

COUNTY COUNCIL OF CECIL COUNTY
WORK SESSION MINUTES
June 16, 2015

PRESENT: Council Members: President Hodge, Vice President McCarthy, Joyce Bowsbey, George Patchell and Dan Schneckenburger; Al Wein, Director of Administration; Jason Allison, County Attorney; Scott Flanigan, Director of Public Works; Scott Mesneak, Director of Information Technology; David Black, GIS Coordinator; James Massey, Council Manager; Terry Hale, Council Assistant; members of the press; and members of the public.

OPEN SESSION – Elk Room

9:00 a.m. – President Hodge called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and determined a quorum.

NOTE: Audio recording of this meeting is available on the County website www.ccgov.org.

CLOSED SESSION

June 9, 2015

9:37 a.m.

On motion by Councilwoman Bowsbey, seconded by Vice President McCarthy, the Council moved to convene in closed session, pursuant to the Annotated Code of Maryland, State Government 10-508(a)(4) to consider a matter that concerns the proposal for a business or industrial organization to locate, expand, or remain in the State. The motion was approved unanimously.

Roll Call Vote: McCarthy - Y, Bowsbey-Y, Schneckenburger - Y, Patchell- Y, and Hodge - Y.

Present: Council Members: Vice President McCarthy, Councilwoman Bowsbey, Councilman Schneckenburger, Councilman Patchell and President Hodge; Al Wein, Director of Administration; Jason Allison, County Attorney; Winston Robinson, Director of Finance; Dr. D'ette Devine, School Superintendent, and Tom Kappa, Chief Financial Officer of Cecil County Public Schools; James Massey, Council Manager; and Terry Hale, Administrative Assistant.

Dr. Devine and Mr. Kappa provided information about a business that was interested in purchasing property. Mr. Allison provided information about the process of selling county property.

On motion made by Councilwoman Bowsbey, seconded by Vice President McCarthy, the Council adjourned the closed session at 10:15 a.m.

Approval of Minutes

On a motion made by Vice President McCarthy, seconded by Councilman Schneckenburger, the Council moved to approve the minutes of the Council work session of June 9, 2015. Motion carried unanimously.

On a motion made by Vice President McCarthy, seconded by Councilman Schneckenburger, the Council moved to approve the minutes of the closed session of June 9, 2015. Motion carried unanimously.

Broadband Update

Mr. Flanigan and Mr. Black updated the Council on the work of the administration's Broadband Implementation Team. The team focused on broadband service to business along the Route 40 development corridor. The team added Bainbridge to the priority list suggested by the Council's Broadband Task Force. The team researched available service providers and found several broadband providers not previously known. The team concluded that the Route 40 corridor has adequate broadband service. They also concluded that Cecil County is not eligible for "rural" focused federal grants. The team identified three county facilities without broadband service, including the detention center, central landfill and wastewater facility at Seneca Point. Mr. Flanigan also stated that Comcast had expanded broadband in southern Cecil County, which allowed them to extend the length of their franchise agreement with the county. Mr. Flanigan stated that Economic Development Department will provide businesses with potential broadband providers in their area. The team did not identify any gaps in broadband service where the county should play a role. The team also suggested that a special taxing districts could be implemented to extend service but local legislation would need to be amended.

Councilman Patchell left at 10:08 a.m.

Review of Legislative Agenda

Council President Hodge led a review of tonight's legislative agenda. Comments and questions ensured.

Council Manager Report

Council Manager Massey asked Council Members if they had any issues in accessing their email remotely. The IT department will assist them with problems. He reminded Council Members of the Wade-In, MACo dinner, and luncheon with Secretary Gill. MACo summer conference programs have been received. The Consolidated Transportation Plan has been changed to Thursday, September 17, at 10 a.m. The meeting with the delegation will be held on September 17 in the afternoon to discuss legislative initiatives.

Council Member Items

Vice President McCarthy and Councilman Schneckenburger had not comments.

Councilwoman Bowsbey attended the Planning Commission and commented on a rezoning case regarding Charlestown Crossing and proposed amendment to the subdivision regulations.

Council President Hodge commented on a notice from the Maryland Department of Aging regarding the gypsy moth program.

CLOSED SESSION

10:18 A.M.

On motion made by Vice President McCarthy, seconded by Councilwoman Bowsbey , the Council moved to convene in Closed Session pursuant to the Maryland Annotated Code, State Government, 10-508(a)(7) to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice on a legal matter.

OPEN SESSION


10:54 A.M.

Council President Hodge reconvened the meeting in open session at 10:54 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

President Hodge adjourned the meeting at 10:55 a.m.

Approved:



Robert J. Hodge, President
County Council of Cecil County

Attest:



James Massey
Council Manager

