

COUNTY COUNCIL OF CECIL COUNTY
WORK SESSION MINUTES
January 28, 2014(as amended)

PRESENT: Council Members: President Robert Hodge, Vice President Alan McCarthy, Joyce Bowlsbey, Michael Dunn, and Diana Broomell; Council Manager James Massey, Director of Administration Al Wein, Director of Public Works Scott Flanigan, DPW Development Services Van Funk, Director of Planning & Zoning Eric Sennstrom, Environmental Health Services Director Fred Von Staden, Council Assistant Teri Birney; Maryland Transportation Administration officials: Diane Ratcliff, Director of the Office of Planning and Programming and Diedra Smith, in-house Project Manager; members of the press, and members of the public.

OPEN SESSION – Elk Room

9:00 a.m. – President Hodge called the meeting to order.

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

Approval of Minutes

On motion made by Councilwoman Broomell, seconded by Council Vice President McCarthy, the Council moved to approve the minutes of January 21, 2014, with revision. Motion carried unanimously.

Presentation – MARC layover plan - MTA

Diane Ratcliff, Maryland Transportation Authority Director of the Office of Planning and Programming, provided an overview of the proposed MARC maintenance facility site, outside of Perryville, the sites considered, and the studies that were completed, in which to construct a maintenance facility accessible to the Northeast corridor. Discussion, questions and comments ensued. Councilwoman Broomell requested further meetings with MARC to coordinate their plans.

Presentation – WIP Milestone Update

Director of Public Works Scott Flanigan provided information to the Council on the Wastewater Implementation Plan (WIP) milestones for 2015 and the estimated cost per calendar year. DPW Program Manager Van Funk provided an overview of the 2013 Cecil County milestones by Major Sector. He also provided an update of the two year milestones regarding urban stormwater, as well as wastewater and septic sectors. Councilwoman Broomell requested the Department of Public Works incorporate in their goals addressing sediment behind the Conowingo Dam. Questions and comments ensued.

Discussion – Coordination Workshop

Councilwoman Broomell led a discussion of the steps to invoke coordination, submitting the County's goals and initiatives into a Bill of Rights or a Resolution.

On motion made by Councilwoman Broomell, seconded by Councilman Dunn, the Council moved to have a workshop with the County Executive, and the County Attorney to discuss possible adoption of Resolutions or Bill of Rights for coordination. Motion carried unanimously. Discussion, questions and comments ensued.

Sludge Generation Fee

Councilwoman Broomell discussed Queen Anne's County's success in generating funds by the supplemental monitoring agreement. She stated that the fee is based on the amount of sludge coming from outside the county. Although the amount generated would be about \$1300, she felt that the supplemental monitoring agreement would give assurance to the citizens about the proper application of biosolids. In addition, complaints would be handled locally by the Health Department instead of MDE. The Council discussed whether the supplemental monitoring agreement was cost effective. Environmental Health Services Director Fred Von Staden provided information relevant to complaints the Health Department has received on sludge applications. Questions, comments, and discussion ensued.

On a vote of 3-2, with Councilwoman Bowsbey and Council Vice President McCarthy opposed, the Council agreed to request the Health Department enter an agreement with MDE to provide supplemental monitoring.

Discussion - Sheriff's Salary

On motion made by Council President Hodge, seconded by Councilwoman Bowsbey, the Council moved to add an item to the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

Council President Hodge asked the Council to consider supporting state legislation to adjust the Cecil County Sheriff's salary. He asked for support for Option C, as discussed in the last work session. Option C proposes no increase in salary in FY 2015, \$75,075 in FY 2016, \$77,350 in FY 2017, \$79,675 in FY 2018, and \$82,075 in FY 2019.

On motion made by Council President Hodge, seconded by Councilwoman Bowsbey, President Hodge moved to support the sheriff's salary increase. Discussion ensued. Motion carried 3-2, with Councilwoman Broomell and Councilman Dunn opposed.

Council Manager Report

Council Manager Massey reminded the Council of the Chamber of Commerce State of the County Breakfast on January 30, 8 a.m., at the Chesapeake Golf Club in Rising Sun. He advised the Council the Board of Education will be making a presentation on February 4 regarding technical improvements. He acknowledged that the Council has received a legal opinion from the County Attorney that Council Members can serve on ad hoc committees, but no more than two members.

Mr. Massey reported that Senator Colburn requested the Council send a letter of support for SB166, which would authorize each Maryland County to set their own minimum wage. The Council agreed to send a letter of support. He also reported the Board of Elections is requesting support for a bill that will change the composition of the Election Board from three members and two substitute members to five members. The Council agreed to support.

Council Member Items

Councilwoman Broomell attended the Planning Commission meeting. She spoke of the passing of Ed Ellison. She also called for the resignation of John Bennett, the Chair of the local Drug and Alcohol Council. Ms. Broomell spoke of Sheriff Bane's invitation to tour the Detention Center in Harford County, which she had extended to Sheriff Janney. She stated the school system has not supplied her with the information she requested. She is requesting further information

about the proposed Recovery High School, how the funding will be spent, what programs and what staffing.

She advised that Attorney Smigiel will not have to pay attorney fees in the Zeuskas v. Moore lawsuit. Ms. Broomell requested DPW provide a diagram of pipeline that is currently in place, what is in design, and what is anticipated. She commented on the Ethics Commission bill that she will be introducing and the information she requested and never received.

Councilwoman Bowsbey attended two Eagle Scout Courts of Honor. Ms. Bowsbey stated the Strategic Planning Advisory Network meeting was canceled due to the weather.

Council Vice President McCarthy had no comments.

Councilman Dunn had no comments.


Council President Hodge suggested that the Council and Executive request to make a presentation at the Maryland Transportation Authority board agenda to discuss the need to keep a cash toll lane at the Hatem Bridge. Discussion ensued. The Council supported this action.

Mr. Hodge requested that Mr. Massey to contact Delegate Rudolph regarding his intention to introduce legislation about the cash tolling initiative. Mr. Hodge stated Mr. Allison has not made a legal opinion in regards to whether the Council has authority to adopt legislation about removing a member of the Ethics Commission. He commented on the relationship between the Maryland State Police and Cecil County Drug Task Force. Mr. Hodge also commented that there is good discussion when citizens with a diversity of opinions serve on county boards and commissions.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion made by Vice President McCarthy, the Council moved to adjourn the work session meeting at 12:06 p.m.

Approved:



Robert J. Hodge, President
County Council of Cecil County

Attest:



James Massey
Council Manager

