COUNTY COUNCIL OF CECIL COUNTY WORK SESSION MINUTES February 14, 2017

PRESENT: Council Members: President Joyce Bowlsbey, Vice President Dan Schneckenburger, Bob Meffley, George Patchell and Jackie Gregory; James Massey, Council Manager; Terry Hale, Council Assistant; Rebecca Anderson, Budget Director; members of the press; and members of the public.

Guest: Lt. Commander Jeff Kirschner, 1st Sgt. Adam Howard

OPEN SESSION – Elk Room

9:00 a.m. -Council President Bowlsbey 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.

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 February 7, 2017, as presented. Motion was approved unanimously.

Maryland State Police, North East Barrack

Lt. Jeff Kirschner introduced himself as the newly appointed Commander of the Maryland State Police North East Barrack F. He also introduced First Sergeant Adam Howard, who is the Barrack Supervisor. He stated that the North East Barrack is comprised of forty-two employees, including thirty-eight Troopers. He stated that there are usually four troopers on shift patrols in Cecil County, which is Barrack F's assigned area. He stated that 911 Center rotates call assignments between the Cecil County Sheriff's Office and his Barrack. His patrols will also provide law enforcement for the municipalities as needed. Patrol of I-95 is not part of his patrol assignment. Patrol of the Interstate is assigned to the JFK Barrack, located in Perryville.

Lt. Kirschner offered Council Members the opportunity to participate in the "Ride-Along" program.

Videotaping Council Meetings

Council President Bowlsbey led a discussion of a proposal to videotape Council meetings.

She suggested that this year's budget hearings could be video recorded as a trial, which could be paid with this year's budget. The Council discussed tracking the number of hits if the videotape was loaded on the county's website. Councilman Patchell stated that the number of viewers can be tracked on YouTube.

After extended discussion, the Council agreed to postpone this video proposal and to authorize the Council Manager to purchase a video camera and tripod to be set up in the Elk Room for meetings, which would then be downloaded to the county website and/or YouTube. It was also a suggested that an intern could be assigned to operate the camera.

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FY 2018 Council Departmental Budget

Council President Bowlsbey led discussion regarding the FY 2018 Council departmental budget. The council agreed to request \$2,400 to hire an intern for the fall and spring semester in FY 2018 to work 10 hours per week for twelve weeks. The Council agreed not to hire a videotaping service at this time. The Council agreed to maintain Legal Services at \$30,000 and authorized the hiring of a contractual Council Attorney. This contractual position will be based on attending meetings, as requested, estimated at \$7,050; and providing on-call legal services or research as requested, estimated at \$3,000.

The Council also agreed by consensus to recruit an intern this year, independent of Cecil College. Vice President Schneckenburger will work with the Council Manager to draft a job description. This intern position is proposed to begin in June 2017.

State Legislative Update

Council President Bowlsbey led a review of legislation being considered by the General Assembly.

The Council discussed HB 621 Cecil County Board of Education - Members - Salary. The Council agreed to take no position. The Council also discussed the possibility of a Council Member liaison to the Cecil County Board of Education.

After discussion, the Council agreed to send a letter of support for HB 977 and SB 708 Creation of a State Debt - Cecil County - Fair Hill Race Course.

After discussion, the Council agreed to send a letter of support for HB 1201 and SB 816 Cecil County - Alcoholic Beverages - Beer, Wine and Liquor Tasting License.

Vice President Schneckenburger stated that he was participating in the Maryland Rural Counties Coalition and discussed a recent bail reform. He also stated that the group was waiting on the deadline of bills to be introduced to determine their positions.

Council Manager Report

Mr. Massey updated Council Members about upcoming meetings, presentations, and events. He reviewed the MACo update.

Council Member Comments

Councilwoman Gregory had no comments.

Vice President Schneckenburger will be attending the County Executive's budget information meeting and the Fair Hill information meeting. He stated that he is unable to attend the District 35 reception because he will be attending the Cecil County Fireman's Association meeting.

Councilman Patchell had no comments.

Councilman Meffley attended the Town of North East Commissioner's meeting regarding the proposal for the Nazarene Campground. He also attended Cecil College Socrates Society's Rock of Ages program.

Council President Bowlsbey attended the Human Services Developmental Corporation meeting, Local Management Board, and Cecil County Family Violence Advisory Board. She commented that new federal regulations will require Cecil County to treat men, women and children equally. Currently, women and children are sheltered in a county facility and men are placed in an area motel. She also provided statistics on the growing number of individuals who are supported because of sexual assault and domestic violence.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Council President Bowlsbey at 9:47 a.m.

Approved:

Toyce Bowlsbey, President County Council of Cecil County

Attest:

Council Manager

