



City of Bowie

15901 Excalibur Road
Bowie, Maryland 20716

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2021

CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

The Regular Meeting of the Bowie City Council was held on Tuesday, September 7, 2021, in the Council Chambers at City Hall. Mayor Adams called the meeting to order at 8:02 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, Harrison, Ndebumadu, and Woolfley, City Manager Lott, Assistant City Manager Mears, City Attorney Levan, City Clerk Hernandez, and Staff.

AGENDA ADDITIONS/DELETIONS/AMENDMENTS:

Councilmember Ndebumadu requested to move Consent Agenda Item C Approval of Resolution R-54-21 Awarding a Contract for City of Bowie Branding Initiative to the September 20 meeting under Old Business, Council was in concurrence with this.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION:

City Clerk Hernandez stated that 22 comments were received via email and they will be included as part of the record. (Comments attached)

1. Michael Gorman, Athea Ln – Commented on keeping an ice arena in the City.
2. Abby Snyder, York Ln - Commented on keeping an ice arena in the City.
3. Lina Younes, Bracken Ct. – Comment attached.
4. Aidan Gunn, Reston Ln - Commented on keeping an ice arena in the City.
5. Josh Baltimore, Afton St. - Commented on keeping an ice arena in the City.
6. Keivonn Woodard - Commented on keeping an ice arena in the City.
7. Evan Doe, Wander Dr. - Commented on keeping an ice arena in the City.
8. Joshua Dixon - Commented on keeping an ice arena in the City.
9. Deana Mobley - Commented on keeping an ice arena in the City.
10. Wonderlin Vargas, Knowledge Ln – Commented on assistance for a tree removal on her property.
11. Aftan Sylvester – Commented on assistance for tree removal on her parent's property.
12. Lisa Couture, Connor Dr. - Commented on keeping an ice arena in the City.
13. Lori Jones, President Bowie Hockey Club - Commented on keeping an ice arena in the City.
14. Logan Dougy - Commented on keeping an ice arena in the City.

PRESENTATIONS:

Councilmember Gardner presented a proclamation to Bruster's Ice Cream recognizing them on their service to the community.

CITY BOARDS AND COMMITTEES:

Councilmember Woolfley made a motion to appoint Mr. Robert Kellaway to the Green Team Executive Committee for a 2-year term. Councilmember Esteve seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0 (Boafo, Ndebumadu – did not vote). Mayor Adams swore in Mr. Kellaway to the Green Team Executive Committee.

COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mayor Adams reminded residents of the observance of the 20th Anniversary of 9/11 and asked to have a moment of silence at 8:46 a.m. which is the time the first plane crashed into one of the Twin Towers.

Councilmember Esteve invited residents to attend the Old Bowie Festival on Saturday, September 18 from 11:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Councilmember Gardner informed residents of the Friday night movies held at Allen Pond park.

Councilmember Harrison encouraged residents to sign up for Bowie Alerts.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

City Manager Lott reported that 93% of City employees have been vaccinated.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Councilmember Woolfley made a motion to approve Consent Agenda items: A) Approval of August 2, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes; B) Adoption of Proclamation P-19-21 Proclaiming September 2021 as National Preparedness Month in the City of Bowie; D) Adoption of Resolution R-55-21 Accepting Bid for Design Build Services for Improvements to Pump Station #8; E) Adoption of Resolution R-56-21 Awarding a Contract for Ground Maintenance Services; F) Introduction of Ordinance O-4-21 Amending Bowie City Code Chapter 19A, "Procurement Procedures", Article I, "Procurements Generally", Section 19A-1, "Purposes", Section 19A-4, "Competitive Bidding", and Section 19A-6 "Open Market Procedures", to Delete Requirements Relating to Newspaper Publication of Notices Relating to Procurements. Councilmember Harrison second the motion. Motion passed 6-0 (Ndebumadu – did not vote).

OLD BUSINESS:

A. Bowie Ice Arena - Mr. Tom Betti, Lead Project Architect, and partner with the 292 Design Group briefed Council on the condition's assessment of the current ice arena. The building as well as the site needs extensive repairs and upgrades to make it an up to code and functioning ice rink. The estimated cost to repair the existing building is \$27,395,957.11 and it will be done in phases. Overall length of time could be up to 3 years. A new smaller ice rink could also be built at a new location for an estimated cost of \$11.6M which can vary depending on site costs, hot market and included amenities.

Councilmember Esteve asked how long the existing facility can last structurally. Mr. Betti responded that it depends on several factors but with current conditions will be about a year or two. Councilmember Esteve then asked staff how long it will take to analyze locations other than Church Road, that would be able to accommodate a smaller ice arena. City Manager Lott replied it would be a 4 to 5-month timeframe.

City Manager Lott also stated that the main delay the City had in construction of the ice arena at the Church Road location was due to the time it took to finalize all permits from the County's Department of Permitting, Inspections and Enforcement. It was almost a six-month process before permits were finalized and we had approval to begin construction.

Councilmember Woolfley stated that it is obvious that it does not make sense to repair the existing building and it needs to be replaced. It has been a great asset for the community.

Mayor Adams reiterated to the residents that he believes not one member of this Council is against ice in the City.

Councilmember Harrison asked how much the cost of DPIE on the Church Road construction was and what was the timeframe. City Manager Lott responded it was about \$400k and 6 months.

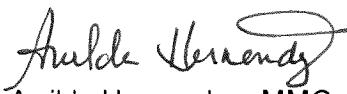
Councilmember Gardner commented that he would like to come to a decision this evening or to hold a Special Meeting in the next few days to finalize and make a decision on what will be done in regards to the ice arena; too much time and money has already been wasted. Councilmember Gardner also asked staff how much money is left of the initial \$24M bond that was taken out for this project. City Manager Lott responded approximately \$18M and of that amount Council agreed to use some of the money to cover other CIP projects in this year's budget in order to not raise property taxes, which leaves about \$11M.

Council concurred to move this item to the September 20 meeting for discussion and action.

ADJOURNMENT AND MOVE TO CLOSED SESSION:

Mayor Pro Tem Boafo motioned to adjourn the Regular City Council meeting and move to Close Session under the statutory authority of the Md. Annotated Code, State Government Article §3-305(b)(7): "To consult with counsel to obtain legal advice," and §3-305(b)(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. Councilmember Woolfley second the motion. Motion passed 7-0. The meeting adjourned at 10:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Awilda Hernandez, MMC
City Clerk

Awilda Hernandez

From: Sonia McLain <smith1851@aol.com>
Sent: Friday, September 3, 2021 3:43 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Fwd: Bowie Ice Arena

Hi Councilmembers,

Is there still an opportunity to partner with MNCPPC (property near the golf course off 197?), on this project ... and for it to be a multi-purpose facility (rink, courts, pool, study rooms, etc), that recognizes the many recreational needs of Bowie?

Also, see: <https://www.pgpparks.com/4587/Tucker-Road-Ice-Rink>

Thank you,
Sonia McLain
Bowie Ice Arena Task Force Member
Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Carrie Robertson <croberson@cityofbowie.org>
Date: September 2, 2021 at 4:47:23 PM EDT
To: VWChop@aol.com, Sarah Earwicker <sarahfiguresk8s@outlook.com>, James Sichelman <spqr2k@yahoo.com>, Andrea Christiansen <asachimovic@yahoo.com>, SONIA SMITH <smith1851@aol.com>
Cc: Jim Sichelman <JSichelman@crgadesign.com>
Subject: Bowie Ice Arena

Good afternoon! Hope this email finds you all doing well and enjoying the final days of summer!

Tuesday night, September 7 at 8 pm the consultant from the 292 Design Group will be presenting an assessment report to Council. The report can be found online at <https://www.cityofbowie.org/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Agenda/1159?html=true> (scroll down to Old Business and click on the link for the Ice Arena report). The meeting is open to the public – masks required.

Once again, thank you for being a member of the Task Force and volunteering your time for the community ice rink.

*Carrie Robertson
City of Bowie Ice Arena*

Awilda Hernandez

From: Daniel O'Neil <doneil23@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 6, 2021 1:02 PM
To: Dufour Woolfley; Michael Esteve; Alfred Lott; Timothy Adams; Adrian Boafu; Henri Gardner; Ingrid Harrison; Rosann Ndebumadu; Awilda Hernandez
Subject: {EXTERNAL}; Re: 🎱 Bowie Update

I'm confused. The weekly report shows an estimated cost of \$27 million to renovate the existing 1-sheet ice rink. The cancelled program to build a brand new, 2-sheet ice rink was to have been \$28 million. By going ahead with the renovation of the old rink, including the total loss of \$8 million already spent on the new rink, our total expenses will be approx. \$35 million, not counting the additional architectural design costs and whatever the cost was to get out of the previous contract.

Am I reading this correct? Where's the logic? Wouldn't it make better sense to go back to the original plan to build the 2-sheet rink? Please help me to understand this. Is this how we should expect future programs to be managed by this Council? From my perspective, this was a bad decision that we'll be paying for for many years. This money could have instead gone to water system upgrades, a project that affects many more people than the number of people using the ice rink. Please tell me I'm wrong.

Dan O'Neil
Meadowbrook

On Mon, Sep 6, 2021 at 12:38 AM Dufour Woolfley <dwoolfley@gmail.com> wrote:

[View this email in your browser](#)

Awilda Hernandez

From: Christina Hart <skatertina05@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, September 6, 2021 10:39 AM
To: Timothy Adams; Adrian Boaf
Cc: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}; Ice rink testimony- Sept 7th meeting
Attachments: Ice rink letter- C. Hart (1).pdf

Dear Mayor Adams and Councilmember Boaf,

Please see my attached letter in regards to the recent report issued by the 292 Design Group regarding their analysis of our current ice rink. We, the ice rink community, implore you to reconsider the building project of the new rink that you stopped last year. As the report clearly states, the cost to repair our current facility is more than double what our new two sheet facility was going to cost. Please consider righting the wrongs you have done with our taxpayer money over the last year.

Mrs. Hernandez, I will not be able to be in attendance at the meeting tomorrow night Sept 7th, but if you are allowing testimonies to be read to the council, I would like my letter read out loud at the meeting.

Thank you so much for your time and attention to this very important matter!

Sincerely,

Christina Hart

Skating Instructor
Bowie Ice Arena
skatertina05@aol.com

They say that the definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results. Some may say we, the ice rink community, is insane for continuing to fight this same fight that we started nearly 8 years ago and yet here we are again. This is the 4th letter I've written or spoken to the council over the last couple years.

Hello, my name is Christina Hart and along with my parents Rod and Sharon Field and my brother Michael, we 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 own home; through competitive figure skating, I learned the value of perseverance, teamwork, and discipline. My dad also volunteered his time as a coach while my brother played hockey for the Bowie Hockey Club his entire childhood, later playing varsity hockey at DeMatha Catholic High School. 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.

When the 292 Design Group recently released their report about the status of the current ice rink, it is safe to say, no one was surprised. Well, no one in the ice rink community that is, who knows the business of rinks. Just as we all tried to tell the council over the last couple years, the cost to repair our current building is way above what it was going to cost to build a new facility. Close to \$27 million to repair our aging facility. And again, to no one's surprise, the group recommends building a new rink. If only we had thought of that option before...oh wait...

So since you have now wasted upwards of \$13 million of taxpayer money when you stopped the building of our new facility, what is the plan now? What do you propose we do now?

As councilmembers, city of Bowie residents have put their trust in you to responsibly govern our city and manage the city budget. You, however, have done quite the opposite up until this point. It is time to right the wrongs you have done over the past year. We implore you to continue the new ice area project that was already well underway since the council approved it in 2019 before you shamefully stopped it and threw upwards of \$13 million dollars down the drain. Thank you.

Awilda Hernandez

From: Michael Thier <michael.thier223@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 6, 2021 9:55 PM
To: Timothy Adams; Adrian Boafo; Henri Gardner; Ingrid Harrison; Michael Esteve; Dufour Woolfley; Rosann Ndebumadu; Awilda Hernandez
Subject: {EXTERNAL}; KEEP ICE IN BOWIE

Dear Mayor Adams, City Clerk Hernandez, and Councilmembers,

For nearly 50 years, the Bowie Ice Arena has been a home away from home for hundreds, if not thousands, of hockey families. Please do not make this precious local resource disappear!

I have watched my 13-year-old daughter develop confidence as Bowie hockey coaches imparted upon her and other players lessons of fair play, teamwork, discipline, diligence, and competitiveness. No other sport she has tried captured her imagination like ice hockey has.

Please keep the Bowie Ice Arena viable so it can serve the next generation of girls skaters as it has for my daughter.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Thier

Awilda Hernandez

From: Christy <arbo5@verizon.net>
Sent: Tuesday, September 7, 2021 7:15 AM
To: Awilda Hernandez
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Keep Bowie Ice please

Good morning!

I am really proud of the hockey family, the actual rink, location and opportunity that Bowie Ice Rink has provided our family for years. It is my prayer that you see the mini benefits keeping this rink provides your community. After Covid and the lockdown, these children, teens and families need to regain a sense of community, and have a safe place to be a team member and experience all the many benefits that team sports provide. Hockey is an integral part of my sons life and there are 100's more like us. Please honor your commitment and keep Bowie Ice Rink!

Thank you
Christy Arbogast

Sent from my iPhone

Awilda Hernandez

From: Deana Mobley <deana_mobley@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 7, 2021 7:51 AM
To: Awilda Hernandez
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Bowie Ice Rink

As a parents and grandparents of hockey players who use the Bowie Ice Rink, we strongly urge you to keep the Rink open!

This rink serves a great need for the youth of this area to develop life skills like teamwork, discipline, physical fitness, safety, and many others. It also provides them with great opportunities to interact with adults who are good role models for them. Because these players are dedicated to their sport, they are less likely to get into trouble. I believe this holds true for the open skating sessions and the figure skating sessions as well.

Having the Rink also provides increased income for the businesses in Bowie. People tend to go to restaurants or schedule shopping or errands around the practice and game times their children and grandchildren are playing at the Rink. I know we do!

Please, please keep this Rink open—it serves a really good purpose in this area of Maryland.

Thank you for your time and service to the City of Bowie.

Ted & Deana Mobley
1252 Vintage Drive
Harwood, MD. 20776
Home: 443-607-8055
Ted's Cell: 301-641-6650
Deana's Cell: 301-641-4736

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPad

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPad

Awilda Hernandez

From: Bill <vwchop@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 7, 2021 8:00 AM
To: Timothy Adams; Adrian Boafo; hgardner@cityofbowie.or; Ingrid Harrison; Michael Esteve; Dufour Woolfley; Rosann Ndebumadu; Awilda Hernandez
Subject: (EXTERNAL); Bowie Ice facility

Bill Schmidt
12414 Sarah Ln
Bowie MD

Mayor and City Council members,

Unfortunately I am unable to be at this evenings council meeting in person because I need to be at the ice rink to coach the kids.

It's time you stopped making up excuses and build the new ice rink. Everything that the skating community has been telling you about the existing facility and the number of users has been backed up by data, which for some reason you refuse to believe.

You chose to stop construction on the new facility and that decision cost the city almost enough to build a new 1 sheet facility. You didn't think the renovation cost was correct when it was done before the decision was made to build the new rink. You were right, it was proven to be even greater. You formed a group of city residents to look at the existing facility and were told the same thing. You just brushed us aside.

The more you delay the greater the cost will be. Stop making excuses and show that all the residents of Bowie deserve the amenities that brought us to the city in the first place.

Get the new ice rink built so the city can move forward.

Sincerely,
Bill Schmidt
45+ year city resident

Awilda Hernandez

From: Maria Henry <mamamaria1973@verizon.net>
Sent: Tuesday, September 7, 2021 10:02 AM
To: Timothy Adams; Adrian Bofo; Henri Gardner; Ingrid Harrison; Michael Esteve; Dufour Woolfley; Rosann Ndebumadu
Cc: Awilda Hernandez
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: KEEP ICE in Bowie !!!!

Dear Mayor Adams, Council Members and Mrs. Hernandez,

My name is Maria Henry and I am a City of Bowie resident and a Hockey Mom to 2 children who play hockey for the Bowie Hockey Club. The Bowie Ice rink has been our second home for about 8 years when my son first stepped onto the ice and fell in love. When our family isn't there for practice and games, we are there for open skate, stick and puck and birthday parties.

Last year, at the age of 13, our middle daughter decided she wanted to play hockey. Already being there several nights a week with our son, we decided to add in a few more nights and we let our daughter sign up. She fell in LOVE! She now plays on the 14U Black travel team.

PLEASE keep your promise to the Bowie Hockey Club families and the Figure Skating families by KEEPING ICE in BOWIE !!!!

If you decide to not keep your promise to all of the amazing families who also practically live at the rink, you will not only be ending 50 years of hockey and figure skating in Bowie, but you will devastate countless numbers of children and their families!

All ages, races, girls and boys both have all been part of the Bowie Ice family for 50 years. Please do NOT take that away from us!!

Thank you for your time!

Maria Henry
"A" Section, City of Bowie resident

Awilda Hernandez

From: scott henry <shenry4427@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 7, 2021 10:59 AM
To: Timothy Adams; Adrian Boafo; Henri Gardner; Ingrid Harrison; Michael Esteve; Dufour Woolfley; Rosann Ndebumadu; Awilda Hernandez
Subject: {EXTERNAL}; Bowie Ice Arena

Dear Mr. Mayor, Councilmembers and Mrs. Hernandez,

My name is Scott Henry and I have been a City of Bowie resident for over 20 years (A-section). Reference the Bowie Ice Arena and the recent assessment of the ice arena by the 292 Design Group.

In 2020, I urged you, along with numerous other residents to build the new ice rink in Bowie. Against the community wishes, you all decided to cease construction of the new ice arena. You decided to “save” money and promised to renovate the existing Bowie ice arena. Several of the council members promised to hold the Mayor and each other up to that promise—I kept the emails.

After reading the findings by the 292 Design Group, my understanding is that it will cost more to renovate the existing Bowie ice rink (\$27 million) compared to building a Bowie new ice arena (\$12 million). Well, seems like someone didn't do their research back in 2020.

We WANT an Ice arena in Bowie. If you take away the Ice arena because of poor city management, you will be crushing the spirit of the many users. Community members of **ALL RACES, GENDERS and BACKGROUNDS** use the Bowie ice arena every day to enjoy Figure Skating, Ice Hockey and recreational ice skating.

The Bowie figure skating Club and Bowie Hockey Club have community members that use these sports for fun, to attend top colleges and play professionally. Most recently, Bryce Montgomery, a Bowie resident and a Bowie Hockey Club member was drafted into the National Hockey League.

Please keep your PROMISE to renovate and keep the Ice Arena in Bowie.

Thank you for your time.

Scott Henry

Awilda Hernandez

From: Kelly Seaton <KSeaton@jaspersrestaurants.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 7, 2021 12:20 PM
To: Awilda Hernandez
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Letter for Council Meeting
Attachments: Ice090721.pdf

Hello,

I have attached a letter to be read at tonight's meeting.

Thank you!

Kelly Seaton

9640 Lottsford Court

Largo, MD 20774

240-838-3636 x113

kseaton@jaspersrestaurants.com



Jaspers - In the Spirit of Fun! - Largo, MD



Madrones | An exciting American Bar & Grill

September 7, 2021

Dear Honorable Mayor and City Council,

I am writing to you tonight asking that you keep your commitment to the ice arena.

I was raised in Bowie, and after leaving for a few years, my husband and I made the decision to moved back to bowie in 2003 and raise our family here.

One of the main reasons, were the wide variety of amenities offered to residents.

Bowie Hockey Club and the City of Bowie have made it affordable for my child to participate in a sport that he would otherwise be priced out of. The ice arena is truly an asset to the community, and hopefully will continue to be for years to come.

There isn't much else that I can say that hasn't already been said. You know the facts, numbers, statistics, etc.

All I have tonight, is a plea for you to keep that commitment.

Please, please keep ice in Bowie.

Thank you,

Kelly Seaton

Kelly Seaton
Shawmont Lane

Awilda Hernandez

From: Lisa Schittone <lkloster55@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 7, 2021 12:46 PM
To: Awilda Hernandez
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Keep Ice and Commitments to Bowie

Hello Councilmember,

I am writing to express support and desire to keep the 50 years of ice & community support within Bowie. All 3 of my children play there and it is a great source of confidence & strength not only for my 2 daughters but my son. They learn how to work together with others, community relations and activities, life lessons learned by hockey, and the friendships made are everlasting. We need the program to continue Bowie Hockey Club is a major part of our live as we are there 4 days a week and support local business as we eat on the road regularly.

The ice arena a staple in the area & community which we love. Please keep the commitments made to the area & facility.

Lisa Schittone

Awilda Hernandez

From: Stephen Schittone <sschittone20@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 7, 2021 12:50 PM
To: Awilda Hernandez
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Keep Ice In Bowie

Councilmember,

I am writing to you in support of the Bowie Hockey Club & Ice arena. We desperately need your ongoing support & commitments to keep the ice in the city of Bowie. I coach multiple travel teams & learn to play there for the last 5 years and the time spent with the local community & children is the best part of my days. Giving back to the community & children as we learn and grow together is how we improve and grow as better people.

I played there as a kid, my children play there (my girls included), and we regularly eat at local businesses in between practices/games 4 days a week.

Please keep the commitments to the ice arena and keep the program going well beyond the 50 years we have already completed with pride as one Bowie.

--

Stephen Schittone

Awilda Hernandez

From: Mobley, Jennifer S <JMOBLEY@AACPS.org>
Sent: Tuesday, September 7, 2021 2:36 PM
To: Timothy Adams
Cc: Adrian Boafu; Henri Gardner; Ingrid Harrison; Awilda Hernandez
Subject: {EXTERNAL};

Good afternoon Mayor Adams and council members,

I am writing to you to ask that you please honor your commitment to keep ice in Bowie. Bowie ice arena has been an important place in my family's lives for over 30 years. For myself it began as a safe place to meet up with my friends and have fun. For my husband, it is where his love for hockey began. Once we had our son Jackson and by the time he was 2, we had him in skating lessons. He has loved the ice ever since! He now plays for the 12U AA hockey team! We cannot imagine not having Bowie hockey in our lives. We have an amazing president, hockey director, and wonderful coaches.

Bowie Ice Arena not only gives local kids and families and safe place to have fun. Your ice arena is bringing in families from many other cities and counties. Just on my son's team alone, you have families from Anne Arundel, Calvert, Prince George's, Kent, and Montgomery counties. These are also families that are contributing to your local economy. We go shopping while our kids are at practice. We fill up our gas tanks for all our travel. We eat at your local restaurants.

Most importantly Bowie Ice Arena has become a second home for many families as we spend so much time there. PLEASE KEEP ICE IN BOWIE!!!!!!

JENNIFER S MOBLEY
FIRST GRADE TEACHER
MAYO ELEMENTARY

Awilda Hernandez

From: Ruby, Pamela <Pamela.Ruby@compass-usa.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 7, 2021 3:02 PM
To: Awilda Hernandez; Awilda Hernandez; Rosann Ndebumadu; Dufour Woolfley; Ingrid Harrison; Henri Gardner; Adrian Boafo; Timothy Adams
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Ice Rink
Attachments: CouncilMeeting.pdf

Good Afternoon,

Attached is letter I would like read at Council Meeting.

Thanks,



Pam Ruby | Warehouse Operations Manager
m. 240.299.9562
6501 Virginia Manor Road | Beltsville, MD 20705

This email is subject to certain disclaimers, which may be reviewed via the following link. <http://www.compass-usa.com/disclaimer/>

September 7, 2021

Dear Mayor and City Council,

I am writing this letter to express my concern for the future of the Bowie Ice Arena.

I have lived in Bowie my entire life, and although I don't have any children that benefit from the hockey or figure skating clubs, my family has enjoyed having the ice rink in the city. We have, as a family attended many public sessions, and quite a few birthday parties at the rink.

Any facility that benefits children, is an investment that needs to be made.

This has been an ongoing situation for far too long. It is my hope that you make the decision to rehabilitate the current facility or continue with the new construction and keep this amazing facility in Bowie.

Sincerely,
Pamela Ruby
K Section

Awilda Hernandez

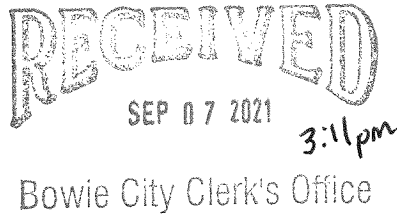
From: Justin Mobley <mugzmug@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 7, 2021 3:10 PM
To: Timothy Adams; Awilda Hernandez
Cc: Lori Jones
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: KEEP ICE IN BOWIE

Mayor Adams & Council Members,

I am writing to you today regarding the future of Bowie Ice Arena. It was brought to my attention that the future of Bowie Ice Arena may be in jeopardy. This news has hit my family & I very hard. Bowie Ice arena has been a significant part of my life for over thirty years. I learned to ice skate there, played recreational ice hockey, & travel ice hockey as well. I now help to Coach my sons 12U Peewee AA team. I have been coaching here for nearly seven years now. Like myself, my son began skating at Bowie when he was three years old & has played his way up through the ranks at Bowie to where he is now. He also wants to Coach kids there when he is old enough. My family & I live in Anne Arundel County but come to Bowie at least three days a week. During these trips we usually patronize restaurants & stores in Bowie. This Ice Arena has meant the world to us & taking it away would be a tragedy. With so many things going on in the world, it is very rewarding for kids to have a place to go where they can just focus on having fun. This Ice Arena has offered kids a safe place to go while providing them healthy exercise that they actually enjoy. We have met so many families who we now are good friends with on & off the ice. I have always considered Bowie Ice Arena our home & the members our family. I can't express to you how much this means to our family & the Bowie community. We don't have a Plan "B" as there are no other ice rinks nearby. Please try to put yourselves in our shoes & think of how it would feel if your child/children had their favorite pastime taken from them. Please take my request to heart & understand the significance to the kids & parents who need this as it is a major part of our lives. I am also willing to help in any way you need to help save our Ice Arena. Thank you for taking the time to read my email & thank you for serving this town.

Thank you,
Justin Mobley
mugzmug@yahoo.com
(202) 823-2584

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPad



September 7, 2021

To: Bowie City Council

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, and hopefully it will be for several more generations. 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 millions of tax payer money invested in feasibility studies. Enough is enough! It is now time to act on the results of these studies and build a new two sheet ice arena, which Bowie residents deserve. I would urge the City Council to act responsibly now and approve a new ice arena.

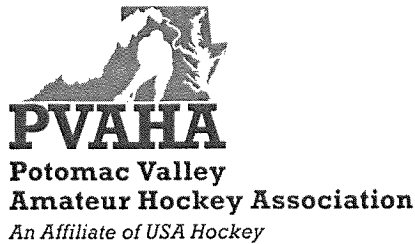
A Concerned Citizen,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Angela Cipolla".

Angela Cipolla

Awilda Hernandez

From: Linda Jondo <pvahapresident@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 7, 2021 3:35 PM
To: Timothy Adams; Adrian Bofo; Henri Gardner; Ingrid Harrison; Michael Esteve; Dufour Woolfley; Rosann Ndebumadu; Awilda Hernandez
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Bowie Ice Arena
Attachments: Bowie Ice Arena.docx



September 7, 2021

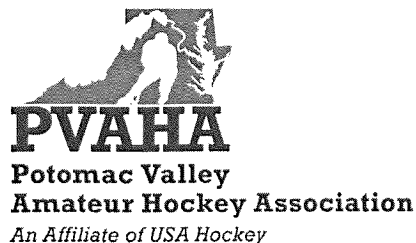
The Potomac Valley Amateur Hockey Association (PVAHA) is the governing body for all things ice hockey in the Maryland, Virginia and Washington, D.C. area. I am the president of the PVAHA and have been involved in youth, collegiate and adult hockey for the past 33 years. The local Chesapeake Beltway Hockey League, of which Bowie Hockey Club is a member, has held thousands of hockey games and related events at Bowie Ice Rink for the past 50 years. Many local hockey tournaments have also been held there. We have watched the building deteriorate over the years.

There are approximately 13,500 registered youth and adult hockey players in the State of Maryland with approximately 400 youth players and coaches registered in Bowie. The adult numbers are scattered between Piney Orchard Ice Rink and The Gardens Ice House in Laurel as there is not enough ice time to be had at the current Bowie Ice Arena. There are approximate 13,500 youth and adult hockey players registered in the State of Virginia and Washington, DC. As figure skating is not in my wheelhouse, I have no idea how many figure skaters in Bowie are impacted.

At some point, in any given hockey season, players and coaches from all over the States of Maryland, Virginia and Washington, DC will play games at Bowie Ice Arena. Many more coaches and players from outside of the above mentioned geographical area will also play at the Bowie Ice Arena.

Despite an ongoing global pandemic the PVAHA was able to hold a complete hockey season during the 2020/21 season at rinks all over the States of Maryland and Virginia. Many concessions were made to be able to do this, players had to wear masks while on the ice, players arrived dressed in hockey gear for practices and games, temperatures were checked before entering the building, no locker rooms, showers or water fountains were utilized, there was an ingress and an egress to the building, no parents or siblings were allowed in the building to watch practices or games. Lots of hand sanitizer was used. Players, parents and coaches adapted to the "new normal" in order to be able to play and compete in the 2020/21 hockey season. Despite all of the protocols very few games were cancelled. The Bowie Hockey Club personnel were very instrumental in making the season happen for their players and coaches at the Bowie Ice Arena. The players and coaches got to do what they love to do, in a safe environment. This speaks volumes for the players and coaches in the Bowie Hockey Club.





There is a severe shortage of ice time in the Maryland, Virginia, Washington, D.C. area. 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. The Bowie Hockey Club purchases 800+ hours of ice each season from the Bowie Ice Arena and still has to purchase 40+ hours at other rinks in order to accommodate all of their program needs. High school teams have to buy ice at times of 9:00 PM or later, at other rinks, 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. The Tri-City Hockey Association uses The Gardens Ice House at their home base and due to the "supply and demand" has to purchase additional ice at another rink. 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.

The PVAHA and the Bowie Hockey Club were very excited when the City of Bowie announced a new facility was being built on October 19, 2019. There was a groundbreaking ceremony on October 25, 2019 and there was excitement in the air as "new ice" was going to be built in the City of Bowie. Construction began on a new two sheet facility.

The Bowie City Council then voted to cancel construction of the new two-sheet ice arena in May 2020 after financing was secured, construction began, and millions of dollars had been spent on the project. Mayor Tim Adams then wrote an op-ed piece saying that he believed that the existing ice arena could be renovated for less than \$3 million, and District 2 Councilman Dufour Woolfley estimated that renovations would cost between \$2 million and \$5 million. Neither the Mayor or Councilman have any background or first hand knowledge of the ice rink building business. Now the Bowie Ice Arena is faced with very much needed, expensive repairs to a 50-year-old building. The cost of the repairs will likely exceed the cost of a new facility.





**Potomac Valley
Amateur Hockey Association**

An Affiliate of USA Hockey

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

Linda Jondo
President
Potomac Valley Amateur Hockey Association



Awilda Hernandez

From: Joy Leon <hockey-joy@leonusa.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 7, 2021 3:36 PM
To: Timothy Adams; Adrian Boafu; Henri Gardner; Ingrid Harrison; Michael Esteve; Dufour Woolfley; Rosann Ndebumadu; Awilda Hernandez
Cc: lorimjones@comcast.net
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Keep Ice In Bowie

We are writing this email to vocalize our support for keeping the ice rink in Bowie.

We have been part of the Bowie Hockey Club for 20 years. That is 20 years of support to the community and businesses of Bowie that would have otherwise gone to other jurisdictions. We spend time before, during, and after practices and games shopping in stores in Bowie, eating at restaurants in Bowie, working out at the gym in Bowie, buying gas in Bowie, attending movies in Bowie. I could go on and on. Although we live in a different county, all of our commercial business support is focused on Bowie given the amount of time we spend there and the convenience that it provides for us. All of this business will evaporate if there is no longer an ice rink in Bowie!

Of course it's not all about the money, or it shouldn't be. There is also the benefit to the children of our area to have a such a wonderful opportunity to learn to skate, play hockey, figure skate and be part of an organization providing a fun and safe recreational and learning environment. The Bowie Hockey club provides such a sense of community and the Town of Bowie should be proud of that legacy and want to do its part to ensure that it continues on for this generation and the generations to come.

Thank you for your time and please KEEP ICE IN BOWIE!!

The Henegar-Leon Family
Bowie Hockey U16 Travel #91
Bowie Hockey Club Travel Hockey Graduate #52

Awilda Hernandez

From: Polly Schurer <pollysebastian@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 7, 2021 4:27 PM
Subject: {EXTERNAL}; Bowie Ice Arena

Good afternoon,

I am dismayed to learn you may not provide the support to keep the Bowie Ice Arena operational. Not only is it important to Bowie residents, surrounding communities utilize it as well and this supports Bowie businesses. I grew up in Upper Marlboro and my friends and I came to skate regularly.

We chose Bowie in 2017 in large part because of the ice arena. We were also interested in Upper Marlboro and Greenbelt. My family goes to public skate and my son plays for Bowie Hockey Club- my husband also coaches. After we get chinese from Hunan Garden or Moh's pizza. We've had birthday parties there. Our kids have done ice skating camps- which are some of the most affordable summer camps around.

It's not just the figure skating or hockey club that uses the arena. If you look closely at the numbers, you will see that public skate sessions were maxed out for most of covid, and many sessions were only open to Bowie residents. That tells you that the community at large does make use of the arena. Not to mention the great lengths the staff went to in order to help provide some normalcy during the pandemic.

Closing the ice arena would be a huge mistake and many community members and stakeholders would be disappointed.

Sincerely,
Polly (and Gregg) Schurer

Awilda Hernandez

From: andrew moxley <andrew.moxley@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 7, 2021 5:02 PM
To: Awilda Hernandez
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Bowie ice rink
Attachments: Video.mov

My daughter is a hockey player at Bowie and would love for you to watch her video. It's the only place she's played hockey and would be devastated to have to go somewhere else. She was also the little girl from a video clip that went viral a few years ago with the Capitals and got a news crew to Bowie ice arena.

Thank you very much for your time

Sent from my iPhone

Awilda Hernandez

From: Timothy Adams
Sent: Tuesday, September 7, 2021 5:39 PM
To: Awilda Hernandez
Subject: Fw: {EXTERNAL}: Keep the Ice! It pays dividends to the community

Regards,
Timothy J. Adams
Mayor, City of Bowie
Ofc: (301)809-3029
"One City One Bowie"

From: lynn mcdermott <lynn_mcdermott@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, September 6, 2021 9:36 PM
To: Timothy Adams <tadams@cityofbowie.org>
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Keep the Ice! It pays dividends to the community

Dear Mayor Adams,

I respectfully urge you on behalf of the children to keep Bowie Ice Rink. My two boys, now 14 & 12 have skated there since they were 5 years old. They have developed essential life skills by being part of their hockey teams, enjoying summer camp programs, open skate and even hosting numerous birthday parties at Bowie Ice Rink. Research shows having children involved with sports keeps kids out of trouble. Statistics also prove that desirable communities are those that offer amenities. Bowie Ice Rink is a gem in your community. I urge you to do the right thing for the city of Bowie and keep the ice please!!

Thank you,
Lynn & Craig Schasiepen 443 458 3165
Brent: U12 Bowie Ice Hockey team member
Bennett: U14 Bowie Ice Hockey team member

Sent from my iPhone

Awilda Hernandez

From: Julianna White <jwhite.advo@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 7, 2021 6:24 PM
To: Awilda Hernandez
Cc: Timothy Adams; Adrian Boafu; Henri Gardner; Ingrid Harrison; Michael Esteve; Dufour Woolfley; Rosann Ndebumadu
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Please Keep Ice in Bowie

September 7, 2021

Good Evening City Council and Mayor Adams,

I am unable to attend the meeting tonight, but I wanted to express my support for keeping ice in Bowie. The current 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 (we truly need two sheets!) 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 were so 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. My family and I were so disappointed when this project was stopped. Now the original ice rink is in desperate need of repairs and we are worried that we won't have ice in Bowie if the repairs are not done or a new sheet (or two) is not built.

We have a home at Bowie Ice Arena, with a great hockey family that can't be replaced. Hockey is truly a sport for all and one that can be enjoyed by everyone. I urge you to please keep ice in Bowie. 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 within Bowie. I want to keep supporting all of these things in this great City.

Please let me know what I can do to help keep ice in Bowie. Thank you for taking the time to read my letter. I hope this helps you see how important keeping ice in Bowie is to so many.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Julianna White
Bowie Hockey Club Member/ Hockey Mom
240-417-8333

Awilda Hernandez

From: Lina Younes <lmfyounes@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 7, 2021 4:36 PM
To: Awilda Hernandez
Cc: Lina Younes
Subject: {EXTERNAL}; Request to speak at tonight's council meeting

Dear. Ms. Hernandez,

I would like to speak at tonight's council meeting on the issue of the Bowie ice arena report.

Thank you for this opportunity,

Lina Younes
11900 Bracken Court
Bowie, MD 20720

lmfyounes@gmail.com

Here are my remarks:

Good evening, Mr. Mayor, honorable members of the city council, ladies and gentlemen:

My name is Lina Younes. I've been a Bowie resident, taxpayer, voter for nearly 27 years and I am the proud mother of a Bowie ISI skater.

I know that it sounds cliché. But coming here today, watching many of my friends in this very room speaking and reiterating emphatically once again the need for the city of Bowie to invest in its skating community,...

all this just seems like another episode of "Groundhog Day."

For years, we have seen the effects of the council's inaction. For years we have watched the two step dance of this council. Move one step forward and two steps back.

How many times has the council requested studies, assessments, evaluations, reviews on the condition of the Bowie Ice Arena?

How many times have various entities reviewed the physical conditions of the facility, the structure, the electrical conditions, the architecture, the refrigeration issues and so on...

All these entities basically have issued similar reports recommending investing in the construction of a new ice-skating facility instead of trying to breath new life into the existing venue.

And in 2019, we came so close...

And in 2020, we all know what this council did.

So, now in 2021, we are here once again.

Paraphrasing the British phrase, please don't be "penny wise, but pound foolish" again.

I implore you to invest in the construction of a new facility for ice-skating community that will undoubtedly generate revenue for the city of Bowie. And serve as a venue for life-long friendships and developing sportsmanship where a new generation of Bowie ice-skaters may thrive.

Thank you,

Lina Younes

11900 Bracken Court

Bowie, MD 20720

**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: 9-7-21; Time: 10:15; Location: City Hall;
Motion to close meeting made by: Boato Seconded by Woolfley;
Members in favor: All; Opposed: _____;
Abstaining: _____; Absent: _____.

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) ☒ 7	Consult with legal counsel	Golf course
§3-305(b) ☒ 14	Contract discussion	Golf Course
§3-305(b) ☐		
§3-305(b) ☐		
§3-305(b) ☐		

4. This statement is made by Samuel J. Arz, 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: 10:31

Place: City Hall

Purpose(s): (7) (14) Consult with legal counsel and contract discussion

Members who voted to meet in closed session: TA, HG, IH, ME, DW, AB, RN

Persons attending closed session: TA, HG, IH, ME, DW, AB, RN, Levan, Lott, Mears, Hein, Spurgeon

Authority under § 3-305 for the closed session: (7) (14)

Topics actually discussed: Golf course contract

Actions taken: Provide Emerald until 9-15 to agree with City agreement.

Each recorded vote: _____

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

Place: _____

Persons present: _____

Subjects discussed: _____