



City of Bowie

15901 Excalibur Road
Bowie, Maryland 20716

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, JUNE 1, 2020

CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

The Regular Meeting of the Bowie City Council was held on Monday, June 1, 2020 virtually. Mayor Pro Tem Boafu called the meeting to order at 8:02 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG:

Mayor Pro Tem Boafu led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

QUORUM:

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

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION:

1. Debra Coats-Walton – Comment attached.
2. Residents of District 4 – Comment attached.
3. Betty Harris – Comment attached.
4. Sarah Earwicker – Comment attached.

COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Councilmember Harrison commented on the Census drive and the Primary Election that will take place tomorrow, June 2, 2020.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

City Manager Lott reported that City staff is entering Phase I of the reconstitution plan associated with COVID-19, bulk trash will begin to be collected with a grapple truck, streets crew will be back full time and employees that are not able to telework will be brought back into their respective buildings and following social distancing guidelines.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Councilmember Woolfley motion the approval of Consent Agenda items: A) Approval of Proclamation P-5-20 Proclaiming June 6-14, 2020 as Chesapeake Bay Awareness Week in the City of Bowie; B) Approval of Resolution R-32-20 Approving Application NCU-1-19, a Request for the Certification of a nonconforming Use by Clear Channel Outdoor, LLC to Allow the Existing Outdoor Advertising Sign (Billboard) at 16461 Excalibur Road and 16502 Everdale Court to Continue as a Nonconforming Use; C) Approval of Resolution R-33-20 Authorizing the Issuance of a Purchase Order

to George, Miles & Buhr, LLC for Task Order/RP#1-04 in Accordance With the Master Contract Approved on October 31, 2018; D) Approval of Resolution R-34-20 Authorizing the Issuance of a Purchase Order to KCI Technologies, Inc. for Task Order/RFP#1-03 in Accordance With the Master Contract Approved on October 31, 2018; E) Approval of Resolution R-35-20 Accepting a Proposal for Construction Management and Inspection Services With Respect to Miscellaneous Repairs and Painting of 3MG Water Reservoir; F) Introduction of Ordinance O-5-20 Amending the Adopted Budget for the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2019 and Ending June 30, 2020, to Authorize the Transfer of Certain Amounts in the FY 2020 Budget to Pay for Anticipated Expenses; G) Introduction of Ordinance O-6-20 Establishing the Bowie COVID-19 Business Recovery Assistance Program and Amending the Budget for Fiscal Year 2021 to Appropriate Funds for the Program. Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Bowie BIC Update - Mr. Sherman Ragland and Executive Director Lisa Smith gave a brief overview of how the Bowie BIC performed in the last year. They generated over 512 jobs and \$40.6M income. Their vision for the future is to continue to build a dynamic entrepreneurial ecosystem in the City and Prince George's County as well as coordinate and develop the business support services that help Bowie businesses increase their impact on economic development.

B. Adoption of Resolution R-31-20 Adopting the Housing and Community Development Cares Act Amendment: Substantial Amendment to the FY2019-2023 (HUD FY2018-2022) Consolidated Plan, FY2020 (HUD FY2019) Amended Annual Action Plan, and the Amended Citizen Participation Plan – Mr. Jesse Buggs, City Grants Administrator briefed Council on the reports and resolution. These are required reports that the City must accomplish in order to receive grant funding from CDBG and HUD in order to help City residents during COVID-19.

Public Hearing:

Since there were no comments submitted for the Public Hearing, Mayor Pro Tem Boafu declared the Public Hearing to have been held.

Councilmember Woolfley made a motion to adopt Resolution R-31-20. Councilmember Gardner seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

C. Legislative Report – Representatives from the firm Venable LLP, the City's lobbyists, briefed Council on the actions that took place during the 2020 General Assembly. One of the main bills they lobbied for on behalf of the City was for ownership of the racetrack property.

D. Discussion on Council Strategic Retreat - Council discussed the planning of the retreat to include sessions on Team Building with a facilitator, as well as discussions with City staff from different City departments. Council agreed they would like the retreat to be local and sooner rather than later.

ADJOURNMENT AND MOVE TO CLOSE SESSION:

Councilmember Woolfley moved to adjourn the Regular City Council meeting and move to Closed Session under the statutory authority of the Md. Annotated Code, State Government Article, §3-305(b)(8): "To consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending or potential litigation. Councilmember Gardner seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0. The meeting adjourned at 9:08 p.m.

June 1, 2020

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Awilda Hernandez', with a large, stylized flourish extending from the end of the name.

Awilda Hernandez, MMC
City Clerk

Friday, May 29, 2020

Awilda Hernandez
City Clerk
City of Bowie Council
cityclerk@cityofbowie.org

Greetings Mayor and Councilmembers:

My name is Dr. Debra Coats-Walton, Board Certified Dermatologist; and I am the owner of Aesthetic Dermatology & Dermatologic Surgery Center at 4321 Collington Road, Suite 230. I have been practicing Dermatology for over 20 years all here in the City of Bowie, Maryland; and I provide employment for six people. In addition, we sponsor and mentor two High School Students every summer. Our center also serves as a rotation site for Dermatology Residents, Physician Assistants and Nurse Practitioners to fulfill elective requirements for completion of their perspective degrees.

My Medical Practice has been severely impacted by the COVID-19 Pandemic. Per the orders of the State of Maryland, we closed our Medical Practice on Thursday, March 19, 2020 and remained closed until Monday, May 18, 2020. Upon reopening during Phase I, we have instituted the necessary safety measures (social distancing, personal protective equipment, temperature scanning, massive surface cleaning, etc.) to keep our employees and patient safe. Having made these changes to adjust to the "New Normal", our landlord, creditors and vendors remain unpaid due to the lack of income not generated by the Practice.

I understand that the City Council will be discussing the next steps for the COVID Business Recovery Plan recommended by the City of Bowie's Economic Development Committee. As a true Small Business I am pleading to the Council to please help the Small Business in Bowie and adopt this program.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra A. Coats-Walton, MD
4321 Collington Road, Suite 230
Bowie, Maryland 20716
dacoatswaltonmd@msn.com
301-809-4321
301-809-5798 fax

Awilda Hernandez

From: Michelle Davis <mdavis1999@hotmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 29, 2020 5:57 PM
To: cityclerk; Timothy Adams; rndebumadu@cityofbowie
Cc: CHARLENE MCCAMEY; rejoicec@aol.com
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Letter of Approval - from city neighbors

We do request that the following letter be read at the next council meeting. Thank you.

We, the residents of District 4, Bowie, Maryland want to take this opportunity to thank you for your service and commitment to the citizens of Bowie. We applaud your support for discontinuing the construction of the ice rink and welcome a multi-generational institution. We observe your innovative and progressive approach to leadership and your ability to make hard decisions when the pressure is on and maintain a calm and professional demeanor. Everyone will not agree with every decisions you make, but we elected you because we believed that you had the wisdom, experience and plans to advance our community. We appreciate the fact that you are concerned about the citizens of Bowie and the long term effects that impact future financial decisions and taxes. Your platform was to help Bowie become financially responsible through thoughtful planning. Thanks for helping take Bowie to the next level.

You have our support as well as our prayers for your success.

Best Wishes,

DR. BETTY HARRIS
REV. DR. CHARLENE MCCAMEY
MS.MICHELLE DAVIS
MR. SAVION DAVIS
MR. ANDRE FISHER
MS. DYANI MILLER
MS. MICHELLE DAVIS
MS. LORETTA GREY
MR AND MRS. WILLIAM TRISCINA ORTIZ
MS. VANIA BROWN
MR. AND MRS. RANDY GARDNER
MR. LEON ANDREWS
MS. JUNE HOOKS
MS. PAULETTE PITTMAN
MR. REGINALD LASSITER

MS. SANDRA LASSITER
MR. COREY WILLIAMS
MS. MARY CORSEY
MS. ANGELA FIELDS
MS. CATHERINE TOPPIN

Awilda Hernandez

From: Betty Harris <wimrc@aol.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 31, 2020 4:16 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Honorable Mayor Timothy Adams

Please Read:

Honorable Mayor Tim Adams
Just a note of thanks and appreciation for your service to our community.

Dr. Betty Harris
Collington Manors

Awilda Hernandez

From: Betty Harris <wimrc@aol.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 31, 2020 4:27 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Please Read : Council Lady Roxie Ndebumadu

Council Lady Roxie Ndebumadu

Thank you for your service and commitment to the City of Bowie and citizens of District 4.
Thanks for listening and responding to the voice of residents of District 4.

Dr. Betty Harris
Collington Manors

Awilda Hernandez

From: Sarah Earwicker <stinkypig@hotmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 31, 2020 10:10 PM
To: Public Info; Awilda Hernandez
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Bowie Ice Arena

Hello,

I am writing in regards to the Bowie Ice Arena. I was hoping I could have my letter read at the meeting on Monday, June 1st. I have been a resident of Bowie for 37 years and I currently am a regular user of the Bowie Ice Arena. I have a real fear that they will make a motion and vote to sell/lease our facility to Black Bear Sports, the owners of Piney Orchard. They should not be able to do this, because any sale of city property should go out to bid. The last public proposal was for a \$1.00 long-term lease of the building and all of its equipment with the organization taking over all operations and proceeds. The deal states that 2 million dollars will be spent in Capital Improvements to the Ice Arena. No one from the Black Bears organization has been inside of our facility or has done any research to see what repairs and renovations are needed.

Black Bear Sports Group, claim to be "experts" in the field. This company has only been in business for five years. They have also claimed to be the largest operator of ice arenas in the country. Again this is a false representation. FMC Sports operates 23 facilities and RMS operates 33. Black Bear Sports Group operates 15.

Our hope is to, of course, avoid the sale however, if that is inevitable the Council MUST do their due diligence and investigate all options.

In addition, here are some other issues that should be mentioned-

* The opponents of the Ice Arena listed their concerns as traffic on Church Road, the cost of the construction and future taxpayer subsidies. Canceling the ongoing project and mitigating the contract with Costello construction and redesigning the project for courts does not seem like it will save any money. Please provide real numbers for these costs. The traffic for courts will not be less than the traffic for an ice arena and in fact will create far more pedestrian traffic. Skaters do not walk or bike to the ice arena because the equipment is so cumbersome the same cannot be said for the children that will use the courts. The current ice facility was subsidized by slightly over \$300,000 last year. Most of that was due to the cost of maintaining a 50 year old building. The projections for the new two sheet facility clearly showed that the ice arena will create a profit for the city. The current gymnasium with subsidized by over \$700,000 last year proving that adding new courts will simply create a larger burden on the taxpayers.

* Why is the Ice Arena being held to a higher standard than any other city amenities? The existing gymnasium requires twice as much subsidies per year as the Ice Arena. The skate park, ballfields, Allen Pond, free concerts, and dog park generate no income and are completely funded by the taxpayers. Why aren't any of the other amenities within the City being considered for outsourced management? (Senior center, playhouse, etc.)

* The Bowie city motto states "Growth, Unity and Progress" By revisiting the decision on the Ice Plex you have stopped growth and have ignited hostility and division in the community. We have a diverse and progressive program that you are ending by stopping the project and considering a sale of the facility.

* There is a 50 year history of the Bowie Ice Arena that will end if you give up the city management. The Bowie Hockey Club, The Bowie Figure Skating County and the Bowie ISI Team will cease to exist. We will no longer be able to provide the community out reach and community affordability that we offer at this time.

* The Mayor promised that the ice community would receive a state of the art facility. If that means selling our facility and turning over operations to Black Bear Sports we would prefer a less expensive renovation of existing Ice Arena. If we wanted to skate at a facility run by a management group we would go to Piney Orchard.

* If the Council allows the sale of our facility to Black Bear Sports, it will not be a partnership it will be a takeover.

* The Council has promised that all staff will be retained, salaries will go up and all programs will be retained. The same was said before the purchase of Piney Orchard. The ISI program and team were disbanded. The skating director was demoted and at this point I believe fired. The Learn to Skate program was sold. The coaching staff for group lessons was cut in half. The hourly rate for rentals was drastically increased. The fact is, if The City chooses to turn over management and operations to a third-party they will have no control over staff, programs or

* It is not just about the increase in fees, although that is a very valid discussion. It is also about the personal customer experience I receive at Bowie.

I feel as though the City Council and the Mayor are not listening to the wishes of their residents. I believe what makes Bowie so great is the services and amenities it provides to the residents and non-residents. With the decisions that have been recently made, I feel like so much is being taken away and so much money is being wasted for absolutely no good reason. Please do not sell or take away the Bowie Ice Arena.

Thank you,
Sarah Earwicker
Mont Clare Lane
20715

**PRESIDING OFFICER'S WRITTEN STATEMENT FOR CLOSING A MEETING ("CLOSING STATEMENT")
UNDER THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT (General Provisions Article § 3-305)**

This form has two sides. *Complete items 1 – 4 before closing the meeting.*

1. **Recorded vote to close the meeting:** Date: 6-20; Time: _____; Location: City Hall;
Motion to close meeting made by: Woolfley Seconded by Gardner;
Members in favor: Nelson, Daulton, Gardner, Harrison, Gardner, Woolfley, Blore
Abstaining: _____; Absent: Adams

2. **Statutory authority to close session (check all provisions that apply).**
This meeting will be closed under General Provisions Art. § 3-305(b) only:

(1)___ "To discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom this public body has jurisdiction; any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals"; (2)___ "To protect the privacy or reputation of individuals concerning a matter not related to public business"; (3)___ "To consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related thereto"; (4)___ "To consider a matter that concerns the proposal for a business or industrial organization to locate, expand, or remain in the State"; (5)___ "To consider the investment of public funds"; (6)___ "To consider the marketing of public securities"; (7)___ "To consult with counsel to obtain legal advice"; (8) ☒ "To consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending or potential litigation"; (9)___ "To conduct collective bargaining negotiations or consider matters that relate to the negotiations"; (10)___ "To discuss public security, if the public body determines that public discussion would constitute a risk to the public or to public security, including: (i) the deployment of fire and police services and staff; and (ii) the development and implementation of emergency plans"; (11)___ "To prepare, administer, or grade a scholastic, licensing, or qualifying examination"; (12)___ "To conduct or discuss an investigative proceeding on actual or possible criminal conduct"; (13)___ "To comply with a specific constitutional, statutory, or judicially imposed requirement that prevents public disclosures about a particular proceeding or matter"; (14)___ "Before a contract is awarded or bids are opened, to discuss a matter directly related to a negotiating strategy or the contents of a bid or proposal, if public discussion or disclosure would adversely impact the ability of the public body to participate in the competitive bidding or proposal process." (15)___ "To discuss cybersecurity, if the public body determines that public discussion would constitute a risk to: (i) security assessments or deployments relating to information resources technology; (ii) network security information . . . or (iii) deployments or implementation of security personnel, critical infrastructure, or security devices."

Continued →

3. For each provision checked above, disclosure of the topic to be discussed and the public body's reason for discussing that topic in closed session.

Citation (insert # from above)	Topic	Reason for closed-session discussion of topic
§3-305(b) (8)	Discuss pending litigation	Potential Breach of Contract discussion
§3-305(b) ()		
§3-305(b) ()		
§3-305(b) ()		
§3-305(b) ()		

4. This statement is made by , Presiding Officer.

WORKSHEET FOR OPTIONAL USE IN CLOSED SESSION: INFORMATION FOR SUMMARY TO BE DISCLOSED IN THE MINUTES OF THE NEXT OPEN MEETING. (See also template for summary.)

- For a meeting closed under the statutory authority cited above:

Time of closed session: 9:12

Place: Bowie City Hall

Purpose(s): 8 - Discuss pending legislation litigation

Members who voted to meet in closed session: Ndehumpo Woolfley Harrison Gardner Esteve Dasso

Persons attending closed session: Dasso Ndehumpo Harrison Gardner Woolfley Mears Left Peterson Esteve Lohan Bolton

Authority under § 3-305 for the closed session: 8 - Discuss pending legislation

Topics actually discussed: Plan for potential breach

Actions taken: _____

Each recorded vote: _____

- For a meeting recessed to perform an administrative function (§ 3-104): Time: _____

Place: _____

Persons present: _____

Subjects discussed: _____