

**COUNTY COUNCIL OF CECIL COUNTY
WORK SESSION MINUTES
December 19, 2017**

PRESENT: Council Members: President Joyce Bowsbey, 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 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.

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 December 12, 2017, as presented. Motion was approved unanimously.

Council Auditor for Budget

Vice President Schneckenburger discussed the need for an auditor to assist the Council with the FY 2019 budget proposal. Council Manager Massey provided discussion points for Council to consider.

The Council agreed that the primary focus should be on the operating budget, not the capital budget, although the auditor will be asked to look at the borrowing level. Prior to the Council budget hearings, the auditor will be asked to provide requests for clarification, concerns, and possible budget reductions. The Council agreed that the following parts of the budget should be analyzed: Internal Service Fund, fleet management, and small capital budget.

The auditor will not be asked to attend all budget hearings unless for specific requests. The auditor will be asked to attend the Council budget deliberation. A final written report will be required.

Mr. Massey suggested the following timetable: prepare and distribute RFP in January 2018, interview and select auditor in February 2018, and initial meeting to discuss scope and timetable in March 2018.

Mr. Massey will move forward with this proposal and report on progress to Council Members.

Council Departmental Budget FY 2019

Council Manager Massey presented the Council departmental budget request as reviewed at the last Council work session. Council President Bowsbey asked Council Members for comments.

Councilwoman Gregory moved to approve the budget request as presented, which was seconded by Councilman Meffley. The Council unanimously approved of the motion.

Review of Legislative Agenda

A public hearing for Resolution No. 57-2017 Roads – Renaming – Maggie's Lane, is scheduled for tonight's legislative session. Eric Sennstrom, Director of Land Use and Development Services, provided comments. Council questions and comments ensued.

Al Wein, Director of Administration, provided introductory comments on Resolution No. 58-2017 Supplementary Appropriation – Parks and Recreation – Former Bittersweet Golf Course, which will be introduced at tonight's legislative session. Council questions and comments ensued. Rebecca Anderson, Budget Manager, provided details of the operation and maintenance costs. Clyde Van Dyke, Director of Parks and Recreation, discussed the details on the need for two additional park maintenance workers who are needed at the new facility and several other park properties. Council Members expressed concern for the need for funding the project now instead of waiting for the next fiscal year.

Al Wein, Director of Administration, provided introductory comments on Resolution No. 59-2017 Agreement – Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) – Unison Energy, which will be introduced at tonight's session. Tom Dubel, representing Altus Group, also commented in support of this project. Council questions and comments ensued.

Resolution No. 55-2017 Approval – Mill Run Sewer Extension – USDA Loan, will be considered for approval at tonight's session. There were no Council questions or comments.

Resolution No. 56-2017 Approval – Revolving Loan Policies – Cecil Catalyst, will be considered for approval at tonight's session. There were no Council questions or comments.

Bill No. 2017-21 Amendment – Subdivision Regulations – Land Use and Development Services will be considered for final approval at tonight's session. Eric Sennstrom, Director of Land Use and Development Services, provided comments. There were no Council questions or comments.

Bill No. 2017-22 Amendment – Zoning Ordinance – Land Use and Development Services will be considered for final approval at tonight's session. Eric Sennstrom, Director of Land Use and Development Services, provided comments. There were no Council questions or comments.

Eric Sennstrom, Director of Land Use and Development Services, provided comments on the rezoning case, #2017-07 Dwight Thomey attorney for Wayne and Maralyn Webb. He stated that the Planning staff and Planning Commission recommended approval based on a mistake in the zoning classification of the property during the last comprehensive rezoning. There were no Council questions or comments.

Cecil County Public Schools- Budget Amendment #46, will be considered for approval at tonight's legislative session. There were no Council questions or comments.

Council Manager Report

Mr. Massey updated Council Members about upcoming meetings and events.

Council Member Comments

Councilman Patchell stated that he would make his comments during tonight's legislative session.

Councilman Meffley thanked the audience for attending and stated that he will save his comments until this evening's session.

Councilwoman Gregory commented that she has been a Council Member for one year and that she enjoyed working together with her colleagues, even though they may not always share the same opinions. She said that she looked forward to working with other Council Members in the coming year.

Vice President Schneckenburger attended the County Employee Holiday Open House and the Economic Alliance of Greater Baltimore. He commended the "Shop with a Cop" program where he also participated.

President Bowsbey commended the County Employee Holiday Open House and thanked Angela Vaca and Terry Hale for their efforts. She agreed with Councilwoman Gregory's comments on the value of open discussion of issues. She also thanked James Massey and Terry Hale for their efforts on behalf of the Council.

9:57 A.M.

CLOSED SESSION

On motion made by Council President Bowsbey, seconded by Vice President Schneckenburger, the Council moved to convene in closed session pursuant to the Annotated Code of Maryland, General Provisions Article, §3-305 (a) (7) to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice on a legal matter.

Roll Call Vote: Meffley - Y, Schneckenburger - Y, Patchell – Y, Gregory - Y, Bowsbey - Y.
The motion was carried unanimously.

Councilman Patchell left the chamber at 10:00 a.m.

The Council waited until 10:30 a.m. for Counsel to arrive.

OPEN SESSION

10:53 A.M.

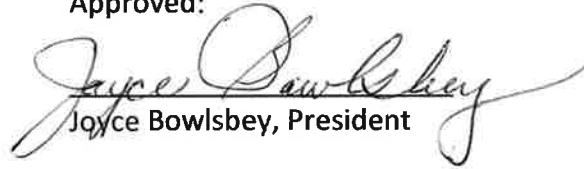
The open session resumed at 10:53 a.m.

Adjournment

On a motion made by Councilwoman Gregory, seconded by Vice President Schneckenburger, the work session was adjourned by Council President Bowsbey at 10:53 a.m.

The next Council work session will be held on Tuesday, January 2, 2018 at 9 a.m.

Approved:


Joyce Bowsbey, President

Attest:


James Massey
Council Manager