you think you can suddenly stop and change a project that was voted on and put forth by our previous council members. By taking this action, you show yourself to have a character of someone who decides to say, "I didnt like that vote or how it turned out, lets do it again." That is not the way our system works!

Are you trying to purposely set out to ruin our most wonderful city? A city where the citizens of Bowie are proud to be a part of.

I am truly astonished that any of these actions are being considered and hope the citizens of the city of Bowie, are not hoodwinked by your plans or plot.

To recap, I am against any consideration of extending an indefinite shelter in place, emergency funding or financial aid by the city and the incomprehensible consideration of stopping the ice rink project that has already been voted upon and approved.

Thank you for hearing me out.
Sharon Jarrett
Proud Bowie resident

Awilda Hernandez

From: Lindsay Vaughan <l.marievaughan@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 3:30 PM
To: Dufour Woolfley; cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: emergency ordinance

Dear Councilmember. Woolfley,
As a resident of your district, on Brunswick Lane, I am disturbed that the proposed emergency ordinance for a Stay-at-home order does not include an end date. Please consider this as you vote this evening.
Sincerely,
Lindsay Vaughan

Awilda Hernandez

From: Elaine Beckman <muzik8@verizon.net>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 4:27 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Stay at home orders

This is Elaine Beckman residing at 2510 Kitmore Lane . I'm writing to voice my concern over the " indefinite stay at home order " that the mayor and city council are wanting to impose, followed up by police reinforcements. THIS IS ABSOLUTELY INSANE , to the point of an almost police state enforcement.

When the county executive lifts the stay at home order I believe Bowie has the right to follow that as well and NOT be put on stay at home indefinite . Please for the sake of everyone's mental health and sanity .. DO NOT VOTE for this . Thank you Elaine Beckman

Sent from my iPhone

Awilda Hernandez

From: Martha <mwolf4@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 4:29 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Emergency Ordinance

To Whom it May Concern,

I have just read the proposed ordinance. I do not agree with it.

1. It should not be indefinite.
2. County is 6/1.. We have less cases than many parts of the county.
3. Will continue to hurt small business.
4. A police man will enforce it? Too much strong arm.
5. I have a compromised immune system. And am very careful.

Thank you for your consideration,

Martha Wolf
13202 Yorktown Drive

Sent from my iPad

Awilda Hernandez

From: Jason Johnson <jsjohn2000@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 5:01 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Emergency ordinance O-4-20 : Input for meeting

I received guidance from City hall to submit comments in writing regarding the proposed Emergency Ordinance O-4-20 [1].

I am writing to express concern with language of Section four of Ordinance 0-4-20. State and County officials have communicated phase one of Maryland's reopening plan is planned for June 1st for Prince George's County. The language of Section four proposes an ordinance with an indefinite end date. This is not consistent with plans that have been communicated by State and County elected officials. I would request language of Section four be revised to reflect an end date of June 1st with further action required by the City to in the event the Ordinance needs to be extended.

[1] - https://www.cityofbowie.org/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Item/3752?fileID=9093

Bowie City Council
Bowie City Hall
15901 Excalibur Rd.
Bowie, MD 20716

RE: EMERGENCY ORDINANCE O-40-20 - OPPOSE

May 18, 2020

Dear Members of the Bowie City Council,

I have been a Bowie resident for over 36 years and also have a business registered in Bowie.

I am writing to ask that you OPPOSE "EMERGENCY ORDINANCE O-40-20" in all forms. This proposed ordinance is unneeded and poorly drafted and is dangerous to the residents of Bowie, Md.

As drafted, there is at least one spelling error (in the title of the document, line 1) and passing any ordinance that would allow the City to "establish quarantine regulations; authorize the removal or confinement of individuals having infectious or contagious diseases; prevent and remove nuisances;" would put citizens at further risk due to its broad and undefined wording, putting citizens with non-COVID-19 related illnesses' civil liberties in jeopardy .

Further, such a document is unneeded as Prince George's County Executive, Angela Alsobrooks, has already extended the Governor's Stay at Home Order through June 1, 2020 therefore establishing a safe and practical guideline for residents and businesses in Bowie to take the necessary precautions against COVID-19.

I respectfully urge you to OPPOSE "EMERGENCY ORDINANCE O-40-20".

Thank you,

Therese M. Hessler
therese@ashlargr.com

Awilda Hernandez

From: Shannon Jessup <shannon@jessups.org>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 5:24 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Emergency Ordinance

Good Evening,

The proposed Emergency Ordinance is absolutely and without question unacceptable as it is written. Specifically the Indefinite Stay-at-Home order, and the Amending of the Bowie City Code to allow for the appointment of a "Public Health Officer," and the proposed authorities given to said Officer. Namely, to obtain warrants to search properties and buildings, and to issue citations.

We have a kind and respectful community, willingly wearing masks and keeping at home for over two months in order to Love and Protect our neighbors, and contain the spread of Covid 19. We are Not juvenile delinquents living in a detention center. This is government overreach and an attempt to control people at an obscene level. Bowie is a part of PG County. PG County has already extended the Stay-at-Home order through June 1, and may subsequently extend that date. That is enough. We do not need rules-within-rules, and an Indefinite Order is never Ever going to be appropriate.

Give funding to small businesses where needed, but Every Other Aspect of the proposed Emergency Ordinance must be voted DOWN. A person's home is their castle, NOT THEIR PRISON.

Thank you,
Shannon Jessup
12103 Forge Lane
Bowie, MD 20715

Awilda Hernandez

From: STEPHEN ORENSTEIN <scorenstein@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 5:42 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Emergency Health Order Proposal, etc.

Honorable Timothy Adams, Mayor
Members of the City Council

My name is Steve Orenstein and I'm have been a resident of Bowie for about 40 years. I want to register my opposition to the proposed Emergency Ordinance relating to the COVID-19 pandemic and other legislation that I believe has been discussed. Initially, the emergency ordinance is not necessary as it is duplicative of the authority of Prince George's County. I recognize that the Governor's authority of his emergency order may be amended to gives him the "open up the State" but he has clearly stated that he recognizes that different counties may be more restrictive of the State wide opening.

Pursuant to that the Prince George's County Executive has extended the stay at home order pursuant to her authority recognizing the status of the virus in Prince George's County as did the County Executive of Montgomery County. Imagine if every incorporated municipality within Prince George's County enacted their own ordinance without regard to uniformity throughout the County. Further, imagine the confusion for the residents of the County and those of the various municipalities.

The emergency ordinance would create a criminal office punishable by a fine and or a jail sentence. Enforcing violations of the emergency orders will be a nightmare for the Bowie City Police Department permitting angst both for officers but also for the citizens of Bowie. It will create antagonism and confrontations between the police, residents and visitors to the City and inevitably will create significant legal and financial liability for the City. Not a great way to improve police/citizen relations especially in a diverse city.

I wonder who will prosecute those criminal violations. It can't be the City as it has no authority to prosecute persons for violating criminal offenses. Has anyone solicited the input of the State's Attorney for Prince George's County.

I have followed the number of cases in the City of Bowie versus the rest of the County and it appears to me that the City even though it has a significant number of cases that the County as a whole has a much larger comparable number of cases. Do you thing the County would act irresponsibly and open up prematurely and adversely affect Bowie. I doubt that.

Should the City for whatever reason decide to keep the stay at home edict longer than the County, the impact upon the residents would be at a great disadvantage and the businesses within the City couldn't compete with those a mile or so outside the City limits.

I further understand that there is a proposal to authorize certain City employees that are not sworn trained police officers to seek search warrants to obtain evidence in Housing Code violations. That is a dangerous and risky proposition and is fraught with potential civil liability for the City. As a resident of the City and someone who fully understands search warrants and their risks, I oppose such a provision.

Respectfully submitted,
Stephen C. Orenstein, 16311 Banbury Lane, Bowie, Maryland 20715 (301) 873-2900.

Awilda Hernandez

From: Madelyn <MadelynPressley@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 6:33 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: A Bowie Resident Against Emergency Ordinance O-4-20!

Good Evening,

I just learned there would be A public hearing at tonight's council meeting on an emergency ordinance in response to COVID-19. In specific " it is to impose certain restrictions on the movements of persons in the city and on the operation of business in the city during the present state of emergency..." etc... I am extremely concerned that the City Of Bowie is even considering this when the governor and Angela Alsobrooks still has restrictions for PG County!

Additionally there is no proposed end date on this ordinance and it looks to me like martial law. I admit that I may be making a knee-jerk reaction to what I see as someone else's knee-jerk reaction.... there's not enough time to really explore this ordinance.

As a resident I vote against this because we've NOT had enough time to really explore the full ramifications. I shuddered when I saw about the police enforcement and $5000 fines. Does this mean that Bowie police could arrest the Barber cutting hair; the crowds playing baseball. Let's not make a hasty ordinance that may not be needed especially when PG County Elected Leadership is still setting regulations along with Governor Hogan.

Please excuse this hasty email trying to beat the 7 pm deadline.

Sincerely,

Madelyn Pressley
3023 North Dale Ct
Bowie, MD 20716

NOTE: This email is being sent from my iPhone. Please excuse my typos and missed auto-correct errors.

Awilda Hernandez

From: Brandi Norris <bkeefe98@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 6:49 PM
To: cityclerk
Cc: Timothy Adams; Adrian Boafo; Henri Gardner; Ingrid Harrison; Michael Esteve; Dufour Woolfley; rndebuadu@cityofbowie.org
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Emergency Ordinance - Stay Home Orders

Good Evening,

I am writing to express my deep concern and anger about the proposed Emergency Ordinance that is being voted on this evening. I have been a lifelong Marylander and 28 year Bowie Resident, yet suddenly I am feeling like I am living in Nazi Germany.

We have obeyed the Stay Home orders to flatten the curve, we have been wearing masks and only going out for essentials, as ordered by Gov. Hogan, for over two months.
Many businesses and families are suffering and want to get back to work. It is ALARMING to me that the City of Bowie is proposing to extend the Stay Home order indefinitely. This is unconstitutional and, quite frankly, absurd! We live in The United States of America, a country where we have rights and walk free.

The COVID numbers are low, hospitals are not overrun, yet the city wants to continue the shutdown and impose unconstitutional orders against us. It is ALARMING to me that the City of Bowie is proposing hiring a Health Officer that has the authority to obtain warrants to search properties and to issue citations. The City of Bowie is attempting to overreach and exceed their authority. Please do not allow these orders to pass!

I am in favor of helping businesses to get back on their feet, while also allowing them to open and people to get back to work, but oppose all of the other Draconian orders in this Emergency Ordinance.

Thank you,
Brandi Keefe-Norris
2403 Belair Drive
Bowie, MD 20715

Awilda Hernandez

From: Lisa Couture <lisascouture@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 10:06 AM
To: cityclerk; Awilda Hernandez
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Bowie Iceplex Letter for Monday 5/18 Council Reading

Bowie Ice Arena - History, Connections and Future
Written May 18, 2020

My name is Lisa St. Louis Couture. The previous council has seen my children and I many times speak in support of the Bowie Ice Arena. They have heard my connection to the rink and why it means so much to thousands of people. Today I need to explain the gravity of the decision before this new council. Years of speeches, pleas, documentation, facts, photos and more have led to the responsible decision to go forth with the Bowie Iceplex. I come to you today speaking from the heart and mind.

The St. Louis and Couture families have a very long history with the Bowie Ice Arena and the city of Bowie. It is my goal for those interested and those in power to understand why the arena exists and for whom. I have been collecting thoughts, supporting our community and hoping for success since the news broke that the promised new ice facility had been questioned. It has been a very painful few weeks.

Back in the 1960's in Bowie, yes it is necessary to start my story there, two families moved to Bowie. My mother-in-law's family, the Sickels, with seven children moved as part of a military assignment and stayed. My father-in-law's family, the Couture's also moved to the community. The children all attended Bowie High School. In 1971, Richard Sickels was hired as part of the construction crew to build the current rink. He is my uncle by marriage. Betty Sickels passed away at 92 while residing in the L section. Currently, we have four Bowie households in the family. I spend every major holiday, every birthday and all major life events at one of these homes. The Sunday before Christmas I refuse to miss the concert at Sacred Heart Catholic Church.

In 1980, my parents moved from Virginia to Gambrills. My father immediately found his passion at Bowie Ice Arena. He began coaching and quickly became one of the most well respected and revered coaches this club has had. I am reminded daily by anyone that met or played for him, what an incredible force and advocate he was for the sport, players and the rink. Around 1990 DeMatha Catholic High School started an ice hockey team. My father was the first Assistant Coach under Pat Krimm. He was immensely proud to bring such an incredible team to multiple state MSHL championships. I became their statistician in 1992 and made lifelong friendships with the players and the families. In 1996 he returned to coach at Bowie so he could take on the teams my brother played on.

I began skating at age four at Bowie and competed at age 5. I went on to develop my love for skating and became a coach myself. I have been competing with adult synchro, production, ensemble, couples, family and individual events for the Bowie ISI team for six years. I have been an example to every mother rinkside.

My brother began skating as soon as he could walk. He played for the Bowie Hockey Club Mites through Midgets. He was an amazing leader and so respected that his influence is still very much felt today. Brian played for BHC, South River High School, the Junior Capitals, and the Junior Nationals before becoming a coach. He coached both junior teams and teams at Kettler Capitals Iceplex before becoming their hockey director. Brian passed September 23, 2010 at Kettler from an enlarged heart. The hockey community across the country showed their support for the incredible young man and his potential that all began right at Bowie Ice Arena. The banner commemorating his death hangs in the Bowie Ice Arena right next to other fallen players that were raised in that rink.

Besides our strong family ties to the city of Bowie, I also usually spend seven days a week at the ice arena. My oldest son (13) has skated since age 2 and played hockey for the club since he was four years old. My daughter (11) has skated since she was 18 months old and competed with the Bowie ISI skating teams since she was four. My youngest son (7) has skated since he was 17 months old, competed at age 4 with the ISI team and played for BHC since he was four as well. While spending so much of our lives in Bowie at this arena we are given the opportunity to interact with incredible local community members. Allen Pond Park is a playground for our children to meet new faces and tell them the awesome activities that are available right across the street. There are summer camps, outreach events from skating and hockey teams. We have public sessions, games and competitions that the public attend. We have holiday skates. We have free events to expose anyone and everyone to the benefits of skating and hockey. Birthday parties are held here. Equipment is available for free if needed. The teams support the community through food drives, charitable donations and outreach. So many opportunities for all community members are utilized regularly!

The Bowie ISI team and the Bowie Hockey Club teams represent the city across the country and abroad. We are forces to be reckoned with. They are competitive! I have traveled to Minnesota, Illinois, Virginia, New York, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, New Hampshire and many more proudly wearing my black and gold. The ISI team is currently planning to compete in Alaska. Mine and my children's closest friends were found in this rink. We travel, compete, play and then have incredible team bonding experiences. As proud as I am to travel in those colors and with the Bowie name, there is an incredible opportunity to host these events. Two sheets of ice are necessary to bring in the big tournaments and competitions. It would generate income for not only the city in fees but every single business will benefit. The gas stations, restaurants, hotels, theatres and more. When we travel, we live in these cities sometimes for an entire week. Think about the amount of money that I spend in just a weekend feeding, traveling and staying with a family of six including my mother that goes everywhere we go. The city of Bowie has to consider the bottom line. This new facility will be less expensive to open, run and maintain. It will be profitable to the city and the community. The numbers do not lie.

We support every aspect of the rink and the surrounding community. Currently, I reside in Queen Anne's County because financially that was a good fit. As I have shown, although I do not reside in Bowie, I support this community financially in many ways. My husband commutes to Suitland six days a week on average. He works that much so that we can barely afford to keep all of our children and myself playing hockey, skating, lacrosse, baseball, softball, soccer and in a private school. We do this commute spending all that we have on gas, food, shopping, entertainment and even on hotels occasionally if the weather is questionable. My neighbors laugh and think we are never home. I promised my children to provide to them every opportunity if they were good people, helped around the house and took their studies seriously. They work hard and play hard. They are absolutely incredible in so many ways. I can't do that alone. Everyone in that ice arena including players, families, opponents and staff from the day they were born were family to them. There is a bond that is almost unexplainable in the ice world. People from different cities, states and countries are all bonded together by love. This love is for skills, rules, games, passion and ice. This bond never ends. I speak daily to parents of players or players that my father coached 30 years ago. My children have friends of all races, income levels, religions and histories. The ice arena allows that to happen for so many people. They are not afraid to help someone in need to tie skates, learn to stand up during a public session or be there for them outside of the arena as well. My children and I have attended weddings, graduations and funerals for teammates and family members. This is bigger than any old building.

Bowie has increased its tax base by more than 7 times in the last 20 years. That growth was the result of a continued commitment to building the Bowie community (from parks to senior centers to recreational facilities, etc.). By making Bowie an attractive place to live (with something for everybody at affordable prices), Bowie has become a sought-after destination for businesses. It is the influx of those businesses that has increased the tax base so much (and increased the property value of so many homes in Bowie). This is why Bowie ranks so high in these indices of best places to live and best run municipalities.

Bowie did NOT get to where it is by squeezing the communities on amenities with a short-sighted view of what it means to be "fiscally responsible." Is it more fiscally responsible to make few or no investments in the community in an attempt to not raise property taxes or to invest in the future of the community to grow the tax base, increase the amenities, increase the value of the homes and increase the enjoyment of the

community? In government, just like in business, you cannot cut your way to prosperity. You must invest. And you must invest wisely. What it means to invest wisely can take many forms and is very much contextually driven. In Bowie, the last 50 years, and especially the last 20 years, strongly suggests that the way to grow the wealth of the city and the prosperity of its residents is to invest in the community.

If you want to invest in the future of a community, you invest in its youth. In the most recent surveys of what employers are looking for in employees, the attributes that rank the highest are the ability to work as a vital part of a team, to collaborate, to communicate effectively, to lead when necessary and follow when necessary, to consistently arrive at work in a timely manner, to be reliable and not miss work for drug-related or other issues. Schools are actually not well equipped to support the development of these attributes. Family, community and recreational activities, especially organized sports, are the keys to helping our children develop these skills. That is the investment we are asking the City Council to make. Continue to make the investments in the youth of Bowie that has made Bowie the envy of cities all over the country. Continue to invest in the future rather than focus on a short-term bottom line. It might sound risky to ignore today's bottom line, but I would suggest that the much bigger risk is failing to invest in our future...in our children.

A two sheet facility is imperative. The current rink is truly failing. It has reached well beyond its life expectancy. Beside the immense loss of community, if the current ice arena ceases to operate, there will be a huge financial loss to the city. Act now to preserve the heart. Act now to preserve the financial opportunities for the city and the businesses. Act now with common sense to preserve what is right for all constituents and users nationwide of the Bowie Ice Arena. Act now to preserve political integrity. This was researched, voted upon and found the best use of all resources for every user and community member. What changed and became more important than heart, financial peace, and doing the right thing as a political entity?

I wanted to examine what your role is. What are you supposed to be focused on when making imperative decisions? Legacy? Re-election? Majority rule?

I reviewed definitions of elected government officials.
***
Here is a definition from CNFC.org (College Foundation of North Carolina):
Legislative politicians include U.S. senators and representatives, city council officials and state representatives. They amend and pass laws. These politicians work closely with constituents, advisors and their staff to create policies serving their communities' needs.

Wikipedia says:
A politician is a person active in party politics, or a person holding or seeking office in government. Politicians propose, support and create laws or policies that govern the land and, by extension, its people. Broadly speaking, a "politician" can be anyone who seeks to achieve political power in any bureaucratic institution.
***
The two key points in any of these definitions are to serve the communities needs and to govern the people. Most importantly, the politician is to act in the best interest of its city. Allowing this project to be terminated or amended is merely "passing the buck" and avoiding your responsibility. It is your job as an elected official to act in a manner that is best for the people. They elected you to make decisions in the interest of making the City of Bowie as positive, lucrative and safe as can be. They trusted you to make those decisions. You were not elected to be told what to do based on whether you will be re-elected or what group has the loudest leader yelling. That is the most cowardly excuse I have heard.

We have all heard the definition of insanity as "doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results." This is the situation we are in and it is absolute insanity. The issue of the ice arena has been on the table since 1988 when the first feasibility study began to investigate renovations and expansion for the ice arena. Then in 1989 when it even had the backing of the Washington Capitals front office. The City of Bowie chose to continue with the feasibility study. In 1994 the rink was enclosed. In 1996 renovations were made to the locker rooms. Fast forward almost thirty years from when the issue first came up. Decisions were finally made to research. It was done. It was found in September in 2017 that it will cost over $22 million to renovate the current building. Those issues have only worsened. So experts created plans. Financial concerns

were evaluated. Most importantly, the vote was complete. The land was bought. Construction is underway! There are millions of dollars to be lost with nothing to show. There is no reason to repeat this process again! The ice arena went without major improvements because the new arena was coming.

There is no time. Each day the rink is closer to catastrophic failure. This is a here today and gone tomorrow scenario. Then you will be facing an empty building in disrepair across from a beautiful park. That will very quickly lead to a venue for crime. We cannot develop and teach people of all ages a lifelong skill without ice. We can not bring in an immense amount of money to this city with the rink activities and huge event potential without ice. We are a wonderful proven return on investment. Two sheets of ice does not double the cost of operating by any means. However, it does increase the capability to make money. The rink makes money. This is a simple argument. The difference in cost for one sheet or two is minimal. The research was done showing that the much needed two sheet ice arena would not raise taxes. The City of Bowie does not have time to wait and entertain these arguments any longer.

You, as elected officials, cannot make everyone happy all the time. It is your job to do what is best and this has been researched and voted upon. This is a sad state of affairs when scare tactics rule over common sense and duty to office. Do not be afraid of a group of people that are misguided. You have the support of facts and passion from a huge community of "ice people" that span this nation and beyond. The petitions, news coverage, media articles, and social media has shown you just how much support you have to be brave and make the decision to continue the Iceplex construction and proceed with your prior votes. You speak of trust. Someone has to trust the process that has been done even though it was before your time. Someone has to trust that the elected officials are men and women of their word and truly want what is best for the entire City of Bowie. Be trustworthy and honor what is proven through facts and researched to be the best choice...Build the Iceplex for Bowie.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Lisa St. Louis Couture
541 Conor Drive
Stevensville, MD 21666
301-807-2681
--
Lisa St. Louis Couture

"Ask yourself it what you are doing today is getting your closer to where you want to be tomorrow." Unknown

Awilda Hernandez

From: Kristyn Bianca <klbianca2010@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 11:59 AM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}:
Attachments: PLEASE READ ROUND TWO FINAL.pdf

Please move forward with the new Bowie Ice Complex. I have several friends/family members that play hockey for Bowie and we need this ice rink so we can have more hockey tournaments and bring money to the city of Bowie. My daughter is also going to start playing hockey for Bowie and as a resident of Bowie I am I. Favor of this new ice complex
Thank you
Kristyn Bianca

Get Outlook for iOS

Awilda Hernandez

From: Captain <navyjob@live.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 12:00 PM
To: Awilda Hernandez
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Skating rink and Senior Center

I was very happy to read that the Mayor wants to cancel the rink contract. This is definitely a " Bowie First" decision.

Signing the contract was a mistake. We have enough "sports arenas" in Bowie.

We also have high taxes which cost us as residents and cost us again when we sell our homes **for less** because of the high tax burden our houses carry.

We should be reducing taxes in the face of the economic Covid-19 crisis.

I am retired Budget Examiner and I worked for six Presidents who on many occasions tried to cut profligate projects and programs only to be frustrated by special interests and people who were not so careful with "other peoples money". I hope the Council supports the Mayor and recognizes that whatever assumptions led to approving the rink have been significantly changed by Corona.

One more thing,

When the Senior Center opens, I assume that "social distancing" rules will be required, as well as masks, and improved cleaning protocols.

As it stands now, the policy of allowing people who are not residents of Bowie to join increases the membership by about 40%, as well as the budget..

Social distancing will require a substantial reduction in membership and I believe this should be achieved by **restricting** membership to Bowie residents.

Not only is this a safe way to operate the Center in view of the Covid -19 threat to Senior citizens, it will also save money, and reflect the "Bowie First" policy.

Dan Costello

Awilda Hernandez

From: Kevin Gedrich <kgedrich@verizon.net>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 12:03 PM
To: cityclerk; dwolfley@cityofbowie.org
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Ice Rink

I am a concerned citizen on the project of the ice rink.

How can we have people in charge with the best interest of citizens when they approve a project, spend millions of tax paying dollars starting the project and then wanting to stop it.

I will have to think wisely when it comes to electing new officials, because the current officials seem a little irresponsible with my tax money that I pay.

Awilda Hernandez

From: Lauren James <lauren.james24@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 12:20 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Bowie IcePlex Construction

Hello,
My daughter is a member of the Bowie Hockey Club for 3 years now and absolutely loves playing. She loves everything there is about the ice. As a girl hockey player she loves playing with the boys but with the new IcePlex Bowie Hockey Club was going to offer a girls hockey team as well as mixed. This was something that we were really looking forward to for more ice time. However, without it we might have to move onto another hockey club. This is something we do not want to do as we love the family we have become apart of with the Bowie Hockey Club. Please, please, *please* continue the construction of the new IcePlex for Bowie.
When I told my daughter there was a chance that they would cancel the construction so leapt to her feet and shouted, "No! We worked so hard to get it approved though. Why would they do that?" I couldn't give her an answer to that because I just don't understand the reasoning behind this. With more ice comes better opportunities.
Please consider our plea to continue the construction.

Thank you and we hope you all are staying safe and healthy,
Andrew, Lauren and Keelan Moxley

Awilda Hernandez

From: Karen Nations <klemmert@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 10:28 AM
To: Awilda Hernandez; Public Info
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Future of Bowie Iceplex

To the Bowie City Council,

I would like to share some information with you that I believe has not been considered thus far in the decision regarding the future of the Bowie Ice Arena.

While the new Iceplex, as planned, will provide revenue to the city directly, there are other economic implications that have not been considered. Hockey and figure skating tournaments that would be able to be hosted in the new Iceplex would bring visitors to Bowie from all over the country. This means customers for Bowie businesses and, therefore, increased tax revenue from those businesses for the city. Thriving local businesses are also a boon to the city and a draw for future residents. As of right now, the Ice Arena, as it exists, is able to provide support for surrounding businesses on a much smaller scale. Events held at the Arena must be smaller and, therefore, create a smaller economic impact for the city. That impact is, nonetheless, extremely important. Skaters and hockey players come to Bowie several times a week for practices and ice time. Parents of these skaters and players, Bowie residents and those who come from outside Bowie, patronize restaurants, grocery stores, and shops in Bowie while they are already in the area. Without the draw of the rink, Bowie residents are likely to see a decline in business that comes from nonresidents who presently spend many hours a week in Bowie solely because of the rink. With the new two-sheet facility boasting year round ice, Bowie would be able to host hockey camps, figures skating camps, tournaments, and competitions bringing even more people to the city to boost the local economy. The rink not only provides a valuable resource to residents directly, but provides a boost to local businesses that would be foolish to overlook or take for granted.

In the scenario where the new Iceplex would be purchased and managed by the company that currently owns and manages Piney Orchard, Bowie would stand to lose skaters and players who come to the city from elsewhere. My family, for example, lives in Severn. We literally drive by Piney Orchard on our way to Bowie. We gladly pay nonresident fees to skate in Bowie because of the culture created by Christine Brinton and the other skating coaches. When my son is old enough, I am hoping he will be playing hockey with the coaches at Bowie. He was practically born at the rink. My older girls were at figure skating lessons, accompanied by my parents, while I was in the hospital giving birth to my son. He was in the rink when he was a week old. The staff and other families at the rink are family to us. Selling the rink to a company only looking to turn a profit would turn it into exactly what Piney Orchard is. As a girl, I skated at Piney Orchard and my brother plays hockey there. I choose not to take my children there because of the environment. The City Council seems to be blind to the incredible draw that this rink and its staff are to the people of the area, both residents and not residents.

The City of Bowie in general does not have an excellent reputation among those outside of the city, but I have never heard anything but glowing reviews of the ice rink from the many people who have reluctantly come to skate there from my recommendation. This rink, and particularly the staff who make it what it is, is an enormous asset to the reputation of the city.

Please also consider the loss of millions of dollars that have already been spent and the many more that will still have to be paid out if this project is canceled. Think of the damage this will do to the city's credit rating. Consider the damage this will do to the credibility of Bowie to see such a project begun only to be canceled in such a fiscally irresponsible manner.

I urge the City Council to move forward with the Iceplex, as originally planned, for the sake of the rink, the families who call it home, for the staff who have made it great, for the reputation of the city, for the city businesses who benefit from it, and for the city at large.

Thank you for your consideration,
Karen Nations

Awilda Hernandez

From: Darren Bruening <darbonand@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 12:31 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Bowie IcePlex

My name is Darren Bruening, I am a Past President of Bowie Hockey Club.
I implore the City Council to continue the construction of the new Bowie IcePlex.

The ice rink is a recreation home to people from Bowie and surrounding counties. It is their happy place.

I hope you have a happy place. If you do, then you understand the importance of the IcePlex. If you don't, my heart sinks for you. Maybe the IcePlex could be your happy place, or your children's happy place.
The existing rink has lived well beyond its anticipated lifespan. Replacement every 50 years is a reasonable approach.

Don't waste the $12 million already committed. Continue building the Bowie IcePlex.

Thank you in advance for living to the commitment previously made by the city council.

Sincerely,
Darren S. Bruening
240-855-5394
sent from my iPhone

Awilda Hernandez

From: Lisa Henkel <Lisa.Henkel@umgc.edu>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 10:46 AM
To: cityclerk
Cc: Timothy Adams; Adrian Boafo; Henri Gardner; Ingrid Harrison; Michael Esteve; Dufour Woolfley; Rosann Ndebumadu
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Comments for tonight's meeting
Attachments: Ice Rink Comments.docx

Hello Awilda,

Attached please find a letter for inclusion in the citizen participation portion of tonight's meeting

Thank you,
Lisa Henkel

Please note my email address has been changed to lisa.henkel@umgc.edu.

Lisa Henkel
Vice President, Digital Support Solutions
Phone: 301-887-7341
E-mail: lisa.henkel@umgc.edu

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND
GLOBAL CAMPUS
Formerly UMUC

May 18, 2020

Mayor Adams and Council Members,

As City residents and tax payers we submit this letter to voice our full support of continuing the ice rink project.

This project was previously approved after a robust and thorough vetting by the council and the citizens of Bowie. I don't skate nor do I have children who skate. In fact, I've never even set foot in the ice rink. For me and my husband this issue isn't centered around a desire to use the rink, but rather around the financial opportunities for the City. It is our belief that the new rink will bring revenue to our City. It has been noted that many in support of the rink are not Bowie residents. Who cares? They are still people and families who will come to Bowie and spend money!

I am disappointed in the statements made by you, Mayor Adams, that amount to fear mongering. You stated that the ice rink must be cancelled in order to "protect city services." The implication that unless we cease the ice rink project police, fire, EMS and other critical services would not be available was nothing short of irresponsible. As someone who voted for you and was fully supportive up until last week I was profoundly disappointed by your approach and appalled that you failed to cite any actual data points in your argument. Public officials are entrusted with making data informed decisions and you made an emotional appeal based on false information. The City Manager has been very clear that the city is not in jeopardy of layoffs or furloughs and our fund balance is indeed strong. Shame on you, Mayor. We expect more.

It is almost unbelievable that we are once again visiting this issue. I ask that the council please spend your time tackling new issues and engaging the community on topics that have not already been discussed, dissected, vetted, approved and started!

Sincerely,

Lisa and Ken Henkel

Awilda Hernandez

From: Megan Coriell <mmcoriell@msn.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 12:35 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: IcePlex- To be read at meeting

Please read this at the City Council meeting on 5/18/20-

Good evening-

My name is Megan Coriell and I live and work in Bowie.

I am saddened by what the aftermath is going to be after this pandemic is behind us. I worry about friends who own small businesses and families who are not receiving a paycheck. So I understand the concept of "getting ahead" for the city and your concern about the aftermath you, as a council, will face. However, what is not fair and is downright gross, is using this pandemic to further your own agendas- and that is what I believe is happening. We aren't getting the whole truth. Those of you who intend to vote YES to halt this project, especially the Mayor, should be ashamed of yourselves. Something about this sudden decision to discuss the Ice Plex future seems wrong; especially at a time when we cannot come in person and show our support; when you cannot look us in the eye and tell us you are voting to halt this project. According to Mr. Esteve the city has a fund for disasters such as this; the funding for the rink is not related to the costs the city will endure due to the pandemic. How would shutting down the project have any positive impact on the future of Bowie? Why is it OK to give up millions of dollars, time, sweat, and tears? It's too late. Let the project be completed. Give up whatever else you have planned for that space and enjoy the revenue the ice rink will bring. The council before you saw the positive; don't let their fight and ours be in vain.

Many weekends I am on the road with my 10 year old headed to PA, NY, NJ, TN- you name it, we've been there for a hockey tournament weekend. We're there for at least 3 days- that's 2+ nights in their hotels. We need to eat at least 3 times a day- that's about 12+ stops in their local restaurants. Not to mention the team building such as bowling and movies we try to fit in between games. The last tournament we went to my goalie got sick, so it was their urgent care we went to. I easily drop $1000 in another city during these weekends. Don't you see the benefit of having a beautiful 2 sheet facility? These events cannot happen in our current barn. So while you're worried about "do tax payers use this facility"... honestly, who cares? Build it and they will come! The opportunities are endless. With a larger, more inviting facility maybe more Bowie residents would want to learn to skate.

As for the traffic concerns: The studies show it will be negligible impact. Sit outside the Bowie Ice Rink on a busy weekend or a bustling Friday night- there is no issue.

Let me end with- I have a deep respect for your positions. My hockey player's great grandfather, Walter Stewart, was a town commissioner in 1958 when Levitt expanded into Belair- he believed in growing this city into something great. My Great Aunt Dee (Fannie Basim) loves this place more than anyone I've ever met and the Bowie Heritage Society is very important to her. I live on the same property that has been in our family for generations. My family has incredibly deep roots in this town- sometimes I wish I could pull them out because of the less than great schools and the growing crime- but I'll be here till the end. So I'll continue to send my kids to private schools in another county, and I'll carry mace to run to Wal-Mart after dark. The ice rink is a special place for Bowie, it's filled with wonderful staff and great families- and whether it's the one at Allens Pond or the Ice Plex on Church Road, it will continue to be. I just hope you'll allow it to grow into something greater. Be a part of the potential.

Thank you, Megan Coriell @ Mill Branch Place

Awilda Hernandez

From:	Shani Bagley <sbagley@nayshay.com>
Sent:	Monday, May 18, 2020 9:44 AM
To:	Awilda Hernandez
Subject:	{EXTERNAL}: Comments for City Council on Ice Arena
Attachments:	Rink Comments for May 18 City Council Meeting Bowie (WhoWeAreAndWhatWeNeed).docx

Awilda,

My video comments were submitted last week. The attached are my comments for the record, or in the event of technical difficulties. Thanks.

--

Regards, SHÁNI BAGLEY
Twitter @ShaniBagley <http://www.twitter.com/ShaniBagley> *|* LinkedIn / ShaniBagley <https://www.linkedin.com/in/shanibagley>

Title: 01-Bowie Is Who We Are and this Is What We Need.

Good Evening Mayor Adams and the entire City Council.

- I am Shani Bagley
- I live in District 3 in Old Stage.
- My brief testimony relates to why Bowie can support both Courts and Ice.
- Bowie has increased its tax base by 400% in the past 25 years, and have $7 Billion in assessed property. We deserve both Courts and Ice.
- Commercial Property Tax income has grown by 500% . From 4% of city revenue to 18% of city revenue. Our tax base can support both Courts and Ice.
- Our current city debt is below $10 M. Our debt limit is $55M. We can support both Courts and Ice. Our current Debt Service Ratio to General Fund is a mere 2.2%. Our debt service shows that we can support both Courts and Ice.
- The General Fund Reserve is between $35M and $40M dollars. That's why we have a AAA Bond rating. With that our bond interest rate is very low, which makes this the perfect time to embrace both courts and ice.
- The City Property Tax Revenue has grown from $7.1M in 1995 to over $29M in 2018. That's almost a 300% growth. Certainly, that allows us to support both Courts and Ice.

- The 2013 Survey said we need both Courts & Ice and specified the size of each. The demand is there. The City is currently building the Ice.

- It's been near six months since the Courts plan was finalized. Select a buyer and sign a contract for Courts. Courts could be finished in the same timeframe as the ice rink, if you act now.

- Let me say it again: We can support both Courts and Ice. Continue the construction of the already paid-for ice rink. Don't leave the courts community out to dry. Address the needs of the courts community's families and children? Their needs are clear.

- The last city council set out the path for you to follow to build both ice and courts. Further ice rink delays could ultimately result in a lose-lose situation, when there is every reason to claim a dual victory for the city and its citizens.

Awilda Hernandez

From: Sharon Judge <sharonjudge@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 1:04 PM
To: Public Info; Adrian Boafo; Dufour Woolfley; mdebumadu@cityofbowie.org
Cc: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Save the Bowie Ice Team and public skating opportunities for Bowie

Honorable Council Members,

We beg you to continue with the contract for the new Bowie Ice Arena in order to abide by the rule of law as well as to maintain the Bowie Ice Team which provides opportunities for hundreds of local children, including mine, to be part of the region's largest public ice-skating team program. The Bowie Ice Arena also provides affordable group lessons for the public as well as affordable public skating sessions in addition to generating revenue for the City. If you vote to cancel the contract, not only will you be violating the public's trust and wasting millions of tax payer dollars, you will be crushing the dreams of hundreds of local children, including some with special needs, who will not have the opportunity or cannot afford to participate in the limited team programs at private skating rink's such as Piney Orchard.

Please vote to continue with the new Bowie Ice Arena as previously contracted and allow our children to continue to be a part of the Bowie Ice team where they are not only getting physical exercise but they are also learning team and community values while proudly representing the City of Bowie.

Kind regards,

Sharon Judge

Awilda Hernandez

From: Ella Bray Rice <ellabrice26@icloud.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 1:06 PM
To: Awilda Hernandez
Cc: Public Info; cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Ice arena

To whom it may concern,

Please know that as a life long citizen of Bowie, a patron of the ice arena's public skating and learn to skate programs, i support the building of the new ice arena.

Skating has been a part of Bowie's culture for decades, and we now see that our city has the opportunity to not only continue that culture in a more functional facility, but also make money from the facility. Please continue with the project, do not throw away the millions of dollars already spent on the project, and do not disregard the need and desire of so many citizen of Bowie by taking away the much needed new ice arena.

Respectfully,

Ella Rice.

Sent from my iPhone

Awilda Hernandez

From: P Connolly <cleggan@verizon.net>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 1:14 PM
To: cityclerk
Cc: Timothy Adams; Adrian Boafo; Henri Gardner; Ingrid Harrison; Michael Esteve; Dufour Woolfley; Rosann Ndebumadu; douglas.peters@senate.state.md.us; countyexecutive@co.pg.md.us; geraldine.valentino@house.state.md.us
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Bowie City Council to discuss the status and future of new Bowie Ice Arena

Dear Ms. Hernandez,

Please place the following email on the record for the City Council meeting scheduled for this evening May 18, 2020.

My wife and I have been residents of the City of Bowie for 41 years. We have raised our children here in the City of Bowie. We have witnessed the positive growth of our city since choosing to reside here in 1979. It has been a great city to call home. We have enjoyed the many services and amenities which are provided here in the City of Bowie. The parks, museums, city properties and services are second to none in Prince George's County. Our children grew up participating in different sports and activities at various fields and facilities provided and maintained by the city. We have always felt that we were receiving value and benefit for the taxes that we pay from our hard earned wages. We have seen much development in city infrastructure that has been spearheaded by many city officials and loyal city employees. All of this development has been handled professionally, ethically, and ultimately for the benefit of the residents of the city.

We have also watched the aging of and need for maintenance at the current City of Bowie Ice Arena. Our city leaders and city employees also recognized this need. It is our understanding that feasibility studies were done to determine the cost of upgrading the existing facility vs. building a new facility. There was much discussion on this issue and approximately 3 years ago it was determined that a new facility should be designed and built. A budget was discussed and approved. City council voted, approved and awarded a contract to Costello Construction in July of 2019 for the construction of a two sheet ice arena. Ground breaking took place in October of 2019. We understand that actual construction started in March of 2020. A plan that has gone thru all of the stages of conception, discussion, planning and approval was finally underway. Millions of dollars have already been spent in the evaluation, planning, design, permitting and implementation of this new facility.

We were shocked that after all of this hard work by our elected officials there is now to be a discussion of possibly stopping and/or cancelling this project. We are disappointed that a few individuals have seen fit to put the City of Bowie and all of its taxpayers at risk for a potential loss of 10 to 15 million dollars, not including all of the time the Mayor, Council, and city employees have spent on this project. The city has already sold a bond to cover the cost of this project, as they have done, to finance all previous major capitol expenditures started and completed by the City of Bowie. The city currently enjoys an excellent bond rating because of the track record of previously completed projects. The city will lose the support and respect of the business community if a decision is made to walk away from this project. We would not want to deal with any business that chose to renege on a contract that was entered into in good faith. The Mayor and City Council should not want to even consider this action for the City of Bowie. Mayor Adams and Council, you have a fiduciary responsibility to the citizens of Bowie to see this project to its completion.

Sincerely,

Marva L. and Paul M. Connolly
4002 Welsley Lane
Bowie, MD 20715
301-262-3520
cleggan@verizon.net
City of Bowie Residents since 1979

Awilda Hernandez

From: Gazvoda, Ludwig R LCDR <Ludwig.R.Gazvoda@uscg.mil>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 1:17 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Bowie IcePlex

Good Day,
I am writing to express my concerns with halting construction of the new ice arena in Bowie. What a shame it would be to cancel the contracts at this juncture of construction and simply throw away nearly $10 million of tax-payers' money. Mr. Mayor, you and the Bowie City Council have an opportunity to come off like heroes right now...at a time when the State of Maryland and our country need something positive to point to.

As an Active Duty military member who has uprooted his family and moved around the country seven times, I can honestly say that the 'family environment' my family and I encountered with the Bowie Hockey Club can only be described as special. Mr. Mayor, you have an opportunity to build something amazing here by doing something very simple - sticking to your word. Stick to the commitment you made when you issued $24 million in bonds; stick to the commitment you made when you awarded a contract to a construction company; stick to the commitment you made to the greater Maryland hockey community when you and the City Council approved construction of a facility that will bring a lot of money to the local area in the form of families staying weekends in Bowie during hockey tournaments. Continuing construction of the new Bowie IcePlex is a sound financial decision for the future.

COVID-19 has cast a shadow over many things - current and future - no doubt. I implore you to seize the opportunity to build something special for the future, I would go as far to say as your legacy as Mayor lies with your decision. Make the difficult choice, stick to your commitment, and most of all, invest in our kids and build a complex that will generate revenue for the City of Bowie for the next 50 years.

Best Regards,
Rudy Gazvoda

Awilda Hernandez

From: Beverly Simmons <beverly.simmons1231@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 11:56 AM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Please Pause and Think what is truly Needed during these Times?

Hello City Council,

I write to you with a sincere heart.

During these trying times where we witnessing people in our local area now hungry for food and supplies, and places to walk that are not over crowed. Yet developers are still seeking to build what they wish in our communities for a profit no matter the cost of life.

I am not saying to not build! I am asking for us to build what is needed during these trying and hard times.

God has given up plenty of opportunities to pause and think about what was promised, but what was done. The promise was to build a school in an empty field near Safeway in Fairwood. Now that hundreds (100's) and Thousand (1000s) of homes have been built since 2004, there is no sign of a new school. The part that really concerns me is that if you look at the elementary school on Woodmore Road, the drive way is made partially of rock and dirt. This is what our children have go to when arriving to school. But, yet, we can spend 23-28 million dollars on an ice skating rink. It just does not make sense! Our schools and the attendance have risen (due to the hundreds (100's) and thousands (1000s) of homes which have already been built since 2004.

My husband and I were going to build in this area back in 2004 and were told about the school/Safeway that will be built. We lived in another community for 10 years, but always wanted to live in this area. Then after retirement, we moved here after all. However, the promises that were told back in 2004 have failed us. The neighborhood that we invested our retirement savings, now has the opportunity of giving way to homes not of the same build and investment that was promised before moving to this type of zoning. We saved for many years to have the opportunity to build on acreage land. This was not an easy task to get to for we are an ordinary family with regular hard working jobs. But, we saved and invested so that we could move to an area with more trees, space and less congestion.

We moved away from a high density area near Brandywine where it was necessary at the time to talk about building a ramp just so we could get out of their neighborhoods. 7 years later, the ramp is built in Brandywine due to the excessive traffic that came after Waldorf kept building more and more homes with only one major highway coming into that area near the shopping. We moved away because of this reason and now living in a RE and RA neighborhood, we could face with the same concerns. This is just unfair and should not be allowed. In the last 7 years, we have witness developers attempting to change the Residential-Agricultural (RA) - which provides for large-lot (2 acre) residential uses while encouraging the retention of agriculture as a primary land use and Residential-Estate (RE) - which permits large-lot estate subdivisions containing lots approximately one acre or larger.

If we have to build, why not consider homes in ranch style or homes with elevators. These types of homes are selling well in Virginia, as well as, Bethesda, MD. These homes do not lower the investments of property owners who have already invested in a RA and RE zone. However, builders do not care about the community's investments, they only care about their own pockets. These types of homes would cost more money to build, but it will help our area which is already overburdened with traffic like that of Waldorf and Brandywine.

What makes 1 developers or 1 land owner, more important than a community of many. Some people in my neighborhood purchased their homes back in 2003-2006 in the millions. How sad it is for these developers to not even

consider what my neighbors purchased their home for many years ago. These homes still to this day, hold most of their value. But, what will make them decrease is building homes not of the same zone or land amount.

Please consider also what is being spent on the ice skating rink. Most people in my neighborhood do not ice skate. But, we will have to pay in taxes for someone else's hobby. Is this fair? Why not build as stated in a poll of what is mostly used in this area. Just to remind our council, the poll stated basketball, swimming and other sports over ice skating. Who ice skates? The people in favor of the ice rink live where? Then, who is paying for this 23-28 million dollar ice rink, those who live right here. Again, this is unfair and unjust to property owners.

The coronavirus has hit us all hard, but it has given us an opportunity to pause. I hope and pray we take the time to really see what was said, promised and voted for in a poll many years ago. How, do you promise and not honor your promise.

Ask yourself:

1. What is really needed going forward?
2. What did you promise and not comply?
3. Who are suffering and how can we help with today's concerns?
4. What matters today? Ice rink or groceries and open parks, etc... (

I would even consider farming for food will one day become a much needed resource!

Thank you for your time,

Sincerely and with humble intentions!

Beverly Simmons

Awilda Hernandez

From: michael brown <mbrowntv@msn.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 1:26 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Concerned Citizens - Dual Ice Rinks on Church Road

Dear Mayor Adams and City Council members,

I sincerely hope the Council votes NO on moving forward with the Dual Ice Rinks. As a resident of Woodmore Highlands on Church Road I hope this email can be read/added to the homeowners opposed to the building of this very expensive Dual Ice Rink complex on Church Road, Especially in this time of a Global Pandemic. Yes, there are many residents in this area opposed to this project that appears to serve far more people who are not residents. At this time it seems to make more sense to have Bowie money in place for the possible unforeseen assistance issues that will follow this Pandemic. At a later time I could see far less opposition if this project wasn't dedicated to just the ice skating and hockey community.

In closing I would like to Thank Mayor Adams for the article recently in the Bowie Blade and Council member Dufour Woolfley for looking at the entirety of the cost and impact on the budget and the community.

Thank You,

Michael Brown
14301 Duncannon Court
Bowie, MD 20721

District 3 Resident

Text Message Received 5/10/20 at 10:42p.m. 202-528-4012

Re: Ice Arena

Please vote NO on the 2-sheet facility on Church Road so we can reevaluate a multipurpose facility to better serve our diverse community and tax dollars

Torrienne Emery

Awilda Hernandez

From: brian@showdowntournaments.com
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 11:12 AM
To: cityclerk
Cc: lorimjones@comcast.net
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Support Bowie IcePlex

Hockey tournaments have been in the Harrington family since 1972. The original tournaments started in Tonawanda, NY and are still in operation today in Niagara Falls, NY. There were two original tournaments, which have expanded to eight tournaments a year (https://nahockey.com/). In 2001, I hosted the first annual Crabtown Showdown tournament; within five years the Maryland Crabtown Showdown grew from 23 teams to as high as 95 teams. This success led to hosting the first annual Maryland Capital Showdown in 2009. It has been very successful over its short duration growing from 18 teams to 80 teams per year. Besides these tournaments, since 1991 I have hosted the Country Western Showdown in Nashville TN (www.showdowntournaments.com).

The cost to operate each tournament about $100,000. Renting ice at the local hockey areas makes up 55 percent of the costs. We use the local referee association to officiate and local youth and men hockey players to coordinate the tournaments. That comprises another 25 percent of the tournament's costs. The other 20 percent goes toward awards and operations. These tournaments have been a great success for the local area economy. Each tournament we contract between 400-700 hotel rooms ranging from two to three day stays for each non-local family. The average hotel rate is $139 per room plus taxes. Each participating team is comprised of about 15 families, so we range between 1,000 to 1,500 families for each tournament. All out of town guest and most locals are on the run all weekend so they are eating out 2 to 3 times per day at local restaurants. Besides these expenditures, nearly all families drive requiring fills ups at local gas station. Many of the parents look forward to shopping at the local area malls, and many families spend an evening over at the Arundel Mills Casino, or go to a local sporting event (e.g. Capitals). These are just some of the known and measurable revenues a tournament generates locally.

One interesting observation for you to consider is the tournament we and other vendors host in Niagara Falls, NY. Absent hockey tournaments many of these hotels would not have a revenue stream and cash flow to operate during the winter months. Niagara Falls relies heavily on hockey tournament vendors to sustain their local economy. With the Bowie two-rink sheet facility, we plan to expand our tournaments in the local Maryland area. Ever tournament we typically max out the use of the ice at Bowie (1 sheet), Piney Orchard (2 sheets), Gardens Ice House (3 sheets plus outdoor rink), and have used the Naval Academy and Wells Rinks when they have ice available. The amount of ice available each weekend is the main driver on the number of teams we can host. More ice will likely mean more teams.

Please keep in mind that I am just one of many vendors that host youth boys and girls, as well as men's tournaments. Besides tournaments there are many vendors that host hockey camps. Based on your research, you should have also recognized that the two-sheet facility is a much better model than

a one sheet facility. Two sheet facility is the only way for a hockey organization to expand, as a one sheet has many limitations. These are factors you should take into consideration in making this important decision.

Yours Ice Hockey,
Brian Harrington
1321 Swan Drive Annapolis, MD
Brian@showdowntournaments.com
www.showdowntournaments.com
410-757-5205

Awilda Hernandez

From: Scott Scheleur <scottcaps7@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 1:28 PM
To: cityclerk; Timothy Adams; Adrian Boafo; Henri Gardner; Ingrid Harrison; Michael Esteve; Dufour Woolfley; Rosann Ndebumadu
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Continue the Bowie IcePlex Construction!

Dear Mayor and Council Members,

I hope that this message finds you well. Thank you for everything that you are doing to assist with keeping the City of Bowie safe during these unprecedented times. Unfortunately, the suggestion of stopping the construction of the Bowie IcePlex would not only be an unnecessary step that would do little if anything in getting the city safe and back to normal, it would be a huge waste of $16 million tax payer dollars, countless amount of time and efforts dating back to 2013 of planning, meetings, hearings, and voting, and wasted opportunity for money to be made in the near future.

I am not a Bowie resident but I have 2 sons playing hockey and have been part of the Bowie Hockey Club for 10 years. Our kids have grown up in the Bowie hockey program. As a Chesapeake Beach resident, I was probably in Bowie 2-3 times per year prior to our sons joining the club. For the last 10 years, though, our family is in Bowie a minimum of 2-3 per WEEK for 9 months of every year for practices, games, and public skates. We have made countless friends from our times in Bowie. While we are there, we typically go out to eat or shop somewhere in Bowie. We spend more of our retail and restaurant dollars in Bowie than we do at businesses in and around our own town. Bowie is an integral part of our day to day lives.

We have been following the process and signing petitions, and showing support for this new iceplex project for almost the entire time we've been coming to Bowie. Seeing the project approved and declined multiple times. Seeing the kids and parents getting excited and then disappointed over and over. I cannot believe I am having to draft this email at this point, after construction has already started.

I understand and respect every person's views and opinions and I appreciate your desire to be fiscally responsible with the town funds. I know you all are trying to do what's best for Bowie. Precisely for those reasons, I ask that you look at the taxpayer money already spent, the benefits for the community, and the amount of money that will be brought in from the events that will be taking place at the new facility. I ask that you look at the money that will be lost when the current ice arena is no longer usable. I also ask that you think about the disappointed kids that will no longer be able to play for the Bowie Bruins and will have to play in other organizations and their families who will be taking their business to other towns.

Please consider all of these things and support the continuation of the construction of the Bowie IcePlex as already planned and approved.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Scott Scheleur

Awilda Hernandez

From: mmgorman@wiscorp.com
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 12:38 PM
To: Awilda Hernandez
Cc: Ingrid Harrison; Henri Gardner
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Transmittal of The Record to Awilda Hernandez, Clerk of the City of Bowie for the City Council's Ice Plex hearing on May 18, 2020.
Attachments: RecordForCityOfBowieCityCouncilDiscussionOfBowieIcePlexOnMay18_2020.pdf

Importance: High

Awilda:

Please make this entire email as well as the attachment part of the City Record for the City Council's session today, May 18, 2020.

Read however, only the Following:

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Good Evening Mayor and City Council:

My name is Michael Gorman. I live at 2008 Althea Lane, Bowie, MD. We have lived in Bowie since 1967, a resident for the past 53 years.

I sent each of you, at 6:15 PM Sunday evening, May 17th, a copy of The Record that has been sent to Awilda Hernandez. This copy of The Record is now part of the Permanent Record of your Ice Plex deliberations.

As I stated in the email that each of you received, the record is well-reasoned, and totally complete and exceedingly clear. The decision to build the two-sheet complex was deeply researched over seven years prior to this Council beginning its term of office. All the factors were considered, thrashed about, and finally, through a democratic process, decided, 5-2 to proceed with rink construction, which is well underway.

What should your next step be? Simple: Move onto Courts and let the Ice Plex complete. Courts is where you are needed now. Hopefully, over the last day and a half you have had The Record, you carefully read all The Record's documents. Not only have you have previously received several of the documents in The Record, know that key aspects of The Record come directly from City records.

Every question you are likely to have, has been dealt with in one more of the documents in the attached 170-page PDF and via one or more of the links. Many of these documents have been sent you over the past several weeks, not just yesterday evening. I retain all my transmittal emails.

Good luck in your deliberations and I know that when you deliberate you will agree that Bowie Ice has been an excellent 50 year recreational amenity for Bowie and that it could continue to serve all the need of the Bowie Area just as Bowie's Field and Courts sports do. To wit, there has been, every year for six or more of the past years, 19,000 paid recreational admissions to Bowie Ice.

One final note. I have every expectation that you will finally make fair participant payments for Bowie's Field & Courts

sports as compared to participant payments for Ice Sports. Field and Courts only pay 16% of their costs while Ice Sports pay 67% of their costs. That's 4 times lower payments that parents pay for Field & Courts sports than for Ice Sports. Please make that fair for all.

Thank you for your time and attention

Michael M. Gorman
2008 Althea Lane
Bowie, Maryland 20716
Voice: 301-249-1142

==========

From: mmgorman@wiscorp.com
Sent: Sunday, May 17, 2020 6:10 PM
To: aboafo@cityofbowie.org; Adrian Boafo <aboafo@cityofbowie.org>; Henri Gardner <hgardner@cityofbowie.org>; Ingrid Harrison <iharrison@cityofbowie.org>; Michael Esteve <mesteve@cityofbowie.org>; Dufour Woolfley <dwoolfley@cityofbowie.org>; Rosann Ndebumadu <rndebumadu@cityofbowie.org>
Subject: The Record for Your Deliberation -- The links are best viewed if you print in Landscape Mode or use a wide screen.

Dear Council Members of Bowie:

The item attached is a 170-page PDF that consists of material drawn from City of Bowie records. The items below are links to different documents dealing with The Record.

It should not come as a surprise that you are encouraged to the following course of action: Accomplish your discussion and to move onto your next agenda item. And, thereafter, move to address Courts.

The record is exceedingly clear. The decision to build the two-sheet complex was deeply researched over seven years prior to this Council beginning its term of office. All the factors were considered, thrashed about, and finally, through a democratic process, decided, 5-2 to proceed with rink construction, which is well underway.

The Record is thorough, well-reasoned, and totally complete.

So, what should the next step be? Simple: Move onto Courts and let the Ice Plex complete. That's where you are needed the most. Hopefully, you have carefully read all these documents, key aspects of which come from City records.

Every question you are likely to have to make your decision, which I again recommend is to just move onto Courts, has been dealt with in one more of the documents in the attached 170 page PDF and in one or more of the links that follow.

I look forward to listening to your discussion tomorrow night, and I truly hope you will end this unfolding and irreconcilable nightmare you may be unleashing by just letting the Ice Rink complete. Again, it is the right, sound, and most thoroughly researched and documented decision the City Council has made since I moved to Bowie in 1967, a mere 53 years ago.

Regards,

Michael M. Gorman,

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

Item	Link
Unified approach for both Courts & Ice	www.wiscorp.com/pub/IceRink/OneBowieCourtsAndIce.pdf
Detailed facts supporting Ice Decision	www.wiscorp.com/pub/IceRink/OneBowieCourtsAndIceSupportsOfExc
Finance History 2013 - Present	www.wiscorp.com/pub/IceRink/HistoryOfOneBowieCourtsAndIce.pdf
Letter send to a Bowie City Council Member	www.wiscorp.com/pub/IceRink/CityCouncilMembersLetter.pdf
Letter sent to Bowie Delegation & County Council Chair	www.wiscorp.com/pub/IceRink/District23AndCountyCouncilChairLette
Bowie Blade Headline Mayor Proclaims Ice Rink is Cancelled	www.wiscorp.com/pub/IceRink/Covid19AsRationaleToTerminateTheU
How Much Will the Church Road Pile of Dirt Cost	www.wiscorp.com/pub/IceRink/HowMuchWillTheChurchRoadPileOfDi
City of Bowie Budget Page for the Ice Plex	www.wiscorp.com/pub/IceRink/CR-28BowieIcePlexProposed.pdf
What Kind Of City Is Bowie? Honest Dealer or What?	www.wiscorp.com/pub/IceRink/WhatKindOfCityIsBowieHonestDealerC
Who we are and why Bowie can afford Courts & Ice	www.wiscorp.com/pub/IceRink/01-BowieWhoWeAreAndWhatWeNee
Sports Facility Advisory Needs in Bowie	www.wiscorp.com/pub/IceRink/02-SportsFacilitiesAdvisorySportsNeed
History Bottom Line over the years	www.wiscorp.com/pub/IceRink/03-HIstoryFinanceBottomLineOverYea
Comparing Income & Expenses: Field & Courts vs Ice Sports	www.wiscorp.com/pub/IceRink/04-ComparingSportsCostsInBowie.pdf
Facts regarding One vs Two Courts and Ice Buildings	www.wiscorp.com/pub/IceRink/05-CombinedOrSeparateBuildings.pdf
Least-Worst Chosen for Ice Rink Cars, Parking & Traffic	www.wiscorp.com/pub/IceRink/06-CarsParkingTraffic.pdf
98.5% of All Ice Rink Paid Admissions are not Ice Teams	www.wiscorp.com/pub/IceRink/07-ThePaidAdmissionsToTheIceRink.p
Special Needs Community & The Bowie Ice Rink	www.wiscorp.com/pub/IceRink/08-SpecialNeedsChildrenNeedTtheIceF
Wounded Warriors, Fire, EMS & Police Need Ice Rink	www.wiscorp.com/pub/IceRink/09-WoundedWarriorsFireEMSAndPolic
Demand for Second Sheet Page 01	www.wiscorp.com/pub/IceRink/10-Demand ForFirstSheet.pdf
Demand for Second Sheet Page 02	www.wiscorp.com/pub/IceRink/11-Demand ForSecondSheet.pdf
Adult Ice Teams want Bowie Too	www.wiscorp.com/pub/IceRink/12-AdultHockeyLeague.pdf
Tournament Example 01 Brings more Money to Bowie	www.wiscorp.com/pub/IceRink/13-TournamentExample01.pdf
Tournament Example 02 Brings more Money to Bowie	www.wiscorp.com/pub/IceRink/14-TournamentExample02.pdf
Where they went after Bowie Hockey	www.wiscorp.com/pub/IceRink/15-WhereTheyWentAfterBowieHockey
Where they went after Bowie Figure & Free Style	www.wiscorp.com/pub/IceRink/16-WhereAreTheyWentAfterBowieFigu
What do Parents Say about Ice Page 01	www.wiscorp.com/pub/IceRink/17-WhatDoParentsSayAboutIce.pdf
What do Parents Say about Ice Page 02	www.wiscorp.com/pub/IceRink/18-WhatDoParentsSayAboutIce-More.
Summary why Bowie Ice Rink Construction Should Complete	www.wiscorp.com/pub/IceRink/19-SummaryOfWhyTheIceRinkConstru
High Risks And Redirection To Only Hockey By Private Owner	www.wiscorp.com/pub/IceRink/20-PublicOwnerOperatorVersusPrivate

Awilda Hernandez

From: Brian McCarthy <icedogshousedirector@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 12:44 PM
To: cityclerk; Timothy Adams; Adrian Boafo; Henri Gardner; Ingrid Harrison; Michael Esteve; Dufour Woolfley; Rosann Ndebumadu
Cc: Council District 4; At-LargeMemberHawkins; At-LargeMemberFranklin; Council District 1; Council District 2; Council District 3; Council District 5; Council District 6; Council District 7; Council District 8; Council District 9; douglas.peters@senate.state.md.us; geraldine.valentino@house.state.md.us; marvin.holmes@house.state.md.us; ron.watson@house.state.md.us
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Requesting the continuation of constuction of Bowie IcePlex
Attachments: CCHL Email to Bowie Council.docx

Greetings Bowie City Council please find the attached document with my request to continue construction of the Bowie IcePlex. if you have a need to reach out, you will find my contact information attached and please don't hesitate.

--
Brian M. McCarthy
CCHL Chairman
Vice President NOVA Ice Dogs

Dear Mayor and Council Members,

I've recently heard and read about your intentions to halt and cancel the new Bowie IcePlex currently under construction on Church Road. The Capitol Corridor Hockey League (CCHL) is very disappointed.

The CCHL is the recreational youth hockey league of the District, Maryland and Virginia area. This past year, 17 clubs, 90 teams and 1900 players participated in the season. The end of season tournament was recently renamed the Joe Loschiavo Memorial Cup after the recently deceased Bowie Hockey Club President Joe Loschiavo. Joe Loschiavo served as the CCHL Chairman for many years and contributed greatly to our community as a beloved coach and leader. Joe's lasting impact continues to live on through the growth of the players as individuals and athletes and the Bowie Hockey Club.

The CCHL intends to host the Joe Loschiavo Memorial Cup Division I tournament for all age groups in March 2022 and every year thereafter at the new Bowie IcePlex. The tournament is held over two weekends in March with over 150 games played. In addition, there are many other opportunities for the CCHL to utilize the new two sheet Bowie IcePlex facility by hosting 8U Mite tournaments as well as holiday jamborees.

Additionally, as Vice President of Northern Virginia Ice Dog's Hockey Club, we continue to wait for construction of a new facility to meet the ice demand of Virginia and DC and would likely be inclined to purchase ice from your facility to mitigate the ice gap we currently face. Please continue with the construction of the Bowie IcePlex as youth hockey continues to grow in the DMV area so does the demand for ice and especially two sheet facilities. Your new facility would be a corner stone in our region for current and future ice sport participants.

Thank you for your time.

Brian McCarthy
Capitol Corridor Hockey League Chairman
NoVa Ice Dog's Vice President
419-699-2507

Awilda Hernandez

From: Sarah Cohen <sacohen21@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 12:44 PM
To: Timothy Adams; cityclerk
Cc: Adrian Boafo; Henri Gardner; Ingrid Harrison; Michael Esteve; Dufour Woolfley; Rosann Ndebumadu; CouncilDistrict4@co.pg.md.us; At-LargeMemberHawkins@co.pg.md.us; At-LargeMemberFranklin@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict1@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict2@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict3@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict5@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict6@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict7@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict8@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict9@co.pg.md.us; douglas.peters@senate.state.md.us; geraldine.valentino@house.state.md.us; marvin.holmes@house.state.md.us; ron.watson@house.state.md.us
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Bowie IcePlex

Dear Bowie City Council,

I'm writing in regards to the upcoming city council meeting regarding the future of the new Bowie IcePlex. While I am not a Bowie resident, I spend more time in Bowie than in my hometown of Crofton. I have a 7 year old and 9 year old boys who both play for Bowie Hockey Club. While I could go on and on about how important Bowie Hockey Club is to our family, what matters is how important an ice rink is to our family and surrounding community. We chose to start skating lessons with my oldest at Bowie when he was 18 months old with the Tall & Small program. My boys have taken all the level lessons through alpha and skating for hockey prior to joining Bowie Hockey Club. This means that for years, we have supported the City of Bowie through their ice rink. We have held multiple birthday parties at the rink and come for family skates. I've watched three generations partake in the stick and puck sessions (my sons, husband and father in-law). Both of my boys attended the Bowie Ice Arena's Skate Camp last summer and thoroughly enjoyed it. Again, even with removing Bowie Hockey Club from the equation, these are services that I paid the City of Bowie and supported the City of Bowie by coming to the rink.

Bowie is an important city for my family. Not only is our beloved ice rink there, but our synagogue also is in Bowie so you can only imagine how many errands are done in Bowie by our family. From dining, grocery shopping, events, and more, we support the community's businesses.

Most importantly, the new Bowie IcePlex was voted on and approved months ago. Costello Construction has made great progress on the building of the new IcePlex. I'm astonished at the fact that this is even a discussion at this point. To think about the amount of money (yes, MILLIONS) that would be thrown away, not to mention future cost that the City would incur due to the irresponsibility and the hit on the City's reputation, makes me so disappointed in the leadership that believes this is the right thing to do.

I look forward to the Bowie City Council making the right decision, not just for the Ice community, for all Bowie residents.

Thank you,

Sarah Cohen

Awilda Hernandez

From: Patricia C Wilkins <pcwilkins12@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 1:45 PM
To: Awilda Hernandez
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: New Ice Arena

To whom it may concern,

By now I am sure you have read many letters about how expensive this new ice arena project is and how many other facilities could be created instead. It is all true. Also true is the fact that the project was approved more than once. Each time a new member is added or a situation changes, we have to defend the necessity of the arena.
The Bowie Ice Arena not only stands as a place for people of all ages to learn and practice ice skating and hockey, but a place that generates revenue for the city. All year. In every season, classes, team rehearsals private lessons and events are paid for and held there. After Hockey and Figure Skating competitions, families gather at restaurants, shop and play in and around Bowie's Town Center.
The money spent to build it is not a waste of taxpayer dollars it is an investment that yields a steady return with each passing year. Having 2 sheets of ice will be even more beneficial because it will allow us to host large, National events that we had to decline in the past because of the size and condition of the arena.
I need you to view this project with an open mind and a wide angel lens. If all we look at is right now, we will have nothing to build on in the future.
Tha ice Arena can assist in a positive financial future for the city as well as an inclusive, productive venue for all citizens. This is a good use of money. Please vote to build what we were promised so many times. Anything else would not be fair.

Thank you,
Patricia C. Wilkins

Awilda Hernandez

From: Carol Boyer <ccboyer@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 1:47 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Oppose Ice Rink on Church Road

As a 30+ year resident along Church Road, we are appalled that the City of Bowie made a very unwise decision to build an entirely new facility along Church Road. Church Road has seen more home construction and new housing developments over the last 10 years which has added more and more traffic.

Why not look at existing Ice Rink to make improvements & expansion?

Craig & Carol Boyer
13900 MountvOak Court
Bowie, MD 20721

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

Awilda Hernandez

From: Brenda James <barbarol@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 2:04 PM
To: cityclerk
Cc: Brenda James
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Citizen Participation - Ice Rink Cancellation

Citizen Participation
Brenda James
District 3 - Bowie, MD
Subject: Ice Rink Cancellation

Good Evening Mayor Adams, Council members and Staff.

I am writing to urge the Bowie City Council to cancel the ice rink on Church Road. My earlier position was that the ice rink was a bad financial decision for Bowie. With all the unknowns associated with the corona viruses current and future impacts on our City, continuing with this project can only make our financial situation worse. Bowie homeowners and residents deserve more than what our prior Council left us with as their legacy.

Brenda James

Awilda Hernandez

From: Tommy Allen <tommyallenjr@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 2:24 PM
To: cityclerk
Cc: Lori Jones
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Re: New Bowie Ice Arena

Bowie City Council:

My name is Tommy Allen. I am a volunteer coach with the Bowie Hockey Club. I grew up in Bowie and attended Benjamin Tasker Middle School and graduated from Bowie High School in 1992. I went on to Graduate from the University of Maryland with a BS Degree. Now I run my own successful IT Consulting company.

As a youth, I played 5 years in the Bowie Hockey Club. These were some of the best years of my life. I made a ton a friends through my years playing Ice Hockey in Bowie. Some of those friends are still working at the Bowie Ice Arena and have kids playing Ice Hockey and other sports in Bowie today. The lessons, friends and contacts I made through playing Ice Hockey with the Bowie Hockey Club helped shape me in to the person I am today.

Today I have two kids of my own. After taking learn to skate lessons at the Bowie Ice Arena, my boys started playing Ice Hockey with the Bowie Hockey Club when they were 4 years old. My older son is getting ready to turn 15 and my younger son is turning 12. I have been a volunteer coach with the Bowie Hockey Club for 10 years now. I wanted to give back to the club and community that helped me growing up. I want to teach these young players the importance of hard work, team first, personal responsibility and how to play a game they love for the rest of their life.

Our hockey club is like a family. The kids and parents are together 5 days/week for 9 months of the year. We frequent Bowie restaurants and do other shopping in Bowie as well. Unfortunately, since Bowie doesn't have multiple sheets of ice, we end up traveling outside of Bowie for tournaments and to play a far greater away games schedule than other clubs in our league in other cities that can support multiple games at one time. Some of the money we spend in these other cities could be spent in Bowie if we could play more at home.

I also play adult league hockey. I have to play in Anne Arundel county because Bowie does not have enough Ice slots available to host adult leagues. With a new facility, it would be possible to also host adult league hockey in Bowie.

I would ask that you continue construction of the new 2 ice sheet Bowie Ice Arena. A facility of this type is so important for the sport of Hockey, especially in Prince George's county. The Bowie Hockey Club is one of the most diverse clubs I've seen. The number of African American and Asian players, as well as young girls playing Ice Hockey in Bowie is unmatched. The club does many community outreach events each year to recruit more Bowie residents to take up this great sport. In order to grow the Hockey Club and compete with other clubs in our league that already have multi-ice sheet facilities, it is necessary for Bowie to have a new 2 sheet facility.

Thanks,

Tommy Allen
Bowie Hockey Club (Coach)

Awilda Hernandez

From: Lisa S Klein <lklein32@umd.edu>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 2:30 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Bowie Ice Rink

Good Afternoon,

I am a resident of Bowie and my son has played hockey at the rink since he was 5 -- 10 years. I find it absolutely ridiculous that the new mayor and council are wanting to cancel the new rink. The city has already spent $8 million dollars on the new rink and several more millions to buy out the cost from the awarded construction company. How is this being fiscally responsible? As a taxpayer in this city, I'm NOT in favor of losing between 8 and 12 million dollar on canceling the rink. Let's continue to build the new rink -- it is an investment in the youth of this county. Studies have shown that the new rink would become profitable in the first couple of years.

I don't believe the reason for canceling the rink is due to COVID-19, I believe it a personal agenda of the council members.

We need the new rink, please keep the funding.

Lisa Klein

--
Lisa Klein
Finance Director
Department of History
301-405-4258

Awilda Hernandez

From: Shane Albright <albright.shane@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 2:42 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Comments for Bowie IcePlex discussions for 5/18 council meeting

People don't always see things eye to eye. I've lived in this city for over 30 years and on occasion I have been disappointed by the decisions of the council. But I've never been disappointed by the process of making a decision. I first learned of this discussion when I read in the Bowie Blade that the city had cancelled the ice rink, which was subsequently corrected. Then I read Mayor Adams' opinion piece, which gave his assessment of the situation, but provided no numbers on expected tax income for the city, the money/time spent to get where we are now, the cost to cancel, the liabilities associated with cancelling, what would happen to partially constructed land. And, perhaps because of the stay at home order, the public is at the mercy of internet rumors about all of this. I can't even tell if you are discussing it today or voting on it, because the information out there is unreliable. It's difficult to have a legitimate public discourse on this topic under these conditions. For a decision that affects millions of dollars in public funds, we need more transparency and discourse. We should not cancel this or any other large projects without thorough justification, backed by publicly released data, with ample time to review the data.
If I had to choose today, I would choose what I believe to be the fiscally responsible choice: to continue construction. It funds local jobs and actually creates something our public can use.
Thank you.

Shane Albright

Awilda Hernandez

From: john hankins <schmankins@msn.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 2:44 PM
To: cityclerk; Awilda Hernandez
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Bowie Iceplex

Good Afternoon,

I wanted to express my frustration with the city of Bowie in yet another attempt to put a stop to construction of this project. We have had all 4 of our kids involved with the Bowie Hockey program over the past 6-7 yeras and while we are not Bowie residents, it is our second home and we feel that the construction should not be stopped. We spend thousands of dollars per year at the local businesses throughout the year as I am sure hundreds of others as well. It does not make sense considering approx $12 million of a $21 millon project has already been spent not including the interest on the bonds. As you are aware, the current arena is well beyond it useful life and costs millions of dollars each year to operate where the new arena is slated at minimum to break even and possibly turn a profit for the City of Bowie. The hockey clubs in the area need more ice time not less. Please do not stop the construction. It seems the few Council Members that did not want it to begin with for unknown reasons are grasping at the Covid -19 pandemic as a means to get their way. Thank you.

Respectfully,
John Hankins

May 18, 2020

Good Afternoon Mr. Mayor and Bowie Councilmembers,

I am writing to you as a firm supporter of the construction of the new Bowie Ice Arena. My family and I have been working for seven long years to get to this point.

But today, I am also writing to you as a City of Bowie resident. I am expressing my concern about the future of the new Bowie Ice Arena. When 2020 started, we did not believe we would be fighting for our very existence once again. The contracts have been signed with Costello Construction, all permits have been approved, utility lines have been laid and primary construction started weeks ago. The Bonds have been sold and the money was approved for the construction of the new ice arena. The money for this project is not coming out of the operating budget. The money was not approved for the Bowie Golf Course. The money was not approved for other Capital Projects. The City of Bowie has money already set aside for the Covid-19 response.

Fiscal Responsibility...

These words have been used a lot lately to describe this project. As a citizen of Bowie, I would like to know exactly how much money has been spent-to-date on this project. I also would like to know how much is needed for any additional costs (open invoices, etc.) and most importantly, how much money will be needed to BUY-OUT the contract with Costello Construction. All of these amounts should be tabulated and presented to the Citizens of Bowie prior to any vote to terminate the project. Then we all will know if terminating this project will be considered Fiscally Responsible?

After all of this has been said and done, it comes back to the fact that I am also a mother. My daughter has been skating at the Bowie Ice Arena for 15 years. She started when she was two years old with a Tall and Small Class. Since that time, she has been skating with the Bowie ISI Team for 10 years now. She skates individually and with several of the teams. She is one of the three graduating High School Seniors.

Thank you for all your help in this matter! Please do not let our fight be in vain. My daughter is graduating, but there is a long line of young skates that are waiting in the wings to enjoy a life time of skating. Also, do not throw away all the millions of dollars already spent on this project. This is not Fiscal Responsibility!

Sincerely,

Marian Ratcliffe

District II Resident

Awilda Hernandez

From: turtlebug212@comcast.net
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 2:55 PM
To: cityclerk; Awilda Hernandez
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Meeting 5/18

To be read at the City Council Meeting on 5/18/20

To Mayor Adams and all City Council in addition all County and State Representatives I emailed:

I am writing AGAIN on behalf of supporting the New Bowie IcePlex facility. To use the global pandemic as a reason to try to shut it down – is just making it easy to cling to the fear that most people are dealing with in these times. HOWEVER, the Costello Construction team has been working during this whole time. They are using precautions, social distancing, AND keeping jobs for their employees instead of sending them to the unemployment lines. It is EXTREMELY disappointing that a new round of officials would come in and quickly turn on the past administrations actions so quickly – after they did all the leg work and surveys and backbones to the project. To just come in and turn it around is a disrespectful slap in the face. Are you all those type of politicians?? For Bowie's sake I sure hope not!!

My son, Tyler, is a 6 year member of the Bowie Hockey Club as well as an active member and currently the Master Councilor of Bowie-Collington Chapter Order of DeMolay – a masonic youth group. As a DeMolay my son also helps to do roadside cleanup several times a year, participates in city activities such as city parades, CHIP program at Bowie Fest, etc. These 2 community outlets help him to grow, socialize, and becoming an upstanding citizen of the world we live in. Would you rather take things away from today's youth and have them turn to delinquent activities and nonsense? It takes parents, friends, community, and POSITIVE outlets for them to grow properly. Please also remember that your actions as city officials is sometimes the very first impression and experience these children have to learn about government. I'm sure that actions like these – would NOT fair well. First impressions are hard to change – and they need to know and understand government to grow and make decisions about our Nation as they get older – again it takes more than just the parents to do that. Better to make them feel safe and protected by our officials decisions knowing that they stand behind their actions than to just undermined previous decisions and act like their opinions don't matter. It shows RESPECT for those that came before you.

Costello Construction has done nothing but a FABULOUS job thus far and need to be allowed to continue the contract they were awarded. Not only are you effecting the Bowie community but you are affecting jobs, families, communities that regularly compete here, etc. Also, how much are you willing to spend for the proper security to keep loitering individuals out of the active construction zone if it becomes an abandoned project?? People can get seriously injured on the construction materials that are already in place – if left unsupervised.

I BEG OF YOU ALL – PLEASE BE SMART ABOUT THIS DECISION – THE NEW BOWIE ICEPLEX PROJECT NEEDS TO CONTINUE AND BE COMPLETED FOR ALL PARTIES INVOLOVED. FOR IT TO BE CLOSED DOWN NOW IS NO WHERE A SMART IDEA FINANCIALLY, MORALLY, ETHICALLY, OR AT ALL PERIOD!!

Thank you for your time,
Sarah Schaefer
District 2B resident of 30+ years

Awilda Hernandez

From: Craig Laughlin <craig.laughlin18@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 2:55 PM
To: cityclerk; Timothy Adams; Adrian Boafo; Henri Gardner; Ingrid Harrison; Michael Esteve; Dufour Woolfley; Rosann Ndebumadu; coundildistric4@co.pg.md.us; at-largememberhawkins@co.pg.md.us; at-largememberfranklin@co.pg.md.us; councildistrict1@co.pg.md.us; councildistrict2@co.pg.md.us; councildistrict3 @co.pg.md.us; councildistrict5@co.pg.md.us; councildistrict6@co.pg.md.us; councildistrict7@co.pg.md.us; councildistrict8@co.pg.md.us; councildistrict9 @co.pg.md.us; douglas.peters@senate.state.md.us; geraldine.valentino@house.state.md.us; marvin.holmes@house.state.md.us; ron.watson@house.state.md.us
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: NEW BOWIE ICE ARENA

Hello all:

We need this facility! Please do not cancel , halt, slow down or redesign the facility - It will be a "gem" and a "spectacular landmark " of the region for years to come as designed and I can't wait for it to open!

My name is Craig Laughlin a former NHL player for the *Washington Capitals* and current color analyst on *NBC SPORTS WASHINGTON* and a resident of this region since 1982.

I live in Gambrills, Maryland and have been a Bowie ice arena supporter and advocate since I used to practice at the old facility back in the early 80s with the Washington Capitals. Both my children were also part of the Bowie skating and hockey programs and I also coached for the Bowie Bruins.

Hockey and skating are booming in this area and ice time is sold out at just about every venue.This new project will attract people from around the DMV, throughout the Mid Atlantic and the US! The influx of people to this facility will enhance a ton of businesses in PG county and most importantly keep our kids and adults alike active and safe in a friendly and enjoyable environment.

I highly recommend you move forward with this project.

It is COOL on ice! Lets complete the project!

Sincerely

Craig Laughlin

410-703-6905

Washington Capitals Alumni

NHL Alumni

NBC Sports Washington-Analyst

Awilda Hernandez

From: Rich Takacs - NOAA Federal <rich.takacs@noaa.gov>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 2:57 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Support for City of Bowie's planned ice rink replacement

Good afternoon;

Being a city of Bowie resident, and the parent of two boys who came up through the ranks of initial skating lessons at Bowie, then the Bowie Bruins, and numerous camps and general skating sessions at the existing Bowie skating facility, we feel a strong connection to the amenity it provides to the citizens and the community.

At this juncture in time, the discussion should not really be about whether Bowie needs a "new" ice rink, in terms of is this something that should be "added" to the city's assets and facilities. From my understanding (both through the public news articles and in discussions with rink staff), the real message is that the current facility is at the end of its lifespan in terms of capital improvement needed versus cost of maintaining, etc.

No one is advocating that the city do away with having an ice rink, yet that is the distinct possibility if the current approved plan doesn't go forward. This really isn't a "should we have a new x versus a new ice rink argument", as some have portrayed it to be. It is more a matter of whether former or current city government effectively planned for the eventual capital replacement of a current city amenity.

To back away from the currently approved plan, given the amount of time, money, and political willpower expended to date, is likely a tacit approval that at some point in the near future (given the condition of the existing infrastructure at the rink), the city may very well have NO ice rink. While again, no one has been advocating for that, it could effectively be the end point if the current approved plan is upended.

The current use numbers support having a rink. The current revenue stream supports having a rink. The current political process supports (or supported at the time) having a rink. The only thing that has really ever been in doubt is whether the current rink can support the community. It can't. It needs to be replaced, and the new facility is the plan for that.

Please stay on that course, so that we don't have to tell residents that Bowie used to have an ice facility, but doesn't anymore, because no one could effectively plan or budget for its upkeep AND eventual replacement.

Thank you for your time.

--

Rich Takacs

15021 Nashua Lane
Bowie MD 20716

(301) 346-8374 cell
rich.takacs@noaa.gov

Awilda Hernandez

From: Carletha Gates <carletha.gates@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 3:02 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Concerned Bowie Citizen - District 4

Dear Mayor Adams and Council Members,

I am vehemently opposed to the construction of a multi million dollar ice arena. At this time during a worldwide pandemic, the city's funds can be better spent on maintaining the infrastructure of our great city. Please vote NO on the Bowie Ice Arena.

Thank you,
Dr. Carletha Gates
20 year Collington Station Resident

Awilda Hernandez

From: Amberlee Gwaltney <amberlee.gwaltney@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 3:04 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Ice rink

This project is important to a lot of kids and family's my son started with Bowie its been our home for 5 years and i know it needs a lot of love and care this is why the new ring is really important to us. We need the 2 sheets so they can have more practices for the kids and also not have them so early on weekends. its important to kids to have the opportunity to play and we need the bigger rink please don't take that away from the kids. keep this going it will bring in more games and more travel game which means more for the city of Bowie. Please keep this project going.

Bowie Hockey Mom

Awilda Hernandez

From: Kris Mayo <krismayo@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 3:05 PM
To: Timothy Adams
Cc: Public Info; Awilda Hernandez; aboafo@cityofbowie.o; Henri Gardner; Ingrid Harrison; Michael Esteve; Dufour Woolfley; Rosann Ndebumadu
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Bowie Ice Arena Support

Dear Mayor Adams and Councilmembers Boafo, Gardner, Harrison, Esteve, Woolfley, and Ndebumadu,

I am writing to express my support for the continued construction of the new Bowie Iceplex.
Please do not use the excuse of the global pandemic to scrap the construction of the new Bowie Iceplex. I believe you are taking the "easy" way out and blaming coronavirus for bailing out on a worthwhile construction project in order to avoid criticism and personal political fallout. Bowie is not in financial trouble. The last time I checked, the bulk of City revenue comes from property taxes. COVID-19 will not cause property tax revenue to decrease. The last time I checked, the current Bowie Ice Arena was making a profit. The new Bowie Iceplex is projected to INCREASE that profit significantly.

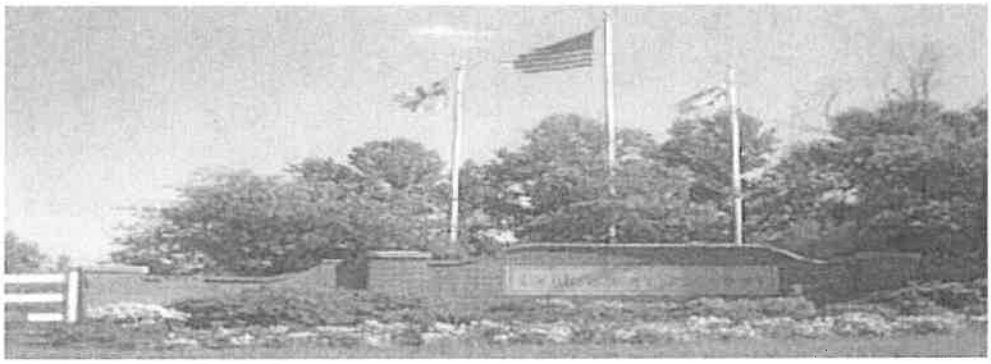
It is no secret that the Bowie Iceplex project has been passionately debated for years. It is also no secret that the construction of the Bowie Iceplex to replace a severely aging facility that is in need of millions of dollars of repair has repeatedly been scrutinized and vetted by city planners and economists many times over. The Bowie Iceplex will bring positive cashflow to the City. Some people have argued that the ice arena is mostly used by people coming from outside of Bowie. That is actually untrue. However, whether it is or not, why does it matter? If they are spending money on ice area admission, buying food, gas and lodging in Bowie (and shopping while they are in our town waiting for their kid's lesson to be over) then that is even more revenue generated for the City of Bowie.

Beyond that, there is the human benefit. How wonderful is it for residents of our great city to have OPTIONS available to our citizens, young and old. I see skaters at the arena from ages 3 - 80+. I see skaters of all different races. It is shortsighted to pigeonhole Bowie kids as basketball players. By ending this construction project, you are limiting the possibilities for all of the children of Bowie, missing out on a profitable enterprise, and turning your backs on the informed and wise decisions made by previous councilmembers who actually put the interests of Bowie and the desires of its citizens and supporters above their own personal interests.

As a politician, you are not going to please everyone all of the time. However, as a politician, you should do the right thing and not be swayed by the vocal minority that you are afraid of.

Sincerely,

Kristina Mayo
Bowie Resident



Collington Station Homeowners Association
375 Johnsberg Lane
Bowie, MD 20721

May 18, 2020

From: The Collington Station Homeowners Association (CSHOA)

To: Honorable Mayor Tim Adams & Councilwoman Roxy Ndebumadu (District 4)

Subject: CSHOA Opposition to Continuing New Ice Rink Construction

Honorable Mayor Adams/Honorable Councilwoman Roxy Ndebumadu:

On behalf of the 528 District 4 Collington Station Residents, the CSHOA strongly opposes the continued wasteful and unneeded construction of the new Bowie Ice Rink Arena, especially in light of the financial burden the ongoing CONVID-19 Pandemic has placed on the city of Bowie, Maryland State, and the entire nation. More specifically, the contract should be terminated for convenience, and the savings should be used to sustain the city's existing personnel, services, and infrastructure.

The CSHOA's 1,100+ Bowie City voting base will be watching to see if you truly listen to district constituency by voting tonight to discontinue the unneeded and cost-inefficient Bowie City Ice Rink Arena construction project.

Harvey Gates
President/CEO
Collington Station Homeowners Association

Awilda Hernandez

From: Rosa Suarez <rosa8605@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 3:13 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Bowie IcePlex

To whom this may concern,

this email is to implore the city of Bowie to continue the project for the new Bowie IcePlex. Although we are not residents of Bowie, if it was not for this ice program (we have had birthday parties, the children learned to skate and our son has played hockey for 6 years now, as he is only 10 years old) we would not step foot in Bowie at all. I currently attend Bowie State University seeing that a lot of my time is already at Bowie Ice Arena. The project has already begun and the children were excited until they heard this news of the risk of this project being cancelled. Please, do not stop the project to have this new 2 sheet of ice establishment.

Respectfully Sent,

The Watson Family

Awilda Hernandez

From: Neal Clark <NClark@thompsoncreek.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 3:18 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Save the Bowie IcePlex

Dear City of Bowie Council Members,

I grew up next door to Bowie in Crofton, MD and I played hockey for the Bowie Bruins for about 10 years. I chose to play for Bowie because my two older cousins sparked my interest in the sport and that's who they played for. There were a few other rinks close to Crofton that I could have made my home rink but once I started at Bowie I never considered leaving even though Piney Orchard Ice Arena and Benfield Ice Arena were both about 10 minutes away. A large majority of my teammates came from neighboring communities too. At the time (early 1990's to early 2000's) Bowie was the only option for some of the kids that lived in Southern Maryland. Even though the number of rinks in the area have increased they don't match the growth of the sport. With the Capitals recent success kids are coming out to play hockey in never before seen numbers. It would be a shame to see Bowie withdraw from the Bowie IcePlex project, to not be a part of the growth of a great sport, and to forfeit the opportunity to make a return on the money invested thus far.

Neal Clark
Manager-Demand Generation
240-848-1252

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Awilda Hernandez

From: Kathleen Beres <kabintospace@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 3:27 PM
To: cityclerk
Cc: Miller Einsel; Kathleen
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Letter to the Mayor and City Council

Dear Mayor and City Council Members,

My husband and I have been residents of Bowie for over 30 years. We live on Church Road.

We beg you to stop the overwhelming overdevelopment of Church Road! We DON'T need an ice rink on an already precarious road with speeders that even took the life of a young child just trying to cross Church Road. We DON'T need new housing development on the Freeway Airport property! There is no infrastructure with a two lane bridge to exacerbate the traffic issues!

There was an armed highjacking on Sunday morning at the McDonald's! There were gunfire shots on Enterprise Road on Friday night! We know of 3 families that have left Bowie this year to either another County or another State due to their safety concerns and issues with Bowie!

Isn't it already a huge embarrassment that due to the high density of people in the Bowie/Mitchellville zip codes that we have the traumatic distinction of having the highest Corona virus cases!

Prince George's County is the poster child for the highest number of Corona Virus cases- is that how PG wants to be recognized? Our friends and family from other Counties in MD are all aware and worried that we live in the PG CV Zone! Embarrassing but true!

Please make Bowie safe again by NOT increasing the development on an already severely stressed 😣 Church Road! The road kill on Church Road speaks for all the speeding!

Please respect the citizens that live in the Church Road vicinity- don't our lives count?

Sincerely,
Kathleen Beres & Miller Einsel
3120 Church Road
Bowie, MD 20721-1223
May 18, 2020

Sent from my iPhone

PVAHA
Potomac Valley
Amateur Hockey Association
An Affiliate of USA Hockey

May 18, 2020

The Potomac Valley Amateur Hockey Association is the governing body for all things ice hockey in the Maryland, Virginia and Washington, D.C. area. I am the president of the PVAHA and have been involved in youth, collegiate and adult hockey for the past 33 years. My children's teams have played against Bowie's teams I the current Bowie Ice Rink for many years. The local Capital Beltway Hockey League, of which Bowie Hockey is a member, has held many hockey related events at Bowie Ice Rink. Many local hockey tournaments have also been held there. We have watched the building deteriorate over the years. New repairs would take the building out of commission in the hockey community for a period of time it can't afford.

There is a severe shortage of ice in the Maryland, Virginia, Washington, D.C. area. The loss of the Tucker Rd. rink to fire two years ago placed a huge strain on the programs that skated there and left them scrambling to find a new facility or facilities willing to let them purchase the ice they needed in order to compete. There is not enough ice time to accommodate all of the youth hockey in the Bowie area. There is not enough ice time in the current facility to accommodate adult hockey players or adult leagues, high school players or high school teams. High school teams have to buy ice at times of 9:00 PM or later in order to practice or hold games and only during the week as weekend ice is fully utilized at all rinks in the area. Sled hockey, blind hockey, special hockey and Warrior programs are all at a disadvantage when trying to buy enough needed ice for their programs and sometimes causes their players to travel great distances to be able to practice and play games.

It is not unusual for a hockey team to travel over an hour from home to a rink for practice and games. As an example, Navy Youth Hockey teams drive past/through Bowie to Laurel for practice and games. There is one sheet of ice at the Naval Academy and it is shared with the three Naval Academy teams and there is not always enough time for all programs. These teams could be better served at Bowie. Many adult players who live in Bowie are traveling to Piney Orchard and Laurel in order to play games in their leagues. The owner of Piney Orchard rarely sells ice to youth hockey teams he feels are in competition with the youth programs in his building. The same thing happens at the new St. James ice rink. A new rink in Bowie would allow for enough ice to grow a bigger youth hockey program as well as an adult league.

USA HOCKEY

SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT SINCE 1962

PVAHA
Potomac Valley
Amateur Hockey Association
An Affiliate of USA Hockey

There are approximately 13,500 registered youth and adult hockey players in the Maryland area. Approximately 400 youth players and coaches are registered in Bowie. The adult numbers are scattered between Piney Orchard and Laurel and appear to be approximately 300 or so. As figure skating is not my bailiwick, I have no idea how many figure skaters in the Bowie are impacted.

While I am not a Bowie resident, I am active in my local county government and am also an employee of Baltimore County. I was brought up to believe in a democratic process. A person or entity states their case, makes their pitch, campaigns, etc. and it is brought to the floor for discussion. A vote is then taken and there is a winner and a loser. Sometimes you win, sometimes you lose but you don't keep bringing it back to the floor because you didn't get the result you were hoping to get.

In today's political climate if the Bowie Ice Plex project is halted after it was voted on, approved, moved forward and construction has been started there would be a huge economic impact to those current employees working on the project. Not to mention the public black eye on the faces of those who voted to halt the project. It would impact the trustworthiness of Bowie's political leaders. Is it worth the cost of probable litigation for breach of contract after millions have already been spent? Or is it best served to move forward to benefit the citizens of Bowie who live, work and play there.

Ice time is at an all time high commodity. The demand for ice time is tremendous, the supply is severely limited. The return of investment generated by this new Bowie Ice Plex will be, by far, above and beyond any other recreational facility the City of Bowie has.

Linda Jondo
President
Potomac Valley Amateur Hockey Association

USA HOCKEY

SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT SINCE 1962

PVAHA

Potomac Valley
Amateur Hockey Association

An Affiliate of USA Hockey

USA HOCKEY

SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT
SINCE 1962

Awilda Hernandez

From: Jeffrey Holmes <theprincipal04@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 3:46 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Concerned Citizen (District 3)

Dear Mayor Adams and City Councilmembers
As you vote this evening on the ice arena, I want to share my family and I are only in support of a MULTI-PURPOSE facility. The Ice Arena creates an equity issue for members of our community. There is a limited number of families that the ice arena will serve. These inequities are likely to divide our community by age, race, and gender. We want to be sure our city facilities serve to support the growth and development of all families.
Dr. Jeffrey O. Holmes

Awilda Hernandez

From: Justin Ford <justin_ford@verizon.net>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 3:48 PM
To: cityclerk; Awilda Hernandez; Timothy Adams; Adrian Boafo; Henri Gardner; Ingrid Harrison; Michael Esteve; Dufour Woolfley; Rosann Ndebumadu; CouncilDistrict4 @co.pg.md.us; At-LargeMemberHawkins@co.pg.md.us; At-LargeMemberFranklin@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict1@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict2 @co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict5@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict6@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict7@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict8@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict9 @co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict3@co.pg.md.us; douglas.peters@senate.state.md.us; geraldine.valentino@house.state.md.us; marvin.holmes@house.state.md.us; ron.watson@house.state.md.us
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Bowie Ice Rink

Good Afternoon,
Please accept this letter in support of the continuation to build the new Bowie Ice Rink. I will keep this letter limited as there are many persons with responses to this matter.
After spending multiple days a week in your current facility over the last 5 years, as well as having a child who has the fortune of working there, I found there are few places other than the rink we could call home. Unfortunately, the rink is at a point that it needs replaced and upgraded to a facility that can last many decades into the future and allow more people to be able to call it home and have amazing experiences.

I understand there is a want to fiscally responsible, but in order to grow and bring revenue into the county, the construction on the rink must continue to completion. The ability to bring tournaments and showcases to town would be lost. The ability to expand programs and offer additional summer sessions would be lost. The money invested in the current project would be lost, not to mention any possible legal ramifications of stopping could be detrimental.

The Bowie rink has the possibility to do something that is not a very common thing in the county; it will be put a place that is a "Go To" facility. That cannot be said for many of the rinks, or places in our area. Stopping the project does not allow that. It does not allow Bowie to put a foothold on the area as the "Come Play/Learn/Grow Here" attraction to pull in more residents as well as draw in outside residents. There is the need for that type of facility. Do not limit the youth from having that by stopping at this point.

To sum it up in a very cliche manner: "If you build it, they will come"

Respectfully,

Justin Ford

Andrew and Jerri Falk
3494 Constellation Drive
Davidsonville, Maryland 21035
410-956-4355

May 18, 2020

Dear Bowie City Council Members:

I am not a resident of Bowie, but live the next town over in Davidsonville. My two daughters have skated at the Bowie Ice Arena since they were both two years old. We spent many years taking lessons in Bowie and as members of Bowie figure skating teams. My children chose to skate here over other organizations because of the relationships they have fostered with their coaches, and for what they say is the best ice around. I chose to let them skate here because it is a respected program with skilled, caring instructors in a clean, well managed facility with efficient and personable staff. The girls would skate every day if there was enough ice time available.

So, for the past 18 years, my family has been coming to Bowie 3 to 5 days a week. While the girls took their lessons, in Bowie our family also shopped for clothes, shopped for groceries, shopped for crafts, costumes and props, purchased home renovation and gardening materials, purchased gas, purchased musical instruments, purchased and maintained two vehicles, cared for our pets, got office supplies, used the Bowie post office, and patronized more restaurants than I can include here. That revenue did not go to Davidsonville or Annapolis, where I actually spend more of my time, but to the City of Bowie. Also, as non-residents, we pay a premium to take lessons here. I also am acquainted with many people from the Annapolis area who play for Bowie's hockey teams, and everyone agrees it is worth the extra travel and cost because of the quality of the staff and programs.

This new IcePlex will enable more skaters to use the ice at a time, all twelve months of the year, itself generating much more revenue than the current facility and bringing more business to the city. It seems a terrible shame to waste funds already spent and not capitalize on this opportunity to improve the facility for a popular activity, as well as to enable Bowie to offer the area a premier facility that will bring in revenue from across the region. As the current City Council approved large expenditures toward this new facility just in the past few months, and so clearly recently saw its value, please honor the City's commitment and complete the current Bowie IcePlex project.

Thank you,

Jerri Falk

Awilda Hernandez

From: Sara McQueeney <sara.mcqueeney@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 3:53 PM
To: Awilda Hernandez; Public Info
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Bowie Ice Arena

Ms. Hernandez-
I would like to make my voice heard tonight at your council meeting. It has been brought to my attention that the ice arena is on the agenda again. I know you have heard from many people about how much the ice arena has become a part of their lives, and this is true for my family as well. I play ice hockey and my daughter skates on the Bowie ISI team. This is her sport, her passion and her team. Her teammates have become her best friends. As this tends to happen with any sport. Her and her teammates have already fought for the ice arena, and they won. Now it is being suggested that the Corona Virus is going to be an excuse to throw away what has already been fought for. Please don't make the Corona Virus the excuse for this. The ice arena closing, my daughters team disbanding, teammates/ friends disappearing will be the legacy the corona virus will leave on her as well as the hundreds of other kids on all of the teams Bowie Ice Arena represents. Please think about the effects this will have on the kids.

--
Thanks-
Sara McQueeney

Awilda Hernandez

From: Bob Michelson <robert.michelson@verizon.net>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 3:56 PM
To: Awilda Hernandez
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: FW: City of Bowie Ice Rink

Ms. Hernandez,

We request that my email to Council members Garner, Harrison and Ndebumadu be entered and read into the record during tonight's council meeting.

Thank you.

Robert and Sharon Michelson

From: Bob Michelson <robert.michelson@verizon.net>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 10:23 AM
To: 'hgardner@cityofbowie.org' <hgardner@cityofbowie.org>; 'rndebumadu@cityofbowie.org' <rndebumadu@cityofbowie.org>; 'iharrison@cityofbowie.org' <iharrison@cityofbowie.org>
Subject: City of Bowie Ice Rink

City of Bowie Council Members,

We have never communicated previously communicated about an action the City of Bowie Council has considered to take. We are doing so now because the move by Mayor Adams to cancel the contract to construct the ice rink complex is so wrong and will do such lasting damage to the City and property values that we are compelled to write all of you. We urge you to vote against the motion of the Mayor to cancel the ice rink complex. In the next City election, we will vote against anyone who votes to cancel the project and will urge everyone we know to do the same.

Since our children grew up and moved out of our house, we have gone to the current Bowie Ice rink twice in the past 20+ years. We went with our grandchildren. When our children were in school and they regularly went to the ice rink, even 20 years ago, it was obvious to us that it needed to be replaced sooner than later. This became even clearer when we went with our grandchildren. So, we supported building the new ice rink complex. We also supported it because it w as in keeping with what has made Bowie a great place to live – it provided needed recreational services for all its citizens as well as needed essential services.

The cancellation of the ice rink is plain stupid. The city has awarded a construction contract to build the complex. Construction has begun. We drive past it on Church Road. The City has issue Bonds that, as we understand it, can only be used for building the complex. Cancelling the project will costs millions of dollars in cancellation fees to the contractor. Cancellation will may also mean that the bonds issued by the city will be in default. If that happens the City's treasured AAA Bond rating will be downgraded to perhaps junk status. And, since the Bonds were issued for the purpose of building the complex, they can't be repurposed for general operating expenses as the Mayor says.

Finally, the cancellation of the ice rink complex project will result in home values declining because the City of Bowie will no longer be seen as providing recreational facilities to its residents and the reduction of its Bond rating will make potential home buyers think twice before buying a home here.

Robert and Sharon Michelson
1737 Peachtree Lane

Awilda Hernandez

From: hallna@verizon.net
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 3:57 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Bowie Ice Complex (Citizen Participation)

To: The Mayor of Bowie and the City Council

I have written several letters the past couple of months expressing my reasons for opposing the plans to build the Bowie Ice Complex.
I just want to reiterate them again for some of the
previous reasons that myself and others have written about (Covid-19 affect on
future budgets; cost/funding of this project, cost of maintenance , its ability to generate revenue; , small number of Bowie residents benefiting;
level of residents opposing this complex etc.), as reasons/concerns for not moving forward with this project.

As a 22 year resident of Bowie, I believe that most of us would agree that this Ice Complex
is just not a project that can be justified at this time. There are higher priorities facing the city;
and with the uncertain future financial situations caused by Covid-19; I think that
this project should be terminated.

Awilda Hernandez

From: Hope Greene <hgreen16@students.towson.edu>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 4:09 PM
To: Public Info; cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: PLEASE CONTINUE WITH BOWIE RINK

Good Afternoon, or I guess Evening (as I assume this will be read during the meeting tonight) Mayor Adams, and City council. I write to you to address the rink project and why it is important. I am not much of a political person, and often find myself shying away from it due to the fact that I feel as if it can divide people rather than bringing together. However, I do believe in standing up for what you believe in, like many incredible people in our countries history have done before...

The Bowie Ice Arena is a part of our city's history. As a resident of district 3 for 23+ years, I have grown up in that ice arena, and spent countless number of memories in, and around it. I have cheered in bowie gyms growing up, played on the bowie boys, and girls team, coached swimming at Bowie pools, attended Bowie fests every summer, attended school in Bowie, worked the summers as a camera operator at our beloved Bowie Baysox Stadium, and even worked as a city employee for the Bowie Ice Arena. To say that I am proud to be a resident of this city would be an understatement. I couldn't think of a city that has more going for it, than Bowie... While I know you have heard every sob story under the sun of why the rink is important to us,and why stopping the build of the new ice plex, or selling it to the Maryland Blackbears is unreasonable, and flat out outrageous. I would like to share why it is important to me personally as a BOWIE resident who resides in the same neighborhood where the new complex is being built right off church road. I happen to live just off church road, in fact when I initially found out that the rink was being built where it is, I joked that I wouldn't have to drive to open ice, I could get more exercise by walking 5 minutes up the road to it.

Bowie is known for a bunch of things. Old Town Bowie, The Racetracks, Bowie Town Center, Bowie State University, Home of the Bowie Baysox, Bowie Health Center, and Bowie Ice Arena. I am honored that Bowie is such a diverse city, and I mean diverse in every aspect. Bowie should pride itself on the fact that it really has built itself to be everything you need in one city. The Ice Arena opened in 1971 and was the hub for teens to escape the parents on friday nights and go hangout at, it was a family get away for parents with children dying to try something new, and has been a home to me since the early 2000's. My entire family has skated there both recreationally, and professionally at the Bowie Ice Arena. It is a place that my fiance talk about raising our kids up in, to have the same love for ice sports as it has done for me. It is a place where I was able to get away to, and skate all my problems away when I was a teen, and it is an exceptionally giving part of our community. As it celebrates its almost 50 year birthday, I think back at all it has done for the community from holiday parties at the rink with free admission to whoever brought a toy for a child in need, to food bank donations, toys for tots, team fundraisers to give back to the community, $3000 plus raised for families services programs, and most recently raising 270 canned items for the Bowie food pantry, along with so much more. The rink is a strong threshold in our community. Selling it to the Blackbears would put my sister out of work as a figure skating coach, along with many of my other friends who have built themselves up as coaches in our community. It would not be a part of Bowie, but simply just a building that resides in Bowie. Selling it to the blackbears would mean no more figure skating; only hockey.

A few years ago, one of my former teammates, and close friends was in a car accident which left her fighting for her life at just 17 years old at Shock Trauma in Baltimore. When she awoke from her coma after a few months, the first thing doctors thought that would help would be her love for skating, and her ice family. And let me tell you it sure did help. Because Bowie did not have ice time for special needs, due to the overwhelming ice schedule, she was able to start a program to get her back on the ice at another rink. Not having her at our home rink was hard, but after a few months of her getting her 'feet wet' at another rink, she was able to come home and skate at our annual Bowie Ice Arena Valentines Invitational. An emotional day, but happy to say the least. By having two sheets of ice, Bowie could make a

team for special skaters. I personally have recycled so many of my swimming students over to my sister, and every single one of them LOVES skating. Many of them wanted to continue with it even after the starter classes.
Skating is so much more than a sport. It's a team, it's a family, and it's a method of healing for many of us. I can't explain the feeling of skating on a fresh sheet of ice all by yourself, or landing that jump/spin you have been practicing for months on end. I can't explain to you what it's like to grow up loving something so much, only to have it potentially taken away from you in just a matter of seconds... The tears that have been cried over the rink have been so painful. Why? Because as mentioned before ..... this is home... I want to take a moment and ask you to dive into your favorite part of your childhood. Maybe it was a team you were a part of, or maybe it was something else, but for me mine was, and still is the rink. By tearing the old one down without building the already paid for new rink is nothing else than evil. I feel betrayed as a Bowie resident who have put some council members in office who are against the rink... I feel hurt that they don't open up to the facts, and understand why selling it to the Blackbears is shameful... I feel betrayed by the people in my district that I feel as if I should trust, but this is like I said why I don't like getting into politics...

I guess in a way I can't blame you for not understanding how I feel, but I know there is somewhere inside of you that is passionate for something you love... You should feel proud to be a part of a city that thrives on how diverse it is, and how incredible it is that many olympic skaters, and even NHL players have skated in your own backyard... If you aren't proud to have some of the best athletes in the world skate in your own city, then I really don't know what to say? This rink is more than a building, it's honestly a major reason why I still reside in this city. I know by me saying all of this could mean nothing to you, and frankly it probably doesn't. I understand the basketball players love for basketball courts, and I want them to receive what they want as well. But I do want to tell you as a resident of Bowie, the ice arena is a necessity. While the city already has a relatively new basketball complex, the rink is in jeopardy of being no more if you do not vote.... Please continue with the already paid for ice arena.

Thank you,
Hope Greene RESIDENT OF DISTRICT 3 -- RIGHT OFF CHURCH ROAD

I

--
-Hope Noel

Awilda Hernandez

From: Nicholas Salvato <nicholas.c.salvato@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 4:15 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Bowie Ice Arena

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Nicholas Salvato, I am 9 years old and have been playing for the Bowie Hockey Club since I was 5 years old. My dad is in the Army so we recently moved to California but I miss the Bowie rink so much. My mom and dad told me the other day that we, the ice community, would have to fight yet again to keep construction going on the new Bowie Ice Rink. I don't know why after voting to build it you are trying to stop it. My dad taught me that if you say you are going to do something, you do it, and my mom taught me that if you make a promise, you keep it. We were told a new ice rink would be built but here we are again. I made lots of friends at the Bowie Ice Arena, friends that I still talk to everyday even though I live in California. I have a lot of good memories there. My dad coached me and my sisters teams and Coach Derek was my goalie coach. We always worked hard and had fun. My favorite memory is when my dad told me that I made the mite travel team last year. I worked very hard and I made it. That season was the best! We won the gold medal at the CAN/AM tournament in Lake Placid. It was so fun and now a banner hangs at the ice rink showing we won. If the new rink doesn't get built, Bowie Hockey Club will not be around much longer. I hope to move back home soon and I only want to play for the Bowie Hockey Club. Please do not stop building the new ice rink. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Nicholas Salvato
#70

Awilda Hernandez

From: Kelly Gunn <thegunnfam@verizon.net>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 4:15 PM
To: cityclerk; Timothy Adams; CountyExecutive@co.pg.md.us; tmturner@co.pg.md.us; geraldine.valentino@house.state.md.us; Douglas.Peters@senate.state.md.us; Dufour Woolfley; Adrian Boafo; Michael Esteve; Ingrid Harrison; Rosann Ndebumadu
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Letter from Bowie Resident Kelly Gunn RE: Bowie Ice Rink - Virtual City Council Meeting

Dear Mayor and City Council Members,

As a 35-year Bowie resident, I am extremely disappointed in the decision to revisit the Bowie Ice Rink project. The issue has been debated about for years. It has been before this council multiple times and every single resident of Bowie has been given ample opportunities to have their voice heard. The vote in July 2019 was the end of this matter as this project was legally approved and is currently underway.

The mayor has claimed that he is reopening this matter because of the pandemic facing our city, state and the world. However, as council member Esteve recently said " While the city is facing costs related to COVID-19, city revenues have not been seriously impacted. In addition to federal pandemic relief, the city maintains $29 million in reserve funds for this kind of scenario. The funds to build the ice arena have already been obtained through bonds and are not coming out of the city's general fund or reserves. Canceling the project will cost the city millions, and will take us back to square one addressing the existing, aging city rink." Even Council Member Esteve who has repeatedly and vehemently fought this project, realizes that this latest move "does not make financial sense."

The project is beyond a reasonable stopping point. You will be personally responsible for wasting million dollars, squandering an opportunity to revitalize Bowie's economy, and stealing a facility promised to the youth of Bowie. The children have been in this fight from the beginning and continue to be here in great numbers. This story has gone viral thanks to the young people and they are angry. You made them a promise and now you are backing out.

People from all over the country know what is happening at this meeting right now thanks to WTOP, Channel9, Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube. Famous hockey players, Senators, sports organizations, news personalities, and parents from all over have pledged their support to this rink by the thousands. They are watching and judging your actions as elected officials tonight.

Make no mistake, the kids fighting for their rink know this is not about the corona virus. We all do. It is disgusting that you are using this public health crisis as a cover to push your own agendas. At some point, Mayor Adams and Bowie City Council Members, you have to accept the democratic process of the previous vote and stop using the pandemic to sabotage a project you are personally against. Show kids like my mine that you can be held at your word not just when times are easy, but especially when times are hard — that is when accountability and character are the most important.

Thank you,
Kelly Gunn

Awilda Hernandez

From: Geary, Karen L. <kgeary@nsf.gov>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 4:19 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Support for new Bowie IcePlex for 5/18 meeting

Mayor, City Council, and City staff,

My name is Karen Geary and I am a Bowie resident of 27 years. I live in District 2B. I am writing to show my support for the Bowie Ice Arena and the new 2 sheet Bowie IcePlex being built on Church Road.

Instead of reiterating what I emailed on 5/4, stating my ardent support for the new rink, I'd like to address the article Mayor Adams wrote in a Guest Column of the Bowie Blade on May 13. While I respect Mayor Adams opinion that the cost of the project is "unsupportable" given the financial impact of the coronavirus pandemic, I would like to point out some items taken directly from the City of Bowie's FY21 Proposed Budget & Capital Improvements Program and from City Council members.

1) From the proposed budget: "Since City staff estimate revenues conservatively and estimates of expenditures are liberal, there is room for some economic impacts within the budget" and "the budget for FY 2021 is not anticipated to be significantly impacted".
2) In an email to constituents on May 13, Councilmen Esteve stated "While the city is facing costs related to COVID-19, city revenues have not been seriously impacted. In addition to federal pandemic relief, the city maintains $29 million in reserve funds for this kind of scenario."
3) In the article in the Bowie Blade on May 13, Councilman Gardner said "canceling the project now would be a waste of the money already spent on designing and building the facility, and would not absolve the city of bonds it issued to pay for the project." He said that discussions about halting the project pre-dates the coronavirus crisis. "Now he (Adams) is going to use the pandemic as an excuse to end this ice arena."

As a Bowie taxpayer, canceling the IcePlex after $8 million has been spent, possibly many more millions in costs from construction materials already purchased, risk of litigation to the city from termination of a contract, cost to restore the under-construction property and loss of the city's AAA Bond rating hindering the ability for future bonds is infuriating! Especially if there is nothing to show for all this spent money. Funds to build the rink were already obtained through bonds and not coming out of the City's General Funds or Reserves.

City Manager Lott said (in the Bowie Blade article on May 13) that he "expects the coronavirus to affect the amount of money it gets from the state, from sales taxes, amusement taxes and hotel-motel taxes. But the majority of the city's revenue comes from property taxes, and they do not expect a decrease in that." Lott also stated "the city is not considering layoffs or furloughs and has a strong fund balance to ensure it can continue paying employees."

I'd also like to point out the City of Bowie's Strategic Issues, Goals and Outcomes: Goal 5 and Goal 6 which state:

- Goal 5: Ensure long-term financial stability to meet current and emerging community needs. Outcome: Sustained AAA bond rating.
- Goal 6: Guide continued community growth that is compatible with Bowie's history and values and supports a successful future.

The Bowie Ice Arena is 50 years old and an amazing part of Bowie's history. Providing reliable and efficient services has always been one of the hallmarks of Bowie City Government. The services and recreation facilities in Bowie are outstanding and most of the reason I've lived in Bowie over 27 years. I ask you to please continue with the Bowie IcePlex and be financially responsible with our taxpayer money. Wasting millions with nothing to show for it is irresponsible and just political games.

Thank you,
Karen Geary

Awilda Hernandez

From: Michael Klein <tanstafel@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 4:16 PM
To: cityclerk
Cc: Timothy Adams; Adrian Boafo; Henri Gardner; Ingrid Harrison; Michael Esteve; Dufour Woolfley; Rosann Ndebumadu
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: NEW BOWIE ICEPLEX CONSTRUCTION MUST CONTINUE
Attachments: Video.MOV

Dear Bowie City Council,

We started out as Bowie residents back in 2003 when we bought our first house. We've been going to the Bowie Ice rink since 2009 and my son has been playing hockey at the rink for the last 10 years. We've been fortunate to have such a nice facility practically in our backyard. Back in 2013 when there was first talk of a new rink they hope was it would be in place in time for my son to play High School Hockey at the new rink. My son started and played with his high school team this past fall at the current Bowie rink and with the new rink construction started this spring it was looking good to be on the new ice some time in the next year or two.

All of this recent news about cancelling the construction and having the city eat the costs incurred so far plus any penalties for breaking contracts is very disheartening. Advocates for the new rink fought so hard to get this project moving and so much time and money has already been spent. What will happen when the project is cancelled and the old rink can no longer function? How will you be able to get any new projects started after this what builders will want to work with the City of Bowie with this kind of track record.

Please vote to move forward with the rink project at this time. It is my understanding that approximately $16 million dollars of Bowie resident's tax dollars will be LOST if the Bowie IcePlex does not continue. It has also been said that the Bowie IcePlex WILL generate ROI greater than any other recreational facility in the City. The rate is anticipated to be approximately 85% or higher.

Michael, Lisa & Griffin Klein
12219 Fleming Lane
Bowie, MD 20715
301-275-2435
tanstafel@yahoo.com
Sent from my iPhone

Awilda Hernandez

From: Nicholas Petersen <petersennj1@icloud.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 4:23 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Ice Rink Vote

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing a brief letter as a Bowie citizen to express my concerns that the city council may cancel the current contract to build the new ice arena. I am concerned about canceling the project for a number levels - not least of all that the money spent thus far would be wasted (I believe it's now over $10M) and that the City would be exposed to a lawsuit from the construction company for loss of income and breach of contract, further hurting city finances.

It seems rather opportune of certain council members to take advantage of this time when citizens cannot be physically present at meetings to make their voices heard. While there is much uncertainty in the world now, taking advantage of that fact is acting in bad faith. Better to stay the course until we have more information.

Nicholas Petersen
12524 Kavanaugh Ln

Awilda Hernandez

From: jen baltimore <jbaltimore5@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 4:25 PM
To: Dufour Woolfley; Timothy Adams; cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Ice Rink

Dear Mr. Mayor and Councilman Woolfley,

I am writing as a concerned citizen. I have lived in Bowie since 1998 and have raised my five children here, ages 9, 13, 15, 20 and 22. My kids have attended public schools in PG County all their lives and have participated in many sports over the years. I am aware that Mayor Adams has proposed canceling the building of the Bowie IcePlex and I am strongly opposed to this idea.

The Bowie IcePlex project has been in the works for years, and was formally approved in 2019. I am aware that canceling the project now would waste $16 million in funds already spent. These funds have been obtained through bonds, and are not out of the City's general fund or reserve. Canceling the project now will cost the city millions. $9 million has already been spent on construction, $3 million on designs and studies, $4 million would still have to be paid due to breach of contract, and $180,000 was spent to purchase the land. I see no connection between Covid-19 and the building of the Bowie IcePlex, as Mayor Adams referenced in his letter to the editor this weekend. For our city to lose $16 million in funds, and still have no solution to the problem surrounding the ice rink, seems like a complete waste and I strongly oppose your proposal to cancel this project. Holding a meeting during quarantine to vote on a project that has already been veted, voted on, and is already under construction seems to defy logic.

I urge you to be mindful of the money that has been spent on the solution to a problem that has been in the works for years. The children of Bowie deserve to have their city leaders looking out for their best interests and their future by being good stewards of city funds. Please do not stop this project. Our community and our children deserve better.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Baltimore

Awilda Hernandez

From: mdeinsel <mdeinsel@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 4:28 PM
To: cityclerk
Cc: kabintospace@aol.com
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: FW: Letter to the Mayor and City Council

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

Dear Mayor and City Council Members,

My wife and I have been residents of Bowie for over 30 years. We live on Church Road.

We beg you to stop the overwhelming overdevelopment of Church Road! We DON'T need an ice rink on an already precarious road with speeders that even took the life of a young child just trying to cross Church Road. We DON'T need new housing development on the Freeway Airport property! There is no infrastructure with a two lane bridge to exacerbate the traffic issues!

There was an armed highjacking on Sunday morning at the McDonald's! There were gunfire shots on Enterprise Road on Friday night! We know of 3 families that have left Bowie this year to either another County or another State due to their safety concerns and issues with Bowie!

Isn't it already a huge embarrassment that due to the high density of people in the Bowie/Mitchellville zip codes that we have the traumatic distinction of having the highest Corona virus cases!

Prince George's County is the poster child for the highest number of Corona Virus cases- is that how PG wants to be recognized? Our friends and family from other Counties in MD are all aware and worried that we live in the PG CV Zone! Embarrassing but true!

Please make Bowie safe again by NOT increasing the development on an already severely stressed 😣 Church Road! The road kill on Church Road speaks for all the speeding!

Please respect the citizens that live in the Church Road vicinity- don't our lives count?

Sincerely,
Miller Einsel and Kathleen Beres
3120 Church Road
Bowie, MD 20721-1223
May 18, 2020

Awilda Hernandez

From: Layla <laylasalvato@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 4:34 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Bowie Ice Arena

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Layla Salvato. I am a former ice hockey player for the Bowie Hockey Club. My dad is in the Army and they sent us to California for a year but in September there is a high possibility of moving back to Maryland and there is only one hockey club I will proudly play for. For years I watched my brother play hockey for Bowie. We were at the rink 6 out of 7 days of the week so I thought, why not give it a try. The Bowie Ice Arena is where I learned to skate and where I found my passion for the sport. I have met so many wonderful people there and the sense of community is incredible. I met my best friend Lizzie there, a friend I will have forever. Bowie Ice Arena isn't just a rink, it's my home and the people there are my family. As you all know, the current facility isn't going to last much longer. We need construction to continue. We need a new home. Please don't take our new home away from us. We don't just love the sport, we love our club and the community that comes with it. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Layla Salvato
#70

Awilda Hernandez

From: Sarah Earwicker <stinkypig@hotmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 7, 2020 4:31 PM
To: Awilda Hernandez
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Meeting on May 18th re: Bowie Iceplex

Hello,
It has come to my attention that the new City of Bowie IcePlex has been added to the agenda for the meeting on May 18th. As a long time City Resident I was hoping I could have my letter read at the meeting.

I have been a City of Bowie Resident for 37 years. I am a regular user of the current Bowie Ice Arena. The fight to get the IcePlex has been a very long and frustrating journey. You can imagine the relief and joy of the BIA community when the City approved to build the IcePlex and finally begin construction.

Council member Woofley is asking to bring the IcePlex to the agenda, with no explanation. I am concerned that he will try to put a stop to a project that has been approved more than once, and that has already began construction. All the required traffic impact studies were completed well in advance of the start of construction. I am concerned that my taxpayer dollars are in jeopardy of being massively wasted if any new changes are made to this project. Millions of dollars have already been spent on this project, and any stop to the construction will be a loss of those MILLIONS. The decision to stop construction could potentially affect our AAA Bond Rating, as who will want to lend money to a city that has wasted millions of dollars for no reason.

The BIA community has shared countless reasons why this rink should be built, but I won't go into that now. Please, this is now about not wasting my hard earned taxpayer money for no conceivable reason. This is about the future of Bowie, please do not ruin our Bond Rating, please let Bowie have amenities that make this city a wonderful place to live. Please do not stop this project.

Thank you,
Sarah Earwicker
Mont Clare Lane, 20715

Awilda Hernandez

From: Kim Whetstone Wilson <kawwilson@comcast.net>
Sent: Friday, May 8, 2020 10:13 AM
To: Awilda Hernandez
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: FW: Concerned Citizen

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

From: Kim Whetstone Wilson
Sent: Friday, May 8, 2020 9:43 AM
To: cityclerk@cityofbowie.com
Subject: Concerned Citizen

To the Mayor and Council,
I am a resident and homeowner in District 3. Please vote NO on the 2 sheet ice arena. If there is an opportunity to partner with MNPPC for a multi-sport complex that would better serve the diverse needs of our community this should be considered. Is renovating the current ice arena an option?
Thank you,
Kim Whetstone Wilson

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

Awilda Hernandez

From: Nicole Lesesne <nywms@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2020 4:32 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Opposition of Bowie Ice Arena

Dear Bowie City Council,

I am a long time Bowie resident and oppose the plan for an ice arena. I think our tax dollars would be better served funding a multi sports facility that the Bowie youth will utilize. I don't think there is a great demand for an ice arena from our local residents. Rather, basketball, volleyball, soccer, tennis, baseball, etc. would be sports of bigger interest. In addition, $28 million is an exorbitant amount of money for an ice arena. Please put our tax dollars to better use!

Thank you,
Nicole Lesesne

Awilda Hernandez

From: Sharon Field <srslapshot@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 12, 2020 6:31 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Testimony for City Council Meeting 5/18/20
Attachments: Ice rink letter.5-12-20.docx

Please see attached for inclusion in the meeting on Monday, 5/12/20.

Thank you,

Sharon Field

May 12, 2020

Testimony for the Bowie City Council Meeting of May 18, 2020

Hello, my name is Sharon Field, and along with my husband Rod, we have been residents of Bowie for almost 32 years on Pleasant View Drive, off of Church Road in District 3A. One of the reasons we chose to live in Bowie was the ice rink community. My husband volunteered his time as a coach while my son played hockey for the Bowie Hockey Club his entire childhood, later playing varsity hockey at DeMatha Catholic High School. My daughter also grew up figure skating competitively at Bowie, and now coaches there.

As Bowie residents, we had hoped that a new generation of skaters would make memories at a new and improved facility in Bowie. Otherwise, these skaters would ultimately have to go somewhere outside of the community to find the "home away home" our children found at the Bowie Ice Arena. We had spoken in front of the Bowie City Council at previous meetings and after many years of deliberation, the project was approved last summer and construction recently began.

Unfortunately, this is no longer a recreation issue or an issue of "does Bowie need ice or courts more?" This is a case of throwing away OUR tax dollars like it is nothing. As the money is allocated now, once the Iceplex is up and running, there will be a return in revenue. Once this is shut down, all that money will go straight down the drain. All of these councilmembers preach that they won't waste OUR tax dollars; however, they are planning to do just that.

By the night of May 18th, somewhere between $7-8 million will have been spent on this project (not including supplies that have been purchased but not used yet in the construction process). The cost of buy out on this contract will sit somewhere around $4 million, again not including what has already been purchased.

As councilmembers, you have been elected to represent the city of Bowie residents and responsibly manage the city budget and our tax dollars. Wasting millions of your residents' tax dollars is not responsible. It's unethical and unacceptable. Please vote to continue the ice arena project that is already well underway since the council approved it last summer.

Sincerely,

Sharon Field

14011 Pleasant View Drive
Bowie, MD 20720
District 3A

Awilda Hernandez

From: Ciara Cione <cbcione19@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 12, 2020 8:59 PM
To: Awilda Hernandez
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Written comment for ice rink construction meeting
Attachments: 07-ThePaidAttendanceToTheIceRink.doc

Title: 07-The Paid Attendance to the Ice Rink

Good Evening Mayor Adams and the entire City Council who are present On-line.

I am Ciara Cione.

I live at 5600 Church Rd, in District 3A.

My brief testimony describes the yearly 19,000 paid attendance of the Bowie Ice Rink..

- The total paid admissions to the City Ice Rink was 19,004 for FY15 and over six years has grown to 19,300 in FY20.

- If the rink was for just hockey, there would be 1,378 different teams. Rather, there are only between 10 to 15.

- There are also organized teams for Free Style and Figure Skating. That's another hundred or so skaters.

- The Non-Hockey and Non-Figure/Free Style account for 19,000 paid admissions. What are they doing at the rink?

- Skating, that's what. It's an activity for the entire city that is far, far more than just organized ice teams. 19,000 are for City Recreation.

- The 19,000 non-hockey and Non-Figure/Free Style account for 99.85% of all the Ice Rink admissions. Organized ice teams comprise the 0.15% remainder.

- The City has many public sessions. Some in the morning for home school groups, some in the late afternoon, and a number over the weekend. With two rinks this can increase. Without two rinks, there's are irreconcilable competing demands for public sessions,

team ice time, adult leagues for both men and women, and the needs of our special communities.

- This competition only exists for both courts and ice. The ice problem has been solved. Continue the under construction, already paid-for ice rink.

- You need to be focused on courts. Step on the gas and fix the Courts problem for the Courts Community.

Sincerely,
Ciara Cione

Awilda Hernandez

From: Carl L Johnson Jr <carljohnsonjr@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 13, 2020 10:45 AM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Proposed Ice Arena

Good morning,

My name is Carl Johnson Jr, and I am a resident of Bowie for the past 14 years living on Excalibur Court, a stones throw away from City Hall. The purpose of my note is to oppose the existing plan to build a new Ice Arena on Church Road. As a taxpayer, I am upset that a multi-use facility is not being demanded by our city legislature, a multi-use facility would be more relevant and receive a better response from taxpayers like myself.

As it stands, the $28 million dollar project for an Ice Arena only, is not what this city needs. Especially when reports are that more people from outside of Bowie, as well as PG County, will use this facility more than the taxpayers who fund it. At present, we have city residents who are not allowed to have a membership at the existing City Gymnasium because of overcrowding. We have city residents that are turned away from the City Gym when there are tournaments that charge for entry, so the demand is there for more space for city residents to enjoy basketball, volleyball, pickle ball, places for our elderly to walk safely, and for hosting of events. An Ice Arena will not only add traffic to our Fairwood community, but it will create an 'us vs them' vibe in the city.

I urge the newly elected members of the City Council and Mayor, to consider why and who elected you, and listen to the majority of your constituents.

Best regards,
Carl L. Johnson Jr.
3702 Excalibur Court
Bowie MD 20716

Awilda Hernandez

From: Rebecca Crotti <sk8rcrotti@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 13, 2020 3:40 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Bowie Ice Arena Construction Project, Council Meeting 5-18-20

Dear Bowie City Council Members,

In reference to your upcoming discussions regarding the building and plans for the future home of the Bowie Ice Arena I, as a skating coach, and parent of a hockey player, wish to share my support of the rink. We are residents of Easton, MD. We have a rink in our town that is only open for five to six months per year in a typical season. With this situation we are always looking for ice time and programs at another location. For myself as a coach, for my hockey playing son and his teammates, and all of my private students, the Bowie Ice Arena has become our home away from home. While I am aware that your primary focus is on the needs of your constituents, I wish to bring to your attention the additional participants at the Bowie Ice Arena. Throughout the remaining six to seven months of the year, I, along with my private students utilize and pay for ice time, camps, clinics, classes, and competitions at the Bowie Ice Arena. Additionally my son and several of his teammates utilize the available ice time and hockey clinics that are made available in their off season. In addition to spending money at the rink specifically, we utilize other services in your city. For many families this trip is an hour or more away, so while we are in Bowie we create additional revenue and tax dollars through shopping, eating out, getting gas, and utilizing additional businesses in Bowie.

We look forward to your continued support of the completion of the new Bowie Ice Arena and are eager to continue to support the facility and utilize the services offered there for years to come.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Crotti

29654 Old Creek Ln. Easton, MD

Talbot Figure Skating Team Coach and Easton Ice Hawks Hockey Parent

Awilda Hernandez

From: GEORGE albaugh <albaughg@comcast.net>
Sent: Wednesday, May 13, 2020 7:32 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: New Ice Rink Delay

Hello: I've lived in the Meadowbrook section of Bowie since 1987. I'm an old man but I still ice skate. Some on council should try it--it's good exercise. I would like to add my voice to the chorus of people who are dismayed at the City Council's inability to get on with the job of building the new ice rink. You all know the facts: the old rink, although loved by all the skating public, is rapidly coming to the end of its life span. And you fully know that the new rink construction has been approved and delayed many more times than most city projects. And you all know how much the city has already devoted to procuring the site and issuing a contract for construction, and lately authorizing the purchase of a new Zamboni ice resurfacer. All those millions of dollars of our tax money will be lost if you stop this project now. There's no way to recover that money. I can't stress enough how dismayed I will be if the new rink is not built as originally planned.

Sincerely,
George P. Albaugh
12327 Manship Lane
Bowie, MD 20715

Awilda Hernandez

From: Christina Hart <skatertina05@aol.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 13, 2020 9:32 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Testimony for May 18 city council meeting
Attachments: Ice rink letter- C. Hart.pdf

To Whom it May Concern,

Please see the attached testimony to be read at the city council meeting on May 18th.

Thank you so much,

Christina Hart
14011 Pleasant View Dr
Bowie, MD 20720
District 3A

Hello, my name is Christina Hart and my family and I have been lifelong residents of Bowie, living on Pleasant View Drive, off of Church Road in District 3A. Growing up, I spent more time at the ice rink than I did my home; through competitive figure skating and playing ice hockey for the Bowie Hockey Club, I learned the value of perseverance, teamwork, and discipline. The perseverance of our entire ice community has proved very useful in fighting for the new Iceplex since we have been fighting this battle for years. After many years of testimony and deliberation, the city council approved moving forward on this project last summer and yet, here we are again.

Unfortunately, this is no longer a recreation issue or an issue of "does Bowie need ice or courts more?" This is a case of throwing away Bowie residents' tax dollars like it is nothing. As the money is allocated now, once the Iceplex is up and running, there will be a return in revenue. Once this is shut down, all that money will go straight down the drain.

Somewhere between $7-8 million has been spent on this project already (not including supplies that have been purchased but not used yet in the construction process). The cost of buy out on this contract will be somewhere around $4 million, again not including what has already been purchased.

In addition, at the last council meeting, the entire council voted yes on purchasing a $107,000 Zamboni - for what purpose if you are canceling this project? Also, approximately two months ago, the city council voted in favor of a half-million-dollar gas line for the new facility -again, for what purpose if you are canceling the project? Why waste more money if you have no intention of continuing this project that is clearly well underway?

As councilmembers, city of Bowie residents have put their trust in you to responsibly govern our city and manage the city budget. You, however, are doing quite the opposite. Wasting millions of your residents' tax dollars is irresponsible, unethical and shameful. We implore you to continue the ice area project that is already well underway since the council approved it last summer. Thank you.

Awilda Hernandez

From: cbhlcommish@gmail.com
Sent: Thursday, May 14, 2020 8:12 AM
To: cityclerk; Timothy Adams; Adrian Boafo; Henri Gardner; Ingrid Harrison; Michael Esteve; Dufour Woolfley; Rosann Ndebumadu
Cc: CouncilDistrict4@co.pg.md.us; At-LargeMemberHawkins@co.pg.md.us; At-LargeMemberFranklin@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict1@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict2@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict3@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict5@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict6@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict7@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict8@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict9@co.pg.md.us; douglas.peters@senate.state.md.us; geraldine.valentino@house.state.md.us; marvin.holmes@house.state.md.us; ron.watson@house.state.md.us
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Bowie IcePlex and COVID19

While we prepare to open hockey, you prepare to close it down.

A brief timeline of the last 7 weeks –

1. COVID19 ended the school year in March
2. Students that were seniors didn't have a graduation and didn't say goodbye to friends
3. Hockey players did not get to compete at USA Hockey Nationals after working all season to qualify
4. Try-outs have been postponed
5. The hockey community has banded together with virtual webinars featuring NHL players, college players, experts in off ice training as well as challenges like the infamous virtual toilet paper hockey pass around the league.
6. We have video conference meetings once a week to discuss the rinks opening, scheduling try-outs, helping families with financial hardships and getting our families back together – safely
7. We are following USA Hockey guidance to get the rinks ready and procedures put in place to keep our kids and families safe

And while we are all working hard, for the kids, what happens?

You decide to cancel the ongoing and funded Bowie ice rink project.

Why? To punish the kids? To take away what they have to look forward to? To tell them that since they didn't finish school, or have a graduation celebration and since they have been in the house and social distancing for seven weeks, we are going to take it one step further and take away your passion too.

Congratulations on making a decision in a time when we are all banding together as one family.

I am hoping you made a mistake in your suggestion.

Debbie Moon
Chesapeake Bay Hockey League Commissioner

With the support of 23 hockey clubs including Bowie Hockey Club

With the support of 202 teams
With the support of 3486 players
(these are just numbers in the CBHL and do not include other hockey leagues, teams or players that are affected by a change in your decision)

Awilda Hernandez

From:	Mike Marosy <mike.marosy@gmail.com>
Sent:	Thursday, May 14, 2020 10:48 AM
To:	Timothy Adams; Adrian Boafo; Henri Gardner; Ingrid Harrison; Michael Esteve; Dufour Woolfley; Rosann Ndebumadu; CouncilDistrict4@co.pg.md.us; At-LargeMemberHawkins@co.pg.md.us; At-LargeMemberFranklin@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict1@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict2@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict3 @co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict5@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict6@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict7@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict8@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict9 @co.pg.md.us; douglas.peters@senate.state.md.us; geraldine.valentino@house.state.md.us; marvin.holmes@house.state.md.us; ron.watson@house.state.md.us
Cc:	cityclerk
Subject:	{EXTERNAL}: Please keep the Bowie Ice Arena going!

Dear Bowie City Council,

After reading the Capital Gazette article on the corona virus excuse for the new rink and the comments by Rabbi Steve Weisman (a Bowie resident), I can't help but think the latest stall tactic is more about an ulterior motive by Mayor Adams than the safety or loss of money from the new rink development.

If the rink were to be ready this week, I could see worry about revenue and finances being impacted, but as its still a year away and science is working hard on a vaccine for the virus, I would think timing would actually be optimal for a new rink opening as opposed to being a deterrent. Along with the Rabbi Weisman, I think it would be foolish to pull the plug after the millions spent (more than what the article stated) on a weak excuse for stalling.

Admittedly, I am not a Bowie resident, so I don't know how much weight my opinion will hold, but I grew up in Kettering, and have considered Bowie my home rink since the late 70's. From going skating as a family, awkwardly trying to impress girls as a teenager during public skates, to playing many years under the infamous timbered roof, I've had a lifetime of memories of life on a rink. I even proposed to my wife on the ice! Having passed my prime playing years, I've enjoyed helping the Bowie Hockey Club as an Assistant Coach and developing new cherished memories through my son who has been playing for almost 10 years with the Club.

As the years with my son have progressed, we routinely spend at least 5 nights a week at the rink, usually more times than not eating out at favorite restaurants around the neighborhood. I fear more money would be lost at shutting down the rink than opening it and attracting more players, teams, and tournaments that it could host. No money has been put into the current rink, and I fear that as it goes into its fiftieth season it won't last much longer. This is a concern among a lot of parents with the Club who see the rink staff do what they can to keep the rink going as best they can. Most slabs of ice don't last anywhere near 50 years! It wasn't too long ago we had delays in our season when the generators went down and the staff scrambled to do what they could to get the rink back to operating status. I fear there aren't too many "band-aid solutions" left to keep it operational.

While personally I will miss skating under the timbers, I was looking forward to the new rink and the prospects it promised as my son finishes out his youth hockey experience. I also have a great nephew who was just beginning to skate this year at 4 and already dreaming of being a hockey player like his bigger cousin. I fear these future experiences will be lost, either all together, or to another rink if this latest stall tactic goes through.

Finally, to quote Rabbi Weisman who said it better than I ever could: "if this project is derailed at this point, it absolutely WILL amount to economic malfeasance on the part of those who vote to derail it… even if it is "merely" a ploy to try to renegotiate a more favorable deal for the city in these strained economic times, the residual damage in lost good will and trustworthiness in future negotiations for needed projects figures to be significant, not to mention the hideous moral optics of taking advantage of workers at a time like this…"

Please consider continuing with the construction unabated.

Thank you.
Mike Marosy

Awilda Hernandez

From: Brittany Greene <greenebrittany99@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 14, 2020 11:32 AM
To: Awilda Hernandez
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Letter for May 18th Meeting
Attachments: Bowie City Council Members.docx

Awilda,

Attached is the letter I would like to be read before the council meeting Monday night.

Thank you in your efforts to have our voices heard!

Brittany Greene

Dear Bowie City Council Members and Mayor Adams,

For those of you who will find it unreasonable to halt the construction of the ice arena-I want to say thank you. This fight for the rink has gone from a fight for recreation to a fight to call out the manipulation and deceit of Mayor Adams and other members of the council who will vote on May 18th to stop construction of the rink.

My name is Brittany, I am a Bowie City resident of district 3 and live in the old stage community. I am a coach and skater at Bowie. I was 13 when the discussion of the new ice arena came up. I was hopeful, excited, and a bit confused on what the fuss was about. 7 years later, I have lost hope, the fight has worn me down, but my confusion has remained the same. The only difference between what began 7 years ago and now, is I have lost all trust in the city council. You are trying to change what we have spent 7 years on in just 7 months of your term. There is a lack of integrity and continuity over the constant questioning over this rink.

If you stop the rink construction now. Ice-goers are doomed. We have nowhere to go. YOU will have thrown city taxpayer dollars down the drain. So if you do not care about residents' hard earned money and you do not seem to care about the city's rich ice-rink history-then what are you doing as our council?

People are at risk of losing their sport, their jobs, their passion. The city will have thrown away 15 million dollars if the rink construction is cancelled. That is alarming and it will be a shame to have that lack of responsibility and poor decision making fall on this council. After being misled by the city and its' effort in approving, then questioning, then approving AGAIN, then questioning, then approving AGAIN, and now putting it back on the table for discussion is disheartening.

It is time to stop the division you are creating. Promote community. Stop using the global pandemic as an excuse to kill the project. Let the rink be built and go use your time with other city needs.

As we have invested our time and interest into this city and the rink, please do the same while considering your decision.

Thank you,

Brittany Greene

Awilda Hernandez

From: Andrea Arroyo <jaam7610@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 14, 2020 11:49 AM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: New Bowie IcePlex facility

Council and City Staff, Thank you for the opportunity to speak. My name is Andrea Arroyo. For the record, I'd like to say I support the two sheet ice facility as well as a new indoor court facility.
I support the need for two sheets of ice to accommodate the needs so individuals and users don't have to continue to battle over the available ice slots.
I support the availability of indoor and outdoor recreation throughout the City including the proposed new indoor court facility to be constructed next to the Bowie Golf Course.
As a user of the almost 50 year old Bowie Ice Arena, the facility is unable to accommodate all the needs of the users and there is no ability to grow and expand programs.

- The Bowie Ice Arena offers programs for all ages and skill levels for ice hockey, figure skating and public skating sessions. The Bowie Ice Arena offers many free skating events to introduce the community to skating.
- As a Bowie Hockey Club member, we are very excited about the new two sheet Bowie IcePlex and the availability of additional ice time and new programs such as girl's ice hockey, adult leagues, more public sessions and special skater programs for hockey and figure skating.

Thank you for taking the time to read this and I hope the construction of the two sheet Bowie IcePlex facility continues.

-

Awilda Hernandez

From: rcraigk <rcraigk@earthlink.net>
Sent: Thursday, May 14, 2020 12:25 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Bowie Ice Rink

Mayor and City Counsel, Please do not stop the construction of the ice rink project. Approve the completion of this facility as designed. Millions of dollars have been spent and I believe not following through would be a horrible mistake!.....Long time Bowie resident, Robert Craig Kinser

Awilda Hernandez

From: Heather Snyder <perkipetunia@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 14, 2020 12:30 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Fwd: Ice Arena

Dear Mayor and City Council Members,

I want to voice my concern over the future of the new Bowie Ice Arena. This facility is long overdue and must be allowed to continue as planned. I am not a Bowie resident, but my son does play hockey there and my husband coaches. We are at the rink multiple times a week (when it is open). We patronize the stores and restaurants that are in the area. Families are hungry after hard games and practices. A new arena will allow for more people to not only enjoy the facility, but the city. Games, tournaments, figure skating competitions - it all brings people into the city, and not just locals. People from out of state play in tournaments and stay in the hotels, eat at the restaurants, shop at the stores. The funds are there. The ground is broken. The people have spoken. There is nothing that should keep this project from moving forward.

Sincerely,
Heather Snyder

Awilda Hernandez

From: Brian Thomas <bri.d.thomas@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 14, 2020 1:10 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: New Bowie Ice Rink Support

To Whom it May Concern:

We are a Bowie Hockey Club Family that has been coming to the Bowie Ice Rink for almost 4 years. Over the course of the last year, our 6 year old-son's interest in hockey has deepened as a result of the commitment and values of the Bowie Hockey Club. About a year ago, our son began playing travel hockey with the 8U team. During the season, which extends from August until early March, we estimate we come to Bowie four days a week (sometimes feels like our home away from home). We tend to eat out in Bowie several days a week, frequent the grocery stores and more as we are there more often then in D.C. are home city. We also have begun to spend more and more time there outside of the season as we have become more familiar with the community. Our commitment to the team has been reinforced by its steadfast dedication in lobbying for and consistent victories in securing the support of local officials for the construction of a desperately needed new facility despite constant, and increasingly underhanded, attempts by local opponents to shut the project down.

We have truly enjoyed our experience with the Bowie rink and at the Bowie facility, and enjoy visiting the rink for open skates and other community activities outside of hockey practices and games. We have been very gratified to see the warmth, friendliness and diversity of the families who visit the rink--not just for hockey. We are aghast to think that all of these families--most notably countless children--may be deprived of a quality new recreational facility. Given how much has already been invested in the project and how much more money would need to be forfeited to kill it, we can't fathom the City could then go on to invest in something of equal caliber, particularly given the challenges of the current environment.

We and many other families could play hockey with many other clubs. We choose to be in Bowie because we love and respect the club and we love and respect the community. We choose to spend additional time in Bowie because of our ties to the club. We can assure you that should the City's elected officials and other leaders proceed in betraying their community with both an egregious waste of resources and elimination of a valuable recreational asset for families, we would be quite unlikely to spend any more of our time or resources within the City, and we would be quite vocal about the reasons why.

Please continue to support this valuable project on behalf of children and families in Bowie and far beyond.

Sincerely,
Brian, Alyssa, Brady (age 7) , and Julian Thomas (future Bowie hockey player)

Awilda Hernandez

From: George Schaub <schaubgeorge@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 5:38 AM
To: cityclerk; Timothy Adams
Subject: {EXTERNAL}:

Dear Mr. Mayor,

I am an Anne Arundel County resident who has two boys who play travel hockey at Bowie. I spend a significant amount of money in Bowie stores and restaurants as a result of all of the time we spend at the rink. There is also an economic impact at risk to the City of Bowie by not proceeding with this project.

I respectfully ask that you support moving forward and completing the Bowie IcePlex as designed. Please do not delay this project as every delay will cost additional tax paying dollars. Please be responsible with tax payer's dollars and support the completion of the Bowie IcePlex.

Regards,

George Schaub

Awilda Hernandez

From: Shane - HighStarr Copy & Print Services <shane@highstarrcopyservices.com>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 8:43 AM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Bowie Ice Rink

I wanted to quickly send a message of my displeasure of hearing the approved project for construction (which has begun) is being, cancelled or postponed.
From what I understand the funds for the project have already been raised or set aside. If the figures I am hearing that the cancel or postponement will cost the Bowie tax payers 7.5 million dollars is absurd!
That is about 1/3rd the cost of the project I believe. I may not be a Bowie resident but I am a Maryland citizen who spends a lot of time in bowie due to the ice rink. I reside in Annapolis and can definitely be a member of the Navy ice hockey family but we have been a part of the Bowie Ice Hockey Family for 5 years now and have no plans of leaving or never considered it. They welcomed us in when our son was 4 years old when other programs were not accepting children that young. We have made many friends and hockey is now a part of our almost daily life at the Bowie Ice Rink. I have spoken to many friends who currently are Navy members but are considering joining Bowie once the new rink state of the art 2 rink ice is complete. The short sightedness of the councilman blows my mind. It is obviously not their 7.5 million they are wasting or I truly believe it would not even be a consideration. Again if it is true the funds for the project are already set aside then this virus has nothing to do with the cancellation or postponement.

Discouraged,
Shane Thompson
Senior Vice President of Operations
HighStarr Copy & Print Services
C: 443.994.1508 / W: www. HighStarrCopyServices.com

Annapolis Location
2661 Riva Rd / Bldg 700 / Annapolis / MD / 21401
O: 443.837.0111 / E: annapolis@highstarrcopyservices.com

Maple Lawn Location
8194 Westside Blvd / Suite A / Fulton / MD / 20759
O: 240.547.0305 / E: maplelawn@highstarrcopyservices.com

Awilda Hernandez

From: Tameeka Washington <tlfrancis29@aol.com>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 9:23 AM
To: Awilda Hernandez
Cc: Timothy Adams
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Citizen input - Tameeka Washington

Good morning,

As I cannot make Monday's meeting, I would like to submit my input in writing.

I am encouraged by the mayor's decision to look at the implications of canceling construction of the ice rink. As the past two months have shown us, we need to shore up our health and social services systems as we were wholly unprepared for this worldwide pandemic. This health crisis will be around for at least another 12-18 months, so it seems prudent that we cancel this construction and either save the money or spend it on something more useful. Services that are sorely missing in this pandemic are health resources, support for the unemployed, and services for our youth. Replacing the aging ice rink with a state of the art community center that has the ability to provide both virtual and in-person services to our youth and those unemployed would have been incredibly useful. I would ask the council to explore those options as opposed to spending money on something we do not need.

Best,
Tameeka Washington
12502 Scarlet Lane
Bowie, MD 20715

Sent from my iPhone

Awilda Hernandez

From: Angie Cipolla <pa@stedwardbowie.com>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 10:14 AM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}:

My husband's 26 year military career brought us to Bowie 50 years ago. Our son enjoyed the Bowie Ice Arena from childhood thru adulthood, and our granddaughter is currently enjoying it. The Ice Arena has been a positive part of Bowie for several generations. It would be a shame to end it now, as it is apparent
that is what you want to do. By the way, Bowie is the great city it is today because of generations of great families who settled here. As for fiscal responsibility, I understand that we already have 7 million plus invested in the project. Also, the longer the project is delayed, the higher the cost of the project, and we know that the current state of the economy is not permanent. Therefore, I urge the City Council to act responsibly and continue on with this project now. A Concerned Citizen, Angela Cipolla

--

Angela L. Cipolla
Pastoral Assistant

St. Edward the Confessor Church
Parish Office 301-249-9199
pa@stedwardbowie.com

St. Edward the Confessor Church
1940 Mitchellville Road
Bowie, MD 20716

Mailing Address:
St. Edward the Confessor Church
16304 Pond Meadow Lane
Bowie, MD 20716

Awilda Hernandez

From: mdmom05@aol.com
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 10:43 AM
To: cityclerk; rnandez@cityofbowie.org
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Citizen Participation for May 18 - Bowie IcePlex

Good Morning - I would like to file the below letter for the citizen participation portion of the discussion of the Bowie IcePlex.

My name is Erin Schuettler and I have been a resident of Bowie since 1987. I purchased a home in the City in 2009. I have several concerns regarding the Bowie Iceplex. I would like to understand the thought process of our Mayor calling to cancel the project. This is not a case of just needing a newer building. It is a fact that the existing ice rink will cost millions of dollars to be rehabbed in order for it to continue to operate.

Perhaps you and your families do not use the existing ice rink so you feel there is no need for another one. My family is not a hockey/figure skating family, but I recognize the fact that there is an established hockey and figure skating program at our current rink. The children that use this rink deserve to have a new one. When the City Gym was built, I didn't think "my kids do not play basketball so, therefore, why should my tax money go to a basketball court."

When all the improvements were done to Whitemarsh turf fields and new buildings were built, I didn't think "my kids do not play football or lacrosse so, therefore, why should my tax money go to those projects." I am really sick and tired of people only caring about what affects them and not their neighbors. The fact of the matter is that the City Gym only receives 30% back of what the City puts in it. The ice rink receives about 70% back, and that is only with one rink, not two rinks.

I have heard the argument that it is not City of Bowie children that are using the current rink, which is not true. But as a sport mom, I can tell you there is no such thing as localized sports in this day and age. Travel teams throughout our area pull kids in from other cities and counties. Our City issued permits to teams that are not Bowie based to use our fields all the time.

I have to say I am not impressed at all with our mayor using the excuse of Covid-19 as reasoning for canceling this project. To me, that comes off as tapping into the residents' fears as we navigate this pandemic. What money exactly has the City been paying extra for due to the virus that needs to be offset? If you cannot manage the $29 million in reserve funds for this kind of scenario, then I seriously question his ability to manage our City. The City Manager has stated that they are not considering layoffs or furloughs and we have a strong fund balance to ensure the city can continue paying employees. It is not lost on me that our mayor lives off of Church Road and therefore will be personally impacted by the rinks and people's concerns of extra traffic. So now I believe that our new mayor will do what is best for himself and his neighbors but not what is best for the City.

As a resident, I would also like an explanation of why you are willing to let the already paid $8,000,000.00 of our tax money to be flushed down the toilet? If you stop this project the City will incur additional costs to close down this project upwards of $10,000,000.00 dollars. So, our tax dollars will pay about $18,000,000.00 for nothing.Canceling this project would not absolve the city of bonds it issued to pay for the project. I would like to know how this will affect our City's bond rating? How is this action being fiscally responsible when we will lose millions of dollar?

The main point is this project has already been approved and needs to move forward. I look forward to you answering my concerns and questions.

Erin Schuettler

4512 Oaklyn Lane

Bowie MD 20715

Mdmom05@aol.com

Awilda Hernandez

From:	Courtney Jolley <courtney.jolley05@gmail.com>
Sent:	Thursday, May 14, 2020 3:31 PM
To:	cityclerk
Cc:	Timothy Adams; Adrian Boafo; Henri Gardner; Ingrid Harrison; Michael Esteve; Dufour Woolfley; Rosann Ndebumadu; CouncilDistrict4@co.pg.md.us; At-LargeMemberHawkins@co.pg.md.us; At-LargeMemberFranklin@co.pg.md.us; councildistrict1@co.pg.md.us; councildistrict2@co.pg.md.us; councildistrict3 @co.pg.md.us; councildistrict5@co.pg.md.us; councildistrict6@co.pg.md.us; councildistrict7@co.pg.md.us; councildistrict8@co.pg.md.us; councildistrict9 @co.pg.md.us; douglas.peters@senate.state.md.us; geraldine.valentino@house.state.md.us; marvin.holmes@house.state.md.us; ron.watson@house.state.md.us
Subject:	{EXTERNAL}: Please Proceed with the Bowie Ice Facility Project
Attachments:	Declan hockey.jpg

To Whom it May Concern:

We are a Bowie Hockey Club Family that has been coming to the Bowie Ice Rink for almost 4 years and have also been regular Bowie Baysox fans for at least a decade. Over the course of the last year, our 7 year old son's interest in hockey has deepened as a result of the commitment and values of the Bowie Hockey Club. We drive past the Naval Academy's youth hockey facility in our own city, and with which we have a deep professional connection, specifically to play with Bowie because of the distinctive focus and ideals the Club brings to the youth game. About a year ago, our son began playing travel hockey with the 8U team. During the season, which extends from August until early March, we estimate we come to Bowie four days a week. We eat out in Bowie several days a week, frequent the Lowe's there, grocery shop and more. We also have begun to spend more and more time there outside of the season as we have become more familiar with the community. Our commitment to the team has been reinforced by its steadfast dedication in lobbying for and consistent victories in securing the support of local officials for the construction of a desperately needed new facility despite constant, and increasingly underhanded, attempts by local opponents to shut the project down.

We have truly enjoyed our experience with the Bowie rink and at the Bowie facility, and enjoy visiting the rink for open skates and other community activities outside of hockey practices and games. We have been very gratified to see the warmth, friendliness and diversity of the families who visit the rink--not just for hockey. We are aghast to think that all of these families--most notably countless children--may be deprived of a quality new recreational facility. Given how much has already been invested in the project and how much more money would need to be forfeited to kill it, we can't fathom the City could then go on to invest in something of equal caliber, particularly given the challenges of the current environment.

We and many other families could play hockey with many other clubs. We choose to be in Bowie because we love and respect the club and we love and respect the community. We choose to spend additional time in Bowie because of our ties to the club. We can assure you that should the City's elected officials and other leaders proceed in betraying their community with both an egregious waste of resources and elimination of a valuable recreational asset for families, we would be quite unlikely to spend any more of our time or resources within the City, and we would be quite vocal about the reasons why.

Please continue to support this valuable project on behalf of children and families in Bowie and far beyond.

Sincerely,
Courtney, Jim and Declan Jolley (age 7)

Awilda Hernandez

From: Christopher Nolte <canolte42@yahoo.com>

Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 11:08 AM
To: cityclerk; Timothy Adams; Adrian Boafo; Henri Gardner; Ingrid Harrison; Michael Esteve; Dufour Woolfley; Rosann Ndebumadu; CouncilDistrict4@co.pg.md.us; Hawkins@co.pg.md.us; Franklin@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict1@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict2@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict3@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict5@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict6@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict7@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict8@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict9@co.pg.md.us; douglas.peters@senate.state.md.us; geraldine.valentino@house.state.md.us; marvin.holmes@house.state.md.us; ron.watson@house.state.md.us
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Do not halt construction of the Bowie IcePlex

Please enter the following into the record for the City Council meeting on May 18, 2020.

Disappointment is the word that best sums up my reaction to the opinion piece in the Bowie Blade News by Tim Adams on May 14, 2020. Why would the new mayor try to manipulate constituents before the Council meeting on May 18th? He says "*I appropriately and thoroughly vetted various options*". This may be true; however, he did not take into account the most important factor: What is in the best interest for the residents of Bowie? What specifically does the mayor say about the millions of dollars that will be lost if he gets his way? He says "lose some money now by not building the ice arena". I don't think that some money is anywhere near the millions that the city stands to lose by halting the construction of the IcePlex. This action is not financially viable and stands to waste millions in a political attempt to helping the city. I have not heard any evidence to support how halting construction will benefit the city. Please someone tell me. The yo-yoing of decisions made by the council over the years regarding the IcePlex has given me whiplash. These on again-off again decisions are dividing the city on the issue and fatiguing city residents.

Why is the IcePlex being singled out? Why not divert funding from the numerous other projects that the city has going on, such as the Bowie Training Center (formerly the Bowie Race Track), and Capital Improvements to the Bowie Golf course, Whitemarsh and Allen Pond park. The IcePlex does not play into the fact that the City's General Fund balance is declining. Your proposed budget for FY'21 is a 12.2% increase from FY'20. Why are Federal Grants to the city estimated to drop by more than half since last Fiscal Year?

I understand that the pandemic is changing things for this world. Maybe diverting some funds for the Covid effort are in the best interest of the city. These are decisions that need to be made by meticulous evaluation of options. The mayor shouldn't make his case for any alternative until the impacts and effects of all alternatives have been disclosed to the city council and all residents. City residents are entitled to the same facts and figures that the mayor used to come to his conclusion. My big question is: What impact will halting construction of the IcePlex have on the financial stability of the city? How does this affect the timeline of construction since residents have had to endure years of deliberation and setbacks to get the current stage of construction?

If the mayor and city council truly represent the residents of Bowie, then they should be transparent and release all of the pertinent information regarding the halting of IcePlex construction to the residents, so that we can make our own informed decision in our attempt to influence our elected officials. I thought that was how democracy works. At least that is how the prior Mayor and City Council operated.

Don't use the ice rink as a disguise for raising taxes due to the pandemic. I would like to say that the numbers do not represent a fiscally prudent decision. I can't say that until I see the information the Mayor's opinion was based upon. Trust your residents to come to their own conclusions before attempts to influence them without all of the information is put into the public record. Excuse me if I don't take the Mayor at his word that if we don't halt construction of the IcePlex, "*the financial consequences will be devastating*".

Mr. Mayor and City Council, show us the data.

Thank you for your consideration.

~ Christopher Nolte
15223 Noblewood Lane
Bowie, MD 20716
(443) 223-3473

Awilda Hernandez

From: Rick Schaffner <pasrick46@aol.com>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 11:27 AM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: New Ice Rink

Dear Sirs:

Thank you for the opportunity to address the Council. I support the continuation of the building of the new ice rink for Bowie. The opportunity for skating has been an attraction for people to locate in the City of Bowie. It is an integral part of the recreational opportunities this town offers and is an important element in our attraction to people who are looking to relocate hopefully to Bowie. We need to broaden our appeal as a great place to live.

Thanks again for this opportunity.

Frederick Schaffner
Living in the "P" section!

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

Awilda Hernandez

From:	Maria Henry <mamamaria1973@verizon.net>
Sent:	Friday, May 15, 2020 12:36 PM
To:	Timothy Adams; Adrian Boafo; Henri Gardner; Ingrid Harrison; Michael Esteve; Dufour Woolfley; Rosann Ndebumadu; CouncilDistrict4@co.pg.md.us; At-LargeMemberHawkins@co.pg.md.us; At-LargeMemberFranklin@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict1@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict2@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict3 @co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict5@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict6@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict7@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict8@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict9 @co.pg.md.us; douglas.peters@senate.state.md.us; geraldine.valentino@house.state.md.us; ron.watson@house.state.md.us
Cc:	cityclerk
Subject:	{EXTERNAL}: Bowie ICEPlex

Dear Mr. Mayor, City of Bowie Councilmembers, Prince George's County Councilmembers, Senator Peters and Maryland House of Delegates members,

My name is Maria Henry and I am a City of Bowie resident. My husband, Scott, is a Bowie Ice Hockey coach and our son, Brendan, has been playing hockey at Bowie since he was 4. Brendan is now 9 and hockey is his life. Our 12 year old daughter, Kerrigan, has recently formed a love for hockey. We are typically at the ice rink at least 5 days a week. The friendships that our son has made from hockey will be life-long. The friendships my husband and I have made with the other hockey parents and coaches, will be life-long.

I am also an employee of a local hotel company, Marriott International. Marriott has 2 hotels in Bowie (the Courtyard and the TownePlace Suites). Building the new IcePlex will bring revenue to not only Marriott but to our other local hotels and restaurants. We will finally be able to host our own tournaments for both hockey (for both youth hockey and Adult hockey leagues), as well as Figure Skating Competitions. We now spend thousands of dollars a year out of state for hockey tournaments when we could be spending the money right here in our own town.

I respectfully ask that you please support moving forward and completing the Bowie IcePlex as designed. Please do not delay this project as every delay costs additional tax paying dollars. Please be responsible with tax payer's dollars and support the completion of the Bowie IcePlex.

Thank you.

Maria Henry

Awilda Hernandez

From: David Marshall Jr <dmarshalljr959@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 12:43 PM
To: cityclerk; Timothy Adams; Rosann Ndebumadu; Adrian Boafo; Henri Gardner; Ingrid Harrison; Michael Esteve; Dufour Woolfley; Rosann Ndebumadu
Cc: District4@co.pg.md.us; DLTaveras@co.pg.md.us; countyexecutive@co.pg.md.us
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Please support the new Bowie IcePlex

Importance: High

Greetings Mr. Mayor and Bowie City Council Members,

I have been a resident of Bowie since 2005. My daughters were born and raised in Bowie. Ten years ago, when my oldest daughter was four years old we introduced her to ice skating at the Bowie Ice Arena. After exposing her to many different sports, to my wife's and my surprise she fell in love with ice skating immediately. I watched my painfully shy and insecure four year old turn into a confident and charismatic teenager at the Bowie Ice Area. Since then my youngest daughter has started skating there. I think what my daughters like the most about the Bowie Ice Arena is the sense of community. The older girls mentor and serve as role models for the younger girls. Additionally, I love that this community is multicultural, with Black, white, Latino/a, and Asian Americans all coming together to create an award-winning figure skating team. The team attracts kids from all over Prince George's County, Anne Arundel County, the Eastern Shore, and other places because of the quality of the coaches and staff at the Bowie Ice Arena. Indeed the Ice Arena attracts and retains nationally renowned coaches to train our youth.

The program has been so successful and so popular that the Bowie Ice Arena is now over utilized and in need of many repairs. I am afraid it would be difficult for the success of the Ice Arena to continue in its current state. It is for this reason I feel the City Council approved the funding for a new IcePlex earlier this year. Indeed you all approved $250,00 for the public works approval of the grading permit. In April, the Council approved $500,000.00 for a gas line and $107,000.00 for a new Zamboni to serve the new IcePlex. Again as you are aware, the Ice Arena is almost 50 years old and the cost to make all the necessary repairs is estimated to be over 20 million dollars. I have no doubt that after the pandemic subsides and after the construction of the new IcePlex it would be very successful and profitable within a short amount of time as it will draw patrons from all over our region. Not to mention, building the new facility will be far cheaper than repairing the old one.

It is for these reasons, I respectfully ask you to support the construction of the new Bowie Iceplex and avoid any further delays.

Sincerely,

David Marshall Jr
15904 Elf Stone Court
Bowie, MD 20716

Awilda Hernandez

From: lspgolf@yahoo.com
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 5:00 PM
To: cityclerk; L P
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Ice rink

In this hard times the ice rink must be cancelled. First it should never been approved without a vote of the resident of Bowie, like the police dept. went to a vote. If you did put it on the ballot in Nov. you know it will be defeated by a large percent. So the city spent about 7 million but to spend the rest would be criminal. Also why should Bowie build a ice rink when the use will be mostly outside of Bowie. Without a vaccine the old ice rink will not be in use to its capacity if it opens at all.

I have lived in Yorktown for over 50 years. Original owner
Bowie First, I support this mayor views

Lew Pollack
lspgolf@yahoo.com

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPad

Awilda Hernandez

From: Addie Khanu <akhanu@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 5:16 PM
To: Awilda Hernandez
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: New Bowie Ice Arena

Good evening,

I am reaching out to you with the hope that you can assist in ensuring the new ice arena that is being will not be cancelled. The ice area is one of the main attractions in Bowie. What else do we have? All the great stores are moving away, so people far and wide travel to Bowie for ice skating and hockey competitions. My daughter is on the ice skating team, so I see the traffic that comes through. I feel like the City of Bowie is being stripped apart, and it will only cause residents that want the amenities the Bowie initially provided, to move to other cities. We don't even have fireworks at Allen Pond anymore!

The new ice arena will be economically and socially profitable for the city of Bowie. It will draw people from nearby communities, and even other states and countries, for skating competitions - which will be a great marketing opportunity for Bowie as our city attempts to crawl out of the devastating economical impact COVID-19 has inflicted.

Finally, ice skating and hockey are activities that provides excellent opportunities for people of all ages to meet and socialize. It is clear that CV-19 will result in more people working from home and more students being home-schooled, so the city of Bowie needs to be prepared to provide the social connections Bowie residents will need. The new skating will provide a secured and healthful area where parents can feel at ease leaving their children unattended in, as opposed to shopping malls and amusement parks.

Please save the new ice arena. So many Bowie residents are depending on it. The "character" of Bowie depends on preserving these type of amenities.

Sincerely,

Adiatu Khanu
15205 Emory Court
Bowie, Maryland 20716

Awilda Hernandez

From: Andrea Christiansen <asachimovic@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 5:11 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Letter to be read at May 18, 2020 Council Meeting
Attachments: IMG_5548.JPG; IMG_0096.JPG; phone pictures june 16 564.jpg; IMG_0652.JPG; IMG_0389.jpg

Letter submitted by:
Andrea Christiansen
District 2
11902 Grason Lane
Bowie, MD 20715

Mr. Mayor and Members of the City Council,
I am a lifelong resident of the City of Bowie. I returned here after college and marriage to raise my own family in this wonderful community. I learned how to ice skate at the Bowie Ice Arena, and went on to compete nationally in synchronized skating. My three children, now ages 14, 11, and 9, all learned how to ice skate at Bowie Ice Arena. I have so many pictures of my younger two children crawling around at the rink while their sibling(s) were on the ice. My children have participated in group lessons, summer camps, birthday parties, as well as the Bowie Hockey Club. My own personal history with the Bowie Ice Arena aside, I am absolutely appalled that the Council would even consider cancelling this project now, after almost nine million taxpayer dollars have already been spent on the construction alone. This doesn't include the approximately three million spent on engineering designs and studies since 2013 and the cost of the land. Were the construction of the facility stopped now, there is the additional cost of four million dollars in construction items already purchased, not to mention litigation fees from the construction company for breach of contract. That is AT LEAST a sixteen million dollar loss, of my hard-earned money. Not all of it is my money, obviously, but some of it certainly is. The City has estimated the costs associated with cancelling the current contract to be $7.5 million. The total cost of the facility construction is approximately $24 million. The City stands to take a financial hit of nearly the total cost of construction if work on the Bowie IcePlex is halted. If the City Council votes to cancel this project, how do the financial losses we would incur make any fiscal sense? I understand that municipalities around the country have been hard hit by the economic effects of the coronavirus pandemic, but as Michael Esteve pointed out in an e-mail to his District 1 constituents (my mom among them), the funds to build the ice arena have already been obtained through bonds and are NOT coming out of the city's general fund or reserve funds. Esteve also shares that city revenues have not been seriously impacted by the pandemic. This pandemic will one day be behind us. If this project is halted, and the current Bowie Ice Arena fails, as it could any day now, then what? What about all of the children and adults that utilized that facility on a daily basis? What are you going to tell them? That the city is "very serious about its public stewardship responsibilities and providing opportunities for a wide range of community recreational amenities?" These were Mayor Adams's words in a letter to the Maryland House of Delegates on January 27, 2020. It's hard to believe them when he is now calling for the Bowie IcePlex project to be cancelled. At the same meeting (May 4) that Dufour Woolfley
asked for an agenda item to be added to tonight's meeting to have a conversation to discuss the future of the Bowie IcePlex, the Council voted 7-0 to approve the purchase of a new Zamboni for the new Bowie IcePlex for the budgeted cost of $107,000. Please stop vacillating. The Council has voted again and again to continue with this project. Please, allow it to go forward. If not now, when? If this project is cancelled, the City of Bowie will soon have zero ice rinks, and the money that people spend in Bowie while attending events at the arena will go elsewhere. Cancel this project, and driving by the Church Road site will be a constant reminder of what might have been. Cancel this project, and that is the nail on the coffin for ice in Bowie. The FY20 and FY21 city budgets include $0 in funds to repair the current facility. This isn't about ice vs. courts. This is about keeping your word, finishing the job, upholding commitments to community members, and not throwing money down the drain. Thank you for your service to our great community, and I wish you and your families safety and good health during this trying time.
Respectfully,
Andrea Christiansen

Below are some pictures of my children throughout the years enjoying the Bowie Ice Arena

Awilda Hernandez

From: Lina Younes <lmfyounes@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 5:56 PM
To: Timothy Adams; Adrian Boafo; Henri Gardner; Ingrid Harrison; Michael Esteve; Dufour Woolfley; Rosann Ndebumadu; Awilda Hernandez
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: HONOR THE BOWIE ICEPLEX CONTRACT

Dear Mayor Adams and Members of the Bowie City Council:

I write to you again to voice my steadfast support for continuing to honor the city's contract with Costello Construction to build Bowie Iceplex.

As a resident and voter in Bowie for over 25 years, I've attended many a city council hearing to reaffirm the need to build a new ice-skating venue to accommodate the demands of our hockey and figure skating teams. Many of you witnessed the long struggle and contentious city debates over this issue. A contract was finally awarded last year to begin construction of the new ice arena. When the ice-breaking ceremony took place on October 25, 2019, I saw how hard work finally paid off—a valuable lesson to our children. When I saw construction actually begin several months ago, I thought that our prayers had finally been answered and that we would soon see our dream come true.

I would hear occasional rumblings that select council members wanted to revisit the issue and cancel the contract, but I brushed them aside as mere gossip. Well, now, it seems there might be some truth to these rumblings. It has come to my attention that select members of the council are actively advocating stopping the project, paying off the contractor and reallocating any remaining bonds funding.

I know that you are acutely aware that more than $14 million dollars have already been spent on this contract so far. Are you truly willing to waste $14 million to presumably to save $9 million? Are you ignoring the funding this project will generate for the city once the two sheet iceplex is up and running? Terminating this project will represent additional lost revenue for the city. If you adopt that stance, I think the old British saying sums your position up nicely, being "penny wise, but pound foolish."

Once again, I appeal to all of you to honor the contract and complete construction of the new Bowie Iceplex.

Yours truly,

Lina Younes, a concerned citizen

11900 Bracken Court

Bowie, MD 20720

Awilda Hernandez

From: Lina Younes <lmfyounes@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 10:55 AM
To: Timothy Adams
Cc: Adrian Boafo; Henri Gardner; Ingrid Harrison; Michael Esteve; Dufour Woolfley; Rosann Ndebumadu; Awilda Hernandez; Public Info
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: DON'T USE THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC AS AN EXCUSE!

Dear Mayor Adams and Bowie City Council Members:

While the coronavirus pandemic was an unforeseen circumstance, please do not use this public health crisis as an excuse to kill the Bowie IcePlex Project.

The city finances are not in the red. Skilled management will allow us to weather this storm. However, cancelling this project will have many negative ramifications, including an adverse impact on the city's bond rating.

Honor this contract and let's work together to make this new two-sheet ice arena a successful one.

Sincerely,

Lina Younes, a concerned citizen
11900 Bracken Court
Bowie, MD 20720

https://wtop.com/prince-georges-county/2020/05/bowies-new-ice-arena-project-already-on-thin-ice/?fbclid=IwAR02P3bj7j7PFbfJDk5pZHP_H0KNdvseLkfyivpiG9F44cMuHfuYWl6904Y

Awilda Hernandez

From: Sandra Nash <synash@icloud.com>
Sent: Saturday, May 16, 2020 11:35 AM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Fwd: CITIZEN CONCERN ...

Sandra

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** Sandra Nash <synash@icloud.com>
> **Date:** May 11, 2020 at 2:03:46 PM EDT
> **To:** Cityckerk@cityofbowie.org
> **Subject: CITIZEN CONCERN ...**
>
> About construction of new ice arena:
>
> Granted that the arena would bring dollars to Bowie from practices and competitions, what percentage of the citizens will be using it? This project will bring horses of traffic to Bowie next along at least 4 housing communities and streets (Church Road! Fairwood Parkway! Woodmore Road! 450!!!). Some are not inclusive to Bowie City proper but reside right on the line. Again, no plans for major road infrastructure (think 197 in just a Bowie "rush hour" and school buses) and I'm sure no repairs from the increased traffic. Most concerning, someone might make the suggestion to build a ramp connecting Rte 50 to Church Road. Ugh! And the trash!! We are experiencing bulk trash strewn about during this pandemic because of no bulk pickup. There is not enough room for me to speak to this while tapping on my phone. Please re-evaluate the use of this land for something more inclusive for the community, especially for those who pay the Bowie taxes.
>
> Sandra Nash

Awilda Hernandez

From: Elizabeth Burger <lizburger19@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, May 16, 2020 11:43 AM
To: cityclerk
Cc: lizburger19@gmail.com
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: New Bowie Ice Rink

My husband and I moved to Bowie in 1981 and happily reared our three sons here in Bowie. During that time, skating at the Bowie Ice Arena at Allen Pond Park was one of our sons' favorite activities. It was a great place to go to exercise, meet friends, and have a good time. The ice arena has always been a place to be proud of and a positive part of Bowie. Last Thursday, we drove past the new Bowie Ice Rink site on Church Road with our grandchildren. We pointed out the new location to them. Our grandson loves skating and has taken classes and attended camp at the old Bowie Ice Arena. Our other grandchildren also have enjoyed skating at the old Bowie Ice Arena. They all are looking forward to the completion on the new Bowie Ice Rink. Later that same day, we were so surprised to read the headlines in the Bowie Blade, "Bowie Cancels Ice Rink."

There's no denying that this pandemic has caused a lot of uncertainty in our world as we know it. However, now may just be the perfect time to do something positive for our city and its future. Since a substantial monetary investment has already been made, the city council needs to act responsively and continue the new Bowie Ice Rink project. We feel that there is a strong demand for the rink and since all activities will have a usage fee, the rink should prove to be fiscally sound. Let's build HOPE in Bowie!

Bowie residents, Liz and Jeff Burger

Awilda Hernandez

From: kmmpatterson <kmmpatterson@comcast.net>
Sent: Saturday, May 16, 2020 1:19 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: New Ice Rink

I am writing to express support for the new Bowie Ice Rink.

We have lived in Northview almost 40yrs. When our daughter was small she took lessons at the rink and fell in love with skating at the age of 4. She took years of lessons, participated in shows, skated on the precision team for several years, competed in skating competitions on the East coast and also worked at the rink as a teenager. The rink provided a safe place for children and families to go all year long for many years! We need the updated rink to remain in our city.

Thank you,

K.M.Patterson
Concerned long time member of the Bowie figure skating/hockey community.

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S7, an AT&T 4G LTE smartphone

Awilda Hernandez

From: Keith Shanahan <shanak@alum.rpi.edu>
Sent: Saturday, May 16, 2020 2:25 PM
To: Timothy Adams; Adrian Boafo; Henri Gardner; Ingrid Harrison; Michael Esteve; Dufour Woolfley; Rosann Ndebumadu; CouncilDistrict4@co.pg.md.us; At-LargeMemberHawkins@co.pg.md.us; At-LargeMemberFranklin@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict1@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict2@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict3 @co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict5@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict6@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict7@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict8@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict9 @co.pg.md.us; douglas.peters@senate.state.md.us; geraldine.valentino@house.state.md.us; marvin.holmes@house.state.md.us; ron.watson@house.state.md.us; cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: New Bowie Ice-Plex

Dear Regional Leaders,

I hope you and your families are fairing well during this time. I am writing you today to urge your continued support for the new Bowie Ice Rink project. While my family does now live in Bowie, as a resident of Northern Calvert County, it is Ice Hockey and Figure Skating that brings my family into Bowie almost every day during the fall and winter. As a result of our time in Bowie, we eat and shop frequent in Bowie places of business.

With my two children participating in skating activities and having attended several tournaments regionally and throughout the mid Atlantic, I can attest that the new Bowie ice plex will bring financial opportunity to local restaurants, hotels, and stores. This benefit is in addition to the yearly profit and jobs the ice rink will bring to the region.

While I understand that difficult financial decisions may be upon you in this time, I urge you to think about the long term prosperity of The City of Bowie and Bowie residents. Cancellation of the new Bowie Ice plex, would squander millions of dollars in sunk investment, and leave Bowie with a 50 year old ice rink that will require millions in renovation/repair costs.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration in this matter and your cont support for the new Bowie Ice Plex.

Respectfully,
Keith Shanahan

Sent from my iPhone

Awilda Hernandez

From: Franklyn Matthews <franklynmatthews@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, May 16, 2020 6:56 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Vote to Stop Build for Bowie Ice Arena

I hope this message finds you and your families safe and in good health. As a concerned resident of Bowie, I am writing this short message regarding the upcoming vote to reverse the decision to build the new Bowie Ice Arena off Church Road. I was recently made aware of this possible reversal and was extremely disturbed. As I'm sure you're already aware, there has been several years of the deliberation, discussion and debate regarding this build. What I find most disturbing is that after all of this debate and financial investment (in the millions of dollars) the Council would potentially make this reversal decision under the cloak of darkness during this pandemic. To make such a change in direction at this time when all of us are more preoccupied with the safety, health and overall well being of our families seems opportunistic and to be blunt driven by ulterior motives. As has been expressed several times throughout this decision process, this investment will be financially beneficial to the City of Bowie from the additional revenue streams it will provide. It also will provide the much needed additional sheets of ice for the ice skating and hockey community to utilize. The ground has already been broken, several rounds of debate have occurred and tax payer funds invested.

My ask to you is simply this. Please vote to continue this much needed project. Do not go back on a decision that was made after all parties have had the opportunity to have their voices heard. To cancel this project, especially during this time, will establish a precedence that no decision made by the council is final. And that the citizens of the City of Bowie do not really have a voice as the Council can unilaterally reverse decisions and determine that millions of dollars in investment can be simply written off without true deliberation by citizens. After we will have endured the months of loss and isolation as a result of this pandemic, our community is going to need facilities like this more than ever as citizens are going to want to get out, enjoy the community and be with each other. This facility will definitely provide that much needed reconnection channel. I implore you to not deprive our community of this future facility and stay true to the Councils vote and finish what has been started! I thank you in advance for your consideration and vote to not stop the build of the new Bowie Ice arena.

Concerned Citizen and Parent of a Young Skater,
Franklyn Matthews

Awilda Hernandez

From: NICOLE Dennis <nicoledennis81@hotmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, May 16, 2020 10:11 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Construction of the Bowie IcePlex

Dear City Council,

I am a resident of Upper Marlboro (Kettering) and the closest ice skating rink to our home is the Bowie complex. As an African American, when my son told me he wanted to play hockey, I must admit I wondered where that came from. So I sought out a program that could teach him skating and hockey. As you are aware, the Tucker Road Ice Rink caught fire and that impacted the access that children of color and lower income families had to ice skating, hockey and figure skating in this area. It is important that all children have access and exposure to many sports, especially sports that they are not represented in. Having a functional ice skating rink in a community as diverse as Bowie and our surrounding areas is intrinsic to ensure that our children know and understand that they can play any sport they find interesting and build friendships that cross race and socio-economics. We do need more basketball courts, we have a lot of recreation centers that promote basketball and football. We need a facility that promotes ice-based sports as well.

Please continue the building of the new ice arena. In this time, we need activities that bring all together. Our community need access and exposure to a variety of sporting opportunities.

Thanks,
Nicole (Hockey Mom -Bowie Hockey Club)

Awilda Hernandez

From: jayhuntington <jayhuntington@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 17, 2020 9:29 AM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Bowie Ice Plex

Please do not stop building the Bowie Ice Plex as it is already under construction and is needed in the community.

Kind regards,

Jay Huntington
Sr. Manager Sales Operations

DHL eCommerce - Americas
International eCommerce Solutions

2700 South Commerce Parkway
Suite 300
Weston, FL 33331

443-852-5712
Jay.Huntington@dhl.com

www.dhlecommerce-usa.com

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Awilda Hernandez

From: Tracie Motley-Narain <sk8ing4gold@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 17, 2020 12:18 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Bowie Ice Arena 2 sheets of ice

To whom it may concern,

My name is Tracie Motley-Narain; I'm the proud parent of one of your Bowie ISI team members Mariah Narain. I'm writing regarding how important it is that the teams get the 2 sheet arena. Ice skating has played a major roll in my daughters development. I want to take the time to share with you her College application essay:

Mariah Narain

At the age of four my mother took me to an ice skating rink. As soon as my feet hit the ice, I took off and did not look back. A wave of excitement took over me and my mother told me she could see a true connection forming, and boy did it! Now, at seventeen years old I am a fourth place ISI World Champion, and a two time first place ISI Nationals champion. Figure Skating has blessed me with many opportunities such as: traveling all over the United States, meeting winter olympians, college scholarships, and many more. Figure Skating is a meaningful experience that has taught me dedication, determination, perseverance, and balance. All skills that I will be bringing with me as a student and a person.

I began figure skating in third grade, now I'm a senior in high school. Within those nine years, many obstacles came my way, but giving up was never an option. In sixth grade I underwent oral surgery and had nine teeth removed so I could get braces. The very next morning with stitches in my mouth, still recovering, I got up at six am and was on the ice for five hours for practice.

The summer before my freshman year of high school, my team went to the St.Paul, Minnesota ISI Nationals Championship. My mother was unable to accompany me due to work, leaving the responsibilities solely to me. Some of my responsibilities included finding my own transportation, personal time management, and preparing myself for events. This was a

pivotal point in my developing career and I did and will continue to do whatever it takes to further develop my skills not only as a skater but also a young woman.

However, I had to walk before I could run, well in this case walk before I could skate to earn the title as a National, and World Champion. Reaching this point in my career I have overcome many trials and tribulations. No matter how many times I ranked last, fell down, or underperformed, my mind always remained on track, never faltering from my past mistakes. My goal was to get on top and thrive in the sport I played with every ounce of me, whether I won in my event or not.

During my years of competitive figure skating, the most challenging part was finding a balance between school, work, skating, and my personal life. Working almost full-time, including being a full-time student, while still having competitions and practice, taught me how valuable time is and the importance of it. Moreover, I am a fourth year Naval NJROTC Cadet, as well as being the captain of my schools soccer team for two consecutive years. Struggling to juggle it all at first was overwhelming. A lesson in organization was a necessity, quickly teaching myself an important lesson in organization allowed me to be who I am today. I have attained leadership roles that have made me not only responsible but also reliable.

Throughout the nine years, figure skating has become more than a sport, it is a part of me that I will carry for the rest of my life. It has taught me many skills that I can bring to the table. It has molded me into the young woman that I am today, ready and eager to face and overcome new obstacles that await before me. As I close one chapter of my life I am beyond prepared to start a new one with you.

Mariah was excepted to Mount Saint Mary's University she received a $$35,500 yearly scholarship.

I appreciate your time, be safe.

#ProudMom

We trade pain for glory, We trade sweat for victory, we trade SKATING for NOTHING!

--
Tracie

"We Trade Pain for Glory, We Trade Sweat for Victory, We Trade Skating for NOTHING"

--
Tracie

"We Trade Pain for Glory, We Trade Sweat for Victory, We Trade Skating for NOTHING"

Awilda Hernandez

From: Kelly Ross <kellyvaleo@hotmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 17, 2020 12:39 PM
To: Timothy Adams; cityclerk
Cc: Adrian Boafo; Henri Gardner; Ingrid Harrison; Michael Esteve; Dufour Woolfley; Rosann Ndebumadu; CouncilDistrict4@co.pg.md.us; At-LargeMemberHawkins@co.pg.md.us; At-LargeMemberFranklin@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict1@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict2@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict3@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict5@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict6@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict7@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict8@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict9@co.pg.md.us; douglas.peters@senate.state.md.us; geraldine.valentino@house.state.md.us; marvin.holmes@house.state.md.us; ron.watson@house.state.md.us
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Bowie IcePlex

It makes me sick to think you are even considering stopping the Bowie IcePlex project. I grew up in Bowie skating at the Bowie Ice Arena, my brother played for Bowie Hockey Club and my son started playing hockey there at the age of five. Four years later he is still playing there and although we now reside in Crofton, we did own a home there until just last year so many of our tax dollars have gone toward the project. We spend money at the current rink and at plenty of businesses nearby. Don't waste our money because of your personal agenda. A good leader would start with himself and at the top to find ways to provide for the people of his city instead of just throwing away so much money in hopes of getting what you want. You have made it perfectly clear that you do not support this project but the numbers are there as well as the money. Perhaps you should look at how much money is spent to operate the City Gymnasium and see if that is profitable for the city because it is clear that the new rinks will generate more than double the gym. I'm looking forward to watching your meeting and seeing a favorable outcome for this project.

Kelly Ross

Awilda Hernandez

From: Julianna White <jwhite.advo@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 17, 2020 1:14 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Letter Supporting the new Bowie IcePlex
Attachments: CityofBowieLetter.tif

Please see the attached letter showing my support of the new Bowie IcePlex currently under construction off of Church Rd.

Thank you for your time.

Julianna White
240-417-8333

May 17, 2020

Good Afternoon City Council and Mayor,

I am writing to you to express my support for the new two sheet Bowie IcePlex, a project that many fought tirelessly to have approved. The current almost 50 year old Bowie Ice Arena has been a source of great memories for more than half of my life. My husband was actually a rink guard there over 2 decades ago when we were in high school. It's where he also attempted to help me learn to skate on many occasions. I am still not that good, but I keep trying. Now we have two sons that play hockey at Bowie and we spend 3-5 days a week, hours at a time at our second home, the rink. Unfortunately, the arena is aging drastically and in need of repairs, a fact you are all well aware. The facility is also unable to accommodate all the needs of the users and there is no ability to grow and expand programs, which is an option that is needed so much with current programs growing so much. It has been wonderful to see the Bowie Ice Arena be able to offer programs for all ages and skill levels for ice hockey, figure skating and public skating sessions, but I would love to see it expand for the residents of Bowie and the surrounding areas that love the ice and love Bowie.

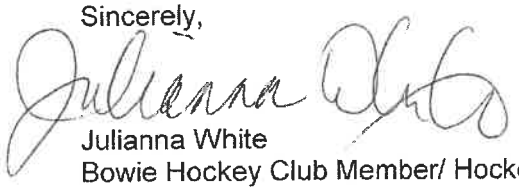
As a Bowie Hockey Club member, we are very excited about the new two sheet Bowie IcePlex to help increase the availability of additional ice time and new programs such as girl's ice hockey, adult leagues, more public sessions and special skater programs for hockey and figure skating. I am also writing to voice my support of all indoor and outdoor recreational opportunities for the community. Having a place to go to skate, play basketball, and even swim are such great opportunities that mean so to communities.

We have a home at Bowie Ice Arena, with a great hockey family that can't be replaced. I urge you to please keep the current two sheet Bowie IcePlex on Church Rd going for the residents of Bowie and the surrounding areas. There is not enough ice in the State of Maryland and it would be such a shame to see ice gone from Bowie. I know my kids would be heartbroken, as well as so many others. Those of us that come to Bowie for the ice, also eat, shop, worship and support events and the community with in Bowie. I want to keep supporting all of these things this great City.

Please let me know what I can do to help keep the Bowie IcePlex project moving forward, as well as the other recreational opportunities. Thank you for taking the time to read my letter. I hope this helps you see how important this project is to so many.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Julianna White
Bowie Hockey Club Member/ Hockey Mom
jwhite.advo@gmail.com

Awilda Hernandez

From: Jnatel <jnatel2@netzero.net>
Sent: Sunday, May 17, 2020 1:23 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Stop the ice rink- Citizen Participation comments for 5/18/2020 meeting

I am writing to ask the City Council to stop the ice rink and reinvest dollars in a multi-use facility that will benefit the residents of Bowie. Thank you.

S. Jnatel Sims
14606 Driftwood Road
Bowie, MD 20721

Sent from my iPhone

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Trump Jr. Makes an 'Incendiary' Allegation
http://thirdpartyoffers.netzero.net/TGL3231/5ec172d77159272d744east03duc1
Baseball May Return Without One Messy Tradition
http://thirdpartyoffers.netzero.net/TGL3231/5ec172d78bf3772d744east03duc2
Foreign Hackers Swipe Millions in Unemployment Benefits
http://thirdpartyoffers.netzero.net/TGL3231/5ec172d7a6afe72d744east03duc3

Awilda Hernandez

From: Jennifer Kochanski <jlambrose@hotmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 17, 2020 1:33 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: New Bowie Iceplex

To Whom it May Concern,

My family and I are members of the Bowie Hockey Club. My husband coaches and my two sons play Travel Mite Hockey. We were very upset when we learned that some members of the City Council are moving to stop construction of the Bowie Iceplex project.

Bowie Hockey has enriched our lives, helping our children to become better athletes and more well-rounded individuals. Unfortunately, the current facility is no longer able to fully meet the needs of the growing Bowie Hockey community. As hockey's popularity continues to rise in the region, the City of Bowie has a unique opportunity to capitalize on this growth. The new Iceplex has the potential to bring an enormous amount of money and business to the City of Bowie and could be a cornerstone of the city's continued development.

Please continue to fund the construction of the Bowie Iceplex project, not just for the joy it will bring to our family, but for the impact it will have on the sport that we love and the City of Bowie.

Thank you,

Jenn, Mike, Carter and Corbin Kochanski

Awilda Hernandez

From: Mark Morgan <mark@fusionsolutions.net>
Sent: Sunday, May 17, 2020 1:35 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Bowie Ice Arena project

To whom it may concern,

My family has been Bowie residents in 20716 for 20 years and have been apart of the City of Bowie ice arena for the last 8 years Very actively and 20 years as casual patrons. My two sons ages 6 and 11 have used the ice rink for Bowie club hockey and private lessons about 4 days a week and have chosen this club because of the staff and location. We could not imagine having to leave the city of Bowie and pay another organization, owner to use there facilities.
I also have been actively promoting the club and rink for 4 years with volunteer work at many events across the region which has brought many families from Anne arundel, DC and Calvert county. This city is growing and has the potential to tap into a market that Bowie has not tapped into. Stay to play tournament along with figure skating competitions. Which will fill hotels and restaurants.

Regardless of the decisions made, I appreciate the efforts made to keep this ice rink and hope that the City of Bowie can continue with there progress and complete this project. Bowie can have the amenities for many years to come and can continue to be the City everyone knows and loves!

Please keep the project going forward!
Thank you.

Mark Morgan
Fusion Solutions
Owner
301-440-5536
www.Fusionsolutions.net

Awilda Hernandez

From: Shecks <shecks7@icloud.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 17, 2020 1:36 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: New Ice Rink

Greetings,

I am writing you today on behalf of my family as well from my Bowie hockey family in protest for our new Bowie Ice Complex. Please do not stop the the build of the Ice Plex and reallocate the funds back to the project. This complex is essential not just to Bowie but to the metropolitan area. Ice complexs are getting more and more sparse through out the area. Hockey, figure skating and Ice-skating with our families is not just a hobby but a way of life.

Best regards,
Robert E Sheckels

Awilda Hernandez

From: Rachel Johnson <jackaboojohnson@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 17, 2020 1:51 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Bowie hockey club
Attachments: Screenshot_20200219-081747_Facebook.jpg; Screenshot_20200110-122456_Samsung Internet.jpg

Good afternoon,
I am writing to hopefully convince you to continue the project of the new ice plex. My family is strong on the belief that if you give your word, it really means something. You finish what you start, even if its hard. You as a council have given your word and by this second hesitation, you are showing that your word doesn't mean anything. How are we to have faith in anything you say or do. As a family we are teaching our 3 children values and traditions and since of community. Are these not values that Bowie supports anymore?
I personally am a level 2 coach at the travel level of hockey both 8U and 12U. I have been a resident of Bowie and continue to do my shopping and spend time in Bowie. I hope to continue. Please don't take this community away from my family, both my family of 5 and my hockey family of so many more.
Thank you for your time,
Rachel Johnson

Awilda Hernandez

From: Nasrin Dahlgren <nmdahlgren@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 17, 2020 2:07 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Bowie Ice plex

The Honorable Mayor Adams and City Council:

I am asking for your support and reconsideration of your review and potential cancellation of an in-progress construction of the Bowie Ice Plex. This is an essential construction project that is currently supporting numerous local Maryland jobs.

If this project shuts down, there will be a derelict, unusable tract of land that has already been graded and prepared for a site design to fit the requirements of this ice plex. I am also concerned there would be permit obligations that are not being considered; which could not be properly fulfilled if this disturbed site is abandoned without proper mitigation that a complete, fully-developed site would provide. This could potentially be an unforeseen additional expense to the city if the project is cancelled. Millions of City tax dollars have already been invested at this point.

Even though I am a resident of Anne Arundel, my family, like many others, come to Prince George's and spend time in local shops and restaurants many times a week because of the activities we participate in at the ice rink. I am so very pleased my family can visit such a diverse facility and make friends with families of different backgrounds. This new facility will continue to improve cultural relations and support the local economy. It will be a revenue-generating facility in the long run.

Please discuss this information among your Council. This would be a grave mistake if the project changes course given the amount invested thus far by Bowie Residents. This facility is a linchpin in our region by bringing communities together and providing a steady revenue stream for the city.

Kind Regards,
Nasrin Dahlgren
Lothian, Maryland
410-741-0123

Awilda Hernandez

From: mp40 <mp40@comcast.net>
Sent: Sunday, May 17, 2020 2:41 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: New rink

Dear city clerk, I am writing to you as a concerned parent and grandparent that have used bowie Ice rink for many years . I have seen my son grow and play hockey at bowie the sport he loves and learned life lessons and tons of friendships and continues to play hopefully in college due to bowie and he isn't the only one I know at least 10 other that have played at bowie and then played in college or higher.now my grandson plays it would be a shame to cancel a positive project in a world that seems to be falling apart, we have looked forward to and fought for this new rink for so long to give these kids something to look forward to and keep them out of trouble.
When you voted to start this project what kind of message will you send to totally quit on it now...sincerely Concerned parent.

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

Awilda Hernandez

From: Dlbruening <dlbruening@aol.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 17, 2020 3:12 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Support for Continued Building of the Bowie IcePlex at Fairwood

Dear Mayor Adams,

Having been a Bowie resident since 1968 I have personally experienced the value of the Bowie Ice Rink and its positive influence on the children of our diverse city. My son served as president of the Bowie Hockey Club, my two grandsons came up through the system, while a mother in our neighboring Oakcreek stated that "Ice skating has saved my young African american daughter's life". In the past the vote was been 5-2 in favor of building the IcePlex , bonds were floated at 24 million of which 8 million has already been allocated or spent for the project. Why the sudden change at the 11th hour? Covid-19? In my opinion Covid-19 is not going to last forever. There is a fast track vaccine on the way, most states businesses are reopening and getting back to normal and it will have little impact on property tax revenues that are the largest basis of the city's revenues. Are there surplus funds in the current budget that could be used for the "premium pay" until extra monies flow down to the city from the State? What about a compromise? Keep the build going but slow go it for an additional year. The city could work with Costello to make this happen. If 8 million of the bond fund has been allocated we are talking about 16 million from the IcePlex monies to be transferred to the general fund to run the city. Seems to me this is a drop in the bucket in today's budgets. In closing I quote from the April 9, 2020 City of Bowie Budget document that says: "The City's largest source of revenue is it Real Property Taxex, projected to bring in over 30 million dollars in the next fiscal year...While a longer term economic downturn may impact the City of Bowie in future years the budget for FY2021 is not significantly impacted. Further, the City of Bowie's expenditures focus on essential citizen services, which are expected to continue in both good and challegening economic times." Build the IcePlex.

Awilda Hernandez

From: Kim Watts <klhwatts@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 17, 2020 3:13 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: RE: Bowie Ice Rink

Good afternoon,
I hope this email finds you well during this unprecedented time. After many weeks in quarantine, we certainly look forward to enjoying the parks, ice rink, and youth sports available in the City of Bowie.

I would like to express my gratitude for your investment in youth sports, specifically, the new Bowie Ice Arena. As a mother and teacher, I have observed first hand the impact of organized sports on our youth. And, with the growth of youth hockey in the area, it will be fiscally beneficial for the city.

I am shocked to read that after investing approximately 12 million dollars in this rink, you are considering abandoning the endeavor. Abandonment would be a grave error on all accounts. Bowie has always invested in their community, and this rink should be no exception. Not to mention, abandoning the project at this point would be fiscally irresponsible.

Please continue providing the quality facilities for our youth and proceed with the construction of the Bowie Ice Arena.

Respectfully,
Kim Watts
Sent from my iPhone

Awilda Hernandez

From: Robinson <leeandkellie@verizon.net>
Sent: Sunday, May 17, 2020 3:44 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Ice rink

PLEASE continue building the new Bowie ice rink. My husband and kids played hockey in Bowie. I want my grand kids to play hockey at the new rink!

Thank you!

Sent from AOL Mobile Mail
Get the new AOL app: mail.mobile.aol.com

Awilda Hernandez

From: syoung1 <syoung1@comcast.net>
Sent: Sunday, May 17, 2020 4:29 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: New Bowie Iceplex

Hello,

My name is Sharene Young and I am an African American Bowie resident residing at 4805 Briercrest Court, Bowie, MD 20720. I have three children and two of them play ice hockey. We spend a lot of time at Bowie ice arena and the sport of Hockey is expanding in this area. The new iceplex will make it a lot easier for residents of Bowie to participate in the sport. Construction has already begun and is on going on a daily basis, as it is about 5 minutes from my house. This rink will bring $$ to the city of Bowie as hockey families travel quite often and stay in hotels, and eat at restaurants in the communities that they travel to. Although this is not a "traditional" sport for African Americans, that is changing and our kids need to be able to train locally to develop and excel in the sport. Another new facility is being built in Upper Marlboro for Basketball and Football, which means that all interests are being addressed as long as to rink continues to completion. Please continue the build as it is the future for the well rounded development of extracurricular interests in this community.

Regards,

Sharene Young

Awilda Hernandez

From: Paul Schirmer <wichlax@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 17, 2020 5:10 PM
To: cityclerk
Cc: Paul Schirmer
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Bowie Iceplex Support

Bowie City Clerk-

I'm wringing this letter in full support of the Bowie Iceplex already under construction and planned to open in 2021. As a parent of a Bowie Hockey player, where we travel to from Annapolis, I cannot tell you how important this rink is to the community and to the kids which it supports.

The hockey and figure skating programs are led by dedicated youth mentors who help foster teamwork, camaraderie and sportsmanship and are amazing ambassadors for the town which they help support. A two-sheet iceplex would be an amazing addition to a program that has established as one of the best small town programs routinely competing in playoff and championship games. This iceplex will no doubt benefit hundreds (possibly thousands) of youth who will come from all over not only to compete but to patron local restaurant and shops. We did nearly everyday either before or after practice and sometimes both!!

Our family sincerely hopes this endeavor continues and the kids and city of Bowie reaps the rewards of a successful, highly sought after sports location.

Sincerely,

CAPT Paul Schirmer
US Navy
410-212-0820

Awilda Hernandez

From: Brian Melvin <mshlgirlshockey@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 17, 2020 5:15 PM
To: cityclerk; Timothy Adams; Adrian Boafo; Henri Gardner; Ingrid Harrison; Michael Esteve; Dufour Woolfley
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Bowie Iceplex

Ladies and Gentlemen of the City of Bowie Council, thank you for a brief minute of your time to request your support in sustaining the momentum and continuing the construction of a new ice rink in Bowie.

I am the Director of Girl's Ice Hockey for the Maryland Student Hockey League (MSHL), a parent, and adult ice hockey player.

I have spent many hours at the current rink playing and supporting my two kids as they competed in youth and high school games in Bowie. They have played in tournaments were teams from all over the East Coast have competed. The high school games were against teams from all over MD. Many times I have visited dining facilities in Bowie on my way to the rink or on my way home.

Additionally, back in early March I hosted tryouts for a girl's hockey team to compete at the USA Hockey's America's showcase. A showcase where these student athletes would have the opportunity to discuss future playing opportunities in college with college representatives who were scheduled to attend the event for the sole purpose to scout players for their respective colleges. The players who attended this tryout session came from all over the state and from VA.

In summary my experiences at the current facility have been extremely positive and I look forward to many more in the future at the new facility. Additionally, based on the events that ice rinks host, bring a wide audience from all over state and country, it seems to me the business case for not having a venue to host events like this would surely not be beneficial for the City of Bowie.

Thank you for your time and I look forward to hearing about a positive outcome and the continuance of a new facility.

--
Thank you.
Brian Melvin
https://www.monumentalhockeyhub.com/page/show/5165785-girls

Awilda Hernandez

From: padgett2910@verizon.net
Sent: Sunday, May 17, 2020 5:33 PM
To: Public Info; cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Ice Rink construction.

To: The Mayor and City Council of Bowie

From: Sheila Padgett
2910 Tallow Lane, Bowie 20715
301-262-2871

I want to go on record to absolutely disagree with Mayor Adam's proposal to cancel the ongoing construction of the Bowie Ice Rink. How extraordinarily frivolous. The Ice rink was voted on and approved by a Council majority period - Shovels in the ground, concrete poured, etc. It is DONE. Please do not undo this process based on assumptions. The Mayor suggests that there could be possible staff layoffs due to the pandemic. Yet the 5/18 agenda shows under Old Business an Ordinance to hire a Public Health Officer (a physician). How can such a position be paid? Why is it necessary when we hear from our fine Governor almost daily, our County Executive at least weekly and daily Covid Alerts from the City. I believe to add a Public Health Officer is an unnecessary layer of bureaucracy and absolutely subject to patronage.

Again, let the Ice Rink proceed. Thank you for your attention.
Sheila Padgett

Awilda Hernandez

From: felsings@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, May 17, 2020 6:35 PM
To: Awilda Hernandez; cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: To be read at Council meeting 5/18/2020
Attachments: I respectfully submit the following.pdf

Dear Awilda,

Attached are my remarks for the council meeting on Monday night.

Thank you so much for all you do for our city!
Felicia Snyder

I respectfully submit the following:

First, I would like to publicly thank Awilda for being tasked with reading all the letters for the Council review tonight.

My name is Felicia Snyder, I am a resident of District 1, under normal circumstances I would thank the Mayor, and Councilmembers for allowing my voice to be heard; I can not do that this evening as I am so very tired of this coming up for review. I am saddened to learn that most of you have not done your due diligence and have so little respect for the previous Mayor and Council that you would bring this issue up again. The Mayors' headline in the Op-Ed in the Bowie Blade was not the truth along with the lies that were made in the column.

If you are going to send me a stimulus check from the City of Bowie – great!

This is no longer an "ICE vs COURTS" issue this is a "YOU ARE WASTING MY TAX DOLLARS" issue.

In response to the Mayors remarks about assistance for COVID - The County was to begin an Emergency Rental Assistance Program on May 11, 2020 for assisting residents.

Further, if you are concerned about helping City Residents, why were City funds approved to be spent to take lunch to a privately owned Assisted Living Facility when the employees that you would feed are not Bowie residents?

If you're plan is NOT to waste taxpayer money, why at the last council meeting did you ALL vote to spend $107,000.00 on a new Zamboni for the new IcePlex?

Why would you have voted on April 17, 2020 in favor of spending $25,000.00 on the fiber network for the new IcePlex?

Why would you have voted on April 6, 2020 in favor of spending $500,000.00 on the design and construction of the gas line for the new IcePlex?

By the time of this meeting we will have spent at least $8 Million on the project, Bowie will be liable for buying out the contract, paying additional funds for any supplies already purchased up to the date of cancellation, the city may be thrust into litigation, we will put our Triple A Bond rating in jeopardy, not to mention the next time we want to build who will trust us??

I sent an email to Mayor Adams and Councilmembers Roxy, Dufour and Adrian last Monday and NONE of them chose to answer the above questions. That is why I am sharing them with you –

What do they have to hide?

What don't they want you to know?

How can they not do their research and spread rumors?

The Mayor talks One City One Bowie – I am not seeing it!!

For those that do not understand this is a Capital Improvement Project, the funds allocated in a Project include all the money that has been spent over the course of the Project which is where the $8 million plus dollars comes from. The total cost including all of that will be $24 million. The current Ice Arena is in need of serious repairs, when costed out several years ago it would cost about $21 Million to repair.

The recreational facilities in the city are subsidized by our tax dollars. Ice costs the city about 20 cents per dollar, whereas other amenities are costing up to 80 cents on the dollar, this includes courts. With 2 sheets in operation the expectation is the IcePlex will make money for the city.

I am appalled at the lack of concern for how my tax dollars are being wasted by not moving forward with this project.

All that money and we will have nothing to show for it!

Awilda Hernandez

From: Faith <hvfaith20@aol.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 17, 2020 6:55 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: NEW BOWIE ICEPLEX CONSTRUCTION MUST CONTINUE-PLEASE

My son is a member of the Bowie Hockey club. I am writing today to reach out and ask to have the construction of the Bowie Ice Plex continue. And although we are not a resident in Bowie, my parents have been for 35+years. The ice rink is a second home to hundreds of these Children (and adults) including myself and my son and in Bowie and surrounding areas. The Current ice rink And new ice rink being built will bring in money locally as well as From out of town. The amount of money that has already been spent will be a huge loss for all who have put countless hours of time and energy into seeing this project succeed.
Thank you for your time.

Faith Poznanski

Awilda Hernandez

From: jessica barker <jessbarkerrn@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 17, 2020 8:26 PM
To: cityclerk; CouncilDistrict4@co.pg.md.us; Timothy Adams; Henri Gardner; Ingrid Harrison; Michael Esteve; Dufour Woolfley; Rosann Ndebumadu; At-LargeMemberHawkins@co.pg.md.us; At-LargeMemberFranklin@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict2@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict3@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict5 @co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict6@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict7@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict8@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict9@co.pg.md.us; douglas.peters@senate.state.md.us; geraldine.valentino@house.state.md.us; Lori Jones
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Concerns Regarding the Ice Rink

To whom it may concern,
Please share my views with the city council on Monday, May 18th, 2020.

I am a parent of two members of the Bowie Hockey Club. We travel to your city multiple times a week exclusively because of your ice rink and the hockey club. We put money back into your city on a regular basis because of the ice rink. Our young kids have come to the rink at 5am to meet with news teams and talk to council members to tell them why this new IcePlex is so important for the community. The community rejoiced when the votes finally came in to install a two sheet facility to meet the needs of the city and all the surrounding areas.

After passing the building of the new Bowie IcePlex, completing all planning, breaking ground and then starting the process; deciding to stop all construction now is a disgrace to the citizens of Bowie and all the current and future skaters from the entire region. It would be fiscally irresponsible to forgo all the funds and planning that have already been set aside for this project. While I respect that the need for funds is constantly changing, I think we need to consider the amount of revenue the IcePlex can bring in. The Bowie IcePlex WILL generate ROI greater than any other recreational facility in the City. The rate is anticipated to be approximately 85% or higher. As a front line healthcare worker, I am still fighting the pandemic of COVID-19 everyday. I have repeatedly told many people that I see ice sports as one of the first activities we can safely restart; everyone is in facemasks and gloves already or practicing independent sessions and maintaining a safe social distance. While the virus is not going anywhere any time soon, ice sports will be one of the only recreational activities that you will be able to safely continue.

As I fight the battle of planning for a pandemic daily and everyday I find a way to see the good and the light at the end of this dark tunnel. I cannot imagine COVID-19 taking this from our community as well. The truth of the matter is that it won't, you all will.

While it seems obvious, wasting approximately $16 million is no way to spend your tax payers money. Additionally you will lose more and more over the years from everyone traveling to your city for the recreational use of the facilities.

With great regard for the future of the IcePlex and the future of our ice community,

Jessica Barker
jessbarkerRN@gmail.com

Awilda Hernandez

From: PatandLi Ahern <patandli@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 17, 2020 9:09 PM
To: cityclerk; Timothy Adams; Adrian Boafo; Henri Gardner; Ingrid Harrison; Michael Esteve; Dufour Woolfley; Rosann Ndebumadu; councildistrict4@co.pg.md.us; at-largememberhawkins@co.pg.md.us; at-largememberfranklin@co.pg.md.us; councildistrict1@co.pg.md.us; councildistrict2@co.pg.md.us; councildistrict3@co.pg.md.us; coucildistrict5@co.pg.md.us; councildistrict6@co.pg.md.us; councildistrict7@co.pg.md.us; councildistrict8@co.pg.md.us; councildistrict9@co.pg.md.us; douglas.peters@senate.state.md.us; geraldine.valentino@house.state.md.us; marvin.colmes@house.state.md.us; ron.watson@house.state.md.us
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Support for the New Bowie Ice Arena

To Whom It May Concern,

We are Pat, Li, Aaron and Ariana Ahern and we want to offer our support for the construction of the new Bowie Ice Arena. We are current residents of St. Mary's county and, Bowie ice arena has been our home ice arena for the past 3 years, and we hope for many years to come. Aaron and Ariana have been members of the Bowie Hockey club since the age of 5 and have been taking skating lessons at the rink since the age of 3. Pat and Li are also very involved with the hockey club and both volunteer as coaches. Bowie has become our second home and, is an integral part in our lives since we commute to Bowie 4-5 times a week. Due to the hour and half one-way commute time, we end up staying in the area the entire day. In between events at the rink, we eat and shop at the Bowie town Center and we even purchased a new vehicle there. We often stay in the hotels in Bowie to make the early morning practices and games. Bowie hockey club is an exceptional program run by true professionals, and we cannot envision going anywhere else. We recommend Bowie ice Arena to everyone who is interested in hockey and skating programs. With the construction of a new ice arena, it will attract more people to Bowie and we are confident that they will love it as much as we do.

Please consider continuing the construction of the ice arena and allow the hockey and skating community to continue to flourish and grow in the City of Bowie

Very Respectfully,

The Ahern Family

Awilda Hernandez

From: Jonathan <lorenzjj@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 17, 2020 9:38 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Letter in Support of BHC
Attachments: Letter to Bowie City Council Concerning BHC.pdf

Dear Members of the Bowie City Council,

My family and I live in the Fort Meade area. We chose to send three of our children to Bowie Hockey Club (BHC) rather than closer clubs. BHC demonstrates that they were open and friendly to accommodating Service Members and their families. As a result, we have been a part of the BHC family for over two years now.

We thoroughly enjoy being a part of the BHC family. However, there are some drawbacks to the current aged facility. As I said before, we have three children currently playing hockey with possibly a fourth to begin playing in the future. Due to the fact that there is only one sheet of ice, as opposed to most other rinks we play at which have two, we play less games at the Bowie Ice Rink. This means more traveling, to areas which are not near the City of Bowie.

Our commitment to BHC has also led us to have two of our other children join Silver Stars Gymnastics in Bowie. As a result, we spend a significant amount of time in the City of Bowie. We do shopping, dining, and many other activities in the City of Bowie. Having more games at the new ice rink will keep us and many other families like ours in the area contributing to economic activity.

Most of all, we have grown to love the members of BHC and they are part of our circle of friends and family. We are willing to drive nearly thirty minutes one way, on nearly a daily basis, just to be a part of BHC. We also have recommended many others in the Fort Meade area to view BHC as a viable option to support the needs of Service Members and their families.

We ask you to please consider the construction of the new ice rink not simply as a convenience to a few people. It demonstrates that the City of Bowie has a vested interest in the community and its continued growth. The City of Bowie can also demonstrate its desire to reach out to the Military community and beyond. This is an investment not in a building, but in a community and its future.

Thank you very much for your attention and concern over this matter. We appreciate your stewardship and dedication to the growth of the community you represent as our public servants. God bless your work and service.

Very Respectfully,

Jonathan J. Lorenz
Fort Meade, MD 20755
(810) 837-2806

Awilda Hernandez

From: Jeremy Floyd <jeremy.floyd21@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 17, 2020 9:50 PM
To: cityclerk; Timothy Adams; Adrian Boafo; Henri Gardner; Ingrid Harrison; Michael Esteve; Dufour Woolfley; Rosann Ndebumadu
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Bowie IcePlex Construction MUST continue!

Dear Mayor and Council Members,

I hope that this messages finds you well. Thank you for everything that you are doing to assist with keeping the City of Bowie safe during these times of uncertainty. Unfortunately, the suggestion of stopping the construction of the Bowie IcePlex would not only be an unnecessary step that would do little if anything in getting the city safe and back to normal. It would be a huge waste of $16 million tax payer dollars, countless amount of time and efforts dating back to 2013 of planning, meetings, hearings, and voting, and wasted opportunity for money to be made in the near future.

I am not a Bowie resident but I have 1, soon to be 2 kids playing with the Bruins Hockey Club. My family and I have spent our fair share of time over the years taking our son to and from the Bowie Ice RInk from Chesapeake Beach. Skating lessons, Hockey Games & practices, and family open skates. While we are there, we typically go out to eat or shop somewhere in Bowie. We have been following the process and signing petitions, and showing support for this project for the past 4 years. Seeing the project approved, and declined, and approved, and declined. Seeing the kids and parents getting excited and then disappointed over and over. It is an absolute shame that this email even has to be written.

With that all being said, I understand and respect every person's views and opinions. I ask that everyone look at the the time and TAXPAYER money already spent, they amount of good that it will do for the community, and the amount of money that will be brought in from all of the events that will be taking place at the new facility. I ask that you look at the money that will be lost in the next 2 years, when the current ice arena is not usable. I also ask that you look at all of the disappointed kids that will no longer be able to play for the Bruins and will have to play in other organizations.

Please take all of these things into consideration and support the continuation on completing the Bowie IcePlex as planned and approved.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Jeremy Floyd

Awilda Hernandez

From: klschevyguy@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, May 17, 2020 7:59 PM
To: Awilda Hernandez; cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Testimony for May 18th Council Meeting
Attachments: Ken Snyder May 18th Testimony.pdf

Awilda,

Thank you for all that you do for our City. Attached is my testimony for Citizen Participation on Monday night.

Ken Snyder
3912 York Lane

From Ken Snyder, 3912 York Lane:

Over the past few years I've sat quiet through numerous City Council meetings where the ice rink was the main topic of discussion, in support of the project. This council has finally put me over the edge, and I feel that I must speak out. I am a 26 year resident of District 1, and prior to this ice rink situation, I could honestly say I was proud of the City Government and them looking out for the citizens of Bowie. I felt that they welcomed development in a thoughtful manner. This subject has been discussed since 2013. It's been approved, disapproved, approved again, and something else I took away from the meetings that was spoken over and over again was being "fiscally responsible." I'm sad to say that I think that was lip-service from the current City Council. For the amount of time, man power, and money that has been spent up until this point, bringing this topic back up about stopping this construction could not be further from responsible. The character development that this program gives the children that have participated is invaluable. I have witnessed this first hand. Especially in this day and age, we need more programs like this to steer the children in the direction that every parent hopes they follow to become the next generation of our city's leaders. The feasibility, the developmental stage of this project, and now the construction has taken precious time and money. At the last minute to pull the rug out from under it is as far from fiscally responsible as you can be. I hope you reconsider your stance and let them press forward with the completion of this project because I feel sure that when it is completed and more children are allowed to enroll in these skating programs, you will be able to look back and say you're glad you made the decision to continue.

Awilda Hernandez

From:	scott henry <shenry4427@yahoo.com>
Sent:	Sunday, May 17, 2020 10:36 PM
To:	Timothy Adams; Adrian Boafo; Henri Gardner; Ingrid Harrison; Michael Esteve; Dufour Woolfley; Rosann Ndebumadu; CouncilDistrict4@co.pg.md.us; At-LargeMemberHawkins@co.pg.md.us; At-LargeMemberFranklin@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict1@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict2@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict3 @co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict5@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict6@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict7@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict8@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict9 @co.pg.md.us; douglas.peters@senate.state.md.us; geraldine.valentino@house.state.md.us; ron.watson@house.state.md.us
Cc:	cityclerk
Subject:	{EXTERNAL}: Bowie Ice Plex

Dear Mr. Mayor, City of Bowie Councilmembers, Prince George's County Councilmembers, Senator Peters, and Maryland House of Delegates members

My name is Scott Henry and I am a City of Bowie resident. I am sending this email in reference to the discussion of halting the construction of the new Bowie Ice Plex on Church Rd. I have three children in which two of them play ice hockey for the Bowie Hockey Club. My Son who is 9 years old has been playing ice hockey at Bowie since he was 4 years old. My 12-year-old daughter just started playing and loves it. I also volunteer my time to coach for the Bowie Hockey Club. Needless to say, I am at the ice rink quite often whether coaching or for public skate sessions. My children and I have made many new friends at the ice rink.

I do not understand the rational of halting the Ice Plex project to help with the City of Bowie operations. To my understanding when this was voted in few years ago, the bond was to be used for recreational projects only. Halting the project now with the City of Bowie already investing approximately 10 million dollars is a waste of my taxpayer dollars. I am also sure by breaching the contract, it will cost even more taxpayer money to get nothing in return.

Building the new Bowie Ice Plex will generate revenue for the City of Bowie and Prince George County. With the Bowie Ice Plex having two sheets of Ice to use, we can continue the figure skating program, youth ice hockey league and add an adult ice hockey league. Bowie could also host ice hockey and figure skating tournaments which generates revenue for all the surrounding businesses in the city and county (hotels, grocery stores, convenience stores, gas stations). As of now, all our tournaments are at other rinks, mostly out of state. Why not keep the money here in the city?

I respectfully ask that you please support moving forward and completing the Bowie Ice Plex as designed. Please do not delay this project as every delay cost additional taxpayer dollars. Please be responsible with taxpayers' dollars and support the completion of the Bowie Ice Plex.

Thank you

Scott Henry

Awilda Hernandez

From: Blake Curtis <bcurtis1981@hotmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 17, 2020 11:30 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Bowie Ice Arena Construction

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to encourage the city of Bowie to continue construction on the new ice arena. I feel that a modern rink with two sheets of ice will be a draw for families outside of Bowie to travel to the city and in turn spend money at local Bowie businesses including the ice arena.

The Bowie ice hockey club is a very popular club that continues to draw many families to their hockey program. My family currently has two players in the Bowie program which brings us to the city 4-5 nights during the season. Along with the money we spend at the rink, we do most of our shopping and restaurant dining in the city of Bowie as a result of the Bowie hockey program.

Lastly, the current rink is not nearly big enough to accommodate the amount of players and families seeking to play and ultimately spend their money in the city of Bowie. The new rink will most certainly not be a waste of money as it will allow the Bowie Hockey Club to accommodate more players/families who will travel to the city to play hockey.

Thank you for taking the time to read my email voicing support for continued construction of the new ice rink and I hope you decide to see the project through to its finish.

Thank You,
Blake Curtis

Sent from my iPhone

Awilda Hernandez

From: Scott Goldman <scott@division9associates.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 17, 2020 11:32 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Bowie Iceplex

Dear City Clerk of Bowie;

I am writing to request that this letter will be added to the written record of the City Council hearing on 5/18/2020.

I am not a resident of Bowie but rather of Millersville. I own two local business and have lived in the community my entire 50 years. It is with a comfortable degree of apathy that I can say, I am not surprised that the issue to proceed with completing the Bowie Iceplex is being raised, yet again. However, at this point, not proceeding will either prove that the council has wasted their constituents hard earned money, is not interested in honoring their political promises and contracts, does not care for creating a guaranteed profitable revenue stream, or is just trying to unethically get a better deal from contracted vendors. All of the reasons above are not acceptable and will only give residents a reason to show their disdain on Election Day. I on the other hand may just eventually decide to move myself and my businesses to a community that is run with integrity and honor.

I hope you prove me wrong.

Scott Goldman
Division 9 Associates, Inc.
1156 15th St., NW, Suite 603
Washington, DC 20005
Website | Email
202-442-4500 Office
443-510-1717 Mobile

Awilda Hernandez

From: Grace Sheffey <gvsheffey@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 12:33 AM
To: cityclerk
Cc: Grace Sheffey
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: New Bowie Iceplex Construction

Dear Council:
I am writing in response to news that the the new Bowie IcePlex construction is on the agenda for discussion during your meeting on May 18. I wish to express my hope that you will CONTINUE with the construction of the IcePlex.

I am not a Bowie resident but I am a resident of Prince George's County. I shop regularly at the many Bowie shopping establishments, restaurants, and gas stations. While at the ice arena, I buy food, hockey gear, and clothing to support the various programs.

The Bowie Ice Arena, almost 50 years old now, has been a terrific asset to your community; however, because of the popularity and success of the programs offered for all ages and skill levels for ice hockey, figure skating, and public skating sessions, the facility is unable to accommodate all the needs of the users. There presently is no no way for expansion. The new IcePlex, with two sheets of ice, will alleviate the need for battles over the available ice slots.
I believe the availability of additional ice time will promote new programs--girls' ice hockey, adult leagues and more public sessions.

Grace Sheffey
2506 Afton Street
Temple Hills, MD 20748
Sent from my iPad

Awilda Hernandez

From: Bradley Salvato <bradsalvato@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 1:10 AM
To: Mark Patterson; cityclerk; Timothy Adams; Adrian Boafo; Henri Gardner; Ingrid Harrison; Michael Esteve; Dufour Woolfley; Rosann Ndebumadu; CouncilDistrict4@co.pg.md.us; At-LargeMemberHawkins@co.pg.md.us; At-LargeMemberFranklin@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict1@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict2@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict3 @co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict5@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict6@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict7@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict8@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict9 @co.pg.md.us; douglas.peters@senate.state.md.us; geraldine.valentino@house.state.md.us; marvin.holmes@house.state.md.us; ron.watson@house.state.md.us; Derek Rabold
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Bowie IcePlex: On the Matter of the Survival and Expansion of the Bowie Hockey Club
Attachments: On the matter of the Bowie Hockey Club.docx

To whom it may concern:

Please see the below letter. A .docx copy of the letter is attached below for proper formatting.

On the Matter of the Survival and Expansion of the Bowie Hockey Club:

My name is Bradley Salvato. I currently serve as a Sergeant in the United States Army. I have been a lifelong resident of Bowie. Though my military training currently has me located elsewhere, I am still a resident of the City of Bowie. Bowie is not only my "home of record", but my home. I grew up in a family home on Northcliff Road, a home in which my grandmother has lived since the 70's. Both my brother, 1st Lieutenant Tyler Shaak, and I grew up playing ice hockey—from the age 5 until my enlistment and his commission into the US Army. I had the wonderful opportunity to coach my own children, Layla and Nicholas, at the same club in which I played my very first year of mite hockey. During my time at the Bowie Hockey Club I have coached numerous teams in both the travel and recreational leagues, consulted with a number of other teams on skating development, and volunteered at the Try Hockey for Free program and Learn to Play program at every opportunity. Additionally, my wife, Yvette, currently serves on the Board as the Tournament Coordinator for Bowie Hockey Club. We have dedicated a significant amount of our personal time, our lives, to the club, solely for the development of the next generation.

When the time comes that we can finally return to Bowie, the Bowie Hockey Club is the only club we are willing to play for, because they are simply unmatched in every category, especially when it comes to each and every persons' dedication within the club—from the President, Lori Jones, to the club's Hockey Director, Derek Rabold, right down to the parents of the brand new, 4 year-old mites. To put this in perspective, where I am currently stationed for training, the drive to the ice rink is roughly an hour and a half and we hate every minute of it. However, I would gladly drive twice this to Bowie, because Bowie Hockey has set the bar so incredibly high in terms of their service to their community and simple, basic care towards everyone they come into contact with. Nobody is viewed merely as a dollar sign at Bowie Hockey, something that many clubs across the country fail to grasp, and it cannot be expressed how far that goes in terms of creating a true family. For me personally, when faced with the expectation of spending 4 to 6 months away

from my family, to get me through the toughest times and keep my spirits high, I chose to take along my Bowie Hockey Club t-shirt, made for me by the parents of one of my teams, which has the names of the amazing kids I had the honor of coaching, listed on the back. This should speak to sense of community and family that the members of this club have been able to foster. Something that is increasingly rare in modern society.

Their desire, their endless passion for the progress and development of our youth is clearly demonstrated in their fight for survival. Every volunteer at our organization is there for exactly that reason. The development of our youth, our future. No coach within the club is volunteering in hopes of being noticed by the NHL. No member of the board is there to pad their resume for their prospective run for congress. Many of them are parents, some of whom, grew up in this organization. Some are simply selfless volunteers. They all simply want to have the most positive impact possible on the childrens' lives. I would argue that delaying the expansion of the organization should not even be entertained as a serious thought. What the community needs are more people willing to devote everything they have to our children the way that the members of our organization do. We need more children willing to dedicate themselves to their teammates; to be willing to weather the physical and mental demands of such an intensive sport, together; to sacrifice for the betterment of the whole; to grow and prosper together with their brothers and sisters around them. These skills have very real-life applications.

The topic of discussion should turn to, at this moment and consistently moving forward, how quickly we can get this new facility open to allow the expansion of this great organization and how we can increase the awareness of their program which offers the most unique opportunities for the development of the children in our community in all aspects, from physical fitness and teamwork, to critical thinking, problem solving, and quick decision making.

Facets of this project have now been in the making since as early as 2013. Delaying this project any further only points to the indecisiveness of the individuals who hold a position on the council, in particular those who have changed their votes multiple times to further lengthen this process in which more than 16 million tax-payer dollars have already been invested. If such an enormous amount of the community's money is wasted, it can only be perceived as a gross misappropriation of funds and the people of Bowie would demand the immediate resignation of the council members responsible. Public officials have been called on to resign for much less.

If halting the process of construction serves an ulterior motive, such as the possible renegotiation of contracts, the perceived financial benefit would pale in comparison to not only the negative impact of further delaying the survival and expansion of the Bowie Hockey Club, but also to the resulting, widespread utter lack of faith and confidence in our elected officials' ability to make sound and timely decisions for the benefit of the community—the sole premise of their very jobs.

I, like the majority of the residents of the City of Bowie, am not a lawyer or an economist, so it is from that perspective that I will present this closing statement. From my understanding, as well as the understanding of virtually everyone on this side of the argument that I have been in contact with, is that the city of Bowie has roughly $25M in reserve, has received $3.5M from the state of Maryland, and has currently spent only $2M as a result of the COVID crisis. The overall impact of the current pandemic in the City of Bowie is minute in comparison to other nearby regions such as New York. The economic impact as a result of shelter-in-place directives is expected to rebound relatively quickly, especially in places less affected by the virus, such as the City of Bowie, where reportedly only about one percent of residents have been directly affected by the virus according to data cited by Mayor Tim Adams in a May 14th article in the Bowie Blade News. It can be argued that Mayor Adams' use of national COVID figures in relation to a public works project in the City of Bowie can be construed as an attempt to subconsciously evoke a negative emotional response, particularly fear, in order for readers to side in his favor. Fear is, after all, a great motivator and is very frequently used in the manipulation of public opinion, however this is beyond the scope of this letter.

As construction for the facility is expected to be completed around August of 2021, opening in September of 2021, roughly 16 months from now, is it reasonable to expect a complete economic recovery by that time. If the council is professing that the relatively miniscule economic consequences will last for the better part of two years, we have to question all of the council's financial decisions up to this point and call to the spotlight their apparent failure to ensure

that the residents of the City of Bowie are adequately protected from economic collapse. Furthermore, the funds received from the bond seem to be legally obligated for the purposes of the construction of the two-sheet ice facility, have already been allocated for said construction, accounted for in the budget, and cannot be used for the prevention of wage decreases of city employees, no matter how slight, as alluded to by the Mayor in the same article. Halting or cancelling construction would presumably result in a breach of contract, thereby incurring additional fees to be paid with tax-payer dollars and possibly hurting the credit rating of the city and, by extension, negatively impacting the lives of the residents of the City of Bowie, not to mention the financial and psychological impact on the many individual workers involved in the project.

In conclusion, it seems that the only viable option is to continue with the project as planned, uninterrupted. There is simply no feasible argument for delaying the construction of what is, by far, the city's highest grossing recreational facility; one in which the City of Bowie would see a significant return on investment not only from the expansion of the club, but also, for example, from multiple annual travel, recreational, and high school hockey tournaments (the Bowie Ice Dogs) as well as figure skating competitions which would produce a drastic increase in revenue for local hotels and a remarkable increase in traffic at the Bowie Town Center and surrounding areas. This is outside money, directly benefiting the residents of the City of Bowie. Any decision against upholding the current timeline for the facility, the resulting expansion of the Bowie Hockey Club, the associated revenue it would accumulate and the lasting positive impact on our city's youth, would be considered negligible.

I thank you for your time and consideration.

Bradley Salvato

SGT, US Army

Resident of the City of Bowie

Awilda Hernandez

From: Monica Roebuck <roebuckmac@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 10:02 AM
To: Awilda Hernandez
Cc: Timothy Adams; Timothy Adams
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: City of Bowie Ice Rink
Attachments: Ice Rink Roebuck.pdf

Good morning Awilda,

I hope you are well and staying safe. I am sending you a letter for tonights city council meeting. Can I read this or will you be reading the letters? Thanks in advance for your help.

--
Monica A. Roebuck
Member, Prince George's County Board of Elections
"Every Vote Counts"

Cell 301-706-8623

May 18, 2020

To: Mayor Timothy Adams and City Council of Bowie

Fr: Monica A. Roebuck

Re: Proposed Ice Arena

Greetings to Mayor Adams and City of Bowie Council. I hope you are staying safe during this time. I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed ice-rink. The proposed ice arena is an unnecessary expenditure, $28 million dollars that if spent will have long lasting negative effects on our city finances and its residents. The ice arena is an amenity and this should not take priority over basic needs in our city. We are in the midst of a pandemic, therefore, I urge you to halt the building of the ice arena. Additionally, the majority of the users of the ice rink will not be Bowie residents.

Our main priority as a city should be to ensure that city services continue through next year which include trash pickup, water, recycling, the senior center and any other city services. It's important that the city is prudent with its finances to avoid layoffs. Employees have families and children to provide for. Even more importantly, the city should make a commitment to provide for the most vulnerable in our city. There is a growing population of homeless residents, who need shelter and food. So that we can prevent the spread of the virus we need to make sure all of our residents are secure and safe

In closing, the economy will suffer financially as a result of Covid 19. Stores are closed, business are not operating at full capacity and many people have lost their job. The city will not have the revenue it has previously had, therefore spending has to be adjusted. This is not the time to spend millions of dollars on an ice rink. We can not control natural disasters, but we can make adjustments when things arise. I urge the city council to conserve city resources and stop the ice arena from being built.

Sincerely,

Monica A. Roebuck
City of Bowie Resident
District 2

Awilda Hernandez

From: Abigail Snyder <abigailfaye14@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 9:27 AM
To: Awilda Hernandez; cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Abigail Snyder - Citizen Participation
Attachments: Abigail Snyder - May 18th Testimony.pdf

Hi Awilda! Happy Monday. Thanks for all you do, I know tonight is certainly going to be a long one. Here is my testimony for citizen participation. Hang in there.

Abby

--

--

Abigail Snyder

Legislative Director

(c) 240-593-6121

Yes, at this point, I am.

These are the words said to me on the phone last night by Councilman Boafo while my parents sat next to me as witnesses. After trying to justify that including the buyout costs, ending Bowie Iceplex project would only cost the City a grand total of $8 million rather than upwards of $24 million, I asked if he was willing to waste $8 million in tax payer money, and that was his response. This is one of the many people we chose to manage our money. Quite frankly, it appears we were fools.

From Wikipedia, a CIP is defined as the following: A capital improvement plan (CIP), or capital improvement program, is a short-range plan, usually four to ten years, which identifies capital projects and equipment purchases, provides a planning schedule and identifies options for financing the plan. Any council member who tries to convince you that the amount of money they are liable for, or WE are liable for, is only that which was spent on construction in 2020, is blinding you. The $437,350 that is being touted by members of the council to their residents is a number that suits their argument but does not support the facts. The lie that the cost to renovate or build a new rink at Allen Pond is no more than $4,000,000, is another number that they found that suits their argument. This was provided by a private entity that has never set foot in the building. A private entity whose CEO I PERSONALLY have sat down with, and have proven to him his calculations are incorrect. A private entity for which I have spent hours comparing their use of ice time to the use of ice at our current facility based off of schedules posted online for anyone to see, sharing the inequities in time for each type of program to the council, which they have clearly ignored. The number provided in the 2013 feasibility study which was conducted by OUR staff, is well over $21 million for renovation of the current facility. This is the exact reason why we ended up where we are today.

Because local politics are not fact checked like politics on a national scale, the wool continues to be pulled over residents' eyes. It is unfair, and we deserve better from those we chose to sit on the council and represent us. Yes, Mr. Mayor, I am now speaking to you. Your op-ed in the Bowie Blade was not based on any factual evidence, and the residents of Bowie know it. Your quiet, but very personal vendetta against this project was made clear when you chose not to tell ANY other council member what you were doing. On the topic of your article specifically I could go on for hours, but this meeting will do that for me, so since

the only thing COVID has done to the City government is robbed me of my ability to read this to you personally, I won't waste any more of Awilda's breath on it.

At this point, every single one of you knows where I stand on this, and you know that I have the numbers to back me up. Your choice tonight will decide whether you truly believe the facts, or whether you want to wait until your decision has been made for the bills that come in to prove it to you. If you choose the former, I applaud you for understanding how our financial system works, whether you were originally in support of the project or not. If you choose to sit somewhere in the middle and delay the project, just know the price tag will continue to climb. If you choose the latter, I truly hope you have a good lawyer, because I believe Costello will not just sue the City. Which side do you want to be on at the end of tonight?

Awilda Hernandez

From: Patricia Achimovic <pachimovic@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 10:20 AM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Letter to be read at May 18, 2020 Council Meeting

Letter submitted by:
Patricia Achimovic
District 1
12300 Chalford Lane
Bowie, MD 20715

Bowie Council and City Mayor,

My name is Patricia Achimovic and I've called Bowie my home for 40 years. I saw the current ice rink transform from an open air to an indoor facility. My daughter grew up skating at the Bowie ice rink. I have three grandchildren that all learned to skate at the arena. I have spent more hours freezing in that arena that I care to attempt to add up.

I was caught completely off guard when I saw the Mayor's editorial article in the May 14 *Bowie Blade* promoting the cancellation of the Bowie IcePlex project. I advocate for the city to continue moving forward with what the City Council has previously voted on & approved: a facility with two sheets of ice. In 2017, the construction of a new two-sheet ice facility was approved and funds to build the facility were set aside. The Ice Breaking Ceremony took place on October 25, 2019. The cement has been poured, and construction is underway. To date roughly 9 million dollars have been spent on the project. I am extremely concerned that you are considering stopping its construction. Doing so will cost the city roughly 4 million dollars in buyouts if not more and does not include invoices not yet submitted by the contractor building the arena, any penalty as a result of terminating the contract, or money to restore the under-construction property. Also not included is the cost of litigation, the effect on our bond ratings, and irreparable damage to our reputation in the business community moving forward. Our city is financially stable and we have a surplus of money in our reserves. The majority of the city's revenue is derived from property taxes and it will not face a detrimental deficit from the effects of COVID-19 as stated by the mayor. It has a strong fund balance in reserve and will continue paying employees. Please be fiscally responsible and do not mismanage our tax dollars. Complete the construction of the much-needed new ice facility which has the money set aside for its construction.

Thank you for your time.

Sent from my iPhone

Awilda Hernandez

From: Eden Woznick <ewoznick@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 10:28 AM
To: Awilda Hernandez
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Iceplex project

To whom it may concern,

I would like to plea that the IcePlex project be completed and stay as planned. We have family who loves this are a new project would waste time or money. Please continue the project as planned. Thank you.

Eden Woznick

Awilda Hernandez

From: Bob West <rtwest1966@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 10:44 AM
To: cityclerk
Cc: Paul Connolly
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: FW: Bowie City Council meeting tonight 18 May to cancel Ice Rink project will cost millions

For the public record

Robert T West
2816 Buxmont Lane
Bowie, MD 20715

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

From: Bob West
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 10:37 AM
To: dwoolfley@gmail.com; tadams@cityofbowie.org
Cc: douglas.peters@senate.state.md.us; countyexecutive@co.pg.md.us; marvin.holmes@house.state.md.us; ron.watson@house.state.md.us; geraldine.valentino@house.state.md.us; contact@maryland.gov
Subject: Bowie City Council meeting tonight 18 May to cancel Ice Rink project will cost millions

Having worked for years on major acquisition projects at the pentagon, serious consideration is made BEFORE a project is approved because of the costs of either altering or canceling contracts, especially, once the project has begun. Millions have already been spent, as the foundation for the rink is in place. I stopped by yesterday and workers were on site.
The Ice rink was approved by the citizens of Bowie and is fully funded through completion.
Cancelling an approved project, which has already begun, is very poor governance and a huge waste of our taxpayer dollars.
Robert T. West, LtCol, USAF, Retired
Resident of Bowie for 36 years
Commander of Bowie Memorial Post 8065 Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States
Treasurer of Christian Community Presbyterian Church
President, Robert T West, P.C., accounting and tax firm
Fellow, National Tax Practice Institute

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

From: Dufour Woolfley
Sent: Saturday, May 16, 2020 10:58 AM
To: RTWest1966@gmail.com
Subject: Bowie Update

View this email in your browser

Awilda Hernandez

From: Stephanie Vaughan <svaughan606@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 10:46 AM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Please build the rink!!

My family has spent well over 200,000 in the last 12 years supporting my son play hockey for the city of Bowie.

He is now playing college level and could even make it to the NHL.

I've lived in Bowie my whole life and pay my taxes. This rink project has been a done deal for quite some time.

The pandemic has no affect on city revenues.

Life goes on, and our rink needs to be finished!!!!

Stephanie Vaughan

Awilda Hernandez

From: Rosemary Vincent <rovin14@verizon.net>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 11:16 AM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Bowie Ice Rink

Regarding the issue of the Bowie Ice Rink, I understand the city has spent 7-8 million dollars so far on the study, plans, permits and the start of construction. It would be helpful if the Council could make clear the financial status of the budget before allocating funds. Is the Council authorized to revoke the Bond that is already in place for the funding of the rink? Has the $25 million dollars been set aside for this purpose? I would not table the plans to build the rink, but perhaps put it on hold until an appropriate time due to the pandemic crisis in our country.
Rosemary Vincent

Awilda Hernandez

From: Bill <vwchop@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 11:49 AM
To: Awilda Hernandez
Cc: Dufour Woolfley
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Bowie Ice Plex

Bowie City Council,

I am continuing to write and will continue to try and let my voice be heard.

First of all using a time when your constituents are unable to speak to you face to face, for you to pull this stunt now, is abhorrent.

As a longtime city resident (45+years) and Ice arena user I am appalled at the idea of the city literally throwing away millions of dollars on bogus excuses.
The was a commitment made and a contract signed. Construction is in full swing and the only thing that should be slowing it down is weather issues, not some made up excuses that you have no reliable data to back up.

Mr. Woolfley saying the rink would lose $500,000. annually has very little to back it up. If he is using projections from the current facility then he obviously has no idea about the construction and energy efficiency of a new ice rink vs a 50 year old un-insulated ice rink. The new 2 sheet facility would have a smaller energy cost than the current facility and can generate twice the income on a 12 month basis. The current facility only generates income for less than 10 months a year as it is closed down for maintenance and to be used annually for Bowie Fest.

I have spent more than 22 years in the Bowie Ice Arena watching my son and coaching thousands of young people from as young as 3 years old to 18 years old. The last class of beginners that I was teaching, before the rink closed, had more than 90 beginners on the ice at one time. If you feel that throwing away the opportunity to help nurture and guide all these young people is worthless, then your priorities are really askew.

Keep the commitment that the city has signed and let the Ice Plex construction continue!

Sincerely,

Bill Schmidt
12414 Sarah Ln
Bowie, MD 20715

Awilda Hernandez

From: Johnathan Croney <aslterpsllc@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 4:41 PM
To: cityclerk
Cc: Lori Jones
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Support for Bowie IcePlex Construction
Attachments: IMG_4041.pdf; IMG_4043.pdf

To whom it may concern,

We are a Deaf-owned small business that provides Sign Language Interpreting Services and have worked with Bowie Hockey for the past 2 years.

Here at ASL Terps, we have had the benefit of working with a multi-generational Deaf family that joined Bowie Hockey with little to no experience in the sport. According to his mother: April Jackson; "Keivonn Woodard started playing hockey at age 4 1/2. He is the first Black Deaf, young hockey player in the world. Keivonn is 7 years old now and his dream is to be a professional hockey player."

Keivonn's growth within this sport has been profound. He is a bright child with an incredible passion for playing hockey. He is naturally skilled in his ability to perform on the ice. He has tried several other sports but hockey has kept his interest, and has now become a critical part of his and our lives.

As a testimony from our main interpreter Nate Croney that has primarily worked with Keivonn says; "Keivonn is a gifted skater who picked up hockey sticks and never looked back. He has tried to play a number of sports but hockey seems to be a natural fit. Keivonn has chosen his path and it shouldn't come to an end. He is a star player that relies on Bowie Hockey for a positive, active experience."

Bowie Hockey has been a true 'team-player' when it comes to Keivonn and his different ability. All of their staff from coaches, parents, to admin work tirelessly to provide over and above, paramount inclusion services; like ours, to accommodate Keivonn and his Deaf family. The entire organization is an incredible and essential one that strives to be inclusive, facilitate participation on all members of the team, and building these kids' character and confidence.

If this Iceplex build is cancelled, it would be nothing short of devastating. We are strongly advocating for Keivonn, his family and Bowie hockey to keep this alive.

We have provided pictures of Nate Croney and Keivonn below.

Best,

Tabatha L Croney
Director of Communications

ASL Terps
1006 Taylor Park Rd
Sykesville, MD 21784
443.538.6070 Voice
240.345.3049 VP

Awilda Hernandez

From: Carolyn White <cjwhite666@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 4:47 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Bowie IcePlex - Is Essential

I can't believe you would rather blow 7.5 Million of taxpayer funds to cancel the building contract rather than build a new sports complex? Yes, it's going to be more than the Bowie Ice Arena, although the Ice Arena will be the money maker of the complex.

Doesn't make sense that you would even consider not going ahead with this project using "funding" and affects of Covid-19 as an excuse.

Property taxes have gone up;
Permitting fees remain;
Parking ticket fees remain;
Other fines and ways to bring in revenue remain.

There is no reason to cancel the contract and waste the taxpayers money.

Incoming revenue will pick up as soon as people get used to the new normal.

This project should move forward for your taxpayers and their families without further stall tactics and delays.

If this project gets cancelled there should be an investigation as to the real reason behind it.

Sent from my Virgin Mobile Phone.

Awilda Hernandez

From: Will Durkee <wdurkee@securehalo.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 4:49 PM
To: cityclerk; Awilda Hernandez
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Request to be heard on Bowie Ice Arena discussion

Good afternoon Awilda,

As tonight's meeting is virtual, I would like to kindly request, as a Bowie resident, that the below be read to the council.

"I am writing as a resident of Bowie, a hockey player, and coach. It has amazingly come up again, during a time when we should be coming together, that the mayor and certain council members are trying to divide us once again.

I grew up playing for the Bowie Hockey Club and now take the lessons I learned from great Bowie coaches to now teach the next generation of kids qualities such as work ethic, teamwork, discipline, and confidence. These lessons expand well beyond a sheet of ice. They are life lessons.

The mayor is now proposing again, after the previous attempt was unsuccessful, to use a pandemic as his political opportunity. It is disgraceful.

The strong financial situation and the potential wasted millions of dollars should convince any rational person that this is not the right course.

Please do the right thing and keep the construction of the new facility going. Reversing course will only waste millions of our tax dollars, tarnish the reputation of our great city, and destroy our hope that our elected leaders are capable to use this pandemic to unite rather than divide.

Thank you,
Will Durkee"

16062-English Oaks Avenue,
Bowie, Maryland 20716
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Awilda Hernandez

From: Shieldsy34 <shieldsy34@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 4:50 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: New Hockey Rink

Dear Mayor and Council Members,

We want to express our continued support for the new hockey rink already under construction. My oldest child played at Bowie for 8 years, and my youngest just started there. We love the people and the program. We spend money in the community shopping and eating regularly. I'm not sure why the city would spend millions and have to spend millions more to cancel? If the facility is utilized properly there will be a great return on investment. Hockey clubs want to grow and need ice time. Figure skaters need ice too. Tournaments not only could bring in revenue to the rink, but to local hotels and restaurants. A new facility with multiple sheets is a money maker. Don't be short sighted, stay the course, it will benefit so many.

Thank you
Michael Shields &
The Shields Family
Edgewater, MD
(Andrew #34, Riley, #64)

Sent from my iPhone

Awilda Hernandez

From: Betty Harris <wiseinc2016@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 4:54 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: City of Bowie Council/ Budget Against New Ice Arena in Budge

Please let it be know to the Council that I am against budgeting funds for the new ice arena.
Dr. B. Harris
Collington Manors

Awilda Hernandez

From: DANIEL DOVE <ddove1972@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 4:55 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Bowie Ice Rink project

I am writing this email in SUPPORT of the Bowie Ice Arena project. I have been utilizing the Bowie ice arena for several years for our children's hockey teams as well as family skating nights, birthday parties and friendly get togethers. The Bowie ice arena has allowed us to create and maintain wonderful friendships over the last several years.

I do not live in Bowie any longer, but I still spend much of my money in the Bowie community utilizing restaurants, shopping and home improvement stores.

I do not believe that stopping the progress on the new ice arena is fiscally smart. I feel that if the project stops now, millions of dollars that have already been spent will be wasted, not to mention the millions of dollars that will be lost in legal battles for breaking the building contract.

Please reconsider your thoughts for stopping the progress and cancelling the Bowie Ice arena. The new Bowie ice arena will generate revenue for the city of Bowie in several ways.

Thank You,
Daniel Dove

Awilda Hernandez

From: Sean Woods <wsean77@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 4:55 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Ice arena

Sent from my iPad Hello, my name is Sean Woods, I am along time Bowie resident, 25 years, and I am in Full Support of building a new Bowie Ice Rink. The rink provides a great recreational option to Bowie residents who support and love the rink and its activities, Especially the Figure Skating, of which my daughter was a part of until she went off to college and still supports when home; and Hockey teams, both of which are very competitive and very accomplished and bring pride to Bowie. An ice skating rink would **not** significantly affect traffic nor would it attract negative attention to Bowie. It would only be a positive recreational source and enhance Bowie. So Please continue building the new rink and allow its programs that we are proud of to continue, and allow the citizens of Bowie to continue enjoying its unique recreational programs.

Sincerely, Sean Woods

Awilda Hernandez

From: Christa Dove <cdove1970@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 4:56 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Support of Bowie Iceplex

To the Bowie city council board members, I am writing this letter in support of the new Bowie Iceplex skating rink. I was a long time resident of the city of Bowie, residing not only in the "R" section for many years, but then later buying another home in the "E" section across the street from current ice rink, I also have family that still resides in the beautiful and very family friendly city of Bowie. Over the years we all have paid our taxes to support that lovely community. Two of my 3 sons have played ice hockey at the current ice rink, they have formed friendships that will last a lifetime there - as have my husband and I. When we come to Bowie we not only spend lots of time at the rink, however, we also spend lots of money in the surrounding community (from restaurants, shopping, etc.). The current rink, although functionable, is in dire need of replacement. My family and I, including my 8 year old son, have attended the city board meetings in support of this new facility, we were there the night that it was approved and everyone rejoiced with excitement over the pending new facility. Now, to have their hopes and dreams of a new rink smashed because of a change in board members.....that does not teach them much about "keeping your word".

I also don't understand how halting this project now would save money, considering that over $9 MILLION dollars has ALREADY BEEN SPENT, not to mention, the erecting of the new facility has already begun. I would think that the citizens of Bowie would be very displeased knowing that all of those tax dollars were all for nothing!!

PLEASE DO NOT HALT THE CONSTRUCTION OF THIS MUCH NEEDED FACILITY.

Thank you!!!

-Christa Dove

Awilda Hernandez

From: dnl <dnl@leonusa.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 4:56 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: FW: New Bowie IcePlex

Sir/Ma'am: request that this letter be presented with discussions surrounding today's vote on the Bowie Iceplex.

Regards,

Darryl Leon

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphon

Council and City Mayor:

My family wanted to express our gratitude to you and our support for Bowie's new IcePlex. We have one older and one younger son playing hockey, and have been loyal Bowie Bruins for 17 years since our oldest started in 2003! Our youngest starts high school next year, so it'll be another four more years ahead for us, for a total of 21 when we're all done.

We've enjoyed our time at the Bowie Ice Arena, but as the club has expanded (with great improvements to the program in recent years, and more and more kids participating), ice time begins to be limited. And, of course, the facility itself is aging. It's definitely time for a new rink and a second sheet of ice! Looking forward to hosting larger tournaments on our home ice!

I want to point out that I am NOT a Bowie resident...we live in Calvert County. But the Bowie Ice Arena and the Bowie Bruins Hockey program has us (almost literally) living in Bowie. In and around all the hockey events, we eat in Bowie, shop in Bowie, go to the movies in Bowie, go to the LA Fitness in Bowie, go to Stabucks and Smoothie King and other places to get drinks, walk the Town Center in Bowie...all because it's very convenient to do so before, during, and after hockey practices and games. And there are a lot of other families down here in Calvert, as well as many others in the surrounding counties and townships that I'm sure do the same. Dollars that we would have normally spent in Dunkirk, or a movie we might have gone to Annapolis to see, or a restaurant we might have gone to in Prince Frederick, we end up most times going to Bowie to spend, simply because it's convenient to the ice rink. I'm sure this point was a prime factor in your decision to move forward with the plan to build. Perhaps our personal experience will reinforce that.

As I said, our son has four years left as a Bruin...we are very much hoping that he can spend the majority of those four years playing in the new facility!

Thank you for your time in considering our perspective.

Regards,

Darryl & Joy Leon
Chesapeake Beach, MD

Awilda Hernandez

From: CHARLENE MCCAMEY <charlenem126@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 4:59 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Against the Ice Arena being built

,5-18-20
Attn: Mayor Tim Allen

I, Reverend Dr.Charlene McCamey resident
Of Bowie am against the
Ice Arena being built.
It's a waste of tax payers
Money.
Give the residents of Bowie an opportunity to voice their opinion and to vote on this.
Sincerely,
Rev.Dr.Charlene McCamey

Awilda Hernandez

From: CHARLENE MCCAMEY <charlenem126@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 5:03 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Against the Ice Arena being built

5-18-20

Attn Mayor Tim Allen and Council Members

I, Andre Fisher , resident of
Bowie MD am against continuing to build the
Ice Arena.
Sincerely,
Andre Fisher

Awilda Hernandez

From: zoë m <zoe.reese1016@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 5:05 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Concerned Citizen

To whoever this may concern,

As a nationally competitive figure skater for 11 years, and resident in The City of Bowie my desire to stop the construction on this rink may come as a surprise. However, it's what's best for the community. It's inequitable to expect the members of my community to pay more in taxes to support a facility that will not benefit the community as a whole. By building a facility with only 2 sheets of ice, it is a waste of resources and space, not to mention that the rink is being built off of a residential road that is not equipped to support major traffic, public safety needs to be in place first. AND, the decisions being made regarding the rink are done by people in which don't even live in Bowie. Perhaps we can all come together to come up with a design of a facility that can be of use to everyone in the community and be an asset to our city rather than encroach on the residents of The City of Bowie. Please vote no for the construction of the ice arena at this time.

Best regards,

Zoë McLain
District 3

Awilda Hernandez

From: Kendra Carroll <kencocarroll@icloud.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 5:06 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Concerned Bowie resident

Dear Mayor Adams and City Councilmembers,

As you vote on the sports facility I hope that you vote NO at this time. And, when the time comes, please consider a multipurpose facility versus a facility that is solely dedicated to iceskating and ice hockey.

Regards,
Kendra Carroll
District 3

Awilda Hernandez

From: Tamiiko Emery <tamiikoe@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 5:10 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Concerned Citizen

Dear Mayor Adams and City Council-members,

As you vote on the sports facility I hope that you vote NO at this time. And, when the time comes, please consider a multipurpose facility versus a facility that is solely dedicated to iceskating and ice hockey.

Best regards,
Tamiiko Emery
District 3

Awilda Hernandez

From: JOHN EMERY <jmemery1@msn.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 5:14 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Concerned Citizen

Dear Mayor Adams and City Council-members,

As you vote on the sports facility I hope that you vote NO at this time. And, when the time comes, please consider a multipurpose facility versus a facility that is solely dedicated to iceskating and ice hockey.

Best regards,
John Emery
Torrienne Emery
Jentry Hobson
District 3

Awilda Hernandez

From: Zorial Bridges <zorial01@icloud.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 5:15 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Fair is Fair

Good Evening City Council!

I am a soon to be graduate of Bowie High School. I have watched my mom fight for what she feels is right in this city. People think it is all about basketball for my mom. It is really all about kids for her and their future, especially the kids that live in this city. Yes, you probably guessed it. My mom is Carrie Bridges.

I think the ice arena needs to be stopped right now. We are in a pandemic and the last thing this city needs to do is spend millions on an ice arena that is not beneficially to the majority in this city. That decision never made sense to me and not because I am in high school. It never made sense because it doesn't make sense.

Now is a chance for this new City Council to make decisions that make sense.

Thanks in advance.

Zorial Bridges

Sent from my iPhone

Awilda Hernandez

From: Sandra Duffy <sduffy@dematha.org>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 5:17 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}:

In favor of building the ice rink!

Good...Better...Best
Never let it rest
Until your Good is Better
And your Better is your Best!!

Awilda Hernandez

From: cmh1375@aol.com
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 5:19 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Ice Arena

My name is Marie Huseman and I have been a resident of the City of Bowie for 34 years, having lived in Rockledge, Olde Stage, and currently in Whitehall. I am the mother of three young children.

One of the reasons why I love Bowie so much is the amenities it has to offer for families like mine. I love the City of Bowie parks, playgrounds, and athletic fields. We haven't used the gymnasium (yet) but I'm happy that's an option in our community.

I'm also very happy we have an ice arena with affordable programming. I was thrilled when the plans to move forward with the new two sheet arena passed last July (for the fourth time) and the City was able to begin construction.

I'm disappointed to see here we are, once again, with plans to vote this project down. Especially now when a significant amount of money has already been spent and construction is currently taking place.

To cancel now would be a bad decision financially. I've done my research and at this point we have spent millions of dollars on this project so far. Not only would we lose this money (around $7.5 million), but the contractor has a right to sue the City of Bowie should they break contract at this point, likely for millions more. I anticipate that this won't happen quietly, resulting in a lot of bad publicity for the city. And the contractor will certainly win their case. We could easily be out at least 20 million when all is said and done and have NOTHING to show for it. As a City of Bowie taxpayer, **I am not okay with throwing this money away like this.**

In his opinion piece, the mayor claims that now is not the time to pursue this project because of COVID-19. But it's my understanding that city revenues have not been significantly impacted and that the city maintains $29 million in reserve for emergency situations.

The funds to build the arena are coming from bonds and have nothing to do with the city's general funds or reserves. And these bonds cannot be repurposed for another project.

Lastly, people keep making comments about how the majority of arena users are not city residents; if that's true, why is that even a bad thing? Is Bowie only for Bowie residents? This makes no sense to me. I can tell you that the majority of users at Allen Pond on the weekends, especially during the summer, are not city residents. I personally think it's great for non residents to come here to spend money at our local businesses. I know that non residents pay more for programming at the rink because they are non residents. This should continue.

I hope the Council makes the best decision for Bowie, not only because it's financially responsible, but because it also benefits citizens like me who need affordable local amenities for our children.

Sincerely,

C. Marie Huseman, MA, MBA

Awilda Hernandez

From: Sandra Nash <synash@icloud.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 5:22 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Concerned Mt. Oak Farm Resident - Re: Ice Arena

Dear Mayor Adams and Bowie City Council Members:

As you vote on the ice arena, I hope that you vote NO at this time. When the time comes, please consider a MULTIPURPOSE facility vs a facility that is solely dedicated to ice hockey and ice skating.

In addition, please consider that the citizens who live right off Church Road (Mount Oak Farms where I reside and the developments closer to Central Avenue) will be affected by traffic and trash. Make room in your budget to adjust our roads which border Bowie such as Mitchellville.

Sandra Nash

Awilda Hernandez

From: tifftigger7@gmail.com
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 5:33 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Bowie ice rink

To whom it concerns,

I am writing to show my support for the Bowie ice rink. Not only is it a place of entertainment, but also a learning environment. I myself am an adult figure skater and enjoy open skating sessions as my way of exercise but also relaxing and meeting like minded people.

But the ice rink is more then just what it is for me, but also for my family. Our entire family revolves around skating and hockey. My father also skates still even though he is in his 70s, on the ice he is a boy again and fast as lightning. My nieces and nephews all skate and two play hockey for Bowie hockey club and have come up the ranks in black and gold. They all learned to skate as very small children, at learn to skate where my sister volunteers and helps teach other small children the joy of accomplishment thru skating. They also learned to play hockey, and what it means to be on a team, and part of something bigger then their own self interest. Without an ice rink they would not have to opportunity to continue growing as players and part of a community.

All the hockey families who are coming to Bowie to be near the rink, are also bringing their financial support, not just for the rink but also in Bowie , such as gas stations, coffee shops, grocery stores, and restaurants. Waiting parents still need to be productive while their children are skating. When I'm waiting for my nephews we will go and shop and run our errands. Afterwards, we will go get dinner and sometimes with large parties from the rink. My own spending in Bowie is certainly not enough to change things, but when you think of all the other families drawn to Bowie around skating it adds up quickly.

We all rallied behind the original plan for a new rink and the needs haven't changed. Please do not cancel what is already a multimillion dollar project. Between figure skating and hockey tournaments the influx of out of town participants also bring money to Bowie in hotels and restaurants and other amenities.

The fact that covid 19 has and will continue to be a reason that places of social gathering are shut down has effected us all, but we will recover and hope that there will be a rink to go to when it is allowed again. But in the mean time building the rink bring jobs to Bowie at a time when everyone is desperate for income. I ask that you consider what a gift the ice rink is to a learning and growing community and will bring more people in to learn to skate and play. Thank you.

Go Bowie Hockey!!
Kind regards
Tiffany Morgan

May 18, 2020

Subject: **Vote NO on Bowie Ice Arena**

Honorable Mayor Adams and City Council Members,

I am opposed to the construction of the Bowie Ice Arena. As we are dealing with a worldwide pandemic, the city and the nation as we know it will never be the same. The needs of our city and the community have changed and our priorities must comply with those needs. The city's funds can be better spent on maintaining the city infrastructure, accommodating the needs of the community that has experienced death, unemployment, displacement, and other challenges. Please vote NO on the Bowie Ice Arena.

Concerned Citizen of District 4 Bowie, MD

Awilda Hernandez

From: Rhonda Washington <rdbillingslea@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 5:45 PM
To: cityclerk
Cc: Timothy Adams; Rosann Ndebumadu; Milly Hall; Sonya Baugham; Dufour Woolfley; Leslie
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Testimony: Bowie Ice Rink May 18, 2020

Good Evening Council,

I would like to submit my support for Mayor Adams decision to postpone the Bowie Ice Arena. Many of the citizens in South Bowie did not agree with the previous councils decision to move forward with this project. Many of us believed during the many discussions and negotiations the ice complex should be decided by taxpayers and not small groups within and outside of the Bowie Community. Instead the decision was made by a small minority of individuals to move forward with this project when Ice recreation has little support from Bowie Residents.

Many of us are not opposed to groups or organizations who support any type of recreation on ice. We are also not against having an updated facility with a sheet of ice. What we are against is having a dedicated facility to ice recreation or sports. The concern is also a cost to benefit issue. How many years will it take for Bowie to recoup the investment from the Ice Arena? How much is it going to cost to maintain the facility year round? There was a belief by the previous council and the hockey clubs the Ice Arena would be in demand and it would be self supporting. As a resident of Prince Georges County and the parent of an athlete, the reality lies within the demographics of the county. An overwhelming number of athletes who graduate from the county go on to become athletes in football and basketball, not ice sports.

As a taxpayer, I do not believe the City of Bowie should support a costly project at this time. During this crisis, many people have lost their jobs, people are sick, businesses are struggling to stay open and taxes will be scarce. Therefore, I believe the council has a fiduciary duty to make the best decision because the future of the economy at this time is unpredictable.

Thank you,
Rhonda Billingslea

Awilda Hernandez

From: Angela Fields <fieldsam2@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 5:47 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: No new ice arena

Angie
Bowie Resident

Awilda Hernandez

From: Holli Rahl <hollirahl@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 5:52 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: I am a bowie citizen and I support the New IcePlex.

To Whom It May Concern, City Council and Mayor Timothy Adams,

I am a bowie citizen and I support the New IcePlex.

I am dismayed at the thought that the city of Bowie may abandon the City Ice Rink project. Not only will it lose millions of dollars already invested in this project that has already been spent, in the penalties to break the contracts, loss of the bond money and loss of construction jobs, but the city will also lose future monies that will come from the update and addition of ice in this area.

Some are saying the rink needs to be cancelled due to the pandemic, but Councilmen Esteve has already stated that the city has some costs related to Covid-19, city revenues have not been impacted. In addition to federal pandemic relief, the city maintains $29M in reserve funds for this kind of scenario.

The new larger rink with not only replace the old rink which is in need of very expensive repairs but bring revenue to the rink and the city into the far future. The Bowie Hockey rink was one of the few city buildings that is self-sufficient. It pays for itself. Adding a second sheet of ice will allow the rink to put on tournaments, which bring teams from other cities and states and brings in an influx of revenue, no just to the rink, but to local businesses such as hotels and restaurants. I work for a Hockey Tournament company and know that a single tournament could bring upwards of $300K plus per tournament to the rink and local area. I also know that the tournament group I work for would love to host events in Bowie as it is a prime location in the eastern seaboard/ DelMarVA area to bring in many teams from many nearby states for many full tournaments per year. With the new arena, there is enough ice, good ice, to hold these events.

On a last note: My stepson grew up in the Bowie Hockey system. He is a very fine young adult due to his involvement in Bowie Team sports, more specifically Bowie Hockey. He is currently going to college because of his hockey journey that began with Bowie Hockey at the current Bowie Rink. Our family is a proud Bowie Hockey Family.

To lose this community asset, along with the monies already invested is a tragedy of great magnitude. The pushback every step of the way is appalling and showing that the city council and mayor are NOT listening to their constituents and looking toward the future of Bowie.

Holli L. Rahl
Graphic Design, Brand Management, Exhibit Design, Social Media
Cell and text: 703.855.3585 | hollirahl@gmail.com | www.hollirahl.com

Awilda Hernandez

From: Joseph Geary <joeymg32@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 5:55 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Support of Bowie IcePlex - May 18th meeting

Mayor, city council and city staff, my name is Joey Geary and I live in Bowie my entire life (21 years). I live in district 2B and writing to show my support for the new Bowie ice plex being built on church road. As a new tax payer and voter I am upset at the thought of canceling this project. I hope you consider continuing the project and prevent the city from wasting millions.
Thank you for your time,
Joseph Geary

Sent from my iPhone

Awilda Hernandez

From: Matt Kaplan <mkaplan@fsfinc.org>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 5:58 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: I support the new Bowie Ice arena

I have lived in Bowie for 25 years.

I support the continued building of the new Bowie ice arena.

Anything that promotes community and physical fitness , will always be things i will vote for.

-Matt Kaplan
301-364-7330
13014 Marquette ln.
Bowie MD 20715

Sent from my iPhone
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Awilda Hernandez

From: Michelle Davis <mdavis1999@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 5:58 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Bowie Ice Rank

Hello. I am writing in my opposition of the ice rink at this time.

Thank you and stay safe,
--Michelle Davis
14705 Jovial Ct
Bowie, MD 20721

Awilda Hernandez

From: Viola Underdue <viola.underdue@verizon.net>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 5:59 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: The Need to Be Firm In Making the Decision to Terminate Construction on the Ice Skate Arena in Bowie

Good Evening: Mayor Adams and City Council Members:

My name is Viola Underdue; I have been a resident of Bowie for almost 25 years; I love our city and want to see it continue to grow, but in a responsible way.

I read that Bowie has a "AAA" Bond rating; that is great. However; if we continue to pursue the construction of the ice skate arena during a pandemic; not only will we run the risk of a tax increase; our Bond rating would be in jeopardy. It has been stated that when businesses do reopen throughout the country; they will probably operate at 50% capacity or less. I am sure when the initial feasibility study was conducted to determine if Bowie was ready for the ice skate arena; they did not base their findings on 50% capacity. Therefore; in the event you continue to pursue the ice skate arena; at best, a new unbiased feasibility study should be conducted to reflect the new estimates.

What is also disturbing; is to hear that a lot of the supporters of the ice skate arena were not citizens of Bowie; that should have never happened. Trust me if Bowie moves forward with this construction and it becomes evident that the arena is operating in the red; Bowie and it citizens, will not get any assistance or compensation from those outsiders that lobbied for the arena. In other words; Bowie would be left holding the bag. Please be mindful of the fact that more than 30 million people have filed for unemployment benefits in the country; the housing market will take a hit, and Bowie will not be spared. The City of Bowe will have fewer tax dollars to operate with for an unspecified period.

Therefore; in conclusion I am appealing to Mayor Adams and the Bowie City Council; to not do what is popular, but to do what is right. By right I mean; take the loss, issue a Termination for the Convenience of the City of Bowie to the contractor, and protect the City of Bowie's AAA Bond rating and its residents from incurring a tax increase.

Thank You

Viola Underdue

Awilda Hernandez

From: Juanita M Mccormick <lawnita@verizon.net>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 6:11 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Concerned Citizen of Bowie

Dear Mayor Adams and City Council members,

For the vote on the sports facility I hope that you vote NO. When we re vote please consider a multipurpose facility versus a facility that is just for ice skating and hockey. District 1 member.

Best,

Juanita McCormick

Awilda Hernandez

From: Kim Derocher <kimderocher@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 6:12 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Please save the ice rink

Good evening Mr. Mayor and Members of the Council

My name is Kim Derocher and I am a City of Bowie resident of 50 years. My husband and I decided to stay in Bowie and raise our family because of everything Bowie has to offer. I have been proud to call Bowie our home.

As I know you will have many testimonials, I would like to make this message short. Please vote to support and continue the work on the new Ice rink. To shut the project down will cost nearly as much as the amount we have already put into it. The capability for the new facility to make money for the city has been documented over and over.

Please support the ice rink. Our kids deserve what they have been promised

Thank you
--
Kim-Marie Derocher
Phone 301-233-0645
Fax 1-423-376-0164

Awilda Hernandez

From: jhobbs@exclusys.com
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 6:12 PM
To: cityclerk
Cc: jhobbs@exclusys.com
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Testimony for the public hearing on 5/18/2020 from JoAnn Marshall-Hobbs

Hello City Staff, Councilmembers and Mayor

My name is JoAnn Marshall-Hobbs. I reside in district 3 and have lived here for over 20 years.

Mayor,

Thank you for the op-ed in Bowie Blade News. This article captures and communicates the bigger fundamentals regarding building an ice arena during a global pandemic. It removes the emotions and focuses on historical facts and the financial health and wellness of the city and residents. All of these components should be included and considered as the basis of the decision. Thank you for your leadership and for showing how leaders should lead in difficult and controversial situations.

Council,
I am against building an ice arena for several reasons. In the current state of the economy, respectfully, it seems to be irresponsible. In our current climate of the world we should be promoting diversity and inclusion and not separation and divide – which unfortunately has become the underlying theme of the ice arena. Lastly, if council decides to proceed with a facility, then Council should build a Sports Arena that support sports for EVERY resident **(One City, One Bowie, One Sports Arena)!**

Respectfully,

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: M CW <mrcw68@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 6:17 PM
To: Awilda Hernandez; Public Info; cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Bowie Ice Arena

This email is in support of the Bowie Ice Arena. It is my contention that Bowie will not only benefit from continuing to offer an ice arena for public leisure, its hockey team, and ice skating team, but also financially.

First of all, the ice arena provides a different form of exercise and entertainment that is enjoyed by people of all ages, groups, families, and individuals alike. Also, children (and some adults) of various ages and races (both male and female) participate on the ice skating team. The skating team, like other team sports, builds skills with team camaraderie in addition to other skills that are more unique than those of other sports.

Furthermore, having a fully operational ice arena can be financially beneficial to Bowie. For instance, when big ice skating competitions can be hosted in Bowie, there's an enormous amount of income that can be received and utilized for the furtherance of many city programs. [As you may be aware, the current ice arena cannot accommodate such a large function. A new arena is much-needed.]

Considering all benefits the ice arena brings to the city, the ability to have a fully functional ice arena is necessary. Thus, having a rebuilt ice arena should be seriously considered. Consequently, I am hoping the project to complete a newly built ice arena is still under consideration.

Also, I previously heard by rumor that if the arena project is continued that a private company may be involved. If the rumor is in fact true, I hope that the pros and cons of such a venture has been fully evaluated to ensure that the full benefits the ice arena has and will continue to offer will still be available.

Thanks for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,
MCW

Awilda Hernandez

From: Lawrence Mccormick <lawrencemccormick81@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 6:18 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Citizen Participation

Dear Mayor Adams & City Council

Please vote no on the ice hockey arena for now & after vote for multi purpose facility.

District 1 Resident,

Lawrence McCormick

Awilda Hernandez

From: Karen Geary <klgeary@verizon.net>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 6:18 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Support for the new IcePlex to be read on May 18th Council meeting

Dear City Council, City Mayor and City Staff,

My name is Rebecca Geary and I'm 15 years old and have been a resident of Bowie my entire life. I live in the K section. I want to show my support for the Bowie IcePlex project.

I have attended many city council meetings over the years with my family to support this project and am very upset that after the project was already awarded, it is up for discussion yet again. My faith in the political process is decreasing with every City Council meeting. Just because one council approves a project doesn't mean a new council has to try to terminate it. Political games get our city no where. All it promotes is bad feelings and distrust with our elected officials. I am a future taxpayer and voter.

The amount of time, money and effort already spent on this project is great and the thought of cancelling it is crazy. I don't understand the logic in losing millions of dollars already spent to save money already committed to a project. There will be nothing to show for except lost money. Nobody knows what the future holds, and COVID-19 has changed all our lives, but the new IcePlex is important to many many kids and families. It's where we can skate, be with friends, be part of a team or be an individual, learn leadership skills and it's a fun sport. We can't live our lives based on fear of what can happen in the future. We need to live in the present. And I hope my present includes the continuation of the new IcePlex. I hope my future includes skating at the new Bowie IcePlex. It would be devastating to me and many of my friends and family if this project was cancelled.

Thank you for your time,

Rebecca Geary

Awilda Hernandez

From: Bryan McCormick <bemccor@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 6:22 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Citizen Participation Ice Arena

Dear Mayor Adams and City Council members,

Regarding the sports facility I hope you vote No at this time. An expensive new ice hockey arena is not a sound idea.

Best,

Bryan McCormick District 1

Awilda Hernandez

From: rcraigk <rcraigk@earthlink.net>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 6:22 PM
To: Awilda Hernandez
Subject: RE: {EXTERNAL}: Bowie Ice Rink

I am not happy with the direction our new mayor and some council members are taking our city..I want a recall before he destroys our great city! Long time resident, Robert C Kinser

-----Original Message-----
>From: Awilda Hernandez <ahernandez@cityofbowie.org>
>Sent: May 14, 2020 12:56 PM
>To: rcraigk <rcraigk@earthlink.net>
>Subject: RE: {EXTERNAL}: Bowie Ice Rink
>
>Thank you for your comment, it will be read at the May 18 Council meeting.
>
>Awilda Hernandez, MMC
>City Clerk
>City of Bowie
>www.cityofbowie.org
>
>
>
>-----Original Message-----
>From: rcraigk <rcraigk@earthlink.net>
>Sent: Thursday, May 14, 2020 12:25 PM
>To: cityclerk <cityclerk@cityofbowie.org>
>Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Bowie Ice Rink
>
>Mayor and City Counsel, Please do not stop the construction of the ice rink project. Approve the completion of this facility as designed. Millions of dollars have been spent and I believe not following through would be a horrible mistake!.....Long time Bowie resident, Robert Craig Kinser
>---------- This e-mail and any of its attachments may contain information that is privileged and confidential. This e-mail is intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to which it is addressed. If you are not the intended recipient of this e-mail, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution, copying, or action taken in relation to the contents of and attachments to this e-mail is strictly prohibited and may be subject to penalties under the Electronic Communications Privacy Act, 18 U.S.C. §§ 2510-2521 and other applicable laws. If you have received this e-mail in error, please notify the sender immediately and permanently delete the original and any copy of this e-mail and destroy any printed version thereof.

Awilda Hernandez

From: Michelle Neff <michelle.louise.neff@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 6:33 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Support for new ice arena

Dear City of Bowie,

I am writing to show support for the new ice arena. Bowie is an ideal spot for this facility, as the location is centrally located and the community is diverse. I'm most familiar with the hockey program, which my two boys have participated in. The sport of hockey has a goal of increasing diversity in the sport, and Bowie is a great location to do so. My kids have enjoyed playing on teams with diversity in race and gender, and have learned invaluable lessons on teamwork, as well as building friendships and a love for staying active and healthy. We are also residents of AA County, and chose Bowie's program because of the community and dedication of the coaches and other ice arena professionals. We, and many other families spend a lot of money in the local Bowie community as we travel to and from practices and games. The new rink will inevitably increase more local business in Bowie, and will offer a sorely needed state of the art facility to grow our future athletes. Stopping construction now that is already underway and has been approved after many years of planning would be unimaginably reckless and short-sighted. Most importantly, it will let down the kids and the community, who will surely take their business elsewhere if Bowie pulls the plug on this project. Please fully consider the long-term consequences.

Thank you,

Michelle Neff
--
Shelly

Awilda Hernandez

From: Sonia McLain <smith1851@icloud.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 6:23 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Citizen Concern - please read 5/18 meeting

Dear Mayor and Councilmembers,

Please vote to STOP work on the Bowie Ice 2-sheet facility. We can not justify spending upwards of $30 million on a single serving sport facility during this global pandemic and economic crisis. Vote NO, so we can move toward a multipurpose sport facility that will serve us all. PLEASE RESPECT OUR TAX DOLLARS, PLEASE RESPECT OUR COMMUNITY.

D. Frazier
Woodmore Highlands
DISTRICT 3 Resident

Sonia
Sent from my iPhone

Awilda Hernandez

From: Justin Rhim <j.rhimap@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 6:28 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Citizen Participation

Dear Mayor Adams and City Council Members,

As you vote on the sports facility I hope that you vote NO at this time. And, when the time comes, please consider a multipurpose facility versus a facility that is solely dedicated to ice skating and ice hockey.

Regards,

Justin Rhim
District 4

Awilda Hernandez

From: Jack Albright <albright.jack@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 6:28 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: IcePlex

How many times do we have to revisit this issue?

I have 4 family members (Bowie residents) who use the current facility. That doesn't count my wife and I who are regular spectators.

It would be unfortunate to not have access to Ice Rink activities.

Thanks. John Albright
Nemeth Lane

Awilda Hernandez

From: brian@suddeth.com
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 6:33 PM
To: cityclerk; Awilda Hernandez; Public Info
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Testimony to City Council on Ice Arena

To the Bowie City Council,

Mayor Adams called for the City to cancel the ongoing Bowie ice rink project. The previous city council voted last year to move forward with the $25 million two-sheet ice arena. I am STRONGLY opposed to the financially damaging and fiscally irresponsible recommendation from the Mayor. This would be throwing away the $8M invested already (which we are NOT getting back), as well as throwing away the highly anticipated tax and cash revenues streams for the City the new hockey rink is expected to bring in! Yes, we may have spent an additional $2.5M dealing with this plague, but put in perspective the City revenues have not been seriously impacted.

In addition to expected federal pandemic relief the city maintains nearly $30 million in "reserve funds" to keep us solvent. WE ARE NOT HURTING. The funds to build the ice arena have already been obtained through bonds and are not coming out of the city's general fund or reserves. Canceling the project will cost the city millions immediately and many millions more over the expected life of the facility, and will take us back to square one addressing the existing, aging city rink which will incur additional costs.

There is NO upside to the Mayor's suggestion. I STRONGLY request the members of the City Council oppose this suggestion as I believe our City Manager does. Move forward toward further Bowie prosperity rather than throwing away the City's wise investment.

S. Brian Suddeth
12604 Brunswick Lane
Bowie, MD 20715-2212
301-262-9426

Awilda Hernandez

From: Sonia <smith1851@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 6:37 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Concerned Citizen

Dear Mayor and Councilmembers,

As a City of Bowie resident, the benefits of a 2-sheet ice facility don't outweigh the costs or sacrifice. If our community could directly benefit I'd be of better understanding. My daughter, a competitive ice skater of 10 years was interested in employment at the rink and she was told she had to be 18 to work at the rink, although other minors have worked there - so she's been working at Piney Orchard Rink in Odenton for the past 2 years. City of Bowie residents do not benefit from a discount on freestyle ice, you have to belong to the Rink's "recreational club". Those are just a few examples of the exclusiveness. My fear is more of the same ... yet my tax dollars will be paying for it. We need a place for ALL. Please vote "No" on the 2-sheet facility.

Sonia McLain
City of Bowie
District 3 Resident

Awilda Hernandez

From: My Name <carrieswb@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 6:38 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Public Hearing/No Ice Plex
Attachments: stop-the-24-million-dollar-ice-arena.pdf

Good Evening, Mayor Adams, City Council and City Staff!!

This is Carrie Bridges who has been a tax paying citizen in this city for more than 20 years. I do not think it is fair to flood our city council meetings reading letters from people that do not have a dog in this fight. I understand Roberts Rules of Order, but I am sure as a Council Person for this city, you KNOW where your constituents stand and will not require all of us to write letters expressing our concerns taking up time when business needs to be conducted.

Lawrence White, an economist from New York University seems to think we are heading into another recession because of COVID-19. There was an article written in Forbes magazine in April entitled *How COVID-19 Is Leading the US into a New Type of Recession and What This Means For Our Future*. The city of Bowie is a business. The last time we were in a recession, none of you sat on this City Council. The ONLY individual who sits on our city council in 2020 that has the knowledge, forward thinking and is business savvy enough to see our city through this potential disaster is our HONORABLE MAYOR TIMOTHY ADAMS. It is evident because his company just celebrated thirty years of business over a year ago so he CLEARLY survived the recession of 2008. We need to listen to his advice and follow his lead because his record speaks for itself.

I am just wondering how a project projected to be 11 million in 2014 more than doubles in 2017? Someone needs to open an investigation into this contract and company before investing our hard earn tax dollars!!

I would also like to say I started a petition, which is attached to this email, on Monday, , of last week and then the "ice people" started one immediately after mine. They did secure over 900 signatures on theirs, however, their signatures come from people outside of our city. The woman who started the petition lives in Virginia. I want to leave you with this, if I was able to secure over 400 signatures sitting in my home in a week. What do you think I will be able to do in 30 day period? Remember no threats here, just promises.

Carrie
301-332-6028
"Love one another...always"

Awilda Hernandez

From: rcraigk <rcraigk@earthlink.net>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 6:42 PM
To: Awilda Hernandez
Subject: RE: {EXTERNAL}: Bowie Ice Rink

I beg the council to vote AGAINST what the Mayor has proposed!! Robert Kinser

-----Original Message-----
>From: Awilda Hernandez <ahernandez@cityofbowie.org>
>Sent: May 14, 2020 12:56 PM
>To: rcraigk <rcraigk@earthlink.net>
>Subject: RE: {EXTERNAL}: Bowie Ice Rink
>
>Thank you for your comment, it will be read at the May 18 Council meeting.
>
>Awilda Hernandez, MMC
>City Clerk
>City of Bowie
>www.cityofbowie.org
>
>
>
>-----Original Message-----
>From: rcraigk <rcraigk@earthlink.net>
>Sent: Thursday, May 14, 2020 12:25 PM
>To: cityclerk <cityclerk@cityofbowie.org>
>Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Bowie Ice Rink
>
>Mayor and City Counsel, Please do not stop the construction of the ice rink project. Approve the completion of this facility as designed. Millions of dollars have been spent and I believe not following through would be a horrible mistake!.....Long time Bowie resident, Robert Craig Kinser
>---------- This e-mail and any of its attachments may contain information that is privileged and confidential. This e-mail is intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to which it is addressed. If you are not the intended recipient of this e-mail, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution, copying, or action taken in relation to the contents of and attachments to this e-mail is strictly prohibited and may be subject to penalties under the Electronic Communications Privacy Act, 18 U.S.C. §§ 2510-2521 and other applicable laws. If you have received this e-mail in error, please notify the sender immediately and permanently delete the original and any copy of this e-mail and destroy any printed version thereof.

Awilda Hernandez

From: Ayawnna <ayawnnasmith@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 6:43 PM
To: Awilda Hernandez
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Bowie Ice Rink

Good Evening Mayor and Council,

My name is Ayawnna Smith I am a District 2 resident. I would like to express my support of the proposal to cancel construction of the new Ice Rink.

Our city, like the rest of the planet faces uncertain times. The decision to cancel this project may upset some, however the emergence of COVID-19 has given all of us an opportunity to reevaluate our priorities. The City is in desperate need of a public pool.

Councilman Woolfley , Councilwoman Harrison, Councilman Gardener, please use your votes to permanently cancel the construction of this facility. The difficult, but fiscally sound decision may help the city overcome future financial challenges brought on by the Corona Virus.

Thank you,
Ayawnna Smith

Awilda Hernandez

From: Nicole Brinkley <nicolebs1973@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 6:43 PM
To: Timothy Adams; cityclerk; Awilda Hernandez
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Bowie Iceplex

We have been playing hockey at the Bowie Ice Rink for over 12 years, both my boys play there. It has been our outlet since their dad passed away unexpectedly. The Bowie Ice Family has become our family. Please don't take away the opportunity this affords our children. Please see below for reasons in addition to our personal ones....

I am in full support the need for two sheets of ice to accommodate the needs so individuals and players and skaters don't have to continue to battle over the available ice slots.

- I support the continued efforts by the City to work with the County on expediting the road improvements on Church Road.
- I support the availability of indoor and outdoor recreation throughout the City including the proposed new indoor court facility to be constructed next to the Bowie Golf Course.
- As a user of the almost 50 year old Bowie Ice Arena, the facility is unable to accommodate all the needs of the users and there is no ability to grow and expand programs.
- The Bowie Ice Arena offers programs for all ages and skill levels for ice hockey, figure skating and public skating sessions. The Bowie Ice Arena offers many free skating events to introduce the community to skating.
- As a Bowie Hockey Club member, we are very excited about the new two sheet Bowie IcePlex and the availability of additional ice time and new programs such as girl's ice hockey, adult leagues, more public sessions and special skater programs for hockey and figure skating.
- Bowie is a great City because of its diversity and ability to come together as ONE. Let's support this as ONE BOWIE and make it a success!

Much regards,

Nicole, Hunter and Cole Scroggs

Sent from my iPhone

Awilda Hernandez

From: Reggie Green <reggie.k.green@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 6:45 PM
To: Awilda Hernandez
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Good Evening

Good Evening Mayor and Council,

My name is Reginald Green, I am a District 3 resident. I would like to express my support of the proposal to cancel construction of the new Ice Rink.

Our city, like the rest of the planet faces uncertain times. The decision to cancel this project may upset some, however the emergence of COVID-19 has given all of us an opportunity to reevaluate our priorities. The City is in desperate need of investment in the arts and entertainment district.

Councilman Boafoa, Councilwoman Harrison, Councilman Gardener, please use your votes to permanently cancel the Construction of this facility. This difficult, but fiscally sound decision may help the city overcome future financial challenges brought on by the Corona Virus.

Thank you,

Reginald Green

Awilda Hernandez

From: Jason Dougal <jdougal@ncee.org>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 6:46 PM
To: cityclerk
Cc: Timothy Adams; Adrian Boafo; Henri Gardner; Ingrid Harrison; Michael Esteve; Dufour Woolfley; Rosann Ndebumadu; CouncilDistrict4@co.pg.md.us; At-LargeMemberHawkins@co.pg.md.us; At-LargeMemberFranklin@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict1@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict2@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict3 @co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict5@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict6@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict7@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict8@co.pg.md.us; CouncilDistrict9 @co.pg.md.us; douglas.peters@senate.state.md.us; geraldine.valentino@house.state.md.us; marvin.holmes@house.state.md.us; ron.watson@house.state.md.us
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Bowie IcePlex

Bowie City Clerk:

I am submitting this email in hopes that its contents will be read into the record of the Bowie City Council Meeting on May 18th at 8:00pm EST (tonight).

Both my oldest son and I have appeared before the Bowie City Council on numerous occasions in the past during the debate over the Bowie IcePlex. I have been a hockey coach at Bowie for 5 years, my 3 sons all play hockey at Bowie, and my daughter skates there as well. I am sure you have heard from numerous members of the Bowie hockey community regarding the importance of the rink, so, rather than belabor that point, I will focus this letter on the specifics of an offer you have received for a private-public partnership to renovate the existing Bowie Ice Arena.

I write to you to caution you that a deal that sounds too good to be true is often just that - too good to be true. In a recent letter addressed to the Council, a private ice rink operator suggested that his company has renovated rinks around the country and in Maryland at a fraction of the cost of what has been previously (and repeatedly over the last 7 years) quoted to the Council. It has been suggested that the renovation of the current Bowie Ice Arena could be done for as little as $2 million. I can see why this offer is so enticing. $2 million sounds a heck of a lot better than $23 million for an ice rink in Bowie. But if any member of the Council believes that the type of renovation that is being suggested and what the previous Bowie City Council approved are in any way comparable, please let me disabuse you of that notion. There was even a suggestion that the Bowie City Council was being taken advantage of in this process. Such a suggestion is absurd given that the process included a competitive bid process that yielded multiple bids above the current contractor's bid and no bids anywhere near the $2 million that is now being suggested. I, too, worry that the Bowie City Council might be taken advantage of, but I worry that it is a private contractor that might take advantage of not just the Bowie City Council but the rest of the community as well.

The Bowie City Council should know as much as they can about the renovations any private contractor has previously undertaken to get a sense of what they might do at the Bowie Ice Arena. Remember, you get what you pay for. For instance, the renovation and construction of a second sheet of ice at an ice rink very close to the Bowie Ice Arena in the last year was done without installing bathrooms. Yes, you heard that correctly. The second sheet of ice was installed without putting in any bathrooms in the new structure (not even in the two makeshift locker rooms that were built in that new space). I refer to the locker rooms as "makeshift" because those locker rooms are far too small to house even a single team in them. Maybe that's why the contractor did not include a ceiling for the locker rooms. Perhaps the contractor intended to have players stand on top of each other, so they left the locker room without a ceiling. You might wonder if such an arrangement would violate players' privacy from spectators. Sadly, there is little chance of that happening since there is effectively no room for spectators. On one side of the ice, there is roughly 4 feet between the

boards and the building structure. It is barely enough room to walk single-file down the length of the ice. And that is the roomy side! On the side of the ice, where the players benches are, there is no room to stand behind the benches. In fact, as a player, you have to enter the ice from the opposing team's bench to get to your own bench since there is no direct access to one of the team benches.

What I have so far described is the good news. At least there is the possibility of playing hockey (albeit with limited spectators and even more limited access to a bathroom). For figure skaters or anyone looking to learn to skate at a public session, you are simply out of luck. The price of skating in such Spartan accommodations has proven to be largely cost-prohibitive for figure skating and public skate opportunities.

The beauty of the approach Bowie has taken with its current Ice Arena and that the Bowie IcePlex plan continues to hold dear is that it affords regular people the opportunity to learn to skate and enjoy the ice in whatever capacity they may choose. That might mean hockey for some, but for many others that means figure skating, ice dancing or simply just having a good time on the weekends with friends.

You might think you are losing a financial headache by entering into a private-public partnership for the future of ice in Bowie, but what you must realize is that you lose a lot more than just that. You lose the opportunity for residents of all ages to try ice skating. You lose the opportunity for girls and young women to compete in an ice sport without being forced to play hockey. You lose the opportunity to provide access to ice for people of all income levels. In a word, you lose community.

If the goal of the Council is to keep ice in Bowie at the cheapest possible price where it can be used mostly by wealthy non-residents who play hockey, then you should move ahead with a private-public partnership with the lowest bidder who will renovate the current Ice Arena on the cheap and maximize their profit.

But if you believe it is your mandate to consider both the financial impact as well as the impact on your community in terms of access, equity and recreation for all residents, regardless of income or gender, then you should not derail the current project to build the Bowie IcePlex.

As I have said before to the previous Bowie City Council, "Build ice. Build courts. Build community!" Thank you for your consideration.

- Jason Dougal

Awilda Hernandez

From: Michael Bridges <mike.m.bridges@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 6:49 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Halt Iceplex Construction

To Mayor Adams and City Council Members,

My name is Michael Bridges and I live in Woodmore Highlands in Bowie. The most recent Bowie budget has pre-COVID-19 projections for property tax revenues increasing 5% and state shared revenues increasing 3% during the years 2022-2026. Even with these projections, which do NOT include COVID-19 impacts, the City's General Fund is declining and proposed future tax increases will not be enough to cover all of the planned future projects. The Bowie 2017 budget shows a drop in property taxes in 2012 due to the great recession that took 4 years to recover from. With new conditions requires new analysis. I recommend halting construction of the Iceplex so size and scope of all future projects can be re-thought and re-prioritized given the anticipated COVID-19 economic impacts.

Awilda Hernandez

From: Mia Russell <miabrussell@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 6:51 PM
To: Public Info; Michael Esteve; Awilda Hernandez; Timothy Adams
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: City Ice Arena

Mayor Adams, Councilmember Esteve, and City of Bowie staff,

My family was disappointed to learn of the call to cancel the ongoing Bowie ice rink project. I certainly understand that this investment, along with the optics, gives the council some pause; however, we'd like to offer our family's perspective.

Our daughter, Camryn, has been skating recreationally since she was 2 or 3 years old. She learned how to skate at the current facility at Allen Pond. She has celebrated numerous birthdays in the party room at the rink and has even encouraged many of her friends to learn to skate. Many of Camryn's friends didn't consider ice skating a sport or activity for African American girls but she introduced - and even taught - many of them to the sport. Having the ice arena in our backyard - one of very few in our county - is important for many reasons, including providing access and exposure.

Camryn was a very quiet child and skating helped her learn perseverance and build her confidence. Just this past summer, Camryn decided she wanted to skate competitively. We were dismayed to find limited ice time at Bowie. Camryn searched for weeks to make Bowie work for us but it simply couldn't due to the limited available ice time. As such, we were forced to travel to Piney Orchard for more flexible/convenient lesson times and early morning private lessons. We have to wake up at 5am to get her to Piney Orchard on Wednesday mornings before school (pre-COVID, of course).

Camryn also joined the Bowie ISI team and has enjoyed this skating team experience. Many families come to Bowie to skate from around the county - and even other counties.

Recently, Camryn started her first job. I hope you guessed it... she's a rink guard at Piney Orchard. She has really jumped into the deep end with both feet and I hope we have your support to ensure she can skate for years to come in her hometown. This is a community resource that we need and greatly appreciate. We implore you to explore other options to bring the new ice arena project to fruition... families are depending on you!

--

Thank you,
Raymono & Mia Russell
13413 Yorktown Drive Bowie, MD 20715
Direct: (202) 316-7013
Email: miabrussell@gmail.com

Awilda Hernandez

From: rcraigk <rcraigk@earthlink.net>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 6:39 PM
To: Awilda Hernandez
Subject: RE: {EXTERNAL}: Bowie Ice Rink

Recall our Mayor! He has other agendas than what's best for our citizens of Bowie! Robert Kinser

-----Original Message-----
>From: Awilda Hernandez <ahernandez@cityofbowie.org>
>Sent: May 14, 2020 12:56 PM
>To: rcraigk <rcraigk@earthlink.net>
>Subject: RE: {EXTERNAL}: Bowie Ice Rink
>
>Thank you for your comment, it will be read at the May 18 Council meeting.
>
>Awilda Hernandez, MMC
>City Clerk
>City of Bowie
>www.cityofbowie.org
>
>
>
>-----Original Message-----
>From: rcraigk <rcraigk@earthlink.net>
>Sent: Thursday, May 14, 2020 12:25 PM
>To: cityclerk <cityclerk@cityofbowie.org>
>Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Bowie Ice Rink
>
>Mayor and City Counsel, Please do not stop the construction of the ice rink project. Approve the completion of this facility as designed. Millions of dollars have been spent and I believe not following through would be a horrible mistake!.....Long time Bowie resident, Robert Craig Kinser
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Awilda Hernandez

From: Milly Hall <hallmilly@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 6:53 PM
To: cityclerk
Cc: Milly Hall
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Public hearing - Cancelling The Bowie Ice Complex

May 18, 2020 Canceling the Bowie Ice Complex.

To the Mayor, City Council members, and staff, my name is Milly Hall and I am a District 3 resident. I have some concerns, comments and suggestions. Council members, as you vote tonight on the Sports facility (Ice rink), please vote **NO** on moving forward on the construction of this sports facility on Church Road at this time. I read a statement that was highly alarming that stated there were possible cuts and kickbacks related to this project and with City employees. How can you justify to City residents building an ice arena with construction costs of $25 million to primarily benefit a majority of those who are not even city residents?

I **strongly** suggest that the management company over this project, Hill International be investigated and that possible fraudulent charges be brought against them if deemed necessary. In addition, I also suggest that a new set of eyes should be brought in to make sure there is a clean and impartial investigation, or do the hiring. I'd be deeply disappointed if this is swept under the rug and ignored.

The tax payers deserve to know how the past Council went from proposed spending of $11 million to over $25 million for this project and more on the methods used to bring the current management company in.

In closing, I hope and pray that the other elected council members be as responsible and up front tonight as Mayor Adams and Council member Woolfley have been in their open statements to the public on not moving forward on this project as is and at this time. Thank you

Awilda Hernandez

From: Dougal, Sharon L <SLM128@gunet.georgetown.edu>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 6:55 PM
To: cityclerk
Cc: sharon_michel74@yahoo.com; jason
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Regarding the Bowie IcePlex

To the members of the city council,

As I sit here writing this email I can't help but think about how or why it has come to this? How is it possible that a ruling made a year ago could end up back on the table for discussion? The ground was broken, the foundation laid and the dream of the new Bowie IcePlex was real. Now it appears as if this could all go away in a matter of minutes because you do not have the guts to move forward with a decision made by those who came before you.

Roughly one year ago I watched my nine year old son, Logan, take a stand for something he believed in. On his own, my son wrote a speech, donned a dress shirt and pants, along with his Bowie Bruins hockey jersey and he got up in front of the City council of Bowie and spoke from his heart. He spoke of the important part Bowie hockey club plays in his life. He spoke of the friendships he's made, the lessons he has learned, the amazing experiences he's had. He spoke about what it means to him to be a Bowie Bruin, how it has taught him to be respectful and honest and to win and lose with dignity. He also touched on how much he wants those same experiences and life lessons for his little brothers and other children in the area. He didn't stop there though, he went on to ask the council to build both ice and courts for the city of Bowie. At nine, he recognized that one group should not be given priority, that there should be equity for all and that every child should have the chance to do and practice what they love. I don't think I have ever been more proud of Logan than I was in that moment. He stood there in front of 7 adults and very thoughtfully and concisely asked for what he felt was right. Many hours later he was rewarded for taking a stand. Just after midnight, the votes to move forward with the IcePlex were tallied and the project was passed. My son got to see first hand how taking a stand for something you believe in and getting involved in politics can make a difference.

Now here we are, facing the issue all over again. The topic of moving forward with the new Iceplex is up for discussion once again, but this time you all are doing it under the cover of a pandemic. You don't have to face us. You don't have to see child after child stand up to fight for what they believe in. You get to sit in the comfort of your home as you squash the dreams of 1000's of children (and families). What a cowardly act and you should be ashamed of yourselves for doing this.

You think you are doing the right thing having the Black Bears buy our rink for $2Million? If you look back at the studies that your team has done, over many years you will see that the cost of repairing the old rink is upwards of $22 Million. That's a big discrepancy don't you think? Did you even stop to think why? Perhaps you should consider that the duct tape and band aids they plan to put on the old rink aren't going to last very long. Maybe you don't care. It won't be your problem anymore, right? You claim to care about your constituents, well have you thought about the families who won't be able to afford hockey anymore because the rates are more then doubled. Have you thought about the figure skaters who will lose their ice? The Black Bears don't care about figure skating, they will slowly push them out, by offering limited ice time and increased prices. What about public skate and skating lessons? Have you thought about them? Well, I guess

there is no reason to, they'll be gone. Before rushing into a deal with the devil, take a look at what has happened at Piney Orchard.

I leave you with one last thought. You have an opportunity to do the right thing. You have a chance to prove to a generation of young athletes that governing officials stand up to their word. There is so much uncertainty in the world right now. All of our lives have been turned upside down, but our children are the ones who are suffering the most. There is so much political nonsense going on, with all of the lies and the he said she said, that our children are watching and hearing on a daily basis. Is it too much to ask that you give them something to believe in? Let them know politicians do have integrity, that they do care, that they are willing to make the right decision, even if it isn't the popular one.

I ask you on be half of my children, Logan and his three siblings, please vote to proceed as scheduled with the Bowie IcePlex.

Thank you,
Sharon Dougal

MedStar Health is a not-for-profit, integrated healthcare delivery system, the largest in Maryland and the Washington, D.C., region. Nationally recognized for clinical quality in heart, orthopaedics, cancer and GI.

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Help conserve valuable resources - only print this email if necessary.

Awilda Hernandez

From: Kenesha Fennell <keneshaf@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 6:59 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Concerned citizen

Dear Mayor Adams and City Council members, As you vote on the sports facility I hope that you vote NO at this time. And, when the time comes, please consider a multipurpose facility versus a facility that is solely dedicated to iceskating and ice hockey.

Regards,
Kenesha Banfield
District 3

Sent from my iPhone

Awilda Hernandez

From: Kevin Jackson <kevin@jackson-a.net>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 4:27 PM
To: cityclerk
Cc: Barry Campbell
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Opposition to ice rink on Church Road...

Greetings,

This simple letter is to express opposition to the ice rink planned on Church Road in Bowie, MD.

To be brief, this section of town will be adversely affected by this planned development. Children have been killed, animals are constantly killed and crime will likely increase. My husband and I actually live off of Church Road, so these claims are not made lightly.

On behalf of my husband, Barry E. Campbell and myself, please accept this letter as our formal opposition to the construction of the ice rink on Church Road in Bowie, MD.

Thank You!

v/r,
Kevin A. Jackson

Sent from Kevin's iPhone...

Use my referral link to receive 1,000 free Supercharger miles with the purchase and delivery of a new Tesla car, or earn a $100 award after system activation by purchasing or subscribing to solar panels: http://ts.la/kevin534

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