

**COUNTY COUNCIL OF CECIL COUNTY
WORK SESSION MINUTES
May 28, 2019**

PRESENT: Council Members: Robert Meffley, William Coutz, Al Miller, George Patchell and Jackie Gregory; James Massey, Council Manager; Terry Hale, Council Assistant; members of the press; and members of the public.

OPEN SESSION – Elk Room

10:00 A.M. –Council President Meffley called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and determined a quorum.

NOTE: Audio and video recording with transcription of this meeting are available on the County website www.ccgov.org.

The Cecil County Board of Health was convened at 9:00 a.m. with a separate agenda. The Board of Health meeting was concluded at 10:00 a.m. Minutes of the Board of Health are provided on a separate document.

CLOSED SESSION

May 21, 2019

9:45 a.m.

Council President Meffley asked for a motion to go into closed session, which was made by Councilman Coutz, and seconded by Vice President Gregory.

Roll Call Vote: Coutz-Y, Miller-Y, Patchell-Y, Gregory-Y, Meffley-Y.

The motion was carried by a vote of 5 to 0. Council President Meffley, Vice President Gregory, Councilman Coutz, Councilman Miller and Councilman Patchell voted in favor of the motion. There was no opposition.

Council Manager Massey read into the record:

The council is going into closed session as authorized by the General Provisions Article, Section 3-305 (b)(1) of the Annotated Code of Maryland to discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom it has jurisdiction; or any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals.

Present: Council Members: Robert Meffley, William Coutz, Al Miller, George Patchell and Jackie Gregory; James Massey, Council Manager; Terry Hale, Council Assistant.

Guest: John Downs, Victor Jackson

The Council discussed the role of Council Attorney with Mr. Downs and Mr. Jackson. Mr. Downs was asked to attend the Council work sessions, as needed. Mr. Jackson will continue on work assignments.

A motion was made by Vice President Gregory, seconded by Councilman Coutz, to conclude the closed session.

Roll Call Vote: Coutz-Y, Miller-Y, Patchell-Y, Gregory-Y, Meffley-Y.

The motion was carried by a vote of 5 to 0. Council President Meffley, Vice President Gregory, Councilman Coutz, Councilman Miller and Councilman Patchell voted in favor of the motion. There was no opposition.

The closed session was concluded and the open session was reconvened at 10:47 a.m.

Approval of Minutes

On a motion made by Vice President Gregory, seconded by Councilman Coutz, the Council moved to approve the minutes of the Council work session of May 21, 2019, as presented. Motion was approved unanimously.

On a motion made by Vice President Gregory, seconded by Councilman Coutz, the Council moved to approve the minutes of the Council closed session of May 21, 2019, as presented. Motion was approved unanimously.

Singerly Fire Company Update

Steve Horah, 1st Vice President-Treasurer of Singerly Fire Company introduced Sam Goldwater, a life member of the fire company.

Mr. Goldwater provided an update on the Singerly Fire Company. He apologized that the fire company has not kept the county up to date on fire service in Elkton. He illustrated that fire insurance is based on a scoring system so that a better equipped fire company results in lower fire insurance rates for businesses and residents. He summarized the history of Singerly Fire Company and provided statistics. The fire company operates on \$2.2M budget, responds to 5,000 ambulance and 15,000 fire and ambulance calls annually. He listed their current equipment and their replacement policy based on mileage and age. He stated that the fire company projects a budget deficit by 2025 and asked the county to help resolve their shortfall. He asked for a meeting with county officials to develop operational goals.

Council questions and comments ensued.

Used Tire Update

Brian Geraci, Maryland State Fire Marshall, introduced Eric Chapman, who is assigned to Cecil County. Chief Chapman provided handouts that documented fire inspections at four locations in Cecil County where used tires are sold. Businesses that were inspected included Elkton Used Tires of Elkton, J-MBAH Tire Depot of North East, E^D Used Tires of Conowingo, and EVIS Tires of Elkton. Violations were noted. Mr. Geraci explained that a county may impose additional restrictions on the number of tires on site and cited Howard County, which limits the number of tires to 500. The fire inspections conducted checked for appropriate stacking, ingress and egress, availability of fire extinguishers, and no nearby heat source.

Council questions and comments ensued. The Council asked about fines, violations and enforcement. Mr. Geraci suggested that the Council contact the Office of the Attorney General.

ADJOURNMENT

Because of the time, Council president Meffley asked for adjournment. Vice President Gregory moved to adjourn, which was seconded by Councilman Coutz and approved unanimously.

The next Council work session will be held on Tuesday, June 4, 2019 at 9am in the Elk Room of the County Administration Building.

Approved:



Robert Meffley
Council President


James Massey
Council Manager