

**COUNTY COUNCIL OF CECIL COUNTY
LEGISLATIVE SESSION MINUTES
LSD 2017-23
December 5, 2017**

The County Council of Cecil County met in legislative session at the County Administration Building, 200 Chesapeake Blvd., Elk Room, Elkton, MD. The following members of the Council were present:

Joyce Bowsbey, Council President
Dan Schneckenburger, Vice President
Bob Meffley, Council Member
George Patchell, Council Member
Jackie Gregory, Council Member

NOTE: Audio recording and video recording of this meeting is available on the County website at www.ccgov.org.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the County Council of Cecil County of December 5, 2017 was called to order by Council President Bowsbey at 7:00 p.m. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Council President Bowsbey led the Council in a moment of silence.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On motion made by Councilwoman Gregory, seconded by Councilman Meffley, moved to approve the legislative agenda of December 5, 2017. Motion was carried unanimously.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Frank Vari, Chesapeake City Town Commissioner, made a presentation about events sponsored by the Town of Chesapeake City. He presented certificates to Vice President Scheckenburger, Councilwoman Gregory and Councilman Meffley in recognition of their participation in Chesapeake City's 9-11 Day of Remembrance as part of Cecil Cares Day of Service. Council President Bowsbey and Councilman Patchell participated in projects in Elkton and Perryville.

PUBLIC HEARING

Rezoning Application:

File: 2017-07; Applicant: Dwight Thomey attorney for Wayne & Maralyn Webb; Request: To rezone 3.9862 acres from Business Local (BL) to Business General (BG). PROPERTY LOCATION: Tome Highway, Rising Sun, MD 21911, Election District: 6, Tax Map: 10, Parcel: 784. PROPERTY OWNER: Wayne and Maralyn Webb. PRESENTLY ZONED: Business Local (BL).

Notice of Public Hearing was published on November 22, 2017 and November 29, 2017.

Witnesses presenting testimony were sworn in by Council Manager Massey.

Dwight Thomey, representing the applicant, presented the request for rezoning, based on a mistake in the 2011 comprehensive rezoning. He introduced Wayne and Maralyn Webb, the applicants and owners of the property, as a witness. Mr. Thomey also displayed a map of the surrounding properties.

Eric Sennstrom, Director of Land Use and Development Services, stated that the Planning and Zoning staff and Planning Commission had recommended approval based on a mistake in the 2011 comprehensive rezoning.

Stephen O'Connor, Zoning Administrator, presented the staff report of finding of facts, which recommended approval based on a mistake in the 2011 comprehensive rezoning.

Council questions and comments ensued.

Council President Bowsbey opened the public hearing for public comments. There were no public comments.

There were no closing comments.

Council President Bowsbey concluded the public hearing and announced that the rezoning case will be considered at the next legislative session on December 19, 2017.

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

Bill No. 2017-21 Amendment - Subdivision Regulations - Land Use and Development Services

A Bill to amend the Subdivision Regulations to reflect the changes in plan of organization that the Department of Planning and Zoning will be known as the Department of Land Use and Development Services; and to reflect the new divisions of Planning and Zoning, Permits and Inspections and Plan Review.

The Bill was introduced on November 7, 2017, advertised on November 22, 2017 and November 29, 2017, and scheduled for public hearing on December 5, 2017.

Eric Sennstrom, Director of Land Use and Development Services, offered to answer questions of the legislation. There were no Council questions or comments.

Council President Bowsbey opened the public hearing on Bill No. 2017-21 for public comments. Harold McCanick, Elk Neck, commented in support of the legislation.

Council President Bowsbey concluded the public hearing on Bill No. 2017-21 and announced that final consideration of this Bill will be held on December 19, 2017.

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

Bill No. 2017-22 Amendment - Zoning Ordinance - Land Use and Development Services

A Bill to amend the Zoning Ordinance to reflect the changes in the plan of organization so that the Department of Planning and Zoning will be known as the Department of Land Use and Development Services, and to reflect the new divisions of Planning and Zoning, Permits and Inspections, and Plan Review.

The Bill was introduced on November 7, 2017, advertised on November 22, 2017 and November 29, 2017, and scheduled for public hearing on December 5, 2017.

Eric Sennstrom, Director of Land Use and Development Services, offered to answer questions of the legislation. There were no Council questions or comments.

Council President Bowsbey opened the public hearing on Bill No. 2017-22 for public comments. There were no public comments.

Council President Bowsbey concluded the public hearing on Bill No. 2017-22 and announced that final consideration of this Bill will be held on December 19, 2017.

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

Bill No. 2017-23 Bond Authorization - Mill Run Sewer Extension - USDA

Synopsis: An Act authorizing and empowering Cecil County, Maryland, from time to time, to borrow not more than Eight Million Seventy Thousand Dollars (\$8,070,000) for the purpose of financing the costs of the Mill Run Sewer Infrastructure Extension, and to effect such borrowing by the issuance and sale of its general obligation bond at private sale to the United States of America, acting by and through the United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development; empowering the County Executive to execute and deliver an executive order prior to issuing the bond in order to fix, prescribe and determine the details of the bond and the issuance and sale thereof; empowering and directing the County to levy ad valorem taxes in rate and amount sufficient to provide funds for the payment of the maturing principal of and interest on the bond; exempting the bond from the provisions of Sections 19-205 and 19-206 of the Local Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, or successor provision; providing that the County may issue and sell the bond as a bond the interest on which is not excludable from gross income for federal income tax purposes; and relating generally to the issuance and sale of such bond.

The Bill was introduced on November 7, 2017, advertised on November 22, 2017 and November 29, 2017, and scheduled for public hearing on December 5, 2017.

Al Wein, Director of Administration, offered to answer questions of the legislation. There were no Council questions or comments.

Council President Bowsbey opened the public hearing on Bill No. 2017-23 for public comments. There were no public comments.

Council President Bowsbey concluded the public hearing on Bill No. 2017-23 and announced that final consideration of this Bill will be held on December 19, 2017.

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

Resolution No. 55-2017 Approval - Mill Run Sewer Extension - USDA Loan Resolution

A Resolution to approve the loan resolution for the Mill Run Sewer Extension through the sale of \$8,070,000 in bonds to the USDA with specified conditions, as specified in Bill No. 2017-23.

The Resolution was introduced on November 7, 2017, advertised on November 22, 2017 and November 29, 2017, and scheduled for public hearing on December 5, 2017.

Al Wein, Director of Administration, offered to answer questions of the legislation. There were no Council questions or comments.

Council President Bowsbey opened the public hearing on Resolution No. 55-2017 for public comments. There were no public comments.

Council President Bowsbey concluded the public hearing on Resolution No. 55-2017 and announced that final consideration of this legislation will be held on December 19, 2017.

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

Resolution No. 56-2017 Approval - Revolving Loan Fund – Governing Policies - Cecil Catalyst

A Resolution to amend the Department of Economic Development’s Revolving Loan Fund governing policies to change the name of the Fund to Cecil Catalyst, revise loan making authority, restructure the governing board, expand uses for which Fund loans can be used, and to provide a streamlined application process for “micro” loans.

The Resolution was introduced on November 7, 2017, advertised on November 22, 2017 and November 29, 2017, and scheduled for public hearing on December 5, 2017.

Christopher Moyer, Director of Economic Development, offered to answer questions of the legislation. Council questions and comments ensued.

Council President Bowsbey opened the public hearing on Resolution No. 56-2017 for public comments. Harold McCanick, Elk Neck, commented in opposition to the legislation.

Jason Allison, County Attorney, provided additional comments.

Council President Bowsbey concluded the public hearing on Resolution No. 56-2017 and announced that final consideration of this legislation will be held on December 19, 2017.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion made by Councilwoman Gregory, seconded by Councilman Meffley, the Council moved to approve the minutes of November 21, 2017. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Harold McCanick, Elk Neck, commented on Cecil Transit's limited service from Cecilton to Middletown, Delaware, and about "On Demand Service".

PRESIDENT AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilwoman Gregory thanked the audience for attending. She commented on attending the Christmas Parade in North East and the awards banquet for Cecil County Sheriff's Office. She also commented in response to Mr. McCanick's remarks about the transit programs.

Vice President Schneckenburger hoped that everyone had a nice Thanksgiving holiday. He stated that he will be summarizing proposed state legislation at the next Council work session. He attended the Army Alliance and Aberdeen Proving Ground community meeting. He also attended the Christmas Parade in North East and annual banquet for Cecil County Sheriff's Office. He will be attending the MACo winter conference, Rural Maryland Council executive board, and Economic Development Commission.

Councilman Patchell attended many of the holiday events and commented that he expects January will be a busy month for legislative initiatives.

Councilman Meffley attended the Farm Bureau and commented on the proposal for the Donaldson Brown Center. He stated that the Farm Bureau banquet will be held on March 25. He attended the Maryland Rural Development Corporation and commented on available funding for homeless projects. He also commented on the Vocational Technical Center selling a house that the students built. He attended the open house at Principio and the FOP lodge. He congratulated Bryan Shockley as the Deputy of the Year. He also commented on being interviewed by the public library for their strategic planning process.

Council President Bowlsbey stated that she had cosigned a letter with the County Executive requesting that Congress approve the budget for rural health centers. If the budget is not approved, West Health Center services will be severely reduced. She attended the Christmas Parade in North East and commented on Cecil Transit's limited service between Cecilton and Middletown, Delaware.

CALL FOR FINAL READING OF BILLS

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

Bill No. 2017-19 Budget Transfer - Wastewater Capital Project Budget - I&I Meadowview, Cherry Hill, Highlands Project

A Bill to amend the Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for Cecil County, Maryland for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018 to transfer existing bond appropriation authority within the Wastewater Capital Projects Budget in the amount of \$386,000 from completed Wastewater Capital Projects including the Repair Carpenters Point Sewer Trenches (\$102,736) and the Construct Highland Interceptor Sewer Project (\$283,264); to the Inflow and Infiltration Projects(I&I) Meadowview, Cherry Hill, Highlands Project.

There were no Council comments or questions about this legislation.

The Bill was introduced on October 17, 2017 and public hearing held on November 21, 2017.

On motion made by Vice President Schneckenbuger, seconded by Councilwoman Gregory, the Council moved to approve Bill No.2017- 19.

Role Call Vote: Meffley- Y, Patchell-Y, Gregory – Y, Schneckenburger – Y, Bowsbey – Y. Motion was carried unanimously.

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

Bill No. 2017-20 Budget Amendment - Wastewater Capital Project Budget - Elkton West Sanitary Sewer District - USDA Loan

A Bill to amend the Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for Cecil County, Maryland, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, to replace existing County General Obligation (GO) Bonds appropriation authority of \$8,070,000 for the construction of the Elkton West Sanitary Sewer Sub-district project within the Wastewater Capital Projects Budget, with a loan approved for the project from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

There were no Council comments or questions about this legislation.

The Bill was introduced on October 17, 2017 and public hearing held on November 21, 2017.

On motion made by Councilwoman Gregory, seconded by Vice President Schneckenburger, the Council moved to approve Bill No. 2017-20.


Role Call Vote: Meffley- Y, Patchell-Y, Gregory – Y, Schneckenburger – Y, Bowsbey – Y. Motion was carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion made by Councilwoman Gregory, seconded by Councilman Meffley, Council President Bowsbey adjourned the meeting at 7:56 p.m.

The next Council Legislative Session is scheduled on Tuesday, December 19, 2017 in the Elk Room of the County Administration Building, 200 Chesapeake Blvd., Elkton, Maryland.

Attest:


James Massey
Council Manager

Approved:


Joyce Bowsbey
President