

**COUNTY COUNCIL OF CECIL COUNTY
WORK SESSION MINUTES
February 6, 2018**

PRESENT: Council Members: President 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 Vice President Schneckenburger, seconded by Councilman Meffley, the Council moved to approve the minutes of the Council work session of January 16, 2018, as presented. Motion was approved unanimously.

State’s Attorney’s Office Update

Steve Trostle, Acting State’s Attorney, presented an update of his office. He explained that the state’s Justice Reinvestment Act has reduced sentencing while focused on treatment and rehabilitation. He stated that unlike most states, Maryland has not funded the cost for treatment and rehabilitation. He explained that these unfunded mandates are putting pressure on counties. He stated that JRA results in a reduction of sentences by 25% and favor the defendants. He also stated that 90% of the cases are related to drug use, especially heroin and cocaine. He emphasized that the result of the JRA is an increase in caseloads.

Mr. Trostle also discussed the use of body cameras as a tool for law enforcement and an additional source of evidence. He stated that the State’s Attorney’s office will be requesting a full time employee as a digital evidence paralegal in order to maintain evidence. He also cited that Governor Hogan is proposing a “truth in sentencing”, which will prohibit a reduction of sentencing for defendants that have previous violent crime convictions.

Second Quarter Financial Projections

Lisa Saxton, Acting Finance Director, and Rebecca Anderson, Budget Manager, presented the FY 2018 second quarter projections.

Ms. Anderson reported that the second quarter projection finds the county’s general fund with a favorable variance from the budget of \$1.7M. The projected net of all revenue streams is \$646,000 greater than the budget. Projected expenditures are expected to approach but not equal budget, a total of approximately \$1M less than budgeted is projected to be spent when reviewing the activity for the first six months. Our actual general fund expenditures have increased by \$2.4M, compared to FY 2017.

The Landfill Enterprise Fund is projecting a decrease of \$23,000 in operating revenue as compared with the budget. Expenditures are projected to be \$62,000 less than budgeted.

The Wastewater Enterprise Fund is projecting a small increase in revenue as compared to the budget. There is a projected savings in expenditures of \$82,000 but will not overcome the end of the year projected loss of \$800,000. A wastewater rate study is being conducted.

Council questions and comments ensued.

State Legislation

The Council reviewed legislation proposed in the Maryland General Assembly for consideration of support.

Chief Gerald Widdoes, Cecil County Sheriff's Office, provided comments in support of HB 284 Cecil County – Office of the Sheriff- Employees and Collective Bargaining. After discussion, the Council agreed to send a letter of support for HB 284.

Chief Gerald Widdoes, Cecil County Sheriff's Office, provided comments in support of HB 373 Cecil County – Home Detention and Release Programs. After discussion, the Council agreed to send a letter of support for HB 373.

The Council discussed support for SB 34 Chesapeake Bay Bridge Crossing – Eastern Shore Local Government Consent – Repeal. After discussion, the Council agreed to send a letter of opposition against SB 34.

Earl Bradford, Cecil County Liquor Board, provided comments in support of HB 411 Cecil County – Alcoholic Beverages – Alcohol Awareness Program. After discussion, the Council agreed to send a letter of support for HB 411.

The Council discussed proposed legislation by Delegate Hornberger to permit deer hunting on Sundays on private property from October to January. Vice President Schneckenburger stated that this proposal had been expanded to include all counties. After discussion, the Council agreed to send a letter of support for this proposal.

Review of Legislative Agenda

Council President Bowsbey stated that Bill No. 2018-01 Zoning Ordinance – Poultry Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations-CAFOS, will be introduced at tonight's session. There were no Council questions or comments.

Council President Bowsbey stated that Resolution No. 02-2018 Amendment – Master Water and Sewer Plan – Water Service Map – Town of Perryville, will be introduced at tonight's session. There were no Council questions or comments.

Council President Bowsbey stated that Resolution No. 03-2018 Amendment – Master Water and Sewer Plan – Sewerage System – Town of Perryville, will be introduced at tonight’s session. There were no Council questions or comments.

Council President Bowsbey stated that Resolution No. 04-2018 Appointment—Weed Control Advisory Committee, will be introduced at tonight’s session. There were no Council questions or comments.

Council President Bowsbey stated that Resolution No. 05-2018 Reappointment—Board of Parks and Recreation—Donald C. Harmer, Jr., will be introduced at tonight’s session. There were no Council questions or comments.

Council President Bowsbey stated that Resolution No. 06-2018 Budget Amendment – Roads Maintenance – Snow Removal, will be introduced at tonight’s session. There were no Council questions or comments.

Council President Bowsbey stated that Resolution No. 01-2018 Appointment—Human Services Agency- George F. Stanko, will be considered for approval at tonight’s session. There were no Council questions or comments.

Council Manager Report

Mr. Massey updated Council Members about upcoming meetings and events. Vice President Schneckenburger noted that the County Executive public hearing for citizens’ input on the FY 2019 county budget will be held on Tuesday, February 13, 2018 at 7pm in the Elk Room of the County Administration Building.

Council Member Comments

Councilman Patchell attended the District 35 Delegation reception in Annapolis and commented on the large attendance.

Councilman Meffley commented on the success of the Vo-Tech students in building one house and plans for two additional houses. He stated that he is proposing Vo-Tech students have an opportunity to work on the construction of the new North East Library.

Councilwoman Gregory thanked the audience for attending. She recognized Morgan Miller, Library Director, for hosting meetings for the public to give their input on what services they would like to see at the new North East Library. She thanked the Cecil County Chamber of Commerce for sponsoring the State of the County breakfast. She acknowledged the outstanding contributions of nonprofit organizations to the Cecil County community.

Vice President Schneckenburger will be attending the public meeting tonight for the MDOT bridge replacement on Telegraph Road over Big Elk Creek. He also commented on the uncertainty of the state legislature delaying implementation of paid sick leave. He also commented on attending the

one year anniversary of Ashley Treatment Center with Council President Bowsbey and County Executive McCarthy.

Council President Bowsbey thanked the Cecil County Chamber of Commerce and Government Relations Committee for sponsoring the State of the County breakfast. She also commented on the excellent presentations by Council Members.

Adjournment

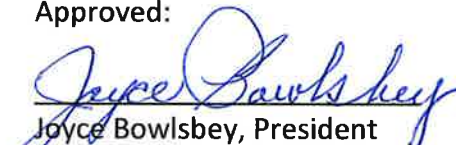
On a motion made by Councilwoman Gregory, seconded by Councilman Meffley, the work session was adjourned by Council President Bowsbey at 10:24 a.m.

The next Council work session will be held on Tuesday, February 13, 2018 at 9 a.m.

Attest:


James Massey
Council Manager

Approved:


Joyce Bowsbey, President