

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, MAY 4, 2020

CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

The Regular Meeting of the Bowie City Council was held on Monday, May 4, 2020 virtually. Mayor Adams called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG:

Mayor Adams led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

QUORUM:

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

AGENDA ADDITIONS/DELETIONS/AMENDMENTS:

Mayor Pro Tem Boafo moved to add Resolution R-26-20 under New Business, Item B for discussion and approval. Councilmember Ndebumadu seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Councilmember Woolfley would like to add to the agenda for the May 18 meeting a discussion on the future of the Bowie IcePlex from the view of this Council as a whole.

PRESENTATIONS:

A list of students receiving Arts and Education Scholarships from the City of Bowie is attached.

COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Councilmember Harrison reminded residents to fill out the 2020 Census and announced that the City has partnered with Employ Prince George's and they will be helping to distribute the COVID-19 Hourly Employ Relief Fund to approved Bowie residents.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Councilmember Esteve moved the approval of Consent Agenda Items: A) Approval of February 3 Meeting Minutes; B) Approval of February 18 Meeting Minutes; C) Approval of Proclamation P-3-20 Proclaiming May 3-9, 2020 as Municipal Clerks Week in Bowie; D) Approval of Resolution R-28-20 Authorizing the Waiving of Bidding Requirements of Section 61 of the Charter of the City of Bowie to Allow for the Issuance of an Agreement to J & C Ice Technologies, Inc. for the Acquisition of a New Zamboni Ice Resurfacing Machine; E) Approval of Resolution R-30-20 Authorizing the City Manager to

Abate the Rent Paid by the Bowie Interfaith Pantry and Emergency Aid Fund Inc. for the Duration of the Coronavirus Pandemic; F) Approval of Letter to AFSCME Council 67 re: Collective Bargaining Agreement with the City; G) Introduction of Ordinance O-3-20 Amending Bowie City Code Chapter 11, "Health and Sanitation", to Renumber Section 11-5, "Penalties as Section 11-7 and to Enact Section 11-5, "Public Health Officer" and Section 11-6 "Access to Healthcare Resources". Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

A. FY2021 Budget, CIP and Constant Yield Tax Rate - Finance Director Matthews reported that municipalities are required by State law to place an advertisement in a local newspaper and to hold a public hearing on the Constant Yield Tax Rate. The City has complied with those requirements and is proposing to adopt a real property tax rate of \$0.40 per \$100 of assessment. This tax rate is 3.5% higher than the Constant Yield Rate and it will yield \$1,029,290 in additional property tax revenue for the City.

Mr. Carl Robinson, member of the Financial Advisory Committee presented the committees report (Copy attached).

Public Hearing:

1. Christopher Keller – Comment attached.
2. Narvell Hall, District 3 Resident – Comment attached.
3. Carrie Bridges, District 3 Resident - Comment attached.
4. Sonia McLain, District 3 Resident – Comment attached.
5. Milly Hall, District 3 Resident - Comment attached.
6. Carlos DelCastillo, Stafford Lane - Comment attached.
7. Monie Pinder - Comment attached.
8. Citizen - Comment attached.
9. Melissa Richardson - Comment attached.
10. Wayne Maddox - Comment attached.
11. Linda Eligwe, River Park Rd. - Comment attached.
12. Michael Doaks, District 3 Resident - Comment attached.
13. Darryl Brown, District 3 Resident - Comment attached.
14. Sonia McLain, District 3 Resident - Comment attached.
15. David McLain, District 3 Resident - Comment attached.
16. Kim Derocher, City Resident - Comment attached.
17. Jennette Kormanik - Comment attached.
18. Michael Glaubitz - Comment attached.
19. Darryl & Joy Leon, Chesapeake Beach, MD - Comment attached.
20. Lisa Coleman, Woodmore Highlands Resident - Comment attached.
21. Haydee Clausen, Woodmore Highlands Resident - Comment attached.
22. Sue Livera, Green Team Committee Chair - Comment attached.
23. V. Helena Yancey, Bowie Community Media Corporation - Comment attached.
24. Michayla Derocher - Comment attached.
25. Jackie Collins, Woodmore Highlands Resident - Comment attached.
26. Jim Smart - Comment attached.
27. Sarah Schaefer, City Resident - Comment attached.
28. Suzie Wilson, City Resident - Comment attached.
29. Angela Klapp, Kittery Lane - Comment attached.
30. Karen Geary, City Resident - Comment attached.
31. David Gould, City Resident - Comment attached.

32. Brenda James, District 3 Resident - Comment attached.
33. Abiodun Salisu, Dunwood Valley Drive - Comment attached.
34. Isabel Pocurull, Huntington Heritage Society - Comment attached.
35. Pam Williams, Grisdale Hill - Comment attached.
36. Kim Whetstone Wilson - Comment attached.
37. Bill Schmidt, Sarah Lane - Comment attached.
38. Amy Goodman - Comment attached.
39. Karen Williamson, District 3 Resident - Comment attached.
40. Bryan McCormick - Comment attached.
41. Mike Bargeron, Felter Lane - Comment attached.
42. Lawrence, District 1 Resident - Comment attached.
43. Craig, City Resident - Comment attached.
44. Rachel Derocher - Comment attached.
45. Mike Rauck, Westmont Lane - Comment attached.
46. Robin Choice, District 2 Resident - Comment attached.
47. Stephen Wehrenberg, Kenilworth Resident - Comment attached.

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

Councilmember Esteve made a motion to maintain the City's Property Tax Rate at \$.40 per \$100 of assessed value. Councilmember Gardner seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Economic Development Committee - Mr. Sherman Ragland, Chair of the committee, discussed with Council the committees plan to meet and prepare a proposal based on Council's recommendations, that could help Bowie businesses during the pandemic. Councilmember Ndebumadu submitted some suggestions of discussion to the committee which include the possibility of a fund of \$1.5M to \$2M, who will receive it, how much will each business get, what is considered a small business, will it be a loan or a donation, these are all topics that the committee will take into consideration during their meeting this week and come back before Council at a future meeting with the committee's recommendation for the program.

B. Resolution R-26-20 Concerning a Collaboration Between the City of Bowie and Bowie Town Center Restaurants to Provide Meals to the Essential Healthcare Workers Serving Larkin Chase Center – Mayor Pro Tem Boafo stated that he was approached by Larkin Chase Center for support in providing meals to their essential personnel during this pandemic. He has contacted several restaurants in the Bowie Town Center, and they are willing to work with the City in providing the meals. The funding would be coming out of the FY 2020 Budget.

Councilmember Harrison stated that the idea is great but has concerns that this could be setting a precedence for other facilities in Bowie to approach the City for support. Mayor Pro Tem Boafo responded that he does not think it will.

Councilmember Ndebumadu asked why the restaurants can't donate the meals or reach out to major corporations for them to collaborate on this partnership.

Mayor Pro Tem Boafo made a motion to state the amount not to exceed \$15,000 and have it open to include other senior facilities beside Larkin Chase that may need assistance in purchasing meals for essential healthcare workers. Councilmember Esteve seconded the motion. Councilmember

May 4, 2020

Harrison questioned the motion and motioned to table this item to the May 18 meeting. Councilmember Gardner seconded the motion. Motion failed 3-4(Adams, Boafo, Esteve, Ndebumadu).

Councilmember Ndebumadu made a motion to amend Mayor Pro Tem Boafo's original motion to state that we provide one week of meals to Larkin Chase in an amount of \$3,000, raise the total dollar amount to \$15,000 and be open to include other senior facilities in the City that may need assistance, and in the interim have staff and/or the Economic Development Committee work with outside corporations for their support to provide these meals. Money will come out of the FY 2020 budget. Councilmember Esteve seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-3 (Gardner, Harrison, Woolfley).

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Pro Tem Boafo moved to adjourn the Regular City Council meeting. Councilmember Woolfley seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 11:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Awilda Hernandez, MMC
City Clerk



2020 ARTS & EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

ARTS

On April 23, 2020 the **Arts Committee** selected the following students to receive the 2020 Arts Scholarship. Each student will receive a scholarship award in the amount of \$1,750.

George Campbell is the son of Cyndi and George Campbell and is a senior at Bowie High School. George has a 4.216 GPA and plans on majoring in film production and pursuing a career as a director. George has not decided where he will attend college in the fall.

Madison Whatley is the daughter of Andre and Deatra Whatley and is a senior at St. Vincent Pallotti High School. Madison has a 3.83 GPA and plans on majoring in Music, with a focus on Instrumental and Musical Performance, and pursuing a career as a professional flautist. Madison will attend Loyola University New Orleans in the fall.

EDUCATION

On April 22, 2020, the **Education Committee** selected the following students to receive the 2020 Excellence in Education Scholarship. Each student will receive a scholarship award in the amount of \$1,000.

Paige Campbell is the daughter of Chayse Davis and is a senior at Woodstream Academy. Paige has a 4.36 GPA and plans on majoring in biomedical engineering and pursuing a career as a pediatric biomedical engineer. Paige will attend UMBC in the fall.

Nathaniel Olsen is the son of Katie Olsen and is a senior at St. Vincent Pallotti. Nathaniel has a 4.42 GPA and plans on majoring in marine science/biology and pursuing a career as a marine biologist. Nathaniel will attend Coastal Carolina in the fall.

Nakaya Pack is the daughter of Tatia Pack and is a senior at Bowie High School. Paige has a 4.0 GPA. Paige will attend James Madison University in the fall.

Cassandra Rochmis is the daughter of Leonist Ouimbello and Walter Rochmis and is a senior at Bowie High School. Cassandra has a 4.28 GPA and has not decided on a major. She will pursue a career full of things she is passionate about in life. Cassandra applied to the University of Maryland College Park and is awaiting acceptance.

Jayden Schexnayder is the son of Ms. Magliore and is a senior at Bowie High School. Jayden has a 3.928 GPA and plans on majoring in architecture and pursuing a career as an architect. Jayden is awaiting his college acceptance offers.

The City of Bowie Financial Advisory Committee
Review of the Proposed FY 2021 Annual Budget

To: City of Bowie Council

Date: 30 April 2020

Re: Proposed FY2021 Annual Budget

The Financial Advisory Committee (FAC) reviewed the City of Bowie's proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2021 (FY2021). The budget consistently provides for outstanding services to the City's residents. This attribute continues to make Bowie a desirable place to live. We wish to commend the City Council, City Manager, Finance Department Director and all associated staff and personnel for ensuring that the budget adheres to the City's Strategic Plan. For the 11th consecutive year, the budget contains a 0% real property tax rate increase.

The City has operated at a high level of financial efficiency over the years. The FAC understands and embraces the responsibility of reviewing and commenting on the proposed budget. The FY2021 proposed budget review was conducted with the intent to highlight benefits, identify concerns and to provide recommendations.

The focus areas include the following:

1. Community Services
2. Capital Improvements Program
3. Erosion of Fund Balance
4. COVID19 Impacts to FY2021 and Future Budgets

Community Services

General Overview

The FY2021 Proposed Budget continues to provide for a wide range of programs, services and facilities that maintain and enhance quality of life. Department of Community Services consumes 21.5% of the total proposed budget. It consumed 23% of the FY2020 total adopted budget. An expectation of increased efficiency within Building Maintenance is expected due to the centralization of positions, supervision and responsibility. The Gymnasium-Senior Center Campus concept and a collaboration between the Special Events Coordinator and Historic Properties Special Events Coordinator for events to attract non-traditional visitors are funded programs in FY2021.

Concerns: There are no concerns at this time.

Recommendations: Continue to provide services and programs that encourage interaction amongst all residents while adhering to the principles of fiscal responsibility and leveraging existing resources in creative ways.

Capital Improvements Program

General Overview

As in previous years, the City of Bowie continues to demonstrate that its citizenry is the foundation upon which community growth and financial well-being is based. The Capital Improvements Program (CIP) promises to continue the provision of essential services and amenities while maintaining a healthy balance in the financial outlook of the City.

The city completed several proposed projects in the last fiscal year, to include projects at the Senior Center and the Kenhill Center. These accomplishments are most evident in the nearly half million-dollar reduction in the CIP budget requirements from FY2020 to FY2021.

Golf Course

The City's due diligence and commitment to providing this amenity to the community is recognized. The patrons and surrounding community would appreciate seeing the course brought back to its well-maintained standard to the enjoyment of all golfers.

Concern: The restoration and modernization costs for the Golf course are a concern. If the Council agrees to this project, it calls for an investment of a little over \$12 million beginning FY2022 and spanning the next several years.

Allen Pond Park

Allen Pond Park is a well-utilized park in the City. It is home to many of Bowie's notable events, i.e. Bowiefest, the International Festival, and Summer Concert Series. It is also used by residents for exercise and enjoying nature.

Concern: As noted in a previous FAC letter, an expenditure of \$722,000 was budgeted for FY 2020. Follow-on work on this project for phase 1 through 3 (FY 2021-2023) was projected at \$6,615,000. This project has been delayed until FY 2023-2025 with a new cost estimate of approximately \$7 million for phase 1 thru 3. This is a highly valued and well-used park. Delaying necessary improvements increases the cost of a valued and attractive resource that should be maintained regularly to keep its value to the City and its residents.

Erosion of Fund Balance:

Concern: The greatest concern of the FY2021 proposed budget is the increased reliance on General Fund transfers coupled with the loss of intergovernmental and other revenues. The policy is to maintain the Fund Balance at 25% of expenditures. This requirement has been complied with for several years. In this proposed budget, there is a major risk as the trajectory of decline has become dangerously steep. The forecast is shown on pages 12 and 13 of the proposed budget.

- a. The FY2021 budget utilizes a larger percent of fund balance than any other year.
- b. The fund balance is projected to decrease to 1% of expenditures as early as 2023

The proposed budget is projecting operating levels that are unsustainable. Expenses are outpacing revenues:

- a. According to the proposed FY2021 budget, General Fund Expenditures are budgeted at \$66.3 million, an increase of approximately \$10 million from FY2020.
- b. According to the proposed FY2021 budget, revenues before the use of Fund Balance are projected at \$56,944,100. (Note: The revenue projections are not yet adjusted for possible declines due to collateral effects of COVID-19.)

Recommendation: Consider curtailing deficit spending by reducing expenditures or increasing revenue.

Table 1. Capital Improvements Program/Projects Fund Revenue

Revenue Source	FY2020	Proposed FY2021
General Fund Transfer	53%	72.3%
Intergovernmental Revenues	34.7%	14.6%
Other Revenues	6.4%	11%
Appropriated Fund Balance	5.9%	2.1%

Table 1 illustrates the increasing reliance on transfers from the general fund and decreasing revenues from Intergovernmental Revenues

COVID19 Impacts to FY2021 and Future Budgets

While we applaud the proposed projects and their benefits to the Bowie Community, it is our belief that the probable changes in the recreation habits of the residents (due to COVID-19) will negatively impact the city's revenue and expenditure projections. We continue to have faith in our Mayor, City Manager and members of the City Council as they will have to navigate these new challenges in the coming fiscal year.

This letter and review of the FY2021 Proposed Budget is the result of the efforts of Mr. Rodney Yancey, Ms. Patricia Peterson, Ms. Tiffany Lightbourn, Ms. Meglan Knights, Mr. William Olukoya, and Mr. Carl Robinson, members of the City of Bowie's Financial Advisory Committee. We thank you for entrusting these residents with the responsibility to serve the City of Bowie's Council and residents.

Sincerely,

Muzar A. Jah

Muzar A. Jah,
Chair City of Bowie Financial Advisory Committee

Awilda Hernandez

From: kellerfun8521@yahoo.com
Sent: Friday, April 24, 2020 9:32 AM
To: Awilda Hernandez
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Arts and Entertainment festival

Dear Mrs Una Cooper and all council members. All the merchant's in old Town Bowie support the efforts of Verna Tinsdale in making this arts festival a successful event. Old town Bowie is in need of a revitalization. Thank you for your support.
Christopher keller.kellerfun8521@yahoo.com.

Awilda Hernandez

2 comments

From: hallna@verizon.net
Sent: Monday, April 27, 2020 5:12 PM
To: cityclerk
Cc: Timothy Adams; adrian@adrianbofo.com
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Bowie Ice Complex (Citizen Participant)

Being a District 3 resident for the past 22 years, and after hearing statements made at last Mondays City Council meeting about the proposed Bowie Ice Complex, I have a couple of issues/questions that I would like discussed;

*Tax Base - Where is our primary tax base coming from to fund this type of project. Is it businesses, homeowners, contractors etc. I say this because Council member Henri Gardner mentioned citizen tax dollars already spent on this proposal. If this moves forward (which I oppose), it could end up costing citizens a considerable amount more in future taxes; due to the unknown additional costs in this Covid-19 environment we are in.

*Parks and Planning - After hearing from Parks and Planning at last Mondays City Council meeting, there appears to be issues with multipurpose complexes that have not been considered. At a minimum they should be raised and addressed before any decisions (on this proposed Complex or some other Alternative). I recommend that someone be brought back before the Council, as there are areas with this proposal that have not been properly vetted.

In summary, I think that Parks and Planning has to be brought back to get a total view of any impacts on decisions that we make concerning the Ice Complex. It's best to address any issues now, and not have to worry about any legal or monetary problems that the City might encounter in the future.

Sincerely

Narvell Hall

District 3 Resident

Awilda Hernandez

From: hallna@verizon.net
Sent: Monday, May 4, 2020 6:29 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Proposed Real Property Tax Increase (Citizen Participation)

To: Mayor of Bowie and the City Council

I am writing this letter as a very concerned District 3 resident of Bowie. This is in reference to The Proposed Real Property Tax increase recently brought to my attention . I would like to Highlight a couple of issues that I have with this;

*Covid-19 - This in itself, should be enough to cause a major problem/concern for Bowie citizens. I know that cities all over America are having budget shortfalls because of this; but with lockdown orders and people unable to generate income, a proposed tax increase on them shows a lack of empathy. The short and long term economic impacts are too unpredictable to consider an increase.

*2017 Tax Reform Act - This new Federal tax change caused a increase in taxes for a number of Maryland residents due to the limit on state and local taxes (SALT) that we used to be able to write off. This caused many Marylanders to pay Federal taxes as opposed to receiving a refund. I feel that now is not the time to take up any new tax proposals, considering this additional burden on Bowie citizens .

In summary, I find it shocking to even consider a tax increase at this time (There was a reason for Federal Multiple Stimulus Programs). I understand tax increases at certain times for specific reasons (ex. maintaining city services, establishing police department etc.); but this is just not the time. All expenditures should be looked at before any new tax proposals are taken under consideration.

Sincerely,

Narvell Hall

Resident of District 3

Awilda Hernandez

From: My Name <carrieswb@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, April 27, 2020 6:23 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Disappointed

Good Evening Mayor Adams, City Council and City Staff!!

My name is Carrie Bridges. I am not sure if you know the history of the ice/basketball complex in this city. If you would like to know, please give me a call and I will explain it to you. I just want to say this...the mistake the previous city council made was thinking we worked for them oppose to them working for us. What I need you to recognize and realize that tax payers in this cityour mistake, meaning the , was allowing them to sit on the council too long. Many of you ran your platform on revisiting the Ice Arena. I am not sure if that was done with fidelity. The beauty in politics is if we, meaning the tax payers in this city, do not agree with the way you are representing us, we KNOW, we do not have to elect you again, or better yet, allow you to represent us for the full term. Please do not look at this as a threat...this is a promise!!

Carrie
301-332-6028

"Love one another...always"

Awilda Hernandez

From: Sonia <smith1851@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, April 27, 2020 6:29 PM
To: cityclerk
Cc: Timothy Adams; Adrian Boafo
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Citizen Participation (Iceplex) April 27, 2020

Good evening,

>> I am writing to you as a City of Bowie, District 3 resident of 16 years and I am very concerned about the Iceplex project moving forward without full disclosure and consent to we citizens. We need a clearer explanation of where the monies are coming from to pay for the rink. Why does it feel like we are being muscled into paying for a product that does not offer a direct benefit to our citizens? Until that happens, I am FOR stopping work on the construction of the ice rink.

>>> We pay dearly (taxes and fees) to be City of Bowie Residents. And, if I'm correct, those in support of the rink not only do they NOT reside in the City of Bowie, many don't even reside in our Gorgeous Prince George's County. Yet still, are driving this project.

>>>

>>> My daughter has skated US Figure Skating synchronized iceskating for a nationally competitive team for the past nine years. Although Bowie ice arena is in our back yard, 90% of my daughter's private lesson and practice time is spent at other rinks. Despite the fact that I have been a City of Bowie resident for 15 years, my daughter is not eligible to receive a discount on the practice ice; ONLY Bowie ISI Team members are eligible for this discount. The Bowie ISI Team is comprised of recreational skaters, most of whom are not even CITY OF BOWIE RESIDENTS, but are nonetheless able to receive a discounted rate for ice. Why and how are outsiders able to manipulate and control us? Control our hard earned dollars? Why should we continue footing the bill for a new rink that will ultimately INCREASE our taxes, yet still continue to STUNT our involvement and participation?

>>> We need to halt this project IMMEDIATELY. The citizens (District 1 and 3), whom are being directly impacted, have every right to be fully informed as to how this project is being funded. We have a right to know and a right to agree.

>>>

>>> We work too hard to be told what to do in our own backyard. This needs to benefit District 1 and 3 citizens, as well as the citizens of Church Road.

>>

>> The Bowie ISI Team (of the Bowie Ice Arena) has no problem expressing their concern to move forward with the rink project, as quite often posted on their Facebook website page. Please read below the type of blatant remark they recently posted on social media. As a citizen, I replied to the remark ... minutes later the comment was deleted from their Facebook page and I was blocked from further comment. What is there to hide?

>>

>> Here's what Bowie ISI's Facebook page read, followed up by my response:

>>

>>>

9:58



It is very clear that



Bowie ISI Team

1 hr · 

It is very clear that the resi
encouraged to write letters
many false statements bei
heartbreaking. If you are a
City Council, Perhaps incli

>>>

>>>

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>> These are the VERY SAME people (who hide citizens' concerns) that City of Bowie is allowing to manipulate the citizens land, facilities and tax dollars???? People who only want to get their message across, and at the same time delete citizens' concerns??!! Why is this acceptable?

>>

>> Sonia McLain

>>> City of Bowie Homeowner

>>> Woodmore Highlands

>>>

April 27, 2020 Citizen Participation

Good evening, Mayor, City Council and Staff.

I am Milly Hall and live in District 3 and yes, I've lived here for 22 years and counting. I still have the same concerns as my fellow District 3 neighbors. It appears Councilmember Garden inappropriately commented on the fact that we've shared on concerns and rather than listen he went on at last week's meeting stating if he hears one more thing on this subject matter he would explode. He also went on to mention the City has already spent \$7 million of tax payers money on this project.

I think this elected councilmember is forgetting he works for the citizens of Bowie and not the other way around. To be this irresponsible during a time where our nation is being heavily affected by a Global pandemic makes the community feel as though they were mistaken in voting in members that do not have the best interest of all the Bowie citizens, especially the ones impacted the most. Councilmember Garden also mentioned he would not come to a meeting to discuss this issue but only to vote. I feel he should excuse himself if he is inadequately equipped to handle serious matters or concerns from his constituents.

We elected councilmembers campaigning in front of the members of HOA's and communities at meetings, door knocking, events, forums, etc and when asked if they are elected would they consider stopping or modifying the plans for the Ice Rink on Church Rd, the answer they always gave was yes. It now feels like there was no real honesty ever presented as we come to the point now where we are hearing they are unable to challenge this development as is because of actions from the last Council. Will blaming the previous Council be the answer to everything that we're expected to hear when discussing development, etc? It seemed most of the currently elected officials ran on a platform of stopping reckless over development, and I'm pretty sure that spending \$30 million of tax payers money in the next couple of years without achieving the recreational objectives very well means that you're being reckless and negligent which is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. The last Council wasn't thinking of the community as a whole and lost sight of their initial project objectives, but instead of being stuck in the past we should all work towards a better future for our city. Thank you.

Awilda Hernandez

From: Carlos DelCastillo <del.castillo.carlos.e@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2020 12:58 AM
To: Timothy Adams; Adrian Boafo; Henri Gardner; Ingrid Harrison; Michael Esteve; Dufour Woolfley; Rosann Ndebumadu; Awilda Hernandez
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: In support of the Ice arena

Dear Mr. Mayor, City Clerk, and City Council Members,

I am very disappointed to hear that the City Council is revisiting the issue of a new ice arena. This project has been debated ad nauseam.

The studies were done, contractors were hired, ground was broken, and we have already invested several million dollars in this project. I am including, as a reference, a letter that I sent to the City Council on June 7, 2019.

I have looked at the new questions and proposed deviations from the ice arena project.. They are all variations of an old theme, or illogical (as in the past), suggesting that the new city leadership may not be well informed. Good governance depends on institutional memory. I strongly suggest that you reach out to the former leadership for information on this topic.

The new ice arena has been debated, voted on, funded, and is under construction. I am certain that there are other pressing issues that the City Council should be addressing.

Best regards,

Carlos E. Del Castillo
12415 Stafford Ln.
Bowie, MD 20715

Carlos DelCastillo <del.castillo.carlos.e@gmail.com>

Fri, Jun 7, 2019, 3:12 PM

I am writing to express my dismay about your recent opposition to the new ice arena in Bowie. Our ice arena is overused and dilapidated.

There is clearly a demand for the services and the city has spent over \$3M on this project. All the concerns about the proposed new facility have been addressed and the council has voted. Simply, continuing to review this issue is a monumental waste of time and tax dollars. Are we now creating the precedent that every mildly controversial Council decision will be sent to a referendum? This is not how representative democracy should work.

I have heard about competing proposals for other sports facilities like basketball courts. A cursory review using google maps shows a large number on indoor and outdoor basketball courts in the city, in addition to the courts available at almost every school. However, we have just one obsolete and overcrowded ice arena to serve our area.

The studies have been done, the people have spoken, and millions have been spent on this project. We need to move on. I strongly hope that you will reconsider your position.

Regards,

Carlos E. Del Castillo
12415 Stafford Ln
Bowie, MD 20715
3012628525

Awilda Hernandez

From: Monie Pinder <mwpinder@hotmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 1, 2020 6:54 PM
To: cityclerk
Cc: Monie Pinder
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Tax Increase

Dear Tax Collectors:

What do the citizens of Bowie have to give up during this pandemic in order to satisfy your continued money grabbing ways. People are standing in food lines in order to feed their families so how can they contribute to the city's budget when they have nothing to contribute? Perhaps you can ask seniors who are on fixed incomes to stop buying food and medication in order to satisfy your unwillingness to adjust your budget just as us ordinary people have to do when there is an insufficient amount of money in our accounts. Citizens can't pay their mortgages but perhaps that doesn't matter because whatever they can scrape together, the city thinks it belongs in its budget. The smart thing to do right now is to do a downward adjustment to the city budget because the average citizen is too stressed right now to take on additional financial responsibilities. I am appalled that during this dire time the City of Bowie has the audacity to sit down and plan how it can take from folks who have little to nothing to offer themselves and their families, let alone a city government.

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

Received via text on May 1, 2020 at 7:37pm

Citizen concerned about proposed tax increases: Hello I'm concerned and appalled regarding the proposal to increase taxes. We already have some of the higher taxes and I'm unsure where those dollars are going into the community. Furthermore, this seems like the most inopportune time as we are going through a national crisis with COVID with business shut down and unemployment on the rise.

202-320-9717

Awilda Hernandez

From: Melissa Richardson <ladymelissa@solace2you.org>
Sent: Friday, May 1, 2020 7:54 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Proposed Tax Increase

Mayor Tim Adam, this is horrible timing to consider a tax increase. The city does not need this added burden nor stress. Consider cutting less beneficial services and projects such as the new ice rink. Perhaps attracting better scale businesses to occupy the Bowie Town center is a start because it will help keep residents who go shopping outside of Bowie in Bowie.

Kindly,
Melissa Richardson

Sent from my Samsung Galaxy smartphone.

Awilda Hernandez

From: Wayne <wmaddox@geminiproperties.net>
Sent: Friday, May 1, 2020 8:32 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Property Tax Increase

Hell No!

Wayne P. Maddox
(301)412-6150
wmaddox@geminiproperties.net

Awilda Hernandez

From: Linda N.E <ms.lindaeligwe@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, May 2, 2020 4:13 PM
To: cityclerk
Cc: Michael Esteve
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Bowie budget - 2021

Good Afternoon,

Thanks for keeping Bowie residents in the loop and sharing the budget. I opened the document and started reviewing it only to realize that it is 320 pages. Therefore, it occurred to me that majority of the residents may be turned off by the document length and the fact that it's not very read friendly. I think it's important to consider the target audience of this document. With that said, would it be possible to send out an executive summary of the budget to residents and capture the **major highlights?** The main document can serve as a reference. I understand that this may take time but it could be a copy and past from the main document.

I think it's great that this document is sent out but the goal is to have people read it. However, I am afraid that this will be diminished based on the length.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Best regards,

Linda Eligwe, PharmD, MSc.
8111 River Park Rd
Bowie, Md 20715

--

Kind regards,
Linda Eligwe, Pharm.D, M.Sc.

Awilda Hernandez

From: Michael Doaks <michaeladoaks@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 3, 2020 2:54 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Fwd: Ice Arena Funding

Dear City of Bowie Mayor and City Council,

The previous City Council meeting was very informative and I commend the Mayor and those council members who maintained their professionalism and extended courtesy to Mr. McNeal from the M-NCPPC. I assume that he was asked to present information that could be helpful to the council in considering potential alternatives to what is currently moving forward as a singular purpose ice rink. As tax-paying citizens we have a right and an obligation to speak up about matters whether we agree or disagree. I believe that we also owe each other the respect to hear opposing views and to respond professionally without interrupting another's comments and to respect opposing opinions. It may very well be the case that all Bowie residents had an opportunity to previously weigh in on the proposed ice complex. I know from having worked in local government for more than 30 years that more times than not, the average person may miss messaging about a proposal because of their busy lives going to work, raising children, caring for older parents and a host of other life concerns that people must deal with. That does not in any way diminish their right to express their views (for or against) a public matter, especially when there is a great likelihood that their pocketbooks will be impacted by a decision. After having read and heard some of the projections on this ice rink project it raises more questions than answers. For one, the projections offered by Councilperson Garner were far removed from the baseline projects as presented by Mr. McNeal who has managed the county's park system for more than 20 years. There is a disconnect with these projected returns that I believe should be revisited. Secondly, why would the city continue moving forward (stay the course) with a one sport concept when it is clear that a multi-plex approach is the industry standard and better serves the interest and needs of all residents? Whatever motivation is behind this pushback on what the citizens of the city truly desire is disheartening and disappointing. Finally, it appears that the city may be on the hook for funds already expended and contractual commitments to the contractor. (Although in my experience working on public projects there is always an out written into contracts in favor fo the government. For example, if there is a decline in revenue for a project as originally projected.) If the city's financial involvement at this point is too great to abandoned the project; at least consider alternative designs. If we have to live with the decision lets at least get a better return on our tax dollars than a one-sport complex.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Michael Doaks <michaeladoaks@gmail.com>
Date: Sun, Apr 19, 2020 at 1:09 PM
Subject: Ice Arena Funding
To: <Cityclerk@cityofbowie.org>

Dear City of Bowie Mayor and City Council,

I have been a resident of the City of Bowie for 24 years. I moved here because of the peaceful setting, diverse population and excellent services delivered by the City. I realized at settlement for my home that as a resident I would be required to pay a special city tax in addition to that imposed by the State and the county. I was willing to do so for the amenities and services that came with the location. What I did not sign up for was to have my already high taxes increased to pay for a costly and unnecessary recreational facility for which there is no funding except through borrowing funding by way of issuing bonds. There are much greater priorities (i.e., schools, roadway improvements, senior housing) in the city than an ice skating rink. It is my understanding that the City Council insists on pushing through funding for this project amid COVID-19 when the state and the county have made it clear that there will be

significant funding cuts as a result of the economic fallout of this pandemic. Gov. Hogan has made it clear that the state's rainy-day fund is depleted and that there will be no new approved spending (such as the recently passed education initiative). Why in the world would our city council even consider new spending for an ice rink during this crisis?! I thought we elected people that could be depended upon to act judiciously and responsibly with taxpayer dollars. This is not the time to load on unfunded spending items to the city budget. The future is too uncertain given these times, which is being compared by some prominent economists to the Great Depression. I would encourage the council to not act carelessly with the economic health of the city and to instead act cautiously and conservatively. This is a time for common sense spending decisions and not a time for funding wish list items such as an ice skating rink.

Sincerely,
Michael A. Doaks
District 3 Resident

Awilda Hernandez

From: Darryl Brown <darryl.brown@usuhs.edu>
Sent: Sunday, May 3, 2020 4:18 PM
To: cityclerk
Cc: daryl_82777@comcast.net
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Opposition of the City of Bowie 3.5% Real Property Tax Increase
Attachments: Bowie Letter - Opposing 3.5% Tax Increase - 5-2-20.docx

To Whom it May Concern,

Please record my attached letter and this email as my strong opposition of the City of Bowie's proposed 3.5% Real Property Tax Increase and provide a copy to the Mayor and all Councilmembers.

Thank you
City Council of Bowie
15901 Excalibur Road
Bowie, MD 20716
Subject: Opposition of the City of Bowie 3.5% Real Property Tax Increase

Dr. Mayor Adams and Bowie Councilmembers,

My name is Darryl Brown. I am a concerned citizen and resident of Woodmore Highlands in Bowie, MD. I am writing you to request your assistance concerning the proposal recommended by the Bowie City Manager in April 2020 regarding the significant 3.5% increase for Bowie property taxes.

As a resident of Bowie for over 20 years, I am concerned and strongly oppose this proposal to raise Bowie real property taxes. I am extremely baffled and perplexed that a proposal of this nature would even be considered or given thought based upon the current circumstances occurring regarding the COVID-19 crisis. This is not prudent and sad that an official of this community would propose such given the current issues evolving in Bowie, the US, and world-wide. Thus, I strongly ask that you reject this disturbing proposal to raise Bowie property taxes.

It's not clear to me why the City Manager or the City of Bowie would propose such a tax increase and continue with normal business given the on-going circumstances of this pandemic and the adverse impact on people and the market/economy. The economy has been negatively affected and is failing, thousands of people across the country to include individuals in this community are now unemployed, there many people on fixed incomes, it is highly likely that incomes for others will not rise as the economy recovers, and the impact to property values is unknown; but, it is very likely for some people foreclosures will occur in Bowie and throughout the US.

Other cities, counties, and states have announced major adjustments to their budgets; but, Bowie appears to continue with this disturbing and unwise proposal. Everyone has been negatively impacted by this pandemic, and in addition to justifying the need for any tax increase, the City must accept that it has to make significant adjustments as well for the best interest of the community; and this is not the appropriate answer. Bowie and PG citizens have been paying these ever-increasing taxes for a while, but citizens can certainly not afford this at this time.

Like the approval to move forward with the community ice rink on Church Road and the passage of CB-017-2019, this is just another disturbing, imprudent, and irresponsible proposal or recommendation made by Bowie and PG County elected officials over the past few years concerning doing what is not in the best interest of community citizens and tax payer's funds. In both above cited cases, the community spoke clearly that they were not in favor the proposals; the responsible officials approved the proposals regardless. I sincerely hope this time, as the Mayor and Bowie

Councilmembers, you will understand the needs of the citizens, and I strongly urge you to vote "No" on this proposal. This proposal in no way helps Bowie citizens at this time of unfavorable circumstances.

If Bowie is going to consider any proposals, it should be approaches that will aid its citizens from a health and safety standpoint and to help them conserve their financial resources.

Respectfully,

Darryl Brown

Awilda Hernandez

From: Sonia <smith1851@aol.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 3, 2020 7:30 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Citizen Participation - proposed tax increase

Dear Sir/Ma'am,

The City of Bowie is proposing to raise taxes again at the worst time ever - during a global pandemic. People are losing jobs, losing money in retirement funds, grappling with how to pay for children's education, etc., so much uncertainty about the financial future. That, coupled with the unexplained monies being used for the ice rink that does NOT directly benefit our community, is of serious concern. Yet, the City of Bowie continues with business as usual in the midst of this pandemic. The citizens have been paying for these ever-increasing taxes, and in no way can afford this at this time.

Regards,
Sonia McLain
Woodmore Highlands

Awilda Hernandez

From: Sonia <smith1851@aol.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 3, 2020 11:16 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Citizen Participation - proposed tax increase

Regarding letter below, my wife (Sonia McLain) sent a letter already to be read May 4th, the below letter I'm signing (David McLain) - please read as well.

Dear Sir/Ma'am,

The City of Bowie is proposing to raise taxes again at the worst time ever - during a global pandemic. People are losing jobs, losing money in retirement funds, grappling with how to pay for children's education, etc., so much uncertainty about the financial future. That, coupled with the unexplained monies being used for the ice rink that does NOT directly benefit our community, is of serious concern. Yet, the City of Bowie continues with business as usual in the midst of this pandemic. The citizens have been paying for these ever-increasing taxes, and in no way can afford this at this time.

Regards,
David McLain
Woodmore Highlands

Awilda Hernandez

From: Kim Derocher <kimderocher@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 4, 2020 2:15 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Re: New City of Bowie IcePlex

Thank you, please remove the first paragraph " As a Bowie resident and current or former Bowie Hockey Club member, we are very excited about the new two-sheet Bowie IcePlex and the availability of additional ice time and new programs such as girl's ice hockey, adult leagues, more public sessions, and special skater programs for hockey and figure skating." as somehow I duplicated the same information.

Kim

On Mon, May 4, 2020 at 9:39 AM Kim Derocher <kimderocher@gmail.com> wrote:
Council and Mayor,
Thank you for the opportunity to speak.

My name is Kim Derocher and I am a Bowie resident of 50 years.

As a Bowie resident and current or former Bowie Hockey Club member, we are very excited about the new two-sheet Bowie IcePlex and the availability of additional ice time and new programs such as girl's ice hockey, adult leagues, more public sessions, and special skater programs for hockey and figure skating.

For the record, I'd like to say I support the two sheet ice facility, I have 4 children who are ice skaters, two are National level competitive ice skaters as members of Synchronized ice skating teams, the other 2 are hockey players.

These nationally competitive teams require hours of ice time each week to perfect their programs. The level of commitment from these skaters is second to none. Finding ice time for these programs is currently extremely difficult. We had a team of 18 skaters, who were between the ages of 12 and 18 years old, traveling up and down the COAST each week to squeeze in ice time. In a month's time, they traveled multiple times to Frederick, MD; York, PA; Harrington, DE; Reisterstown, MD; and Abingdon, MD, in order to get the time they required to skate together. Bowie was unable to offer any time as they were booked solid from 5:30 am until after midnight nearly every day.

I have heard an argument that because there are more NON RESIDENTS using the facility, they (fellow citizens of Bowie) are not able to justify the cost of the facility. Has anyone addressed the amount of money these families pay to participate in these programs, These groups don't skate for FREE. WE PAY FOR OUR TIME! And it is MUCH more than the amount paid for a Public Session. MOST of the cost is to pay for the ice time.

Between hockey practices and figure skating practices, required individual skating practice, and private lessons, skaters are on the ice multiple hours a week. Parents often drop their children off to head to local businesses to pass the time.

The second sheet of ice is STILL desperately needed in Bowie! My 6-year-old son had weekly Hockey practice at 6:45 am on Sundays, and my 16 yo had practice from 8:45 until 10 pm during the week. The second sheet of ice would give us the ability to schedule practice during NORMAL hours.

Please proceed with the current plans for 2 sheets of ice. It is needed desperately by the skating community. As a Bowie resident and current Bowie Hockey Club member as well as former member of the Bowie Figure Skating Club, Bowie Metroliners, and Bowie ISI team, we are very excited about the new two-

sheet Bowie IcePlex and the availability of additional ice time and new programs such as girl's ice hockey, adult leagues, more public sessions, and special skater programs for hockey and figure skating.

I also support the need for additional indoor court facilities.

Please support our Skaters, we are a large community that brings many benefits and money to our City.

Thank You.

--

Kim-Marie Derocher
Phone 301-233-0645
Fax 1-423-376-0164

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Kim-Marie Derocher
Phone 301-233-0645
Fax 1-423-376-0164

Awilda Hernandez

From: Jenny Kormanik <georgiamae445@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 4, 2020 9:46 AM
To: cityclerk
Cc: Lori Jones
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Support for construction of the two sheet Bowie IcePlex facility

Hello Council and City Staff, My name is Jennette Kormanik. I am the mother and wife of a few Bowie Bruins Hockey players. My husband and brother in law both grew up playing hockey at Bowie from a very young age. My husband is a coach for the Bruins. My son, 5, is following in the family footsteps and has been skating at Bowie for the past two years (yes since he was 3) and was officially a Bruin Mite for the 19/20 Fall/Winter season.

I am in support of all recreational amenities in the City. There is a long family history of enjoying all recreation facilities within the Bowie community, being close residents in the Crofton area, and a long standing hockey family. The Bowie residents are very fortunate to have beautiful safe parks and facilities to enjoy. The current ice arena is almost 50 years old and has served the community and our family very well. The current location is no longer able to facilitate the many tournaments, gatherings, and events due to the wonderful top notch programs Bowie has to offer the community. Whether it's hockey, figure skating, or outdoor recreation such as basketball, soccer, skateboards, playgrounds and picnics, Bowie offers it all!

The entire Kormanik family supports the new two sheet Bowie IcePlex being built on Church Road and we will continue to support a new indoor court facility at the Bowie Golf Course. A partnership with MNCPPC or Bowie State University would be wonderful for the new indoor court facility. I support road improvements throughout the City as Bowie is a very heavily populated area for commuters and shoppers.

Please tell me if there is anything we can do to help support the City's efforts with the County regarding these road improvements, and recreational construction projects.

Thank you so much for your time and consideration,

Jenny Kormanik, and family.
301-609-2834

Awilda Hernandez

From: Michael Glaubitz <mglaubitz@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 4, 2020 9:50 AM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Bowie IcePlex

Good morning Council and City Staff,

My name is Michael Glaubitz. I am in support of all recreational amenities in the City. There is a long history of supporting all types of recreation within the community with both indoor and outdoor opportunities. The Bowie residents are so lucky to have beautiful parks and facilities to enjoy. Outside residents are also lucky to be able to come spend money at the facility and surrounding retail establishments. The current ice arena is almost 50 years old and has served the community well. I support the new two sheet Bowie IcePlex being built on Church Road but also support a new indoor court facility at the Bowie Golf Course. A partnership with MNCPPC or Bowie State University would be wonderful for the new indoor court facility.

I also support road improvements throughout the City including Route 450, Route 197 and Church Road. Please know many people support the City's efforts with the County regarding these road improvements.

Michael Glaubitz

Awilda Hernandez

From: Darryl-Alt Leon <dnl@leonusa.com>
Sent: Monday, May 4, 2020 11:13 AM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: New Bowie IcePlex

Council and City Mayor:

My family wanted to express our gratitude to you and our support for Bowie's new IcePlex. We have one older and one younger son playing hockey, and have been loyal Bowie Bruins for 17 years since our oldest started in 2003! Our youngest starts high school next year, so it'll be another four more years ahead for us, for a total of 21 when we're all done.

We've enjoyed our time at the Bowie Ice Arena, but as the club has expanded (with great improvements to the program in recent years, and more and more kids participating), ice time begins to be limited. And, of course, the facility itself is aging. It's definitely time for a new rink and a second sheet of ice! Looking forward to hosting larger tournaments on our home ice!

I want to point out that I am NOT a Bowie resident...we live in Calvert County. But the Bowie Ice Arena and the Bowie Bruins Hockey program has us (almost literally) living in Bowie. In and around all the hockey events, we eat in Bowie, shop in Bowie, go to the movies in Bowie, go to the LA Fitness in Bowie, go to Starbucks and Smoothie King and other places to get drinks, walk the Town Center in Bowie...all because it's very convenient to do so before, during, and after hockey practices and games. And there are a lot of other families down here in Calvert, as well as many others in the surrounding counties and townships that I'm sure do the same. Dollars that we would have normally spent in Dunkirk, or a movie we might have gone to Annapolis to see, or a restaurant we might have gone to in Prince Frederick, we end up most times going to Bowie to spend, simply because it's convenient to the ice rink. I'm sure this point was a prime factor in your decision to move forward with the plan to build. Perhaps our personal experience will reinforce that.

As I said, our son has four years left as a Bruin...we are very much hoping that he can spend the majority of those four years playing in the new facility!

Thank you for your time in considering our perspective.

Regards,

Darryl & Joy Leon
Chesapeake Beach, MD

Awilda Hernandez

From: Lisa Coleman <lacnyk@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 4, 2020 12:08 PM
To: cityclerk; Timothy Adams
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Proposed Tax Increase

I am writing to provide input/feedback on the City of Bowie's proposal to raise property taxes. I wholeheartedly oppose the proposal. This is not the time to raise taxes. Residents are either losing jobs or concerned about losing their jobs. We are all anxious about the present and the future because of the pandemic. The ability to pay for healthcare becomes a prominent concern during a pandemic. The cost of food will likely increase because of the impact of Covid on the food supply chain. In addition, I have a college freshman and a child in a private school in Bowie. The last thing that we need is a tax increase. How about cutting expenses before you ask residents to pay more in taxes. You can start with the ice arena. That is a luxury that we cannot afford right now. To be clear, I wasn't in favor of it anyway. I think it benefits too few to justify the expense. However, reducing or deferring the costs of the ice arena and other non-essential spending might defray the need for a tax increase.

Sincerely,

Lisa Coleman
Woodmore Highlands resident

--
Lisa

Received via text on May 4, 2020 at 12:11pm

Dear sir/madam:

The City of Bowie is proposing to raise taxes again at the worst time ever – during a global pandemic. People are losing jobs, losing money in retirement funds, grappling with how to pay for children's education, etc. So much uncertainty about the financial future. That, coupled with the unexplained monies being used for the Bowie Ice Rink that does NOT directly benefit our community, and it is of serious concern. Yet, the City of Bowie continues with business as usual in the midst of this Covid-19 pandemic. The citizens have been paying for these ever-increasing taxes, and in no way can afford this at this time.

Haydee F. Clausen
Woodmore Highlands
202-538-3084

Comments for Bowie's City Council
in support of the proposed budget for
the Green Team
May 2020

The Green Team Committee("GT") is a determined and highly active volunteer group with a genuine desire to fulfill not just the requirements of the Sustainability Plan, but to educate, motivate, encourage and provide leadership, actions and ideas needed to provoke and implement sustainable changes to stay with and ahead of the challenges in our ever changing natural environment.

The GT has made a considerable and thorough effort to develop its own budget which is incorporated in the Planning Department's budget of the City's proposed FY21 budget. This budget will enable our work to continue which you have verbally supported during my annual presentation as well as by our 1:1 discussions.

Below are some examples of how this budget money will be spent:

- The Green Schools subgroup will host a workshop with Nancy Striniste, author and expert on natural playgrounds. The CEO of the Prince Georges County Public Schools, Dr. Monica Goldson, has asked to be included in this workshop. The City of Bowie has been recognized by the County school leaders for their support of our schools as they maintain their Green School certification;
- The Natural Resources subgroup will continue to remove invasive, non-native ivy which is killing trees specifically in Whitemarsh Park. The invasive plant has also infested various areas across the City as well. They will also continue to expand, maintain, and showcase their butterfly and other insect gardens in Bowie;
- The Food, Health and Wellness subgroup will continue promoting and educating the virtues of home composting and the positive effects plant based diets have on our bodies and on our environment;
- The Outreach subgroup will continue to provide an annual art exhibit and music performance to promote the environment;
- The Energy subgroup will continue to educate and promote ways to save energy through the use of renewable energy sources. They will also continue to work with the Business Operation Division to develop the City's Energy Plan; and
- The multi-modal subgroup will continue to work with staff to complete a connected trail system for recreation and commuting options.

With your support of the proposed budget, the GT's action plan which incorporates all the action items above, will be able to be implemented across the City of Bowie.

The GT's work is not insular, rather, it permeates throughout every City department, group, neighborhood, and entity of Bowie. The GT coordinates and collaborates on all types of activities with businesses, schools, religious organizations, non-profits, and various departments within the City government.

In collaboration with the Environmental Advisory Committee ("EAC"), the GT has created two documents - which we've shared with you before - are receiving kudos from within the County (County Council members and our County Executive Angela Alsobrooks) as well as from Sustainable Maryland. The Climate Action Plan ("CAP") and the Acts of Green are being hailed as timely and valued. The Acts of Green have been shared across all channels of social media for Earth Day/Month and have been positively received by all. The GT and the EAC stand out for having been the creators of these documents.

The GT has also worked with various members of the Staff Sustainability Team ("SST") to complete the Sustainability Plan goals and to create the CAP. As you may be aware, the SST will be responsible for fulfilling the CAP goals for the City. Once the CAP is approved by you, the GT and the EAC will continue to work with the SST to achieve the goals in measurable, efficient, and effective ways.

By supporting the proposed budget, we can keep on doing what we've been doing - always looking and forging ahead. We are doing our best to facilitate the vital changes needed to keep the City of Bowie on the cutting edge of sustainability practices and environmental actions.

We know that any unspent funds from one year will not carry over to the next. However, because of the coronavirus, we may not be able to spend the \$200 allocated to honor Bowie's Green Citizen of the Year. PLEASE honor those monies so they can be spent once the entities where we'll spend them will be open if not before June 30. I will come back to you to ask you to set aside time at a Council meeting when we can be there in person to honor this person. The name has not yet been announced.

As a group you've supported us verbally and with various pieces of policy. Now, this is the time to literally put your – actually OUR - money where your mouths are:) Please support funding our work for this next year.

Thank you for considering our requests.

Sue Livera
Chair, Green Team

Please keep listening...I DO HAVE AN ADDITIONAL COMMENT TO MAKE:

Unfortunately, many of the vital changes needed to make progress on our sustainability goals are not always a priority for many and/or are categorized as a “tree hugger” thing. The GT is here to educate and break the “tree hugger” perception held by many. The future of our resources are not to be taken lightly. The future of our City, its residents and our families should be a priority for everyone.

Bowie Community Media Corporation

May 4, 2020 Statement Regarding BCMC Grant Submission

Mayor Adams and City Council Members, thank you for the opportunity to submit a statement on behalf of the Bowie Community Media Corporation Board of Directors and its members. Our organization provides local television programming for City residents and the immediate surrounding area, and we are devoted to the charge of promoting diverse, entertaining, informative and educational programming to our viewership.

Our programming covers a wide variety of subject matters and topics including religion, informative talk shows highlighting the arts, mental and physical health care, veteran affairs, business opportunities and strategies, educational documentaries, domestic animal care, and teen/young adult interests. Our programming provides insight on the general world we live in and specific topics that are near and dear to the Bowie community.

Within the next three years, it is BCMC's goal to build upon our existing infrastructure and expand our programming and viewership while continuing to produce quality programs that are enlightening, engaging and uplift our community. Our goal includes expanding our current production space and equipment inventory, procuring additional staff and consultants, and using emerging technologies that will allow viewers to stream our shows on any digital platform. These goals are achievable with steady and continued leadership and financial support.

As an independent member-based organization, BCMC's funding is made possible through corporate membership fees and grants. The City has funded BCMC since conception and has made it possible for us to successfully manage our operational expenses. We are appreciative of the financial support provided thus far, particularly the additional funding provided to reboot our website. To that end, we were able to launch on May 1st our new and improved website at www.bcmctv.org, which showcases our programming content and the producers who make it possible. The website is a great start in laying a foundation for our marketing strategy, however, there is a lot more to be done to move us forward into the new millennium of television programming.

To build upon the existing infrastructure, we are looking to enlist additional human resources and consultants (on a temporary basis) to support operational requirements that include a robust marketing and social media campaign. In addition, we are looking to work with the City in upgrading the studio space to include updated furnishings and screens to use as an alternative to virtual studio affects. We are also looking to purchase updated cameras, sound and lighting equipment for remote shoots, and may possibly add an additional editing suite option in our BCMC space to be manned by a BCMC tech editor resource. These are all items on our wish list as we look to attract seasoned local television producers and production quality shows that will further enhance programming options for our viewers. In addition, we are

hoping to set up a partnership with Bowie State University that will allow paid interns to support BCMC programming efforts while earning credits for graduation.

Once we've stabilized and strengthened our infrastructure, we will look to expand our platform to include online streaming directly from our website, while supporting current programming on our channel. Again, these plans are achievable and can be done within the timeframe posed, however, we will need continued support from our City partners and leaders to ensure we are ready for "primetime".

As the television industry as a whole continues to forge new heights in content accessibility, it is our hope the City will join us in this new vision for public access programming and moving us towards this new era. Thanks again for the opportunity to address this body and for your consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

Valerie Hall Yancey
President, Bowie Community Media Corporation

Awilda Hernandez

From: Michayla Derocher <kayladerocher@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 4, 2020 2:16 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL};

Council, Thank you for the opportunity to speak. My name is Michayla Derocher and I am a Bowie resident of 19 years. I'd like to say I support the two sheet ice facility as well as a new indoor court facility.

I have been an ice skater for as long as I can remember. Skating is in my blood. For 9 years, I traveled to Abingdon, Fredrick, and Reisterstown multiple times a week to other rinks because they had the ice time to support my Synchronized Ice skating team and Bowie Ice Arena did not.

I believe the two ice facility will open up the opportunity to bring more business into this great city while also encouraging more people to try out the sport I hold so dear to my heart.

Thank you for all of your hard work. I hope you will make the decision to support our ice skating community.
-Michayla Derocher

--

Thanks, -Michayla Derocher

May 4, 2020

To Whom It May Concern:

Please do not impose extra hardship on our family by increasing taxes during this global pandemic. I am no longer working and don't know when I can go back to my job. I am not the only person in my Bowie neighborhood that will be losing or have lost their job. People are going into their retirement accounts to make ends meet and send our children to college. Lastly, an ice rink does not directly benefit the majority of our community and it is extremely expensive to build.

As a homeowner, my husband and I are pleading with you to **not raise our property taxes.**

Terrance & Jackie Collins

Woodmore Highlands

14610 Dewey Ridge Court, Bowie, MD

Awilda Hernandez

From: James Smart <belairatbowiememories@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, May 4, 2020 2:56 PM
To: Awilda Hernandez
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Good Afternoon, Awilda, Jim Smart - Bowie Historian - expressing support for the "Welcome to Belair At Bowie" signage at Sussex Lane.

Good Afternoon, Awilda - I would like to express my support for the "Welcome To Belair At Bowie" signage at Belair Drive and 450, and Stonybrook Drive and 450.

I have been researching Belair's history since the 1970s. I grew up in Belair in the Chapel Forge section and am a Bowie High graduate. Bowie, Maryland will always be my hometown.

I am currently writing a book on the history of Belair At Bowie by Levitt & Sons - expected to see published in 2021 in time for Belair's 60th Anniversary. This book will detail the birth and development of Belair At Bowie and will address Levitt & Son's positive effect on the Bowie area during the 1960s. I believe the historic Welcome To Belair At Bowie, Maryland signage at the corners of Stonybrook and 450 and Belair and 450 are important to the recognition of Levitt & Son's contribution to Bowie history. Levitt recognized the value of the Belair Estate and the Stables and kept them safe from harm - and ultimately donating them to the City of Bowie. He understood the value of the estate's history - pre-dating Colonial times. I see Sussex Lane as the centerpiece of Belair At Bowie - which is where these signs should be placed and maintained. They should be immediately recognizable to anyone passing through these intersections.

It is my hope, and the hope of others who recognize Levitt's contribution to Bowie history, that the city council will appreciate the value of these signs and make this a priority.

Many thanks for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jim Smart
Bowie Historian

661-860-1806 Cell

Awilda Hernandez

From: turtlebug212@comcast.net
Sent: Monday, May 4, 2020 3:15 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: May 4th Meeting Letter Submission

I am writing to submit a letter to be read at tonight (May 4th) City Council meeting:

Good Evening Council and City Staff, my name is Sarah Schaefer. I am a life-long resident of Bowie (minus a few years as a military wife) and the granddaughter of original Bowie owners. I am writing in full support of the two sheet Bowie IcePlex that is currently under construction.

The current Bowie Ice Arena is a staple in the Bowie community. It gives a place where the ice sports community can perfect and practice their passion – no where else can they do this without ICE. Outdoor drills are just not the same. The current facility is just not up to standards anymore and can not handle the size of what the skating programs have grown to be. I will also make it known that I am the Bowie Hockey Club board secretary – my son has been with the club for what is going into his 6th season. This time of the COVID19 pandemic it has really just reinforced how important the rink is to these players and participants. They are concerned about staying in the correct shape without the use of ice to be able to play and make the teams that they want to be with. My son actually told me the other day he would give ANYTHING to put on his stinky hockey gear and just go skate around the ice and do drills. If any of you have teenagers you know that's a big deal – they just like to stay holed up in their rooms mostly! I am sure there are many other players in this ice community that feel the same way.

As far as any additional indoor or outdoor facilities for other sports – I will back what is needed. I do truly believe that there are enough basketball courts in Bowie that could just be cleaned up or taken better care of and would be enough to cover what is needed. They are at every park, school, playground etc. To which I have never seen any full. I do think that a multisport usage indoor facility would be a good addition. My daughter has twirled Baton in the past and it was hard to find locations indoor during the cold months when schools were closed – since school buildings is where they normally practiced. The City Gym would rent small rooms to us to use but its hard to practice tricks with a low ceiling.

So just to recap I am in FULL support of the new 2 sheet IcePlex that is in progress and an indoor facility near the Bowie Golf Course.

Thank you for taking the time to listen to my thought on the matter.

We love being Bowie residents and part of the Ice community.

Awilda Hernandez

From: Suzie Wilson <suzzeequ@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 4, 2020 3:38 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Bowie IcePlex

Dear Council and City Staff, My name is Suzie Wilson and I want to thank you for continuing to support the diverse needs of the Bowie community through different recreational opportunities.

I am a FULL supporter of the new IcePlex being built. As a long-time member of this community I would like to speak regarding one issue I keep hearing regarding the new location. That is the talk of traffic issues in the new rink location – the Bowie Ice arena does not bring a traffic issue to its current location. Even with the park and other fields in the same place the traffic is not a problem on any given day. I honestly would say the busiest it is over there is during concert series when they run out of parking. I think that with it being in its OWN location for just the ice community it would actually be better for all. I would also like to see the original rink taken down and maybe more parking spaces for the park and fields at Allen's Pond. Living within walking distance of Allen's Pond – I drive these roads frequently and on various times and days of the week.

I do not think that this issue should be stopping a project that has already been voted on, approved, and started. I'm sure there has been plenty of money spent on this project already and it needs to be completed.

I again fully support the new IcePlex and am interested in hearing more in the future about an indoor multi facility on 197 near the Golf Course.

Thank you for your time.

Awilda Hernandez

From: angie klapp <akkmom@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, May 4, 2020 3:44 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Bowie Ice Plex - Letter to be read at tonights (5/4/20) counsel meeting

Dear Council and City Staff - thank you for all the hard work through not only this budget process but the COVID-19 health crisis.

My name is Angela Klapp and I have been a resident of Bowie for over 50 years. As I grew up in Bowie I benefited from the Bowie sports programs as did my daughter and now my grandchildren. The residents here are lucky to have beautiful parks and facilities to enjoy.

I wanted to state that for the record, I am in FULL support of the Bowie Ice Plex two sheet ice facility currently under construction and also support the new indoor facility as well. The current ice arena is almost 50 years old and has served the community well - supporting youth and adult hockey teams, figure skating teams, learn to skate programs, private lessons and public open skating. This new facility will benefit many more than it is able to do now.

I also support road improvements throughout the City including Route 450, Route 197 and Church Road.

We greatly appreciate your assistance and continued support for the new two sheet Bowie Ice Plex

Kind regards,

Angela Klapp
Kittery Lane
Bowie

Awilda Hernandez

From: Geary, Karen L. <kgeary@nsf.gov>
Sent: Monday, May 4, 2020 4:03 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Support for the New Bowie IcePlex

Mayor, Council, and staff,

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

Back in 1977, when I was 7 years old, my dad took me to my first hockey game to see the Washington Capitals play. That's where my love for the game began. My son started his hockey career in 2011 playing for the Bowie Hockey Club and then for the Bowie Ice Dogs and our entire family considers the Bowie Ice Arena "home".

As you all know the current Bowie Ice Arena is almost 50 years old and is no longer able to support all the needs of all the skating communities. Because of this, those communities are not able to expand and grow their well-established programs. Current users struggle every season for available ice slots just to continue with the users they currently accommodate. We often have to travel outside of Bowie just to accommodate practices and games because there is not enough ice for everyone. Having two ice sheets year round will allow these clubs to expand and start new programs, such as adult hockey leagues, girls ice hockey programs, expand the figure skating program, offer more public skating sessions or even curling. Every new program is a new opportunity for the Bowie community. According to USA Hockey*, the Potomac Valley area (Washington DC, Maryland and Virginia) is among the nation's fastest-growing hockey hotbeds. Over the past five seasons alone, more than 1,000 new players have joined the ranks and the total number of players now exceeds 22,000 (source: https://www.usahockey.com/news_article/show/827710). In fact,

Maryland formed its first Tier II Junior Ice Hockey team in the North American Hockey League's East Division (2018-2019 inaugural season).

While I passionately support the new two sheet Bowie IcePlex I also want to show my support for a new indoor court facility at the Bowie Golf Course. A partnership with MNCPPC or Bowie State University would be wonderful for the new indoor court facility. All clubs/organizations deserve the ability to grow and flourish in our great city.

Thank you for your time,
Karen Geary

*USA Hockey is recognized by the International Olympic Committee and the United States Olympic Committee as the governing body for organized ice hockey in the United States and is a member of the International Ice Hockey Federation

Awilda Hernandez

From: David A Gould <dagould1@earthlink.net>
Sent: Monday, May 4, 2020 4:09 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: City of Bowie Ice Plex

Dear Mayor and City Council,

My name is David A Gould, I am a citizen/resident of the city of Bowie, and a registered voter.

I am a past President of Bowie Hockey Club, former coach Bowie High School hockey, and I've coached at Bowie Hockey Club for 35 years, my two sons grew up playing hockey here in Bowie and I now have a grandson that is registered with Bowie Hockey Club.

I am writing in full support of the two sheet Bowie IcePlex that is currently under construction. I am also writing to voice my support of all indoor and outdoor recreational opportunities for the community. support for the youth of this community is one of the main reasons that I moved here to Bowie.

Your continue support is needed for two sheets of ice to accommodate the needs so individuals and users so we don't have to continue to battle over the limited ice currently available on a single sheet of ice.

Ice time for the many user groups is at a premium and very difficult to accommodate each user group as well as the public.

I want to thank the Mayor and City Council for their efforts on behalf of the community. "HAVE A ICE DAY!"

Respectfully,
David A Gould
Resident City of Bowie

"Let me not mourn for the men who have died fighting, but rather let me be glad that such heroes lived" GEN. George S. Patton 7 June 1945

Awilda Hernandez

From: Brenda James <barbarol@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, May 4, 2020 4:54 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: (EXTERNAL): Citizen Participation - Iceplex

Good evening Mayor Adams, Council members and Staff.

My name is Brenda James and I have been a homeowner in Bowie's District 3 for 23 years. I am writing to plead with the Council to not move forward with the Iceplex on Church Road. The Iceplex was not a good decision for Bowie or for Church Road. Not only does it not address the recreational needs of our community, it is not a sound financial decision. No reasonable City Council in a city our size would consider assuming such a financial burden for an Iceplex.

The history of the project shows that while the initial objective of this project was to address the recreational needs of our Community, that objective has been side lined to address the desires of a small minority who for the most part are not residents of this wonderful city. Meanwhile, the homeowners are expected to cover an ever increasing financial burden. Please don't convince yourselves that moving ahead in the wrong direction with the dream of making corrections at the end justifies a bad decision, **I assure you, it does not.**

I request that the Council:

1. look at some of the locations that were initially considered in 2013 study, and
2. consider or reconsider the designs that truly address multiple recreation needs of our Community.

Sincerely,
Brenda James

Awilda Hernandez

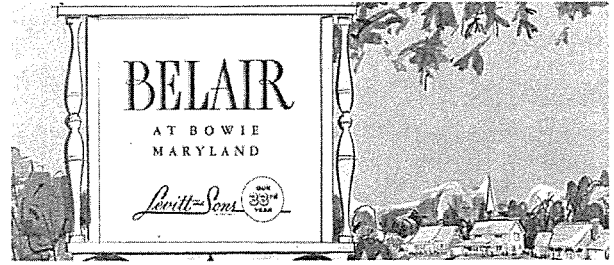
From: IjebuOde <asalisu85@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 4, 2020 4:55 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Citizen Participation Tax Increase

Please, I am strongly against any tax increase at this time as people lost their job and source of income is rapidly drying out.

Abiodun Salisu
14000 Dunwood Valley Drive.

May 4, 2020

City of Bowie, Bowie, MD
Attn: Honorable City Councilmembers and the
Honorable Mayor Tim Adams



2020-21 marks the 60th anniversary of the Levitt and Sons community in Bowie. The models opened on Sussex Lane in October 1960 and the first residents moved in one year later, October 1961. There is a huge, dedicated following on Facebook for anything Bowie – *The Belair at Bowie Book*; *Bowie, Maryland Nostalgia*; *You know you're from Bowie, MD, if you remember....*; *Huntington Heritage Society, Inc.*; *Bowie Living*; along with countless alumni pages for Bowie elementary schools and Bowie High School. The wonder of growing up in Bowie is felt by many. The kids of Belair/Bowie are immensely nostalgic of this special place. The residents of today are also proud of the town they live in and they marvel in the history and heritage.

The history of Levitt and Sons' Belair At Bowie community is young compared to the history of the Belair Mansion and Stables, and Huntington City (Old Bowie). William Levitt saw the history here and made sure it wasn't lost by preserving Belair and the stables. We want to mark the history of Levitt's Belair At Bowie on this anniversary and we look to the City of Bowie to continue its commitment to history and fund the purchase and installation of a sign (Belair At Bowie/Levitt & Sons - Welcomes You) to mark the occasion of this special anniversary. We ultimately would like to see signs flanking Sussex Lane, the location of the Levitt and Sons model homes.

We have strong community support for this idea, a Facebook post on this idea drew much interest. We liaised with the Bowie Arts Committee and have their support in this effort. The Huntington Heritage Society understands the importance of all history and supports projects like this that have to do with furthering Bowie's history and to remember from where we come.

We understand the City is under pressure to cover the important needs of its people regarding the COVID-19 pandemic. Therefore, we respectfully propose the addition to the FY 2021 budget to cover the cost (sign, installation) and maintenance of one sign, with the future hope of a second sign to complete this special project to mark an important piece in Bowie's long and storied history.

We thank you for your consideration and support of this project and for your continued support of Bowie's history and heritage. May you and yours be safe and well.

Respectfully submitted by,

Isabel Pocerull
Representative, Belair At Bowie MD Book
Vice President, Huntington Heritage Society
Member, Old Bowie Arts & Heritage Festival Steering Committee

Attachment: Quote from Adler Display (same company that designed the Kenhill Levitt exhibit)



7140 windsor boulevard, baltimore, md 21244
 phone 410-281-1200 fax 410-281-2187
 www.adlerdisplay.com

Quote

Quote To:

Belair At Bowie Book
 Isabel Pocurull
 4017 Wharton Turn
 Bowie, MD 20715

Ship To:

Belair At Bowie Book
 Isabel Pocurull
 4017 Wharton Turn
 Bowie, MD 20715

Quote # ADLQ38405

Date 03/23/20

Sales Rep. Ron Adler

Terms 50/50

Ship Via TBD

Due Date

Here is the quote you requested.

Qty	Description	Unit Price	Ext. Price
1	Belair at Bowie Maryland Levitt and Sons sign - Dimensions: 47" w x 55" h sign mountd on 8' posts Double Sided Version Dimensions: 47" w x 55" h sign mounted on 8' posts	\$5,500.00	\$5,500.00
1	- Classic Black aluminum sign posts with the Belair at Bowie Maryland sign suspended in between the posts. The sign produced will be double sided and made to replicate of the sign that Levitt had on its sales materials. Installation:	\$1,375.00	\$1,375.00
	SubTotal Double Sided		\$6,875.00
1	Single Sided Version Dimensions: 47" w x 55" h sign mounted on 8' posts	\$4,970.00	\$4,970.00
1	- Classic Black aluminum sign posts with the Belair at Bowie Maryland sign suspended in between the posts. The sign produced will be single sided and made to replicate of the sign that Levitt had on its sales materials. Installation:	\$1,375.00	\$1,375.00
	SubTotal Single Sided		\$6,345.00

* Adler Display will provide installation by request, and will be performed during normal daytime business hours, Monday through Friday. The final cost for installation is subject to change based upon final design and will be presented for approval. The City of Bowie will provide all permits necessary for the installation.

Please contact me if I can be of further assistance.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

Freight to ship hardware from manufacturer to Adler Display and Adler Display to client is additional. Any applicable taxes are additional. Graphic prices are subject to change upon final review of artwork provided to Adler Display.

Prices outlined in this quote are subject to change at the discretion of Adler Display should a signed contract not be returned to Adler Display within 30 days from the date on the quote.

Adler Display accepts the following forms of payment; cash, checks, EFT & credit cards (Visa, Mastercard and American Express only for purchases up to \$5,000.00). Note that all deposits are non-refundable.

ACCEPTANCE OF PROPOSAL: The above prices, terms, specifications and conditions are satisfactory and hereby accepted. Adler Display is authorized to do the work as specified.

Date of Acceptance: _____

Signature: _____

Awilda Hernandez

From: pam williams <pwilliams206@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 4, 2020 5:08 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: For Council Meeting

Hi, Awilda! hope things are going ok for you...staying safe from this godawful plague upon us!

Below is a note I sent to Mayor/Council members this morning requesting funding of two Levitt Bowie signs in the coming year. Levitt Bowie is celebrating a milestone year, and it should be acknowledged. Michael Esteve called and asked me to send to you so that it can be read (or whatever) at the meeting.

Again, hope you all are well - your babies are staying away from these germs. I miss you all very very much!
Pam Williams

Good morning...I want to start by saying that, while I am not a resident of Bowie, I spent 22 years in the City of Bowie Museums...the last 12 of which were as the manager of same museums. Bowie history was, and is, important to me.

As you know, Bowie's history goes back to to the early 18century. But...not all of it's history is 18th or even 19th century history.

In 1961, William Levitt developed Belair at Bowie. In doing so, he created a unique neighborhood which remains as unique today as the day the first "settlers" in station wagons (instead of Conestoga wagons) moved in. Bowie remains a place to grow and prosper. It would seem that Mr. Levitt had a good idea. The entire concept of this wonderful community is remarkable in American popular culture today.

In 2021, "Levitt Bowie" will reach it's 60th Birthday. As part of that celebration, an effort is underway to install two "Belair at Bowie" signs, similar to the ones used by Levitt at Belair Dr. and 450, and at Stoneybrook and 450.

A citizen group has met with an exhibit designer - Adler Designs. Adler designed and installed the Belair at Bowie exhibit now at Kenhill. I was privileged to work with them on that project. They were wonderful to work with, and their designs are top notch.

I understand that the present state of affairs from the COVID19 virus has put many things on hold. However, given the light of this year's Belair at Bowie anniversary, I would respectfully ask the City to consider a proposal to pay for these signs. It's time that significant recognition be given to what Bowie started out to become, and which it still remains. We are BowieStrong!

Respectfully,

Pam Williams
206 Grisdale Hill
Riva, Md. 21140
301-807-1773

Awilda Hernandez

From: KIMBERLY <kawwilson@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, May 4, 2020 5:13 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Citizen of Concern of Proposed Tax Increase

Good afternoon,

I'm disappointed that the City of Bowie is proposing to raise taxes again. It's even more concerning that this is a consideration during a global pandemic. People are losing jobs, struggling to keep children engaged academically, and retirement accounts are dwindling. There's so much uncertainty about the financial future. This does not seem fair to or caring for the citizens of Bowie.

Kim Whetstone Wilson

Sent from XFINITY Connect App

Awilda Hernandez

From: Bill <vwchop@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, May 4, 2020 5:51 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Bowie Ice plex

To Bowie City Council

From the Schmidt family
12414 Sarah Lane,
Residents of District 2

Having resided in the City of Bowie for more than 45 years, and having spoken in front of the council multiple times in regards to the ice rink, this councils actions and, the behind the scenes slight of hand, are becoming quite the embarrassment to our community.

The City of Bowie has signed a contract and, the construction has started, for a new ice facility. For some reason, those of us who are Bowie residents and use the current facility, have been consistently told that we don't matter. As a family that has been playing and coaching at the current facility for twenty plus years, and is now watching former teammates bring their children back to a facility, that is no longer in any condition or capacity to continue to support the multiple programs. It is a shame that the opportunity to continue the legacy of growing the skating community is being destroyed. You need to stop playing games, let the new facility be constructed as contracted, and allow us the opportunity to prove that this is a viable facility.

Your continued actions that cause delays in construction are needlessly costing the city a considerable amount of money.

Please just let the Ice rink facility construction move forward unobstructed by your back room meddling.

Thank you,
Bill Schmidt

Awilda Hernandez

From: Amy Goodman <atgoodman@live.com>
Sent: Monday, May 4, 2020 6:13 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Bowie Hockey Club and Facility

Dear Council and City Staff,

First and foremost, I want to thank you for continuing to support the diverse needs of the Bowie community through different recreational opportunities.

My name is Amy Goodman and my son Elijah chooses to play for Bowie Hockey Club. Both my dad and my 45-year-old brother coached and played for Bowie 35 years ago. Having Elijah be able to follow in their footsteps in a community where we feel safe and welcome has been a rewarding experience for my whole family.

The City of Bowie's parks, fields and facilities are top notch and continuing to invest in the community is of utmost importance. I too, as I am sure others have conveyed, support the two-sheet ice facility as well as a new indoor court facility. While other local more competitive options are available for student athletes like Elijah, us continuing to support the Bowie community is where We choose to invest our time, money, and resources. We Believe!

I thank you for your time. And please continue to be safe in this unprecedented time.

Sincerely,

Amy T. Goodman

Mother of Elijah # 21, U12 player

PS: Bowie was the place Elijah learned to love the ice at 3. When the rink is open, he donates his time to work with the little guys in the Bowie community to pass on his love of the ice to them 😊

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

Awilda Hernandez

From: K. Williamson <williamsonkl@msn.com>
Sent: Monday, May 4, 2020 6:22 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Citizen Participation - Bowie City Council Meeting 05/4/2020

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

I am sending this email to serve as my citizen's participation concerns for the council meeting tonight 05/04/2020. I am a resident in District#3 of Bowie. I live in the Woodmore Highlands community. I am voicing my continued concerns for the development of the ice rink to be located at Church Road. There are a few major points I would like to address:

- The Coronavirus and COVID-19 is proving to be a major burden on the City of Bowie resources and its residents. I must voice again that to continue this development at this time must be balanced with our need to maintain our city. The expense of \$23-25 Million dollars to work on an ice rink, which probably can't be used any time soon. I hope the council under the Mayor's leadership will reconsidered.
- The Bowie City needs to enhance our citizen safety measures and responses for enabling to handle disaster.
- Lastly, I feel that our own Bowie Town Center plans need to be consider for future economic growth and development. The tasks we need to work on is what is going to attract new businesses for jobs, retail, and city taxes.

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

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

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

Awilda Hernandez

From: Bryan McCormick <bemccor@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 4, 2020 6:30 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Budget FY 2021 tax proposal

Hello My name is Bryan McCormick

I'm sending this email to protest the tax increase. It doesn't take a lot of words to understand the lack of emotional intelligence that goes into proposing a increase in taxes when we have a pandemic where millions of people are unemployed. In the end I'm against taxes being raised during this trying time.

Best,

Bryan McCormick

Awilda Hernandez

From: Michael Bargeron <mbargeron@me.com>
Sent: Monday, May 4, 2020 6:34 PM
To: Awilda Hernandez
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Proposed Belair at Bowie sign

I have lived in Bowie, at the same address, since August of 1963 and was lucky enough to grow up in the special community of Belair at Bowie. William Levitt not only built the houses in this town but he also created neighborhoods which created friendships, ideals and a sense of community that helped make our current City of Bowie what it is today.

It is hard to believe that in 2021 as this Levitt community celebrates its 60th Anniversary I will have lived here for 58 of those years. My eyes saw the golden years of Bowie and I have developed not only a love and appreciation of the city that I grew up in but I also have a keen awareness of the history of Bowie. In my own little way I am trying to save and share as much of that history as I can before it disappears. Through my collection of Bowie memorabilia, pictures and ephemera I have discovered that my love of this city and its history are shared by so many who, over the years, have shared my journey with me.

Rather than let history die, I encourage you help it live. The Belair at Bowie exhibit located at Kenhill Center is excellent and certainly does so much to educate and remind people of our past but I believe more can be done. I encourage you to support the effort of placing two "Belair at Bowie" signs, modeled in the same spirit as the original signs were almost 60 years ago, at 2 or 3 key entrances to the city as a way to celebrate and acknowledge our rich history.

Respectfully,

Mike Bargeron
2620 Felter Lane
Bowie, MD 20715
301-580-0362



Awilda Hernandez

From: Bryan McCormick <jamalpshaw@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 4, 2020 6:35 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: 2021 budget meeting

Hello my name is Lawrence,

I'm a district 1 resident. I'm against the proposal. I love Bowie and typically don't say anything about these issues, but this seems very greedy and wrong to go after more money during this midst of this Covid pandemic. Let's show some empathy and hold off Mr. City Manager.

Best,

Lawrence

Awilda Hernandez

From: Elmer C Hebron <chebron1@verizon.net>
Sent: Monday, May 4, 2020 6:42 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Proposed Tax Increase

Good evening,

My wife and I moved to the City of Bowie in 1994 and we love it here. This is our home. Council members attended our HOA meetings last year told us that the city's budget was strong and that we had a surplus. If the city has a strong budget, why is there a proposal to raise our taxes. Now that you are building an Ice rink that the majority living in Bowie is not going to use, you want to raise our taxes to pay for it. Everyone in Bowie was supposed to vote on the project but the city law makers canceled the vote over night and approved the project. You are building the rink over the objection of those you were elected to serve. **DO NOT RAISE OUR TAXES!!!**

Craig

Awilda Hernandez

From: Rachel Derocher <rachel.m.derocher@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 4, 2020 6:56 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Bowie IcePlex Support

Council, Thank you for the opportunity to speak. My name is Rachel Derocher and I am a Bowie resident of 25 years. For the record, I'd like to say I support the need for the two sheet ice facility as well as a new indoor court facility.

Growing up in Bowie I spent a great amount of time at the Bowie Ice Arena as a competitive ice skater. Until I found this sport I wasn't very excited about life, school, anything really. When I started skating competitively in 2008 on the synchronized ice skating team, the Metroliners, I finally had something to care about, something to I was good at that could devote my time to and see my my hard work become fruitful. The love for this sport spilled over into the rest of my life, and I started to excel in school and in other areas of my life. There is no doubt in my mind that I am successful in life today, that I was accepted into college and thrived in university because of the discipline, lessons, and community that the Bowie Ice arena gave me.

The ice rink today has a huge problem, there is so much demand for ice time and not enough hours in the day. The team that I loved was not able to secure enough ice time to keep going. The team folded and I along with several other Bowie residents ended up driving to Abbingdon's Ice World for practice three to four times a week. Myself and a number of other ice skaters and hockey players are traveling to other city's and spending our money there!

I have started involved in the ice community, my sister now works there and my brothers both play hockey and are also faced with the possibility of driving to other ice rinks for practice.

I have personally seen such a great impact in the programs that are run there and how they impact the community so positively!

The new ice rinks are necessary to continue to impact our community, and to keep the money that our, and other city's residents, are spending on these activities in our city of Bowie. It is in our city's best interest to continue to promote the positive impact of sports on young lives and to simultaneously keep the money that is being spent at other ice rinks in our city!

Bowie is a great City because of its diversity and ability to come together as ONE. Let's support this as ONE BOWIE and make it a success!

Thank you for your time

Rachel Derocher

Awilda Hernandez

From: Mike Rauck <mike@rauckmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 4, 2020 7:01 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Citizen Participation Submission for May 4th Council Meeting

Good evening Bowie City Council,

My name is Mike Rauck, and I live at 12223 Westmont Lane in Bowie's Whitehall neighborhood. I am the administrator for the Bowie Living Facebook page and blog, and I am an amateur historian with a great interest in local history.

I'm sure by now that my good friend, Isabel Pocerull, has briefed you on her proposal to erect two signs recognizing the role that Levitt & Sons played in the formation of modern-day Bowie, and I would like to publicly acknowledge my support for the project.

When Levitt arrived in the region, Isabel's parents were caretakers at the Belair Mansion, and the Town of Bowie had just over a thousand residents. Within ten years, the little town became a city, the population exploded to 35,000 people, and major annexations took place that included land in the present-day areas of Districts 1 through 4. So much of city is linked directly or indirectly to Levitt, including the Bowie Town Center, Allen Pond Park, and even our current Bowie City Hall.

As many of you know, the Levitt history is not all rosy, and the historians working for the city have acted responsibly by sharing all history – the good, the bad, and the ugly. But Levitt's lasting impact on our city is undeniable and worthy of recognition.

I would like to give a special "thank you" to Awilda Hernandez for reading this on my behalf. Thank you Bowie City Council, and thank you, Awilda!

Mike Rauck

Awilda Hernandez

From: Robin Belton <rchoiceg@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, May 4, 2020 7:03 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: {EXTERNAL}: Citizen Participation (Sports facility)

Dear Elected officials and City Manager,

>

>> The City of Bowie continues with business as usual in the midst of this pandemic. I work very hard and can not afford to pay for an Ice rink that doesn't benefit my household or bring together the community. As I know how many people also agree that this is a poorly planned development. I'd hope the city would slow down and put the breaks on spending the community's hard earned money instead of rushing and pushing things through that will harm the constituents in the long run.

>>

>> Jobs have and will be uncertain as well as the overall state of the economy so I'm not following what the council's thought process is during these times. The community voted in 6 Council members and one Mayor to work together on behalf of the constituents. Instead of continuing to place the blame on the previous Council for everything, please do your jobs, what you were elected for and hired to do, which is looking out for the best interest of the citizens.

>>

>> Robin Choice

>> District 2

>>

>>

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>> <winmail.dat>

Good evening Council, Mr. Mayor. I appreciate the opportunity to speak to you this evening, as a citizen and a member of the Environmental Advisory Committee – the EAC. My name is Stephen Wehrenberg and I have lived in Kenilworth for 29 years.

I plan to address three substantive issues, and a couple of inexpensive low-hanging-fruit opportunities.

First I will applaud and I hope reinforce your commitment to environmental issues as demonstrated by your Resolution of May 2nd to support the goals of the Paris Climate Accord and join with over 400 other city Mayors as part of the Climate Mayors network.

Part 1 UP

This calls for a dramatic reduction in greenhouse gas emissions, which has been codified in the draft Climate Action Plan which the EAC has submitted to staff, and has been posted on line for public comment. We had hoped for a public hearing in April, but our situation makes that impossible for now.

Second, I'll reiterate a few items that Gary Allen raised in his February 3rd presentation to the Council of the EAC's Next Steps for a Green Bowie.

We encourage you to adopt the Climate Action Plan after any adjustments made as a result of citizen input. We also recommended consideration of three new staff positions: a Chief Sustainability Officer, as has been created in a number of MD jurisdictions, to coordinate and leverage the portfolios of all city departments in meeting sustainability goals. Recognizing that the city's budget, already tight, will be further affected by the pandemic, an interim approach would be to better structure and codify the responsibilities and authority of the Staff Sustainability Team.

Bowie has already received praise and awards for sustainability and energy efficiency, but it will eventually have accomplished all that can be accomplished with city-owned assets and processes. That will not be enough to meet the state or county goals, nor those set by the Climate Action Plan. That will require the efforts of 21,000 Bowie households, and over 60,000 Bowie residents. A full time specialist focusing on outreach, education, and mobilizing our citizens will be crucial to meeting our goals.

The Trails Master Plan calls for a tightly integrated transportation network that accommodates automobiles, public transportation, bike, and pedestrian traffic, all of which should make it even more possible to live, work, play, and shop in Bowie.

Part 1 DOWN

Last on that list is a long standing goal to support the use of electric vehicles by creating the needed EV infrastructure. That is supported for future development by our Dig Once practices, but we need to go much farther.

Right now there is a proposal being staffed to take advantage of generous programs by BGE and the Maryland Energy Administration (the MEA). BGE is advancing Maryland's goal of 300,000 EVs on the road by 2025 by covering the costs of installing, maintaining, and supplying energy for up to four EV charging stations. I'll reiterate – FREE charging stations on City property, preferably City Hall. FREE to the city and FREE to users. Their purpose is to create even more incentives for EV use, and to do so with a visible signal to residents.

The other program on offer – by the MEA – is to install 2 FREE Level 2 EV charging stations that would be for the use of the City's fleet. The city would pay for the electricity, but if the city's vehicles are anything like my electric car, the cost of my electricity is about 11 dollars a month, or 4 cents a mile.

Part 2 UP

The county has taken advantage of these offers by having four FREE public charging stations near the main entrance to the County's Wayne Curry Administration Building, and four more for County vehicles in the side lot where County vehicles park.

This is the proposal enthusiastically promoted by the EAC for BGE's offer, since it demonstrates the city's commitment to our future in a visible way. I understand that a staff proposal to locate the FREE stations around the back of the police station in the lower left of this map has been rejected by BGE as too far from existing infrastructure and not visible enough from Evergreen Parkway to serve as a signal demonstrating the City's commitment to promoting EV use. I urge the council to direct staff to pursue this tremendous opportunity. The gain would far offset the loss of a couple of parking spaces – the incentive value is far greater than the existing incentive of reserved EV/hybrid parking spaces.

Part 2 DOWN

And I'll close with a couple of low-hanging fruit items. For a modest sum of about 4500 dollars, Bowie could field three styrofoam collection points which would be served by the Alliance of Foam Packaging Recyclers of Crofton. Last, for around 800 dollars you could install a water bottle refilling station in city hall – like that being installed in the police station – reducing the number of single use plastic bottles that are discarded, but more importantly serve as a visible example of the commitment of this Council and this City to a sustainable environment – improving the odds that the city and its residents will survive and thrive in the future.

Thank you for your time, and your consideration. I'm eager to meet with any of you to further discuss these issues.