



City of Bowie

15901 Excalibur Road
Bowie, Maryland 20716

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, JUNE 15, 2020

CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

The Regular Meeting of the Bowie City Council was held on Monday, June 15, 2020 virtually. Mayor Adams called the meeting to order at 8:01 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG:

Mayor Adams led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

QUORUM:

In attendance were Mayor Adams, Councilmembers Bofo, Esteve, Gardner (Arrived 8:14 p.m.), 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 Bofo asked to move Item H Adoption of Resolution R-36-20 to under New Business Item C.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION:

1. Brian Suddeth, Brunswick Lane – Comment attached.
2. Tim Shellem, Governor Bridge Rd – Comment attached.
3. Jim Sichelman, Quintette Ln – Comment attached.
4. Lisa Behringer, Millstream Dr – Comment attached.
5. Christopher King, Morelock Ln – Comment attached.
6. Concerned Citizens of Districts 1-4 – Comment attached.

PRESENTATIONS:

Ms. Sue Livera, Chair of the Bowie Green Team Committee presented the 2020 Green Award to Ms. Ann Fleming.

Councilmember Esteve motioned to approve and present Proclamation P-7-20 to Former Mayor Gary Allen for his years of service to the City while serving on the Environmental Advisory Committee. Councilmember Woolfley seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mayor Adams spoke in support of the Black Lives Matter movement.

Councilmember Harrison asked Police Chief Nesky to speak briefly about the advantage of having School Resource Officers at the high school based on the decision the School Board had made of removing Resource Officers.

Mayor Pro Tem Boafo mentioned that bulk pick up in the City will go back to normal starting on July 1st.

Councilmember Ndebumadu is working with the Michaels Company to sponsor lunches to the healthcare workers in the City.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

City Manager Lott reported that City staff is in Phase II of the reconstitution plan associated with COVID-19 in conjunction with County Executive Alsobrooks plan. City Lobby will be open for certain business operations that are handled at the front windows while maintaining CDC guidelines.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Mayor Pro Tem Boafo motion the approval of Consent Agenda items: A) Approval of March 2 Meeting Minutes; B) Approval of March 16 Meeting Minutes; C) Approval of April 6 Meeting Minutes; D) Approval of April 13 Special Meeting Minutes; E) Approval of April 14 Special Meeting Minutes; F) Approval of April 20 Meeting Minutes; G) Approval of Proclamation P-6-20 Proclaiming June 22-28, 2020 as Pollinator Week in the City of Bowie; I) Adoption of Resolution R-39-20 Accepting Bid for the Pump Down, Hauling and Disposal of Scum from the Wastewater Treatment Plant and Sewer Pump Stations; J) Adoption of Resolution R-40-20 Accepting Bid of LED Street Lighting in the Oak Pond Neighborhood; K) Adoption of Resolution R-41-20 Accepting Bid for the Removal and Replacement of an Underground Storage Tank (UST) at the Public Works Department; L) Adoption of Resolution R-42-20 Authorizing the Issuance of a Purchase Order to Frederick Ward Associates for Task Order #1 Professional Services-Development Plan Review, Engineering and Design Services in Accordance With the Master Contract Approved on June 19, 2019; M) Adoption of Resolution R-43-20 Awarding a One-Year Contract for Landscape Maintenance Services for Mitchellville Road, Northview Drive/Evergreen Parkway, MD 450 Annapolis Road, and MD 197 Collington Road; N) Adoption of Resolution R-44-20 Authorizing the Issuance of a Purchase Order to Bay Land Consultants & Designs, Inc. for Task Order/RFP#3-05 in Accordance With the Master Contract Approved on November 6, 2018; O) Adoption of Resolution R-45-20 Accepting a Bid Proposal for Saddlebrook Stream Restoration and Pipe Crossing Project; P) Adoption of Resolution R-46-20 Authorizing the Issuance of a Purchase Order to George, Miles & Buhr, LLC for Task Order/RFP#1-04 in Accordance With the Master Contract Approved on October 31, 2018 Amendment to R-33-20 . Councilmember Woolfley seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

A. Adoption 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 – Finance Director Matthews summarized the staff report. During the fiscal year, it becomes necessary to transfer amounts within funds to provide for the proper operation of the City.

Public Hearing:

Since there were no comments submitted, Mayor Adams declared the Public Hearing to have been held.

Councilmember Woolfley moved the adoption of Ordinance O-5-20, Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Adoption 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. Mr. John King, City Economic Development Director, summarized the staff report. The implemented Program will assist our residents and businesses in recovering from the adverse economic impacts of the coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19). The enacted Ordinance will provide for the funding needed to implement the Program. The total amount requested to implement the Program is \$2,030,000.

Public Hearing:

1. Ames Perry, Food Resource LLC – Comment attached.
2. Sonya Hopson, Sage Services Group LLC – Comment attached.
3. Donna Wright, Aurora Technical Systems LLC – Comment attached.
4. Kevin Duncan, KDuncan & Co. – Comment attached.
5. Dr. Tisa Silver Canady, Silver Canady & Assoc. – Comment attached.
6. Al Conteh, Cyber Security Innovations – Comment attached.
7. Wanda Rogers, Pointer Ridge PI – Comment attached.
8. Pauline Markward, GBCC – Comment attached.
9. Marcia Lynch – Comment attached.
10. Nkem Zos, Unique Health Clinic – Comment attached.
11. Lisa Smith, Bowie BIC – Comment attached.

Since there were no more comments submitted, Mayor Adams declared the Public Hearing as being held.

Councilmember Ndebumadu proposed to lower the amount to \$1,355,000 broken down to \$1M for small businesses, \$200k to Bowie BIC, \$85k to GBCC, \$50k to the food pantry and \$20k for Employ Prince George's County.

Councilmembers Harrison and Gardner stated that they are against this program at the amount proposed, they feel that the tax burden cannot be put on the residents of the City. Councilmember Woolfley also expressed concern on the amount, maybe a tax deferral for businesses until after COVID-19 could be something he would support.

Councilmember Ndebumadu made a motion to adopt Ordinance O-6-20 with interlineation amendment and change in dollar amounts totaling \$715k. Mayor Pro Tem seconded the motion. Motion failed 4-3 (Gardner, Harrison, Woolfley). This ordinance needed a majority vote of at least 2/3 of the members of Council to pass. Councilmember Woolfley made a motion to adopt Ordinance O-6-20 with interlineation amendment and change in dollar amounts totaling \$355k. Councilmember Gardner seconded the motion. Motion failed 4-2-1 (Adams, Ndebumadu) (Boafo – Abstained). Councilmember Woolfley made a motion to adopt Ordinance O-6-20 with interlineation amendment and change in dollar amounts totaling \$270k (\$20k for Employ Prince George's; \$200k for Bowie BIC in conjunction to working with the Greater Bowie Chamber of Commerce; \$50k for the Bowie Food Pantry). Councilmember Gardner seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-2 (Adams, Ndebumadu).

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Draft Climate Action Plan – Mr. Gary Allen, Chair of the EAC and member Stephen Wehrenberg briefed Council on the Draft Climate Action Plan. The City's Sustainability Plan, as well as the Green Team Executive Committee's current work plan, both call for updating the City's Approved Climate

Action Plan in 2020. The City has completed all actionable items and continues to track the related performance indicators. The 2015 Climate Action Plan, now otherwise completed and closed out, will be updated in FY 2021. One of the most important recommendations is that the City adopt a plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions 50% below 2015 levels by 2030.

Public Hearing:

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

Councilmember Woolfley made a motion to accept the Draft Action Plan and have staff prepare approving resolution for July Council meeting. Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

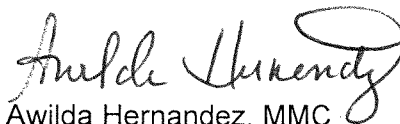
B. Adoption of Resolution R-37-20 Establishing the Bowie COVID-19 Business Recovery Assistance Program - Councilmember Woolfley made a motion to table this item to the July 6 Council meeting. Mayor Pro Tem Bofo seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

C. Adoption of Resolution R-36-20 Authorizing the City Manager to Take Temporary Ministerial Actions to Expedite the Recovery of Businesses – Councilmember Harrison made a motion adopt Resolution R-36-20. Councilmember Esteve seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Pro Tem Bofo motioned to adjourn the Regular City Council meeting. Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 12:43 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Awilda Hernandez, MMC
City Clerk

Comment 01: City Council--What Did You Know & When Did You Know It?

June 14, 2020 (6:51pm)

This comment is not only all about *What Did You Know and When Did You Know It*, but also about *What was your Duty to Know and When Did that Duty Start*. Everything you knew and when you knew it was known by each of you prior to your momentous vote on May 19, 2020.

Mayor Adams, and Council Members: Boafu, Esteve, Gardner, Harrison, Ndebumadu, and, Woolfley, your duty to know started on the very day of your election in November 2019. We know that you all were invited to attend numerous meetings with City Staff to ensure us, the citizens of Bowie, that you would thoroughly understand and would have financially analyzed all the programs and past actions of the prior City Council.

For example, you had briefings from City Staff about the condition and plan of action of the existing Ice Rink at Allen's pond, and also the plan of action by the past city council for having a first class Courts Facility in the available land of the Bowie Golf Course: For a two-courts structure with the ability to increase it to eight-courts.

We believe that you thoroughly understood what you heard and you acted with that understanding in mind. In July 2019, the prior City Council awarded a contract to Costello Construction, and that motion committed the City Council to deliver to you ready-to award bids on the First Class Courts Facility by January 2020. This is what you knew and when you knew it. A plan for **One-Bowie-Courts-and-Ice**. Had you merely carried out the gift given to you by the prior city council, the Courts facility would have been completed by January 1, 2021. A full six months before the two-sheet ice rink on Church Road.

As just stated, starting in November 2019, you knew that there was a construction contract awarded to Costello Construction to build the first leg of well-developed plan: Bowie Courts & Ice. That business plan was briefed to the prior city council in the Summer of 2019, and resulted in a super majority favorable vote. This has been either in your possession or has been sent to each of you, Mayor Adams and Council Members: Boafu, Esteve, Gardner, Harrison, Ndebumadu, and Woolfley several times prior to your vote on May 19, 2020. If you didn't understand this information, you were duty-bound to find answers to your questions, and to delve more deeply. And upon that knowledge, act responsibly to meet the recreational Courts and Ice needs of the 60,000 tax payers of Bowie. Those needs were set out in the 2013. You have that study. That study was the foundation and guidance for the prior City Council.

In addition to having briefings by City Staff and receiving documentation by both City Staff and by citizens who have first hand knowledge, a number of you had multiple and intense telephone conversations prior to your vote on May 19, 2020. We can only conclude that you knew and you acted with a full understanding of what was conveyed to you.

The next comment is to present all the components and the cost elements for both Courts and for Bowie Ice. The ice, by the way, in each of 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, and 2019 exceeded 19,000 paid attendances. By statistical analysis, Ice activities has a greater participation than all other Courts activities--combined. You know that because it came from City records and was included in the documentation that you, Mayor Adams, and Council Members: Boafu, Esteve, Gardner, Harrison, Ndebumadu, and Woolfley had prior to your vote on May 19, 2020.

S. Brian Suddeth
Brian@suddeth.com
12604 Brunswick Lane Bowie, MD 20715

Comment 02: Components And Elements of One Bowie Courts & Ice

June 14, 2020 (6:50pm)

This comment is focused on the three main components of One Bowie Courts and Ice. These are: The two-sheet Ice Rink, the Two-Courts Basketball building, and the Refurbishment of the Ice Rink at Allen's pond. It is presumed that this City Council knows all the facts contained in the prior comment and so they are not restated here.

Of course, Mayor Adams, and Council Members: Boafu, Esteve, Gardner, Harrison, Ndebumadu, and Woolfley, you already knew about all these components, the cost elements of each and their 30 year cost to the City. All of this was communicated to you in various forms by the staff of the City starting in November 2018, and through a number of different communications, verbally, in person, and through electronic means prior to your vote on May 19, 2020.

Provided in the table that follows are the three Components and the various Elements including their 30 year cost. Please note that all costs have been held constant over the full 30 years rather than projecting the effect of inflation and the like. That's because these other factors are unknowable but would have affected each component and its cost elements in the same way.

Component: Two Sheet Ice Rink on Church Road		
	Element	30 Year Cost
1.	Bond for Two-sheet Ice Rink on Church Road	\$24.5 M
2.	Projected Interest on 30 year Bond (3.055% 30 year bond)	\$21.6 M
3.	Expended monies plus Liquidated Damages and a result of cancellation of the Rink	\$12M
4.	Cost to remove construction foundations from Church Road Site and return it, e.g., to a Soccer Field.	\$500K
5.	Annual Operational Cost of 2-sheet Ice Rink	\$1M x 30 yrs = \$30M
6.	Annual estimate income from 2-sheet Ice Rink (90%)	\$900k x 30yrs = \$27M
7.	Annual estimate income from two tournaments (\$100K each)	\$200K x 30yrs = \$6M

Component: Two-Court Basketball Building	
Element	30 Year Cost
8. Cost to build a 2-Court Basketball building	\$10M
9. Projected Interest on 30 year Bond (3.055% 30 year bond) to build the 2-Court Basketball building	\$9M
10. Annual Operational Cost of Basketball Building	\$1M x 30yrs = \$30M
11. Annual estimate income from Basketball Building (20%)	\$200K x 30yrs = \$6M
Component: Refurbish Existing Ice Rink at Allen's Pond	
Element	30 Year Cost
12. Cost to Refurbish the Existing Bowie Ice Rink	\$23M
13. Projected Interest on 30 year Bond (3.055% 30 year bond) for Refurbishment of Existing Bowie Ice Rink	\$20M
14. Annual Operational Cost of Existing Bowie Ice Rink	\$1M x 30 yrs = \$30M
15. Annual income from the Existing Bowie Ice Rink (70%)	\$700K x 30 yrs = \$21M

In total, there are six scenarios. The first three scenarios, Basketball only, Two-sheet Ice Rink only, and Refurbish the Ice Rink at Allen's pond must be immediately discarded because they do not meet a critical component of the 2013 Recreational Sports Study, which is both Courts and Ice. Second, they must be discarded because both Courts and Ice is the policy by deed and action of this and all prior City Councils going back to the construction of the City Gym.

The immediately discarded three scenarios are:

Scenario 1

A) Build the Basketball 2-Court building on the Bowie Golf course that the city already owns. The 30 year cost is \$43.0 M. The cost is that high because the City Subsidy of operational costs is 80%.

Scenario 2

B) Build the 2-sheet Ice Rink at Church Road. The 30 year cost is \$43.1 M. The cost is that low because the City Subsidy of operational costs is projected to be 10%.

Scenario 3

B) Refurbish Existing Ice Rink at Allen's Pond. The 30 year cost is \$52.0 M. The cost is that high because the City Subsidy of operational costs has been set at 33%.

The three combination three scenarios are:

These three represent City Policy in word and deed are the ones that have been considered by both the immediately past City Council and also this City Council.

To guard against wasteful spending of taxpayers monies, you must select only the one that one that can both meet the needs of the 2013 study for Courts and for Ice.

To select a more expensive scenario without a corresponding increase in both physical plant and capabilities would be derelict in your duties as a City Council and also as the caretaker of City Taxes.

Scenario 4

A) Build the Basketball 2-Court building on the Bowie Golf course that the city already owns. The 30 year cost is Cost is \$43M.

B) Build the Church Road 2-Sheet Ice Rink. The 30 year cost is Cost is \$43.1M.

The total cost for this, the first combination scenario is \$86.1 M

Scenario 5

A) Build a Basketball 2-Court building on the Bowie Golf course that the city already owns. The 30 year cost is Cost is \$43M.

B) Refurbish Existing Ice Rink at Allen's Pond. The 30 year cost is \$52.0 M. The cost is that high because the City Subsidy of operational costs has been set at 33%.

The total cost for this, the second combination scenario is \$95.0 M

Scenario 6

- A) Start the Church Road 2-Sheet Ice Rink,
- B) Cancel the Church Road 2-Sheet Ice Rink Contract and "Eat" \$12M of already completed construction and liquidated damages,
- C) Remove Foundations from Church Road Site
- D) Build the Basketball 2-Court building at Church Road
- E) Refurbish the exist Ice Rink.

The total cost for this, the third combination scenario is \$102.65 M

The next three comments relate only to the Combination Scenarios.

Tim Shellem
tshellem@gmail.com
16417 Governor Bridge Rd
Bowie, MD 20716

Comment 03: Courts & Ice as Established by Prior City Council

June 14, 2020 (6:50pm)

This comment sets out the actions of the prior City Council as they struggled from 2013 through the middle of 2019 to determine the most cost-effective solution to the need for Courts and Ice in Bowie. It is presumed this City Council is entirely familiar with all the facts presented in the prior two comments so they are not restated here.

This struggle began with the 2013 Recreational Needs Study that stated that five courts and a two-sheet ice rink was needed to meet the needs of Bowie. This study, you, Mayor Adams, and Council Members: Boafu, Esteve, Gardner, Harrison, Ndebumadu, and Woolfley knew as it was in City records. It has been quoted, quite mistakenly, and then used as justification to accomplish elimination of this, the most cost-effective scenario of the three scenarios.

The struggle to set into action the 2013 Recreational Needs started in 2017. The City Council was presented with a set of A-G solution alternatives. Mayor Adams, and Council Members: Boafu, Esteve, Gardner, Harrison, Ndebumadu, and Woolfley these eight alternatives were known to you because of your attendance at the City staff presentations and because these alternatives were sent to you.

A key failing in the conclusions of the 2013 Recreational Needs Study had to be considered in 2017. It was that the 2013 study did not contain real-world estimates for both Courts and Ice. For example, In 1991, a single sheet ice rink for a college cost \$10M. The 2013 study predicted, 23 years later, that a two-sheet ice rink, one sheet NHL size and the other Olympic size was to cost about \$10M.

How is it possible that a two sheet ice rink, 23 years later would cost the same as a one-sheet ice rink 23 years earlier? Simple: It wasn't ever going to cost \$10M. The estimate was just flat wrong then and it is even more wrong now.

Additionally, for the prior city council to meet the recreational needs of the 2013 Study, it had to divide the project's facilities into two different ones at two different locations: one for Courts and another for Ice. Here are two key reasons for the division and location separation.

The first reason to divide one facility at Church Road into two was to lessen the quantity of traffic. Both Courts & Ice are essentially Fall, Winter, and Spring sports. That's double the traffic for practice, games, and tournaments.

Currently, neighbors of the Church Road Ice Rink bitterly complain about impending Ice Traffic. How much more would they complain if there was combined Courts & Ice traffic? Arguably, twice as loud and more.

Interesting, since the traffic for Courts and Ice were determined by the 2013 Recreational Needs Study for each to be the same for each sport, then, if traffic is unacceptable for Ice at Church Road, it must also be equally unacceptable for Courts. To believe otherwise is illogical.

The second reason to divide the one facility at Church Road into two was discovered some time after the property was purchased from MNCPPC. The site was determined not to be able to have a single facility for five-Courts and for two-sheet Ice. The land would not sustain such a facility.

One solution to the MNCPPC property problem was to have a facility for a single sheet of ice and two courts. That, however, would fail to meet the needs of the Courts community and fail to meet the needs of the Ice community. If, however, the facility was divided into two buildings at different locations that would meet the 2013 Recreational Study needs of both the Courts and the Ice communities. It would also, by definition decrease the two-sport traffic problem.

It was part of your duty to diligently study the record of the prior city council and to understand the full 2013 - 2019 record of their struggle to come up with the most cost-effective and least-disruptive solution to satisfy the needs set out in the 2013 Recreational Needs study. You, Mayor Adams, and Council Members: Boafu, Esteve, Gardner, Harrison, Ndebumadu, and Woolfley have embraced and quoted this 2013 study.

All of this is in city records and in presentations that several of you had since June of 2018, and all of you have had well before your May 19, 2020 vote.

In addition to all of the above, one of the considerations of the prior city council was set out as alternatives: A - G of a 2017 City Council meeting. Each alternative compared the costs and the pros and cons of eight different approaches. The most cost-effective one was chosen. Again, Mayor Adams, and Council Members Boafu, Esteve, Gardner, Harrison, Ndebumadu, and Woolfley you must have known this as it is in City records.

Scenario 4:

- A) Build the Basketball 2-Court building on the Bowie Golf course that the city already owns.
- B) Build the Church Road 2-Sheet Ice Rink

Element	Cost Formula	Cost Values	Value
A	(#8 + #9) + (#10 - #11)	(\$19) + (\$24)	\$43.0 M
B	(#1) + (#2) + (#5 - (#6 + #7))	(\$24.5) + (\$21.6) + (\$30M) - (\$27M - \$6M)	\$43.1 M
Total 30 Year Cost			\$86.1M

The cost elements are taken from the prior comment's Components and Cost Elements. As you can see, the overall 30 year cost to the City of Bowie for both Courts and Ice is \$86.1M

It must however be stated that the Courts facility intended for Bowie Golf Course was planned to be the first of a four pod solution. This first pod was to contain two-courts. Each subsequent pod, built to satisfy demand, would be the same, and upon the addition of Pod 3, a middle single-story structure of seating, sports shop, and snack bar was to be included.

When the eight courts facility are completed Bowie would be the Go-To Middle Atlantic Basketball tournament facility. Tournaments net between \$50-\$100 K per tournament into Bowie and businesses. Such a facility would, like the two-sheet ice rink, greatly reduce its yearly operational loss, which for Courts is projected to be an 80% or more loss each operational year.

Jim Sichelman
spqr2k@yahoo.com
12212 Quintette Ln
Bowie, MD 20720

Comment 04: Basketball Court and Refurbish Allen's Pond Ice Rink

June 14, 2020 (6:49pm)

This comment is not about to re-state the actions of the prior City Council as they struggled from 2013 through the middle of 2019 to determine the most cost-effective solution to the need for Courts and Ice in Bowie. It presumes, Mayor Adams, and Council Members: Bofo, Esteve, Gardner, Harrison, Ndebumadu, and Woolfley, that you already knew everything in the prior three comments because you recognized your duty to study the record of the prior council and to understand why their decision to pursue and to set into execution the most cost-effective of the three solutions.

This scenario sets out an alternative to having a two-sheet ice rink at Church Road. Instead, refurbish the existing Allen's Pond Ice Rink. It sets out the 30 year cost elements.

Please note that before you review this scenario's increased cost over the first scenario, please know that to accomplish it will require shutting down Ice in Bowie for two full years. That was the first reason why this scenario was rejected by the prior city council. The second rejection was that it would cost more--significantly more--than the first scenario, the two-sheet rink at Church Road.

Again this scenario was one of the A-G solution alternatives, Mayor Adams, and Council Members: Bofo, Esteve, Gardner, Harrison, Ndebumadu, and Woolfley these were known to you because of your attendance at the City staff presentations and your diligent review of the records of the prior City Council.

What is wrong with a Bowie Ice Rink at Allen's pond is contained in a 70 page study. You know about this because it is part of the City Record, City staff presentations and your diligent review of the records of the prior City Council.

Scenario 5

A) Build a Basketball 2-Court building on the Bowie Golf course that the city already owns. This is completely **independent** of "left over monies" due to the cancellation of the Church Road Ice Rink. That consideration is presented within Scenario 6.

B) Refurbish Existing Ice Rink at Allen's Pond.

Element	Cost Formula	Cost Values	Value
A	(#8 + #9) + (#10 - #11)	(\$19) + (\$24)	\$43
B	(#12 + #13) + (#14 - #15)	(\$23M + \$20M) + (\$30M - \$21M)	\$52.0M
Total Cost			\$95.0

The cost elements are taken from the prior comment's Components and Cost Elements. As you can see, the overall 30 year cost to the City of Bowie for both Courts and Ice is \$95.0 M.

As with the prior Scenario, the Courts facility intended for Bowie Golf Course is planned to be the first of a four pod solution. This first pod is to contain two-courts. Each subsequent pod, built to satisfy demand, would be the same, and upon the addition of Pod 3, a middle single-story structure of seating, sports shop, and snack bar is to be included.

When the eight courts facility is completed it would make Bowie the Go-To Basketball tournament facility in the Middle Atlantic. Tournaments bring in between \$50-\$100 K per tournament into city and surrounding businesses. Such a facility, like the two-sheet ice rink, would greatly reduce its yearly operational loss, which for Courts is projected to be an 80% or more loss each operational year.

Here are the following reasons why the 30-year cost of refurbish the Ice Rink at Allen's pond is so much more expensive than the 30-year cost of the brand new two-sheet ice rink at Church Road.

Please note that it is presumed that you, Mayor Adams, and Council Members: Bofo, Esteve, Gardner, Harrison, Ndebumadu, and Woolfley know all reasons because of your attendance at the City staff presentations. However, you may not have remembered some of the more key reasons, so here is the summary of why the refurbishment of the Ice Rink at Allen's Pond was rejected:

First, the existing Ice Rink at Allen's Pond has to be torn down first in order for it to be refurbished back to its 30+ year life. That's because its fundamental structure is wood. 50 year old wood. Its structure is a series of deeply buried telephone poles and an entirely made of wood roof structures. How long will that last? Who knows, except that it's already beyond its predicted life span. Not only that, every modern ice rink has a reflective inner liner that significantly reduces cost of ice refrigeration.

Arguably it might be proposed to spend several million dollars to sustain the existing Ice Rink at Allen's Pond for another five years. However, that does not address any of the reasons why any refurbishment must start with the wrecking ball. There is no guarantee with interim repairs.

Second after spending the several million dollars, the rink would have to be torn down and the entire cost of the refurbishment, \$23M or more, would have to be spent anyway. To state it as Mr. Woolfley so commonly says it, "it would be throwing good money after bad."

Third, the existing Ice Rink at Allen's Pond would only be one-sheet. There currently is limited seating capacity for attendees. A review at any competing Ice Rinks, such as Piney Orchard, Laurel, etc, their seating is greater in quantity, more comfortable, and heated. It is an ice rink.

Fourth, because the Ice Rink at Allen's Pond is only one-sheet, it is immediately ruled out as a location for any Ice League tournaments. Consequently Bowie would not have between \$50-\$100 K per tournament into city and surrounding businesses to reduce operational losses that currently require a 33% City Subsidy. While that's almost 3.5 times more than Courts, it's an operational loss nonetheless.

Lisa Behringer
lisabehringer@yahoo.com
12112 Millstream Dr
Bowie Md 20715

Comment 05: Cancel Church Road Ice Rink, Replace with 2 Basketball Courts and Refurbish Allen's Pond Ice Rink.

June 14, 2020 (6:51pm)

This comment does not restate the actions of the prior City Council as they struggled from 2013 through the middle of 2019 to determine the most cost-effective solution to the need for Courts and Ice in Bowie. It presumes, Mayor Adams, and Council Members: Boafu, Esteve, Gardner, Harrison, Ndebumadu, and Woolfley, that you already knew everything in the prior comments because you recognized your duty to study the record of prior council and you understood why their decision to pursue and to set into execution the most cost-effective scenario.

This scenario sets out an alternative to having a two-sheet ice rink at Church Road. It sets it out the 30 year cost elements.

This scenario resulted from the cancellation of the already under construction two-sheet ice rink at Church Road, absorbing the total costs of the contract cancellation, removal of all the two-sheet ice rink construction, the construction of a two-courts basketball facility, and finally the refurbishment of the existing Allen's Pond Ice Rink. Five distinct cost elements.

The costs of building the Basketball facility at Church road is the same as in Scenario 4 and Scenario 2 except that because of the nature of the Church Road site it may be the case that the one-pod two-court facility cannot be expanded to be a four-pod eight-court facility that was an integral part of Scenario 4 and 5. Even if not correct, each pod would be separately priced.

This scenario is additionally burdened by having all the same problems set out in Scenario 5 for the refurbishment of the existing Allen's Pond Ice rink. What is wrong with the Bowie Ice Rink at Allen's pond is set out in a 70 page study. You know about this study because it is part of the City Record.

This scenario was never even contemplated by the prior city council because they would have never started construction of the two-sheet ice rink and then cancelled it. Such a strategy would have not only been beyond reason but have been well beyond any cost-effective strategy.

Mayor Adams, and Council Members: Boafu, Esteve, Gardner, Harrison, Ndebumadu, and Woolfley all this had to have been known to you because of your attendance at the City staff presentations. The implications of the vote from four of the Council members at 5AM on May 19th, can only be that you had no idea of the consequences of your decision. One of the three council members voting against the cancellation of the two-sheet construction contract advised strongly that there be a careful study of all the implications and consequences of this action. Clearly, his sage advice was not heard.

Scenario 36

- A) Start the Church Road 2-Sheet Ice Rink,
- B) Cancel the Church Road 2-Sheet Ice Rink Contract and absorb \$12M of already completed construction and liquidated damages,
- C) Remove Foundations from Church Road Site
- D) Build the Basketball 2-Court building at Church Road and include any "left over monies" due to cancellation of the Church Road Ice Rink.
- E) Refurbish the exist Ice Rink.

Element	Cost Formula		Value
A	#1 + #2	\$24.5M	\$46.1M

B	#3	\$12M	\$12M
C	#4	\$500K	\$500K
D	#1 + #2 (#8 + #9) + (#10 - #11) #1 - #3 - #8 #2 - ((#1 - #8) * .9)	\$46.1M - (\$19) + (\$24) - \$24.5 - \$12 - \$10 - \$21.6 - (((\$24.5 - \$10) * .9)	\$-7.95M
E	#12 + #13 + (#14 - #15)	(\$23M + \$20M) + (\$30M - \$21M)	\$52M
Total			\$102.65 M

The cost elements are taken from the prior comment's Components and Cost Elements. As you can see, the overall 30 year cost to the City of Bowie for both Courts and Ice is \$102.65 M.

- Scenario 5 is 110.3 % the price of Scenario 4.
- Scenario 6 is 119.2 % the price of Scenario 4.

It is important to note that Scenario 4 does not **initially** meet the needs of Bowie's 2013. But with demand, the one-pod Basketball facility can be expanded to exceed the 2013 Recreational Needs. Ice needs are met.

It is important to note that Scenario 5 does not **initially** meet the Basketball needs of Bowie's 2013 Recreational Needs. But with demand, the one-pod Basketball facility can be expanded to exceed the 2013 Recreational Needs. Ice needs, however, cannot be met at all even in the face of \$12M increased cost.

The bottom line is this: To restore confidence in rational City Council decision making, and to meet the 2013 Recreational Needs of Bowie, the following actions must immediately be taken by this City Council:

- Vote to reconsider the Motion taken at the May 19th meeting regarding cancellation, and pass it 7-0.
- Re-Vote the Motion taken at the May 19th meeting regarding cancellation and have it fail by a vote of 0-7.
- Engage with Costello Construction to re-start the construction of the two-ice sheet at Church Road and finish the development of a biddable specification as required by the prior City Council by January 2020 for the first-pod of Courts at the Bowie City Golf Course.

Christopher King
3505 Morelock Lane
Bowie, Maryland 20715
chrking33@hotmail.com

Awilda Hernandez

From: Milly Hall <hallmilly@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2020 5:00 PM
To: Awilda Hernandez; cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Conduct Unbecoming of an A-Large City Council Member on May 18, 2020

June 15, 2020

Please read for Citizen Participation - Thank you.

Respectfully submitted by Concerned Citizens from District 1, District 2, District 3 and District 4.
Please read names.

Good evening Mayor, City Council members and City Manager,

This letter is concerning the May 18, 2020 Budget meeting, specifically the outburst of profanity used by At-Large Councilmember Henri Gardner. His unprofessional and disrespectful demeanor reflected poorly on the office he holds. Every elected official represents his/her entire electorate and owes them the full respect and decency in how they present themselves and particularly their conduct.

The ability to maintain professional decorum and emotional restraint is expected from any person in the workplace. Such behavior would not be tolerated in any place of work without dismissal. Somehow we have placed someone in office who is unable or unwilling to conduct themselves professionally.

There will undoubtedly be many more issues before the city council where there will be more than one side. The very nature of public office is to be able to debate honorably and fairly and to handle disagreement and adversity in a professional manner.

Mr. Gardner's demonstration of public anger showed disrespect not only to other elected representatives on the council and the duly elected Mayor but also to the citizenry who elected him. Failure to address this behavior creates an environment that encourages even more disrespect and unacceptable outbursts from the Councilman. A clear message must be sent that this type of behavior will not be tolerated and Councilmembers will be held accountable for their actions.

The bottom line is that there has to be some corrective actions taken to discourage the Councilmember from any future unprofessional and disrespectful behavior. Elected officials must adhere to a high standard of code of ethics/conduct. Their action and words must promote an environment of inclusivity and community for the City of Bowie and its citizens.

We the residents of District 1, 2, 3 and 4 expect a public apology to the Mayor and District 4 Councilwoman.
Thank you

Respectfully submitted by Concerned Citizens of District 1, District 2, District 3 and District 4. Please read names:

Greg Green
Michael Brown
Destini Collins
JoAnn Marshall Hobbs
Milly Hall
Robin Choice-Woodson
Carrie Bridges
Melissa Richardson
Karen Williamson
Brenda James
Barbarol James
Darryl Brown
Vikki Brown
Sonia McClain
Kevin Doby
Puria Jackson
Viola Underdue
Gail Elkins
Maceio Choice
Monica Roebuck
Jasmin S. Hall
Aaliyah Jackson
John McCoy
Nicole Belle
Lin McGill
Michele Howard-Lawson
Dominique Choice
Richard Alexandra
Narvell Hall
Jacqueline Herbon
Craig Herbon
Thomas Proctor
Velma Jackson
Cassandra Brooks

foodresource llc

Center for Business and Graduate Studies – Suite 2320
Bowie State University
14000 Jericho Park Road
Bowie, MD 20715 USA
301.383.1481

To: Tim Adams, Mayor of Bowie, MD
From: Ames Perry, Director, foodresource, llc

Hello Mayor Adams.

I am the director of **foodresource, llc**, a women-owned, small business operating at the Bowie Business Innovation Center (Bowie BIC). I am also a longtime resident of Bowie. I am writing to ask that you approve the COVID-19 Business Recovery Assistance Program.

My company, **foodresource**, provides consultation on nutrition labeling to food manufacturers all over the country. We support many food manufacturers who are crucial to the country's food supply. Our clients are starting to feel the effects of the economic downturn and the ripple effect is now having a negative impact on our cash flow.

Since the pandemic shut down in mid-March, we have been unable to use our office in the BIC center at Bowie State University. This has made it difficult for some of our staff members to do their jobs, thus limiting the hours we can pay those staffers.

We hope to keep our doors open because **foodresource** provides services to essential businesses. To do this, we need help in the form of the grants and additional business assistance that the Business Recovery Assistance Program would provide.

Respectfully,

Ames

Ames Perry
Director/Label Guru

301.383.1481 (o)
301.602.1316 (c)



June 11, 2020

To: Mayor Adams and the Bowie City Council

My name is Sonya Hopson, CEO of Sage Services Group LLC. Sage is a Bowie-based, minority, woman-owned business that started in May 2010. We are also a Graduate of the Bowie Business Innovation Center (Bowie BIC) located at Bowie State University.

I am in strong agreement with the Council establishing the Bowie Business Recovery Fund and **ask that you vote to approve it**. My company, along with many in this community, would immediately benefit from the access to grant funding and expanded business assistance services included in this initiative, because they would help us maintain and strengthen our operations.

Our business specializes in providing engineering and training services to federal agencies. Since the stay at home order in March, and now the phased recovery plan, our company has transitioned all work activities to teleworking. This means we purchased a collaboration platform for internal operations. We also purchased a training platform that will allow for virtual training, which is compatible with federal and state information security requirements. This has led to increased equipment costs and increased labor hours to manage the conversions.

The Business Recovery grant funding, along with the expanded business assistance programs delivered by Bowie BIC and the Greater Bowie Chamber of Commerce through this initiative would accelerate our recovery and improve our ability to continue to be a small business economic engine for the City of Bowie.

I appreciate your consideration of my request.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "SH", followed by a horizontal line extending to the right.

Sonya Hopson
President/Owner
Sage Services Group LLC



June 11, 2020

Roxy Ndebumadu, Councilmember
City of Bowie
15901 Excalibur Road
Bowie, Maryland 20716

Subject: Bowie Business Recovery Plan

Dear Councilmember Ndebumadu,

My name is Donna Wright and I am the President of Aurora Technical Systems located in Bowie, Maryland. Aurora was founded in 2011 and is an SBA certified 8(a) and Small Woman-Owned Business, and a graduate of the Bowie BIC 8(a) Accelerator Program. I am also a long time Bowie resident and alumnus of Bowie State University. I am in favor of the Bowie City Council establishing the Bowie Business Recovery Fund and I recommend that you vote to support it. My company would greatly benefit from the grants and business assistance.

As a small business we face extreme challenges managing operations in getting work, recruiting and retaining qualified staff and offering competitive compensations. To stay competitive, we operate under limited profit margins. We experienced significant losses to business income and reduction in employees and 1099 staff hours when work abruptly ended due to COVID-19 Pandemic. A major portion of our work is consulting services performed nationally at Government prime contractor locations. When our customers closed their offices, four of our six projects were affected resulting in over 65% loss of business income between March and June 2020. We do not know if or when the work will be reinstated. To get contracts, we incur considerable expenses in marketing, recruiting, travel and training, therefore when customers eliminate the work, we are unable to recover the investment made to get the contract.

As a result of the COVID-19, our needs include:

- Office technology to support a remote work environment;
- Website upgrades to increase company presence in acquiring new work;
- Revised marketing strategy focused on the "new normal" for work environment and customer needs;
- Assistance in maintaining ongoing basic business expenses such as employee healthcare.

Thank you for your consideration of my request and I hope that you will vote to establish the Bowie Business Recovery Fund.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Donna R. Wright'.

Donna R. Wright, President
Aurora Technical Systems, LLC

Awilda Hernandez

From: Rosann Ndebumadu
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 3:08 PM
To: Awilda Hernandez
Subject: Fwd: {EXTERNAL}: Business Recovery Plan

All my best,

Councilwoman Ndebumadu

From: Kevin Duncan <kevin@kduncan.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 2:59:30 PM
To: Rosann Ndebumadu <rndebumadu@cityofbowie.org>
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Business Recovery Plan

Financial Consulting
for Government Agencies and Contractors.

KDuncan & Company
14000 Jerico Park Road, CBGS 2306
Bowie, MD 10715
www.kduncan.com

KDUNCAN
& COMPANY

June 11, 2020

Roxy Ndebumadu, District 4
Councilmember
Bowie, MD.

Dear Ms. Ndebumadu,

I am the owner of an accounting firm located in the Business Innovation Center (BIC) on the campus of Bowie State University. My firm relocated from Silver Spring in March. I am writing to add my voice to the discussion as you consider financial relief programs for businesses dealing with the pandemic.

Below is my list of challenges brought on by the pandemic:

- Mail forwarding from the US Postal service has been horrendous. Thus, getting checks from clients has been extremely difficult; creating a substantial hit on our cash flow.
- My staff has been unable to meet and project manage engagements, in person; making us less efficient and those engagements less profitable.
- We had planned on hiring an intern from the Bowie State Business School to assist with our marketing programs. Not being able to do this has slowed our marketing processes.

For K Duncan and other small businesses, valuable assistance could come in the form of:

- Business grants at \$10,000/business
- Short-term loans with terms between 12 and 24 months.

Your consideration is greatly appreciated.

Your truly,

Kevin Duncan, CPA MBA
Principal



SILVER CANADY & ASSOCIATES

June 11, 2020

Hello Mayor Adams and Councilmembers,

I hope this message finds you doing well.

I was pleased to learn that you are considering recommendations on how the City may assist businesses that are being adversely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. I am in strong agreement with the City Council establishing the Bowie Business Recovery Fund and I ask that you vote to approve it.

My company, along with many in this community, would immediately benefit from access to grant funding and expanded business assistance services that would be provided by Bowie BIC and the Greater Bowie Chamber of Commerce through this initiative. The Bowie Business Recovery Fund would help me maintain and strengthen my business operations in Bowie.

At the start of the year, I moved my business, Silver Canady & Associates, LLC, onto the campus of Bowie State University as a resident of the Bowie BIC. Since then, many aspects of my business have been significantly impacted by the pandemic.

I began 2020 working on a 12-month research contract in my specialty, postsecondary financial education. After stay at home orders were enacted, the contract was extended from 12 to 18 months at the same funding level. This one change caused a monthly revenue decrease of more than 30 percent. At the same time, I had works in production that required upfront investment.

I am grateful that although business activities have slowed, they did not come to a complete halt. At one point, this was a real and unnerving possibility. For the meantime, I have adapted to doing more with less but without compromising the standard of excellence I have committed to provide for my clients.

As you are aware, many business owners are experiencing similar distress. Expenses are up, revenues are down, and financial support is needed but often out of reach. My business was formed two years ago and for now, I am the only employee. As such, it has been deemed ineligible for many of the largest relief programs. Please address the needs of many "solo" entrepreneurs like me, who are working to grow their businesses and want to maintain their professional presence in the City of Bowie.

In any case, as a resident of the City and a client of the Bowie BIC, I urge Council to vote to approve the Bowie Business Recovery Fund to support Bowie's businesses today and help us strengthen our operations for the future.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Best,

Dr. Tisa Silver Canady
Founder and Managing Director
Silver Canady & Associates, LLC

Awilda Hernandez

From: Rosann Ndebumadu
Sent: Friday, June 12, 2020 12:03 PM
To: Awilda Hernandez
Subject: Fwd: {EXTERNAL}: Support for Bowie Business Recovery Initiative

All my best,

Councilwoman Ndebumadu

From: Tisa Silver Canady <tisa.silver@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 12, 2020 11:37:21 AM
To: Rosann Ndebumadu <rndebumadu@cityofbowie.org>
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Support for Bowie Business Recovery Initiative

Hello Councilmember Ndebumadu,

I hope this message finds you doing well.

I was pleased to learn that you are considering recommendations on how the City may assist businesses that are being adversely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. I am in strong agreement with the City Council establishing the Bowie Business Recovery Fund and I ask that you vote to approve it.

My company, along with many in this community, would immediately benefit from access to grant funding and expanded business assistance services that would be provided by Bowie BIC and the Greater Bowie Chamber of Commerce through this initiative. The Bowie Business Recovery Fund would help me maintain and strengthen my business operations in Bowie.

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In any case, as a resident of the City and a client of the Bowie BIC, I urge Council to vote to approve the Bowie Business Recovery Fund to support Bowie's businesses today and help us strengthen our operations for the future.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Best,

Dr. Tisa Silver Canady
Founder and Managing Director
Silver Canady & Associates, LLC



Cyber Security Innovations

June 11, 2020

To: City Council

Subject: Support for Bowie Business Recovery Initiative

Hello,

My name is Alusine (Al) Conteh and I am the owner of Cyber Security Innovations. Cyber Security Innovations (CSI) LLC is an SBA certified 8(a) small business that specializes in designing, building, implementing, and maintaining cybersecurity solutions that address distinct needs of organizations. I am writing to support the City's Economic Development Committee's recommendation to establish a Bowie Business Recovery Fund as a client of the Bowie BIC.

The proposed Bowie Business Recovery initiative specifically includes funding for Bowie BIC and the Greater Bowie Chamber of Commerce to expand technical assistance programming that will strengthen and build resiliency for Bowie companies like CSI, to ensure that we move successfully into post-COVID-19 business operations. This funding would specifically allow Bowie BIC and the Greater Bowie Chamber of Commerce to provide new Business Recovery webinars, an expanded Entrepreneur Open Door program with new sessions with professionals for online marketing, business strategy and specific government contracting topics (law, cost accounting and market intelligence), plus the first Bowie Business CEO Accelerator.

I am confident that approving funding for Bowie Business Recovery Initiative will allow businesses in the community to grow and reach new heights, thus furthering the community and the city of Bowie.

Alusine Conteh



Al Conteh
President & CEO
CISSP, CEH, CND, CRISC
Phone: (202) 450-9454
SBA Certified 8(a) Firm
www.csinnovations.net

Phone: 202-559-9096

Email: info@csinnovations.net

www.csinnovations.net

Awilda Hernandez

From: Pauline K. Markward <pkm@bowiechamber.org>
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2020 11:25 AM
To: Awilda Hernandez
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: COVID-19 Business Testimony
Attachments: RTS COVID 19 Impacts.docx

From: Wanda Rogers [mailto:singing37@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2020 11:30 AM
To: pkm@bowiechamber.org
Subject: COVID-19 Impacts

Hi Pauline:

Attached is a summary of the impacts that the COVID-19 virus had on my small business.

Wanda

Wanda Rogers, Realtor
Office Manager
Realty Transaction Services, Inc.
1522 Pointer Ridge Place, Suite I
Bowie, MD 20716
(240) 606-4602
wrogers@RTS2000.com
"Your Neighborhood Real Estate Professionals"



Virus-free. www.avg.com

IMPACT OF COVID-19

REALTY TRANSACTION SERVICES

Factors Negatively Impacting Real Estate Sales

According to a **National Association of Realtors March 2020 survey**, nearly half of Realtors responded that “home buyer interest has decreased due to the Coronavirus outbreak.” Decreased buyer activity can be attributed to economic fears, furloughs, and social distancing.

Mortgage rates dropped, but the pandemic made mortgage credit harder to get.

Residential housing inventory is tight. Available homes were either taken off the market or shown solely by pictures or virtual tours.

Before the pandemic unemployment was low, wages were increasing, and mortgage rates were low. Now unemployment is the highest its been since the Great Depression.

Home builder supplies were disrupted, delaying new home construction.

Realty Transaction Services Impacts

The aforementioned factors all had a negative impact on income for Realty Transaction Services. Agents worked from home and did not meet clients face-to-face. Buyers, uncertain of employment income, stopped actively looking for homes. Sellers in fear of the virus, would not allow showings. Virtual showings, which are more costly, were used. Occupied homes were not shown. Greater demand on the internet. More bandwidth was necessary to ensure large files could be sent and received. Electronic signature software used. Electronic notary was permitted by the State of Maryland.

Cashflow dried up for Realty Transaction Services because transactions preparing to settle fell through. Payments for rent and utilities were delayed or minimum payments made. Fortunately, the utility companies were considerate of impacts of the virus.

Applying for COVID-19 assistance we fairly easy on the federal level, but minimum funds were provided because we do not have W-2 employees.

Applying for COVID-19 relief on the State and local (county) level was much more difficult. Requirements for statements and documents normally not used by sole proprietorships was problematic and therefore not completed or not completed correctly, respectively.

Awilda Hernandez

From: Pauline K. Markward <pkm@bowiechamber.org>
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2020 1:38 PM
To: Awilda Hernandez
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: COVID 19 Business Testimony

To Whom It May Concern,

We are a 501(c)3 environmental education organization based in the Bowie area. We have been operating since 2002 and became a nonprofit in 2010. We serve early childhood centers, schools (public and private), adult facilities (assisted living, Alzheimer's, nursing care), birthday parties and community events, such as the Bowie Green Expo, Bowie Fest and Bowie International Festival. Most of our operating costs are covered by our program fees. We have received some donations. We keep our fees as low as possible to work with the funding of schools and early childhood centers. We work individually with each adult center's activities budget as they are different depending upon the size and location of the facility. Since March 13th of this year, we have been unable to present our regularly scheduled programs. April-August is our busiest time of the year and we already began booking for spring and summer programs in January and February. Our programs have live animal ambassadors that we use to enhance our programs and to teach understanding, respect, and stewardship. We have over 100 animal ambassadors that are both native and nonnative species. Most of our ambassadors come to us from shelters and rescues. We are a small organization of 5 staff (full and part time), but we served over 27,000 people in 2019 with 707 programs. We were on track to surpass both sets of numbers for 2020 based on already created invoices/contracts. Because of COVID-19 we have come to a grinding halt. Half of my staff are unable to work as hours are based on programs scheduled. The other part of the staff has reduced hours and are mainly doing animal care rather than the educational programs. We have no new income coming in, yet we must take care of the animal ambassadors and maintain them in top quality care. We are operating on funds from 2019 and the early part of 2020.

We have been unable to secure grants during this time as we are not a first responder type group. We have been unable to secure funding through the Prince George's Economic Department 'grant' as that is only available to for-profit businesses and they have nothing for nonprofits. Most of my staff live in different counties and therefore are ineligible for anything that Prince George's County has to offer for employees that are unable to work at their Prince George's County based job. We did secure a loan through the PPP of SBA, but that is only for a few weeks.

Even though the state is starting to go through the recovery phases, we will be impacted further than traditional businesses. Adult centers are within the last phase of recovery as they are the most vulnerable. We have been exploring doing virtual programs for our clients. But most adult centers do not have the tech to share virtual programs and they are not at the point of small group activities. Also, most of our clients are not going to get the same enrichment from a computer screen or smartphone screen as they would with an instructor and animal ambassador to interact with them in person. Even though daycares/early childhood centers are starting to reopen for families, most are not doing any kind of in-house visits from vendors. Many of our regular early childhood center clients that we have visited for years are not planning to even be open during the summer. And virtual visits are not possible with many sites.

We need funds to cover animal care and payroll through the summer and possibly into the fall. We are being proactive in thinking what we can do to serve our clients through new programming techniques. However, to create quality virtual programs will require updating existing program designs to be virtual, which in turn requires equipment and funding that we do not currently have. We have always been more hands on and low

tech in our programs, but that will need to be adjusted in order to keep pace and be appealing to clients as they are also looking into new avenues of enriching programs that their students and residents need.

Thank you,

Echo Uzzo
Education Director

--

Echo Uzzo
Echoes Of Nature

We bring people back in touch with the wonders of the natural world!

Use Smile when shopping on Amazon and support our mission.

<http://smile.amazon.com/ch/27-4361114>

<http://www.EchoesOfNature.org>

301-860-1306



Virus-free. www.avg.com

Awilda Hernandez

From: Pauline K. Markward <pkm@bowiechamber.org>
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2020 1:39 PM
To: Awilda Hernandez
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Covid -19 Business Testimony

I work for a Credit Union in Prince George's County in the Business Development unit. Most of our business, 85% is conducted on- site at various Federal Government Agencies. Like all Government employees, we are not allow in the buildings and a majority of employees aren't there either. *We must find virtual solutions to reach our member base for new members.* We are uncertain as to what capacity business will return.

Thank you!

Marcia Lynch CUBDP
Business Development Manager
FedChoice Federal Credit Union
Tel: 301.699.6100x4761
Fax: 301.699.6137
Email: mlynch@fedchoice.org
fedchoice.org

FedChoice - Altogether Better!

We Want to **Save You Money** - [Learn More About How We Could Help!](#)

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Virus-free. www.avg.com

Awilda Hernandez

From: Pauline K. Markward <pkm@bowiechamber.org>
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2020 1:39 PM
To: Awilda Hernandez
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: FW: COVID 19 Business Testimony

How has COVID 19 affected your business?

Covid-19 pandemic has impacted my business significantly. We have a specialty in Family medicine and mental health psychiatric services combined.

Once the door was closed due to COVID-19, there was an increase in the call volume for patients who were experiencing COVID-19 associated panic attacks and anxiety. Immediately, the practice had to find another channel to engage the patients, providing them the critically needed support and coping skills, especially those with mental health challenges. Some were seen via telemedicine and kept stable.

The practice has been weighing the challenges of opening without adequate staffing and resources needed to ensure the safety of the patients. The practice lost most of the staff members due to COVID-19 closure. The practice is presently behind by 3 months of office rent.

What my business needs to survive the crisis.:

The data available has shown that proper hand washing, social distancing, mask, and gloves can help decrease the spread of COVID-19.

The practice will need funds to add a countertop shield in the front office to allow proper social distancing between the staff and the patients. Front door personnel will need to be hired to ensure compliance with a face mask, hand sanitizer, assess temperature and assess COVID-19 symptoms to determine the appropriate intervention.

Our patients need therapeutic support at this critical time, the practice needs funds to rehire the therapists for continued patient support. The safety of the patients and staff is our top priority and the main objective, hence, we are sharing our experiences and needs to survive the COVID-19 crisis. My bank is no longer accepting applications for the SBA loan at this time and I have no other source of funding these needs presently. I truly appreciate the opportunity to share how my business has been affected by COVID-19. Thank you so much and stay safe.

Regards!

Nkem Zos, CRNP-PMH, MSN
Unique Health Clinic, LLC
Specialized in Family and psychiatric health services
4000 Mitchellville Road, Suite # 220
Ph: 301.769.6558 | **Fax:** 301.560.8400
www.uniquehealthclinic.com
medpointbehavioralhealthservices.com
"Your Partner For A Better Health"



June 15, 2020

Mayor Timothy Adams
And City Councilmembers
City of Bowie
15901 Excalibur Road
Bowie, MD 20716

Re: **Bowie COVID-19 Business Recovery Program**

Dear Mayor Adams and Bowie City Councilmembers:

I am writing to to ask that you approve the Bowie COVID-19 Business Recovery Program recommended by the City's Economic Development Committee (EDC) and that you direct City staff to implement this program. As the Executive Director of the Bowie Business Innovation Center (Bowie BIC), a hub for business acceleration for Bowie businesses, I have seen the need for the proposed Business Recovery Program come into sharper focus for the Bowie businesses we are assisting --with every passing week since March 16.

The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on our small businesses in Bowie is unprecedented and their need for financial support and additional business assistance continues to grow.

Our professional counselors with the U.S. Small Business Development Center, Women's Business Center and Procurement Technical Assistance Center all report a surge in business requests for their counseling services. Bowie BIC's free Entrepreneur Open Door sessions with professional service providers (accountants, attorneys, etc.) is oversubscribed and we are doubling the number of sessions we schedule each month. And we must be prepared to do more.

The Bowie COVID-19 Business Recovery Program is an investment in the future and the resilience of our small businesses. I appreciate your consideration of my request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lisa S. Smith".

Lisa S. Smith
Executive Director