

COUNTY COUNCIL OF CECIL COUNTY
WORK SESSION MINUTES
January 17, 2017

PRESENT: Council Members: Vice President Dan Schneckenburger, Bob Meffley, George Patchell and Jackie Gregory; James Massey, Council Manager; Terry Hale, Council Assistant; Jason Allison, County Attorney; Eric Sennstrom, Director of Planning and Zoning; Christopher Moyer, Director of Economic Development; Director of Planning and Zoning; Steve O'Connor, Zoning Administrator; members of the press; and members of the public.
Absent: Council President Bowsbey

OPEN SESSION – Elk Room

9:00 a.m. –Council Vice President Schneckenburger, in the absence of Council President Bowsbey, 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.

CLOSED SESSION

January 3, 2017

9:34 A.M.

On motion made by Councilwoman Gregory, seconded by Councilman Meffley, the Council moved to convene in closed session pursuant to the Annotated Code of Maryland, 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.

Roll Call Vote: Meffley - Y, Bowsbey - Y, Schneckenburger - Y, Patchell - Y, Gregory - Y.
The motion was carried by a vote of 5 to 0.

Present: Council Members: President Bowsbey, Vice President Schneckenburger, Councilman Patchell; Councilman Meffley, Councilwoman Gregory, James Massey, Council Manager, Terry Hale, Council Assistant; County Executive Alan McCarthy; Al Wein, Director of Administration; Jason Allison, County Attorney; and Christopher Moyer, Director of Economic Development.

Mr. Allison discussed the details of Resolution No. 03-2017, which are subject to non-disclosure at this time.

On motion made by Vice President Schneckenburger, seconded by Councilman Meffley, the Council moved to conclude the closed session at 9:57 a.m.

Roll Call Vote: Meffley - Y, Bowsbey - Y, Schneckenburger - Y, Patchell - Y, Gregory - Y.
The motion was carried by a vote of 5 to 0.

Approval of Minutes

On a motion made by Councilwoman Gregory, seconded by Councilman Meffley, the Council moved to approve the minutes of the Council work session of January 3, 2017, as presented. Motion was approved unanimously.

On a motion made by Councilwoman Gregory, seconded by Councilman Meffley, the Council moved to approve the minutes of the Council closed session of January 3, 2017, as presented. Motion was approved unanimously.

Old Dominion Electric Cooperator

Richard D. McWhorter, Vice President, Operations and Asset Management; Brian Heinbaugh, Plant General Manager; and John Ragone, Energy Development Partnership Managing Director, made a presentation to update the Council on ODEC's Wildcat Point Expansion.

Mr. McWhorter thanks Cecil County for allowing ODEC to become a part of the community. He summarized the corporate structure of ODEC, which is a not-for-profit corporation that supplies 560,000 customers with energy, including 6,000 Cecil County residents. He described the three years of construction for the combined cycle generation facility.

Mr. McWhorter stated that the construction project, which employed 1,000 people should be completed by this summer. He also described the pipeline which will obtain raw water from the Susquehanna River to the plant. He noted that there was a fire on September 14, 2016, which is still under investigation for the cause.

Thirty full time employees have been hired to oversee Wildcat Point under the supervision of Brian Heinbaugh, Plant General Manager.

Mr. McWhorter described how the new generation plant will be tested before going online. The new power plant will improve electric reliability, reduce electricity market price, and result in an economic impact in Cecil County of \$1B. During the past three years, ODEC has donated \$745,000 to the community. Council questions and comments ensued.

Review of Legislative Agenda

Vice President Schneckenburger led a review of the legislative agenda.

A public hearing for Bill No. 2016-24 Amendment- Zoning Ordinance- Campgrounds and Recreational Vehicle Parks, is scheduled at tonight's session. Mr. Sennstrom provided comments on this legislation. Council questions and comments ensued. Councilman Meffley stated that he had visited Indian Acres, spoke with residents and shared photos of the campground. He stated that Mr. Sennstrom had provided a letter to Indian Acres property owners that assured them that Bill No. 2016-24 would not apply to Indian Acres because of the difference in zoning between Low Density Residential (LDR) and Manufactured Home (MH). Councilman Meffley stated that Indian Acres property owners remain skeptical of this legislation. According to Mr. Allison, the attorney representing Indian Acres has not contacted him and he has received no copies of any lawsuits filed by Indian Acres property owners. Mr. Allison stated that the County Executive and him have met with the new owner of Indian Acres to encourage the management to enforce their restrictions.

A public hearing for Bill No. 2016-25 Amendment- Zoning Ordinance- Communications Towers, is scheduled at tonight's session. Mr. Sennstrom explained that this legislation would allow cell towers to be placed on properties that are zoned as Open Space (OS). There were no Council questions or comments.

Vice President Schneckenburger stated that Resolution No. 04-2017 Appointment- Drug and Alcohol Abuse Council- April Foster, will be introduced at tonight's session. There were no comments or questions.

Mr. Sennstrom provided introductory comments on Resolution No. 05-2017 Approval- Tax Credit- Brick House, which will be introduced at tonight's session. There were no Council questions or comments.

Vice President Schneckenburger asked Mr. Allison to provide explanation on Resolution No. 06-2017 Land Conveyance- Estate of Richard D. Mackie, which will be introduced at tonight's session. Mr. Allison explained that Mr. Mackie had agreed to participate in the Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation (MALPF) in 2010. However, Mr. Mackie agreed to convey a portion of his property to Cecil County Government for \$3,500 in 2012. When Mr. Mackie died in 2013, the contradictory actions were realized. MALPF asked the County to return the property and the County agreed to convey the property back to the estate for \$3,500 but retain the right of way to maintain the road. There were no other Council comments or questions.

Vice President Schneckenburger stated that Resolution No. 57-2016 Amendment- Master Water and Sewer Plan- Goals and Objectives; Resolution No. 58-2016 Amendment- Master Water and Sewer Plan- Chesapeake City; Resolution No. 59-2016 Amendment- Master Water and Sewer Plan- Map- Water Service Districts; Resolution No. 60-2016 Amendment- Master Water and Sewer Plan- Map- Sewer Service Districts; Resolution No. 61-2016 Recertification- Priority Funding Area Map; will be considered for approval at tonight's legislative session. There were no Council comments or questions.

Resolution No. 01-2017 Appointment- Electrical Examiners Board- Frederick T. Craig, Jr., will be considered for approval at tonight's session. There were no Council questions or comments.

Resolution No. 02-2017 Appointment- Drug and Alcohol Abuse Council- James W. Ziccardi, will be considered for approval at tonight's session. There were no Council questions or comments.

Resolution No. 03-2017 Approval- Maryland Economic Development Assistance and Authority Fund Loan- Project Iron, will be considered for approval at tonight's session. Mr. Allison and Mr. Moyer provided comments on this legislation. Vice President Schneckenburger stated that Amendment No. 1 to this Resolution identifies Project Iron as Amazon. Councilwoman Gregory asked about the conditions of the loan. Mr. Moyer provided additional details on the revenue to be generated by Amazon. Councilwoman Gregory requested information on the return on investment of this project.

There were no questions or comments regarding rezoning File #2016-06 Martin Imperial, 538 Blue Ball Road, Elkton, MD 21921, which is scheduled for consideration at tonight's session.

Cecil County Public Schools- Budget Amendment #36, will be considered for approval at tonight's session.

Council Manager Report

Mr. Massey updated Council Members about upcoming meetings and events. He also commented that the Council has provided letters of support or opposition to state legislation, which is often suggested by the Maryland Association of Counties Legislative Committee. Vice President Schneckenburger serves on the MACo Legislative Committee, which will be meeting on January 18, 2017.

Council Member Comments

Councilwoman Gregory thanked the Cecil County Chamber of Commerce for their successful Cecil Night in Annapolis. She also thanked the Cecil County Sheriff's Office for providing ALICE training recently.

Councilman Meffley attended the Cecil County Economic Development Commission presentation with Dr. Basu and commented on his labor study. He also attended the Tobacco Task Force, Cecil Night in Annapolis, Sheriff's Office criminal intelligence update, Board of Education meeting, the dedication of the C&D Canal Trails, Elkton Moose Lodge celebration, Wrights AME Church breakfast in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Councilman Patchell stated that he will save his comments for tonight's legislative session.

Vice President Schneckenburger attended Cecil Night in Annapolis and the afternoon session. He commented on the State's serious budget shortfall. He will be attending MACo Legislative Committee tomorrow. He also commented on the State legislature's major issues on transportation, highway user funds, sick leave, bail reform and Delegate Hornberger's local request for supplemental budget.

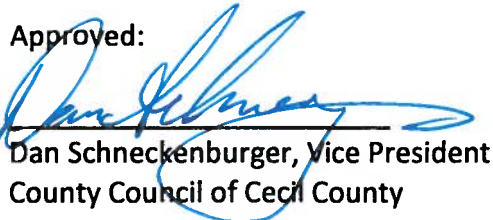
Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Vice President Schneckenburger at 10:07 a.m.

Attest:


James Massey
Council Manager

Approved:


Dan Schneckenburger, Vice President
County Council of Cecil County