

COUNTY COUNCIL OF CECIL COUNTY
WORKSESSION MINUTES
September 24, 2013

PRESENT: Council Members: President Robert Hodge, Vice President Alan McCarthy, Joyce Bowlsbey, Michael Dunn, Diana Broomell, Council Manager James Massey, Director of Administration Al Wein, Planning and Zoning Director Eric Sennstrom, Economic Development Director Lisa Webb, Cecil County Public Library Director Denise Davis, Finance Director Winston Robinson, Administrative Assistant Robin McCann, 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 Vice President McCarthy, seconded by Councilwoman Bowlsbey, the Council moved to approve the September 17, 2013 Worksession Meeting Minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

Presentation - "Beautiful Cecil County - Your Business Belongs"

Economic Development Director Lisa Webb and Cecil County Public Library Director Denise Davis presented a library produced video, "Beautiful Cecil County, Your business belongs", which featured Robert Buckman of Operative Experience. The video will be submitted to a national competition and Ms. Davis requested a letter of support from the Council.

Members of the Council provided their comments regarding "Beautiful Cecil County."

Presentation - Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Executive Office Administrator Vicky Rinkerman presented an update regarding plans for Breast Cancer Awareness Month in Cecil County. Plans include lighting County and municipal buildings in pink, County employees may donate to the local KOS Fund that will allow them to wear casual pink Tuesdays, an outrageous pink contest on October 1, and Council proclamation.

Members of the Council provided their comments regarding Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

Discussion - State Sludge Permit Application Public Information Meeting Request

President Hodge led a discussion on the meeting with MDE officials held on September 17, 2013 regarding the sludge permit application process.

Council Members agreed to submit a request to MDE for three additional public information meetings for the following sludge applications: (1) John L. and Marcia I. Harnish, CE 20, Liberty Grove Road in Colora; (2) Spry Brothers, Inc., CE 15, Feeder Road in the Appleton Road area; and (3) Adelaide P. Ernest Life Estate (CE 1) Wards Hill Road in Warwick and Ralph Gooner and Thomas Crouse (CE 2) Grove Neck Road in Earleville, which would be combined.

The Council also agreed to ask MDE to include the property address of each sludge site on the public notice for the public's benefit. President Hodge asked Councilwoman Broomell to work with the Council Manager to propose locations for each Public Information Meeting. The Council Manager will prepare a draft of the Council's request to be sent to MDE for their review at the next work session.

President Hodge asked Council Manager Massey to contact the Health Department to work out details for a supplementary monitoring agreement with MDE.

Councilwoman Broomell stated that she would like to discuss MDE's written responses to the Council's questions at a future meeting.

Discussion - Council Decorum Proposed Policy

President Hodge led discussion regarding the proposed policy of Discipline of Members to the Council Rules and Procedures Manual.

Councilwoman Broomell requested that the proposed section include the right of a member to state their objection first, which will become a part of the minutes. Councilwoman Broomell also related that John McDaniel had contacted the Council Office about his concern that the Council Decorum should also be applied to the attending public. President Hodge asked Councilwoman Broomell to work with Council Manager Massey to incorporate her suggestions to the Council Rules and Procedures Manual.

On motion made by Vice President McCarthy, seconded by Councilwoman Broomell, the Council moved to approve the Discipline of Members as submitted. VOTE: Hodge - N, McCarthy - Y, Bowsbey - Y, Dunn - N, Broomell - N. Motion failed by a vote of 2 in favor and 3 in opposition.

On motion made by President Hodge, seconded by Councilwoman Broomell, the Council moved to draft legislation on the proposed Discipline of Members. VOTE: Hodge - Y, McCarthy - N, Bowsbey - N, Dunn - Y, Broomell - Y. Motion carried by a vote of 3 in favor and 2 in opposition.

President Hodge asked Council Manager Massey to draft a Resolution with the proposed Discipline of Members.

Discussion - Financing County Debt

Councilwoman Broomell stated her concerns regarding financing County debt; teacher pension, snow removal, accounting for growth off-sets, loss of revenue, potential businesses leaving Maryland, legal costs, etc.

President Hodge stated his concerns about the financial reporting for revenue, expenditures and fund balance for the end of the year.

Finance Director Winston Robinson advised Council Members that the FY 2013 audit will take place beginning October 1, 2013., and that he will provide an update to Council Members after that time.

Members of the Council provided their comments regarding the fund balance and financing long term debt.

Finance Director Winston Robinson stated that the details regarding the general fund balance was provided during the presentation of the Capital Improvement Plan. Discussion continued regarding the general Fund balance.

President Hodge asked Finance Director Winston Robinson to report on the revenue, expenditures, and fund balance on a more timely basis.

Finance Director Robinson indicated that he will have more current information about the end of the year by September 30, 2013.

Councilwoman Broomell stated that she would like the Council to hire someone with a finance background who could help the Council in reviewing the budget.

Council Manager Report

Council Manager Massey advised Council Members that Redistricting Commission Board Chairman Ewing McDowell, will present a final report to the Council on October 1. On October 8, the Board of Health is scheduled at 9:00 a.m. during the Council work session, and Domestic Violence Director Anne Bean will update the Council on the Child Advocacy Center. The Council will meet with the County Delegation on November 1, 2013 at 11:00 am, regarding state legislative priorities. The (CTP) Consolidated Transportation Plan meeting will be held on November 1 at 2:30 pm at the Elkton Library.

Council Member Items

Councilwoman Broomell attended the MACo Executive Board Meeting, Upper Shore Regional Full Council Meeting. She toured the A. F. Whitsitt Center Detox Facility in Chestertown and the Conowingo Dam. She commented on matters pertaining to the Ethics Commission. She reminded the public that the i-lighting event will be on September 26, 2013 at 3:00 pm at the Technology Center, 500 Principio Business Park.

Councilman Dunn had no comments.

Vice President McCarthy reminded Council Members that their main purpose was to take care of business of the government.

Councilwoman Bowsbey will be attending an Infants and Toddlers Program of the Local interagency Coordinator Council meeting today at 2:00 pm and the School of Technology National Honors Society Awards Ceremony on Wednesday, September 25, 2013.

President Hodge commented on the letter sent to (MDE) Maryland Department of Environment regarding "Accounting for Growth."

President Hodge asked Council Members to send a letter of congratulations to Senator Stephen Hershey on his recent appointment to the Maryland State Senate, District 36. Council agreed.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion made by Vice President McCarthy, seconded by Councilwoman Broomell, the Council moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:10 am.