

**COUNTY COUNCIL OF CECIL COUNTY
LEGISLATIVE SESSION MINUTES
LSD 2019-15
August 6, 2019**

The County Council of Cecil County met in legislative session at the County Administration Building, 200 Chesapeake Blvd., Elk Room, Elkton, MD. The following members of the Council were present:

Robert Meffley, Council President
Jackie Gregory, Vice President
William H. Coutz, Council Member
Al Miller, Council Member
George Patchell, Council Member

NOTE: The video and audio recording with transcription of this meeting is available on the County website at www.ccgov.org.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the County Council of Cecil County of August 6, 2019 was called to order by Council President Meffley at 7:00 p.m. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

OPENING PRAYER

Councilman Miller introduced Pastor Steve Neissley from Mercy Missionary Baptist Church of North East who led the opening prayer.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On motion made by Councilman Coutz, seconded by Vice President Gregory, the Council moved to approve the legislative agenda of August 6, 2019. Motion was unanimously approved.

PRESENTATION OF PROCLAMATIONS/CERTIFICATES

The Council presented a proclamation to the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Inc., Cecil County Division 1, upon their 125th anniversary.

PUBLIC HEARING

Council Manager Massey read into the record:

Resolution No. 39-2019 Amendment- Master Water and Sewer Plan- Conowingo Mobile Home Court and Maybelle Manor Mobile Home Estates

A Resolution to amend the Cecil County Master Water and Sewer Plan, Table 10; in order to combine the sewage systems of Conowingo Mobile Home Court and Maybelle Manor Mobile Home Estates.

The Resolution was introduced on July 2, 2019, advertised on July 24, 2019 and July 31, 2019, and scheduled for public hearing on August 6, 2019.

Al Wein, Director of Administration, provided a summary of the legislation. There were no Council questions or comments.

Council President Meffley opened the public hearing for public comment. There were no public comments.

Council President Meffley concluded the public hearing on Resolution No. 39-2019 and announced that final consideration of this Resolution will be scheduled on August 20, 2019.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion made by Councilman Coutz, seconded by Vice President Gregory, the Council moved to approve the minutes of the legislative session of July 16, 2019. Motion was approved unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

PRESIDENT AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilman Patchell commented on being on vacation last week but looking forward to the rest of the summer.

Councilman Miller stated they we just completed the best nine days of summer, the Cecil County Fair. He commented on the nice weather and the school bus demolition derby and the enthusiastic participation by the Superintendent of schools. He commended the State Highway Administration for erecting a new directional sign to Calvert Regional Park.

Councilman Coutz thanked the audience for attending. He commended Beth Creek and the Youth Empowerment Source for Camp Activate, a five week program to teach science and math through athletics. He commented on his recent tour of Animal Services that helped him understand their operations and expenses. He congratulated the Town of Elkton in their announcement of Southfields, a mixed use development.

Vice President Gregory attended the National Light Out program in Elkton that promotes law enforcement and community partnerships. She attended the Census statewide meeting. She thanked David Trolio, Community Services Director, and Abigail Bingham, Animal Services Director, for their tour of the animal shelter. She attended a meeting with the Singerly Fire Company regarding issues facing their fire service operations. She congratulated the Town of Rising Sun on their success with expanding their water services.

Council President Meffley attended the Cecil County Fair and praised 4-H members on their livestock auction. He met with representatives of the Cecil County Farm Museum on possible funding for a new educational center by the Upper Shore Regional Council and assistance from Kent and Queen Anne's county farm museum groups. He toured a new facility in Aberdeen to be used by the Maryland Rural Development Corporation as a Head Start site.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

Bill No. 2019-10 Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation – Mary Lee Howard Vosters

A Bill to approve the application of Mary Lee Howard Vosters for the property of 609 Randalia Road (Tax Map 42, Grid 18, Parcel 3) requesting a recommendation of approval to submit an application for the purchase of an easement to the Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation.

Devyn King, Planner, provided introductory comments. There were no Council questions or comments.

Introduced, read first time, and order posted on August 6, 2019. The public hearing on this legislation will be advertised and scheduled on September 3, 2019.

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

Bill No. 2019-11 Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation – Farmington Acres LLC

A Bill to approve the application of Farmington Acres, LLC, for the property of 755 Barnes Corner Road (Tax Map 10, Grid 24, Parcel 36) requesting a recommendation of approval to submit an application for the purchase of an easement to the Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation.

Devyn King, Planner, provided introductory comments. There were no Council questions or comments.

Introduced, read first time, and order posted on August 6, 2019. The public hearing on this legislation will be advertised and scheduled on September 3, 2019.

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

Bill No. 2019-12 Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation – Clay Farms GP

A Bill to approve the application of Clay Farms, GP, for the property of 954 New Cut Road (Tax Map 57, Grid 9, Parcel 3) requesting a recommendation of approval to submit an application for the purchase of an easement to the Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation.

Devyn King, Planner, provided introductory comments. There were no Council questions or comments.

Introduced, read first time, and order posted on August 6, 2019. The public hearing on this legislation will be advertised and scheduled on September 3, 2019.

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

Bill No. 2019-13 Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation – James and Ann Higgins

A Bill to approve the application of James and Ann Higgins, for the property of 559 Theodore Road (Tax Map 23, Grid 6, Parcel 73) requesting a recommendation of approval to submit an application for the purchase of an easement to the Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation.

Devyn King, Planner, provided introductory comments. There were no Council questions or comments.

Introduced, read first time, and order posted on August 6, 2019. The public hearing on this legislation will be advertised and scheduled on September 3, 2019.

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

Bill No. 2019-14 Budget Transfer and Appropriation – Capital Budget – Roads and Bridges – Belvidere Road Culvert Project

A Bill to amend the Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for Cecil County, Maryland for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020 to transfer existing bond appropriation authority within the Roads & Bridges Capital Projects Budget in the amount of \$128,707.96 from a portion of the savings on the completed Upgrade Nottingham Roads Facility Project (\$18,353.68) and the completed Waibel Road Improvement Project (\$110,354.28); to be transferred to the Replace Belvidere Road Culvert Project (\$128,707.96).

Scott Flanigan, Public Works Director, had no comments but offered to answer questions. There were no Council questions or comments.

Introduced, read first time, and order posted on August 6, 2019. The public hearing on this legislation will be advertised and scheduled on September 3, 2019.

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

Bill No. 2019-15 Expedited Legislation – Budget Transfer and Appropriation – Capital Budget – Roads and Bridges – Bethel Church Road Bridge Project

A Bill to amend the Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for Cecil County, Maryland for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020 to transfer existing bond appropriation authority within the Roads and Bridges Capital Projects Budget in the amount of \$75,000 from the following completed projects: a portion of the savings from the Upgrade Nottingham Roads Facility Project (\$13,050.11), the Racine School Road Improvements Project (\$11,081.64), and the Replace Bohemia Church Road Culverts Project (\$50,868.25); to be transferred to the Rehabilitation of Bethel Church Road Bridge Project (\$75,000). The Department of Public Works is requesting the Bill be considered for expedited legislation under the Council's Policy #5-19 as approved by Resolution No. 49-2015 due to the need to complete the project before weather related conditions impede completion.

Scott Flanigan, Public Works Director, provided introductory comments and explained that the administration was requesting that this legislation should be expedited because of a time constraint.

Councilman Coutz clarified that the duration of the project is estimated to be 60 to 75 days, and that the bridge will be closed at the end of September.

Council President called for a motion to expedite Bill No. 2019-15. The motion was made by Councilmar Miller and seconded by Councilman Coutz. The motion was approved by a voice vote of 5 to 0.

Introduced, read first time, and order posted on August 6, 2019. The public hearing on this legislation will be advertised and scheduled on September 3, 2019. Final consideration for this legislation will be scheduled on September 3, 2019.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

Resolution No. 45-2019 Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation –Application Finalists FY 2020

A Resolution to approve seventeen applications as FY 2020 Application Finalists to be submitted to the Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation.

Eric Sennstrom, Director of Land Use and Development Services, provided introductory comments. He stated that the names of the finalists were disclosed at today's closed session as required by the state. There were no Council questions or comments.

Introduced, read first time and order posted on August 6, 2019. The legislation is scheduled for consideration on September 17, 2019.

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

Resolution No. 46-2019 Approval – Cecil County Green Infrastructure Plan – 2019

A Resolution to adopt the Cecil County Green Infrastructure Plan 2019, in accordance with the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 and 40 CFR § 122.47, et seq.

There were no introductory comments from the administration. There were no Council questions or comments.

Introduced, read first time and order posted on August 6, 2019. The legislation is scheduled for consideration on August 20, 2019.

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

Resolution No. 47-2019 Expedited Legislation – Approval – Grant Application – Community Development Block Grant – Homeless Initiative

A Resolution to authorize the Cecil County Department of Community Services, Housing and Community Development Division, to apply for Maryland Community Development Block Grant Homeless Initiative funds. The Community Services Department requests that this Resolution be considered as expedited legislation due to the need to submit the application by the deadline of September 13, 2019.

Al Wein, Director of Administration, provided introductory comments and explained that the administration was requesting that this legislation should be expedited because of an impending deadline for the grant application. There were no Council questions or comments.

Council President called for a motion to expedite Resolution No. 47-2019. The motion was made by Councilman Miller and seconded by Councilman Coutz. The motion was approved by a voice vote of 5 to 0.

Introduced, read first time, and order posted on August 6, 2019. The public hearing on this legislation will be advertised and scheduled on September 3, 2019. Final consideration for this legislation will be scheduled on September 3, 2019.

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

Resolution No. 48-2019 Appointment – Local Development Council – Mike Travers, Bruce England, Steven Pearson, Robert DeWeese, Gary Benjamin, Robert Palsgrove, Larry Metz, Donald Harmer, Jr., Robert Amato and Sarah Colenda

A Resolution to confirm the appointment by the County Executive of Mike Travers, Bruce England, Steven Pearson, Robert DeWeese, Gary Benjamin, Robert Palsgrove, Larry Metz and Donald Harmer, Jr., and to reappoint Robert Amato and Sarah Colenda to the Cecil County Local Development Council for the video lottery for a four (4) year term, to expire on August 20, 2023.

Al Wein, Director of Administration, provided introductory comments. There were no Council questions or comments.

Introduced, read first time and order posted on August 6, 2019. The legislation is scheduled for consideration on August 20, 2019.

CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTIONS

Council Manager Massey read into the record:

Resolution No. 43-2019 Appointment—Board of Appeals – Mark Saunders and Willard Whiteman

A Resolution to confirm the reappointment by the County Executive of Mark Saunders and Willard Whiteman to the Cecil County Board of Appeals, for a three year term to expire on August 6, 2022.

The Resolution was introduced and posted on July 16, 2019, and scheduled for consideration on August 6, 2019.

There were no administration comments. There were no Council questions or comments.

On motion made by Councilman Coutz, seconded by Vice President Gregory, the Council moved to approve Resolution No. 43-2019

Roll call vote: Coutz-Y, Miller-Y, Patchell-Y, Gregory-Y, Meffley-Y
Motion carried unanimously.

Council Manager Massey read into the record:

Resolution No. 44-2019 Appointment—Agricultural Preservation Advisory Board- Norman Anderson, William Ewing and Charles Robinson

A Resolution to confirm the reappointment by the County Executive of Norman Anderson, William Ewing and Charles Robinson to the Agricultural Preservation Advisory Board, for a five year term to expire on August 1, 2024.

The Resolution was introduced and posted on July 16, 2019, and scheduled for consideration on August 6, 2019.

There were no administration comments. There were no Council questions or comments.

On motion made by Councilman Miller, seconded by Councilman Coutz, the Council moved to approve Resolution No. 44-2019

Roll call vote: Coutz-Y, Miller-Y, Patchell-Y, Gregory-Y, Meffley-Y
Motion carried unanimously.

CALL FOR FINAL READING OF BILLS

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

Bill No. 2019-08 Roads – Cecil County – Repeal of Public Law – Purchasing Manual

A Bill repealing Md. Code Ann., § 12-532 (Building and repairing roads in Cecil County), Local Government Article, a public local law, pertaining to building and repairing roads in Cecil County.

The Bill was introduced on June 18, 2019, and public hearing held and concluded on July 16, 2019.

Al Wein, Director of Administration, provided comments. There were no Council questions or comments.

On motion made by Vice President Gregory, seconded by Councilman Coutz, the Council moved to approve Bill No. 2019-08.

Roll call vote: Coutz-Y, Miller-Y, Patchell-Y, Gregory-Y, Meffley-Y
Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion made by Councilman Coutz, seconded by Vice President Gregory, Council President Meffley adjourned the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

The next Council Legislative Session is scheduled on Tuesday, August 20, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in the Elk Room of the County Administration Building, 200 Chesapeake Blvd., Elkton, Maryland.

Attest:


James Massey
Council Manager

Approved:


Robert Meffley
Council President