

COUNTY COUNCIL OF CECIL COUNTY
WORK SESSION MINUTES
January 14, 2014

PRESENT: Council Members: President Robert Hodge, Vice President Alan McCarthy, Joyce Bowsbey, Michael Dunn, and Diana Broomell, Council Manager James Massey, Director of Administration Al Wein, Director of Finance Winston Robinson, Budget Manager Craig Whiteford, Council Assistant Teri Birney, 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.

CLOSED SESSION – January 7, 2014

Present at Closed Session: Council Members: President Hodge, Vice President McCarthy, Council Members Bowsbey, Dunn and Broomell; Director of Administration Wein, Director of Planning Eric Sennstrom, Council Manager Massey, Council Assistant Birney and Counsel Kevin Karpinski.

CLOSED SESSION

11:32 a.m.

On motion made by Vice President McCarthy, seconded by Councilwoman Bowsbey, the Council moved to convene a closed session pursuant to the Annotated Code of Maryland, State Government 10-508(a) (8) to consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending or potential litigation. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Karpinski updated the Council regarding the CC Recovery litigation.

ADJOURNMENT CLOSED SESSION

12:02 p.m.

On motion made by Councilwoman Broomell, seconded by Vice President McCarthy, the Council moved to adjourn the Closed Session at 12:02 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

Council President Hodge called for the approval of the minutes of the Council Work Session of December 17, 2014.

Councilwoman Broomell made a motion to delete "questions and comments ensued" on page 2, after third paragraph, and insert the following new paragraph: "Councilwoman Broomell requested that the motion be amended so the letter to the Governor would reflect that Whitsitt was the number one priority as the County Executive had stated in her presentation to the Council board and that the Delegation would be copied on the letter. Councilman Hodge stated he did not object to this request and the vote was taken".

Seconded by Councilman Dunn, the motion failed by a vote of 2 to 3 with Vice President McCarthy, Councilwoman Bowsbey and Council President Hodge opposed.

On motion made by Vice President McCarthy, seconded by Councilwoman Bowsbey, the Council moved to approve the minutes of the work session of December 17, 2013, as presented. The motion was approved by a vote of 4 to 1 with Councilwoman Broomell opposed.

Council President Hodge called for the approval of the minutes of the Council Work Session of January 7, 2014.

Councilwoman Broomell made a motion to insert the following paragraph on page 1, under section heading "Special Funding Request to Governor - Letter of Support", after the first paragraph: "Councilwoman Broomell objected to format of the letter as the agreement by Council at the previous work session was to approve a letter of support with emphasis that the number one priority was funding for Whitsitt. Regarding \$275,000 funding for the recovery high school additional information was requested, but not provided. Regarding the \$35,000 for the lab analyst, additional information was requested but not provided. Councilwoman Broomell also raised concerns that the initiatives presented by the County Executive and her appointed drug czar were not vetted in the proper procedure as outlined by the Governor's Executive Order to form the State Drug and Alcohol Abuse Council's along with the local Drug and Alcohol Abuse Council in each county together feedback from the community on where to best effectively invest resources".

Seconded by Councilman Dunn, the motion failed by a vote of 2 to 3 with Vice President McCarthy, Councilwoman Bowsbey and Council President Hodge opposed.

Councilwoman Broomell made a motion to insert the following paragraph on page 2, under section heading "Review of Legislative Agenda", after second paragraph: "Councilwoman Broomell raised a concern that a Council Member may own property where the proposed sewer line was located".

Seconded by Councilman Dunn, the motion failed by a vote of 2 to 3 with Vice President McCarthy, Councilwoman Bowsbey and Council President Hodge opposed.

On motion made by Vice President McCarthy, seconded by Councilwoman Bowsbey the Council moved to approved the minutes of the work session of January 07, 2014, as presented. The motion was approved by a vote of 4 to 1 with Councilwoman Broomell opposed.

Cecil County Strategic Plan Preliminary draft

Councilwoman Bowsbey, the Council's appointment on the Strategic Planning Advisory Network, stated that feedback has been solicited on the second draft of the Strategic Plan. She encouraged Council Members and the public to forward their suggestions and concerns to her.

Discussion – County Executive's recommendation for Sheriff's Salary

Council President Hodge led a discussion of the County Executive's proposal to increase the salary of the Cecil County Sheriff. After discussion, this issue will be considered at the next Council work session.

Discussion – Overdose Amnesty Law

Councilwoman Broomell led a discussion on initiating a 911 Good Samaritan Law for overdose amnesty, similar to a state law passed in Delaware. She will work with several state legislators to propose this law and will bring any legislation to the Council for consideration of support.

Citizens Budget Advisory Board

Council President Hodge led discussion regarding the appointment of members of the Citizens Budget Advisory Board. Council Members were asked to finalize their designee by the next Council work session. Director of Finance Robinson offered to provide an orientation to members of the advisory board.

Council Budget FY 2015

Council Manager Massey reviewed the revised FY2015 Budget proposal for the Council department with the Council. The cost of the independent auditor will not be within the Council's departmental budget. Discussion ensued.

On motion made by Councilwoman Bowsbey, seconded by Vice President McCarthy the Council moved to approve the FY2015 Council budget request. Councilwoman Broomell voiced her request to have an internal auditor to research the bills and fiscal notes. The motion carried by a vote of 3 to 2 with Councilwoman Broomell and Councilman Dunn opposed.

Broadband Task Force- Membership appointments

Council President Hodge led discussion on the appointment of members to the Broadband Task Force. Councilwoman Bowsbey is appointing Simon Tusha, Ed Boas and Danny DeMarinas. Councilman Dunn is appointing Dave Warnick and Travis Marion. Council President Hodge is appointing Don Newcomb, Sean Grimm and Clinton Redding. Council Manager Massey was asked to contact members and set up the first meeting. Councilwoman Broomell suggested that they look at other areas in the country that have been successful with "last mile" access. She also suggested that they provide periodic updates of their progress.

Outside Independent Auditor

Council Manager Massey reported that the Council Attorney advised that the Charter does not allow a smaller number of Council Members to be appointed on a committee. The Council discussed the composition of the selection committee and agreed that no Council Members will not serve. Discussion and comments ensued.

Discussion – Animal Care and Control Ordinance

Council President Hodge led discussion on the proposed Bill No. 2013-19, Animal Care and Control Ordinance. Councilwoman Broomell expressed her concern over the forms under the County Executive's purview and what the Animal Care and Control Oversight Commission was requesting.

Vice President McCarthy stated that he is proposing Amendments 13-20 that will eliminate the Hobby Kennel, Hobby Kennel License and Harboring. Questions, comments, and discussion ensued.

On a motion made by Councilwoman Bowsbey, seconded by President Hodge the Council moved to defer the consideration of the amendments submitted by Vice President McCarthy. After discussion this motion was withdrawn.

On a motion made by Vice President McCarthy, seconded by Councilwoman Bowsbey, the Council moved to consider two of the amendments submitted by Vice President McCarthy. Discussion ensued and Council agreed to obtain a ruling from Council Attorney Allison if the proposed amendments will change the ordinance significantly enough to require a public hearing. Motion was approved by a vote of 3 to 2 with Councilwoman Broomell and Councilman Dunn opposed.

Councilwoman Broomell requested a fiscal note, which will be provided by the Finance Department.

Council Manager Report

Council Manager Massey reviewed the list of boards and commissions in order to verify what meetings should be included on the weekly schedule. Council Members were asked to submit any additional or changes by the next work session.

At the Council work session on January 21, Charles MacLeod and Jeff Bloomquist will make a presentation regarding the use of coordination. In addition, Director of Finance Robinson will be providing the quarterly financial report and monthly update. Dr. Devine and staff will make a presentation about the Appleton Road property and Perryville Elementary School.

Congressman Harris has agreed to meet with the Council on January 23 or January 24 at 11 a.m. After discussion, the Council agreed to host the event on Friday, January 24.

On January 28, the MTA will make a presentation about the MARC layover plans during the Council work session. The Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring a State of the County breakfast on Thursday, January 30 at 8 a.m. at the Chesapeake Bay Golf Club in Rising Sun. Council Members are asked to speak.

Council Member Items

Councilwoman Broomell commented on a constituent request for a four-way stop, which the administration will review and respond. She attended the Economic Development Commission meeting and commented on a possible contract with Harbor Rock to recycle the dredging spoils into building materials. She asked the administration to respond to a question about the Highland to Meadowview sewer interconnection.

Councilwoman Bowsbey commented on A Buddy For Life printed brochure, Nick Ricciuti's retirement as Social Services Director, and film showings of "Anonymous People". She attended the Local Management Board, and will be attending the School of Technology graduation tonight and Annual Cooperators Banquet on January 16.

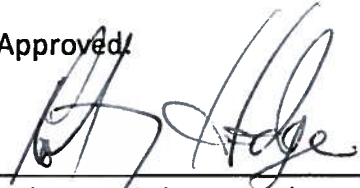
Vice President McCarthy commented on the Governor of Vermont's State of the State speech that focused on the serious problem of drugs and related crime in his state. Vice President McCarthy also reviewed his research on prescription drug abuse and strategies to curb drug abuse.

Councilman Dunn and Council President Hodge had no comments.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion made by Councilwoman Bowsbey, seconded by Vice President McCarthy, the Council moved to adjourn the work session meeting at 11:08 p.m.

Approved:



Robert J. Hodge, President
County Council of Cecil County

Attest:



James Massey
Council Manager