

**COUNTY COUNCIL OF CECIL COUNTY
WORK SESSION MINUTES
September 16, 2014**

PRESENT: Council Members: President Hodge, Vice President McCarthy, Joyce Bowsbey, Michael Dunn, and Diana Broomell; Al Wein, Director of Administration; Jason Allison, County Attorney; Eric Sennstrom, Director of Planning and Zoning; Steve O'Connor, Cecil County MALPF Program Administrator; James Massey, Council Manager; Teri Birney, 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.

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

Approval of Minutes

On a motion made by Councilwoman Broomell, seconded by Councilman Dunn, the Council moved to approve the minutes of September 2, 2014. Motion carried unanimously.

Presentation – Enterprise Zone – Strickmaur, LLC.

Susan O'Neill, Economic Development Manager, provided information regarding the Enterprise Zone application of Strickmaur LLC. Questions and comments ensued. Councilwoman Broomell requested the number of new jobs created be included on the application.

Presentation – Scoring System used in FY 2015 – Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation

Steve O'Connor, MALPF Program Administrator, provided information relevant to the scoring system used to rank the Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation applications. Councilwoman Broomell requested a clearer copy of the presentation. Questions and comments ensued.

Discussion – Consolidated Transportation Program – Cecil County projects

The Council discussed the Consolidated Transportation Program projects proposed for Cecil County.

Councilwoman Broomell proposed that the Council send a letter to the Army Corp of Engineers requesting that they provide an alternate source of potable water to the residents of Pearce Creek. The Council Manager was asked to draft a letter for the next work session.

Discussion – Proposed Council Calendar 2014

The Council discussed the proposed schedule for the Work Session and Legislative Session for September to December 2014. By general consensus, the Council approved the proposed schedule with revisions. Council work sessions will be held on September 23; October 7, 14 and 21; November 18 and 25; and December 2, 9, and 16. Council legislative sessions will be held on October 7 and 21; December 2 and 16.

Presentation – Tourism Area Corridor Signage Program – State Highway Administration

Sandy Turner, Tourism Manager, introduced Stephen Hollie, Tourism Corridor Coordinator from the State Highway Administration. Mr. Hollie reviewed the final proposed tourism signage plan, which has no cost to the County except for sign maintenance on County roads. The Council approved the proposal by general consensus.

Review of legislative agenda

The Council reviewed the legislative agenda. Councilwoman Broomell requested that the vote on Resolution No. 50-2014 Approval – Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation be divided so that she could recuse herself from voting on an applicant who is related to her husband.

Steve O'Connor, MALPF Program Administrator, provided information relevant to Bill No. 2014-24, Bill No. 2014-25 and Bill No. 2014-26. Questions and comments ensued.

The Council discussed the suspension of rules at tonight's legislative session in order to consider the Final Reading of Bills before the Consideration of Resolutions.

Council Manager Report

Council Manager Massey reminded the Council of the APG Joint Land Use Study workshop, the Upper Shore Regional Council meeting, the Conowingo Dam Open House; and Elkton Fall Fest. Discussion ensued.

Council Member Items

Councilman Dunn had no comments.

Vice President McCarthy commented on September being “National Recovery Month”; and the exceptional use of Conowingo Park. He attended the Drug and Alcohol Abuse Council picnic at the Haven House, the Scholarship Breakfast at Cecil College, and the Voices of Hope at the Health Center.

Councilwoman Broomell commented on her serious concerns for the Drug and Alcohol Abuse Council and lack of accountability. She commented on an update from the Chesapeake Coalition concerning licensing of Conowingo Dam. She requested that the Council send a letter of opposition to FERC issuing a license without addressing the sediment at the Conowingo Dam.

Councilwoman Bowsbey attended the Scholarship Breakfast at Cecil College, Cecil College's “Little Black Dress” fundraiser, and the Early Childhood Advisory meeting.

President Hodge commented on the MARC train tour of the maintenance facility in Middle River. He reminded the public of the Citizens Corner and Legislative Session this evening.

CLOSED SESSION

On motion made by Councilwoman Bowsbey, seconded by Councilman McCarthy, the Council moved to go in to Closed Session at 11:14 a.m. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

President Hodge adjourned the meeting at 11:41 a.m. by general consensus.

Approved:

Robert J. Hodge, President
County Council of Cecil County

Attest:

James Massey
Council Manager