

**COUNTY COUNCIL OF CECIL COUNTY**  
**WORK SESSION MINUTES**  
**September 26, 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, members of the press; and members of the public.

**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 Vice President Schneckenburger, seconded by Councilwoman Gregory, the Council moved to approve the minutes of the Council work session of September 19, 2017, as presented. Motion was unanimously approved.

**Poultry CAFOs Recommendations**

Council President Bowlsbey led discussion of the recommendations from the Poultry CAFOs committee.

Council Members agreed by consensus with the proposed definitions.

There was consensus that poultry CAFOs should be a permitted use in NAR and SAR zones, and in other zones by special exception.

The Council took no action on specifying a minimum parcel size.

The committee discussed specifying the vegetative buffer in various widths. After discussion, the Council agreed by consensus to specify a minimum of 20' width, as required by MDE, but adding " or as recommended by the Cecil Soil Conservation District".

The Council discussed various setbacks from property lines, adjacent dwellings, and for ventilation fans. After discussion, the Council agreed by consensus to a minimum setback of 100' from property lines, a minimum setback of 400' from adjacent dwellings and a minimum setback of 600' for ventilated fans from adjacent dwellings.

The Council agreed that any poultry CAFOs larger than 250,000 sf shall require approval by the Planning Commission.

Council Manager Massey asked the Council to consider addressing a standard for expansion of current poultry CAFOs. The Council agreed by consensus that any expansion of an existing poultry CAFOs would require compliance with current zoning regulation standards.

The Council discussed the process for adopting these proposed zoning amendments. The Council passed legislation to allow the Council to propose zoning amendments. At the time of this session, Council Manager Massey stated that the Council had a choice of proposing legislation without submitting the amendment to the Planning Commission. The Council agreed that Council President Bowsbey would discuss this proposal with the Planning Commission on October 16, 2017.

### **Mandatory Sewer Hookups**

Council President Bowsbey stated that the administration intends to schedule a public hearing on the mandatory sewer hookups in December.

The Council discussed an article in the Cecil Whig, which stated that the Council had approached Delegate Hornberger regarding the State sewer mandate. The Council has taken no position on this proposal.

The Council discussed that policies about sewer hookups is a local issue, which should be determined by the County, and not the State.

Council President Bowsbey stated that Cecil County invested in a new sewer treatment facility in order to comply with water quality mandates. This treatment facility must be financially supported by sewer users. The administration has offered a reduction in sewer hookups of \$6,000 and agreed to finance payments.

The mandated sewer hookup will be brought to the delegation for discussion.

Councilwoman Gregory stated that the administration did not bring their proposal for mandatory hookup within ten years to the Council for approval. She asked for authority to discuss possible amendments to the Code with the Council Attorney.

Vice President Schneckenburger suggested that the Council wait for the administration to discuss their plans and hoped that this issue could be resolved.

The Council agreed by consensus to wait for the administration's public hearing before taking further actions.

### **2018 Council Calendar**

Council Manager Massey provided an updated 2018 Council calendar for approval. Budget hearings will be held at 5:30 pm on days when the Council does not meet in legislative session. The public hearings on the budget bill will be held on May 22, 2018 at Elkton High School. Because of early voting, the Council work session and legislative session will be held at the Elkton Town Hall because of early voting. There are no meetings on primary and general election day. There are no legislative meetings during November 2018 because of Charter requirements. The County Inauguration will be held on December 3, 2017 and first meeting of the newly elected Council will be held on December 4, 2017.

Vice President Schneckenburger made a motion to approve the 2018 Council Calendar as presented, which was seconded by Councilman Meffley. The motion was approved unanimously.

**Council Manager Report**

Mr. Massey updated Council Members about upcoming meetings and events. He reported on several issued from the MACo newsletter.

**Council Member Comments**

Councilman Patchell attended the Parks and Recreation Board meeting and opening of the new turf field at Perryville High School.

Councilman Meffley attended the Elkton Town Commissioners meeting and commented on discussions of the Town's homeless population. He also commented on the Town's permit process for new businesses and a new brewery to be opened within the Town. He commented on the Grand Prix event scheduled on October 14. He attended the Mayors Drug Task Force and Sheriff's Office weekly update and provided drug overdose statistics that showed a 67% increase in overdose fatalities. He participated in Cecil Cares day at the animal shelter.

Councilwoman Gregory thanked the volunteers who participated in Cecil Cares day and commented on volunteering at the Elkton community kitchen.

Vice President Schneckenburger attended APG community day at Sandy Cove, hosted by General Taylor and reported on their planned Centennial Celebration. He has invited the General to address the County Council at a future meeting. He participated in Cecil Cares day at Fair Hill Nature Center. He attended Cecil College GED graduation. He will be attending the Cecil County Manufacturers Appreciation Luncheon.

Council President Bowsbey attended Cecil Cares and participated at the art center location. She also attended the Department of Social Services board meeting and international food event. She commented that APG will be open this weekend for Octoberfest events.

**Adjournment**

On a motion made by Councilwoman Gregory, seconded by Councilman Meffley, 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