

COUNTY COUNCIL OF CECIL COUNTY
WORK SESSION MINUTES
June 9, 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; Winston Robinson, Director of Finance; 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.

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 2, 2015. Motion carried unanimously.

Amendment - First time homebuyers - Bill No. 2015-06 Transfer of Interest in Land

Mr. Allison proposed that the Council request the County Executive to return Bill No. 2015-06 as amended in order to approve Amendment No. 2, as provided in Section 5-13(a) in the Policies and Procedures of the County Council. Amendment No. 2 proposes that the transfer fee for first time home buyers shall be 0.25% of the consideration and payable by the seller. He stated that this was provided under State law. The Council agreed that this action will be held at the legislative session on June 16, 2015.

Budget Process - Lessons learned and suggested changes

Council President Hodge led discussion regarding suggestions to improve the budget process. Suggestions included: more involvement with the administration prior to April 1, sending a written list of priorities or suggestions to the Executive prior to April 1, requesting the budget book be organized in chronological order of budget hearings and pages numbered sequentially, scheduling one longer budget hearing per week, and requesting more justification of significant budget increases. Mr. Robinson suggested that the Council adopt a "substitute bill" for amended bill. Council Members also expressed their interest in reconsidering some of the budget reductions made to the FY 2016 budget.

Council Manager Report

Council Manager Massey reminded Council Members that the county's email system has moved from Lotus to Outlook software. He stated that the Consolidated Transportation Plan meeting and delegation initiatives meeting will be held on September 16, 2015. Council Members are invited on a tour of the agricultural community by the Soil Conservation District on June 15.

Council Member Items

Councilman Patchell attended the Senior Awards Ceremony at Perryville High School where he presented the Cecil College scholarship award.

Vice President McCarthy and Councilwoman Bowsbey had no comments.

Councilman Schneckeburger attended the Volunteer Recognition Event, Sunfest in Rising Sun, and the Cecil County Historical Society's 341st birthday celebration. He stated that he will be attending graduation ceremonies at Rising Sun and North East high schools.

Council President Hodge attended the Volunteer Recognition Event with Councilman Schneckeburger, and stated that Cecil County valued its volunteers for their hard work and dedication.

CLOSED SESSION

9:37 A.M.

On motion made by Councilwoman Bowsbey, seconded by Vice President McCarthy, the Council moved to convene in Closed Session pursuant to the Maryland Annotated Code, 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.

OPEN SESSION

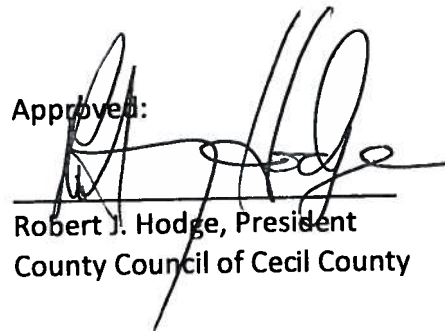
10:15 A.M.

Council President Hodge reconvened the meeting in open session at 10:15 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

President Hodge adjourned the meeting at 10:15 a.m.

Approved:



Robert J. Hodge, President
County Council of Cecil County

Attest:



James Massey
Council Manager