

**COUNTY COUNCIL OF CECIL COUNTY**  
**WORK SESSION MINUTES**  
**September 12, 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; Al Wein, Director of Administration; Scott Flanigan, Director of Public Works; Winston Robinson, Finance Director; members of the press; and members of the public.

**Guests:** Barbara Smith, Chief of Community Partnerships Division; Krista Gilmore, Volunteer Community Resource Coordinator.

**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](http://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 September 5, 2017, as presented. Motion was unanimously approved.

**Mandatory Sewer Hookup**

Council President Bowlsbey led discussion regarding the administration's proposed mandatory sewer hookup.

Mr. Flanigan cited the Annotated Code of Maryland, Section 9-708 of the Environment Article, which states "when the municipal authority declares that a water main or sewer is complete and ready for use, (the authority must) notify each owner of abutting property that the owner shall connect..." within a reasonable time.

Mr. Wein cited that the Town of Perryville and St. Mary's County require sewer hookups within six months.

Mr. Flanigan stated that if the authorities do not mandate sewer hookups within a reasonable time, they are not following the state regulation.

Vice President Schneckenburger reviewed his suggested letter to the County Executive that asked that the mandatory hookup be rescinded. He also reviewed the County Attorney's opinion that the administration had not held a public hearing on the mandatory sewer hookup.

Councilwoman Gregory led discussion on whether the Council could change the County Code to remove the mandate.

The Council agreed to readdress this issue with the Council Attorney to clarify whether the Council has authority to remove the mandatory hookup. The Council Manager was asked to obtain a clarification of this question from the Council Attorney.

Mr. Wein stated that the administration has no intention to cause financial stress with the public and is willing to look at these charges on a case by case basis.

#### **Poultry CAFOs Committee**

Council President Bowsbey announced that the Poultry CAFOs Committee will meet tonight at 7pm in the Elk Room to finalize their recommendations.

#### **Office Consolidation**

Council President Bowsbey led discussion regarding the consolidation of Council Member offices so that the administration could utilize several offices for their staff. After discussion, the Council agreed by consensus that two Council Members could share two offices. The Council Manager agreed to bring a proposal to the Council at the next work session.

#### **2018 Calendar**

Council Manager Massey presented a proposed 2018 calendar to reflect the regular schedule of work sessions, legislative sessions, citizens corner, and budget hearings. There will be no legislative sessions in November as dictated by the Charter. The Council suggested that budget hearings should be scheduled at 5:30 pm on evenings of April 10, April 24 and May 8. The Council will review the 2018 calendar for approval in October.

#### **Cecil Cares 2017**

Barbara Smith and Krista Gilmore from the Department of Community Services made a presentation about Cecil Cares, a countywide day of service program to be held on Saturday, September 23, 2017. Council Members were encouraged to participate.

#### **Council Manager Report**

Mr. Massey updated Council Members about upcoming meetings and events. He also highlighted reports from the quarterly Health Report, Clean Chesapeake Coalition, and MACo.

#### **Council Member Comments**

Council President Bowsbey asked Council Members to participate in a workshop, Our Brains on Race; Insights from Implicit Bias, Racial Anxiety, and Stereotype Threat, which will be held on Tuesday, October 17, 2017 from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm at Cecil College, Technology Center Room 208. Councilman Meffley and Vice President Schneckenburger agreed to attend.

Councilman Patchell commented on a meeting with Billy Nelson, Economic Development Director of Perryville. Councilman Patchell is serving as a chaperone at North Bay Adventure Camp this week.

Councilman Meffley attended the Economic Development Commission's meeting where Bruce England presented a report on Cecil County's workforce. He attended the ribbon cutting for the Community Mediation Upper Shore office in Elkton. He attended the Fraternal Order of Police crab feast with Council President Schneckenburger. He also attended the 9-11 Tribute in Chesapeake City and commented on the excellent program.

Councilwoman Gregory attended the Early Childhood Advocacy Council and commented on childhood trauma. She also attended the ribbon cutting for the Community Mediation Upper Shore office in Elkton. She attended the 9-11 Tribute at Harts United Methodist Church and commented on the Upper Chesapeake Community Band's performance.

Vice President Schneckenburger attended the 9-11 Tribute and commented on the outstanding program. He attended the MDE hearing on the CAFOs being proposed at the Horst Farm. He also commented on the CAFOs committee and mandatory sewer hookup. He voiced concern over the public reactions to the administration's proposal to mandate sewer hookups on a limited route on Route 40.

Council President Bowsbey attended the Cecilton Lions Club Night at the Races event and Human Services Development Corporation Board meeting. She also attended the Family Violence Advisory Committee and reported on the increase in child abuse and domestic violence. She also reported on the Local Management Board's program on human trafficking that was held recently.

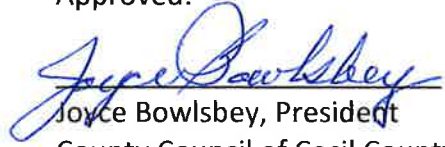
**Adjournment**

The work session was adjourned by Council President Bowsbey at 9:52 a.m.

Attest:

  
James Massey  
Council Manager

Approved:

  
Joyce Bowsbey, President  
County Council of Cecil County