

**COUNTY COUNCIL OF CECIL COUNTY**  
**LEGISLATIVE SESSION MINUTES**  
**LSD 2014-16**  
**August 19, 2014**

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:

Dr. Alan McCarthy, Vice President  
Joyce Bowlsbey, Council Member  
Diana Broomell, Council Member  
Robert J. Hodge, President

Absent: Councilman Dunn

**NOTE:** Audio recording of this meeting is available on the County website [www.ccgov.org](http://www.ccgov.org).

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting of the County Council of Cecil County of August 19, 2014 was called to order by President Robert Hodge at 7:00 p.m. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**OPENING PRAYER**

Councilwoman Broomell introduced Pastor Stephen Hokuf of First Baptist Church of North East who led the opening prayer.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

On motion made by Council Vice President McCarthy, seconded by Councilwoman Bowlsbey, the Council moved to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried by a vote of 4 to 0. Councilman Dunn was not present.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

**Bill No. 2014-20 Homestead Property Tax Credit - Maximum Assessment Increase.** An Act to reduce the percentage limitation of Homestead Property Tax Credit from 108% to 104%, which would reduce the maximum allowable assessment increase.

Councilwoman Broomell provided information relevant to bill. Discussion ensued.

Joe Carabetta, Perryville, commented on bill.

Harold McCannick, Elk Neck, commented on bill.

Diane Carabetta, Perryville, commented on bill.

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

**Bill No. 2014-21 Amendments – Electrical Code – Update - Compliance Requirements.** A Bill to amend Part II, Chapter 191 (Electrical Standards), Section 191-3 (Compliance Required), of the Cecil County Code; updates Code by adopting addendums to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 70,

2014 of the National Electrical Code (NEC); including wireless low voltage systems, gas piping systems, ground bar for utilities, aluminum conductors, small appliance circuits, stairway illumination, temporary service, exceptions, color code, underground conductors and vacuum systems.

Al Wein, Director of Administration, provided information relevant to bill.

Harold McCannick, Elk Neck, commented on bill.

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

**Bill No. 2014-22 Budget Amendment - Capital Budget - Cecil College - Engineering and Math Building.**

A Bill to amend the Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for Cecil County, Maryland for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015 in order to provide expenditure appropriation authority of \$200,000 in the Capital Budget in order to allow acquisition of the necessary complement of engineering and research equipment to complete Cecil College's Engineering and Math Building project.

Mr. Wein provided information relevant to bill.

Dr. Stephen Pannill, Elkton, commented on bill.

Joe Carabetta, Perryville, commented on bill.

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

**Bill No. 2014-23 Budget Amendment - General Fund - Cecil County Public Library - Elkton and Rising Sun Library Parking lots.**

A bill to amend the Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for Cecil County, Maryland for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015 in order to provide the Cecil County Public Library's budget within the General Fund expenditure appropriation authority with \$104,900 of unexpended FY2014 expenditure authority to be carried forward, allowing for the Elkton Parking Lot/Culvert Repair and for the Rising Sun Parking Lot small capital projects to be completed.

Discussion ensued.

Diane Carabetta, Perryville, commented on bill.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

On motion made by Vice President McCarthy, seconded by Councilwoman Bowsbey, the Council moved to approve the minutes of the August 5, 2014 as presented. Motion carried by a vote of 4 to 0. Councilman Dunn was not present.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Harold McCannick, Elk Neck, commented on the August 19, 2014 Work Session.

Joe Carabetta, Perryville, commented on Calvert Park, sewer system bonding, and land preservation.

Diane Carabetta, Perryville, thanked the Broadband Task Force for their efforts and commented on the final report.

Bob Amato, Perryville, thanked those responsible for the Boys and Girls Club trip to visit the Target America Exhibit in Baltimore. He commented on the Cecil College Engineering and Math Building.

John Mackie, Elkton, commented on agricultural land preservation.

#### **PRESIDENT AND COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Vice President McCarthy had no comments.

Councilwoman Broomell stated that she was not the leader of ARCA - Appleton Regional Community Alliance, but she was on the Cecil Land Use Alliance Board. Ms. Broomell commented on agricultural land preservation and that she attended MACo summer conference last week.

Councilwoman Bowsbey commented on Calvert Park and a statement made by Clyde Van Dyke at today's work session. She attended the MACo Summer Conference.

President Hodge commented on agricultural land preservation and thanked everyone for coming to the meeting.

#### **SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS - Broadband Task Force Final Report and Recommendations**

Members of the Broadband Task Force provided their final report with recommendations to the Council. George Remhoff, a member of the Broadband Task Force, read a letter from Dave Warnick, Chairman, who was unable to attend the meeting.

Questions and comments ensued.

On motion made by President Hodge, seconded by Vice President McCarthy, the Council moved to accept the Broadband Task Force Final Report. Discussion ensued. Motion carried by a vote of 4 to 0. Councilman Dunn was not present.

#### **INTRODUCTION OF BILLS**

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

**Bill No. 2014-24 Approval – Agricultural District – Harnish Property.** A Bill to approve the petition of John & Marcia Harnish for the property located on Liberty Grove Road, Colora, MD 21917 (Tax Map 16, Grid 12, Parcel 10) requesting the establishment of an agricultural preservation district .

Steve O'Connor, Plans Reviewer II, provided information relevant to bill.

President Hodge advised the public that Bill No. 2014-24 would be scheduled for a public hearing September 2, 2014 and tentative consideration at the September 16, 2014 Council Legislative Session.

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

**Bill No. 2014-25 Approval - Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation - Dudkewitz Property.** A Bill to approve the petition of David & Charlotte Dudkewitz for the property located at 1777 Appleton Road Elkton, MD 21921 (Tax Map 14, Grid 12, Parcel 26) requesting a recommendation of approval to submit an application for the purchase of an easement to the Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation.

Steve O'Connor, Plans Reviewer II, provided information relevant to bill.

Questions and comments ensued.

President Hodge advised the public that Bill No. 2014-25 would be scheduled for a public hearing September 2, 2014 and tentative consideration at the September 16, 2014 Council Legislative Session.

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

**Bill No. 2014-26 Approval - Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation - Reisler Property.** A Bill to approve the petition of J. David Reisler Sr. and J. David Reisler Jr. for the property of 80 Lombard Road, Rising Sun, Elkton, MD 21911 (Tax Map 12, Grid 1, Parcel 1) requesting a recommendation of approval to submit an application for the purchase of an easement to the Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation.

Steve O'Connor, Plans Reviewer II, provided information relevant to bill.

President Hodge advised the public that Bill No. 2014-26 would be scheduled for a public hearing September 2, 2014 and tentative consideration at the September 16, 2014 Council Legislative Session.

#### **INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS**

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

**Resolution No. 50-2014 Approval - Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation - Application Finalists - FY 2015.** A Resolution to approve the applications of Balderston Farm LLC at 1265 Colora Road, James and Julia Corder at 300 Cherry Grove Road, David and Charlotte Dudkewitz at 1777 Appleton Road, Palmarino Maccari at 3568 Telegraph Road, Joseph and Andrea Mahoney at 252 Wilson Road, Douglas McGlothlin at 371 McCauley Road, J. David Reisler Sr. and J. David Reisler Jr. at 80 Lombard Road, and The Knoll, LLC at 57 Wade Lane as FY 2015 Applications Finalists to be submitted to the Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation.

Steve O'Connor, Plans Reviewer II, provided information relevant to the resolution.

Questions and comments ensued.

President Hodge advised the public that Resolution No. 50-2014 would be scheduled for consideration at the September 2, 2014.

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

**Resolution No. 51-2014 Appointment – Electrical Inspection Agencies.** A Resolution to confirm the reappointment by the County Executive of Bay Area Inspection Agency, American Inspection Agency, Inc., and First State Inspection Agency to be electrical inspection agencies in Cecil County.

Mr. Wein, Director of Administration, provided information relevant to the resolution.

President Hodge advised the public that Resolution No. 51-2014 would be scheduled for consideration at the September 2, 2014 Council Legislative Session.

### **CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTIONS**

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

**Resolution No. 44-2014** Appointments—Economic Development Commission. A Resolution to confirm the appointment of Lauren (Johnston) McNew, Scott D. Holland, and Walter Buck to the Economic Development Commission; terms to expire in August 2017.

A motion was made by Vice President McCarthy, seconded by Councilwoman Bowsbey, to approve Resolution No. 44-2014.

Roll Call Vote: McCarthy – Y, Bowsbey – Y, Broomell – Y, Hodge – Y. Motion carried by a vote of 4 to 0. Councilman Dunn was not present.

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

**Resolution No. 45-2014 Appointment—Commission on Aging.** A Resolution to confirm the reappointment Cynthia Brown, Julianne Graham, Carol King, Patricia Dana to the Commission on Aging for a three year term; which will expire on June 30, 2017.

A motion was made by Vice President McCarthy, seconded by Councilwoman Bowsbey, to approve Resolution No. 45-2014.

Roll Call Vote: McCarthy – Y, Bowsbey – Y, Broomell – Y, Hodge – Y. Motion carried by a vote of 4 to 0. Councilman Dunn was not present.

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

**Resolution No. 46-2014 Appointments—Planning Commission.** A Resolution to confirm the reappointment of Chad Johnston and Ken Wiggins to the Planning Commission; terms to expire in August 2017.

Councilwoman Broomell made a motion to vote separately on reappointment members, motion failed for lack of a second.

A motion was made by Vice President McCarthy, seconded by Councilwoman Bowsbey, to approve Resolution No. 46-2014.

Roll Call Vote: McCarthy – Y, Bowsbey – Y, Broomell – N, Hodge – Y. Motion carried by a vote of 3 to 1, with Councilwoman Broomell opposed. Councilman Dunn was not present.

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

**Resolution No. 47-2014 Appointment—Board of Appeals.** A Resolution to confirm the reappointment of Michael Linkous to the Board of Appeals for a three year term to expire in August 2017.

A motion was made by Vice President McCarthy, seconded by Councilwoman Bowsbey, to approve Resolution No. 47-2014.

Roll Call Vote: McCarthy – Y, Bowsbey – Y, Broomell – Y, Hodge – Y. Motion carried by a vote of 4 to 0. Councilman Dunn was not present.

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

**Resolution No. 48-2014 Appointment—Property Tax Assessment Appeal Board.** A Resolution to confirm the County Executive's appointment of Robert Litzenberg, Jr. to the Cecil County Property Tax Assessment Appeal Board to fill the vacancy of Henry Mason; term to expire on June 2, 2018.

A motion was made by Vice President McCarthy, seconded by Councilwoman Bowsbey, to approve Resolution No. 48-2014.

Roll Call Vote: McCarthy – Y, Bowsbey – Y, Broomell – Y, Hodge – Y. Motion carried by a vote of 4 to 0. Councilman Dunn was not present.

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

**Resolution No. 49-2014 Approval - Maryland Rental Allowance Program Grant.** A Resolution authorizing the County Executive to execute a Rental Allowance Program Grant Agreement with the State of Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development, Division of Development and Finance, for use in making short term monthly housing assistance payments to eligible recipients occupying eligible dwelling units.

Al Wein, Director of Administration provided information regarding Resolution No. 49-2014.

On motion made by Vice President McCarthy, seconded by Councilwoman Bowsbey, the Council moved to approve Resolution No. 49-2014 as amended.

Roll Call Vote: McCarthy – Y, Bowsbey – Y, Broomell – Y, Hodge – Y. Motion carried by a vote of 4 to 0. Councilman Dunn was not present.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

President Hodge adjourned the meeting at 9:07 p.m. by general consensus.

The next Council Legislative Session is scheduled for Tuesday, September 2, 2014 in the Elk Room of the County Administration Building, 200 Chesapeake Blvd., Elkton, Maryland.

Approved:

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Robert Hodge  
Council President

Attest:

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James Massey  
Council Manager