

COUNTY COUNCIL OF CECIL COUNTY
WORK SESSION MINUTES
April 3, 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 Councilwoman Gregory, seconded by Councilman Meffley, the Council moved to approve the minutes of the Council work session of March 27, 2018, as presented. Motion was approved unanimously.

State Legislative Update

Council Manager Massey reviewed the legislation that Cecil County Council took a position. The majority of the Bills that the Council supported have been passed in both chambers and sent to the Conference Committee to make recommendations to be sent to both houses for final approval.

Animal Services Advisory Board

The Council's representative, Arnold Fox, on the Animal Services Advisory Board died recently. The Council discussed whether to consider others who had applied in 2016 or solicit for new applicants. They agreed by consensus to solicit for new applicants for this position.

Review of Legislative Agenda

A public hearing on Resolution No. 10-2018 Approval – Road Abandonment – Brick Meeting House Road – Portion, is scheduled for tonight's legislative session. Al Wein, Director of Administration, provided a summary of the legislation. There were no Council questions or comments.

Al Wein, Director of Administration, stated that Bill No. 2018-02 Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance – FY 2019, Bill No. 2018-03 Capital Improvement Plan – FY 2019-2023, Bill No. 2018-04 Lease and Purchase – Vehicles and Equipment, Resolution No. 19-2018 Fees- Mosquito Control Spraying, Resolution No. 20-2018 Fees – Wastewater Rates, and Resolution No. 21-2018 Adoption of Property Tax Rate – FY 2019; which are related to the FY 2019 county budget, will be discussed during this afternoon's budget hearing. There were no Council questions or comments.

Eric Sennstrom, Director of Land Use and Development Services, provided introductory comments on Resolution No. 16-2018 Tax Credit – Historic Property – Brick House. There were no Council questions or comments.

Eric Sennstrom, Director of Land Use and Development Services, provided introductory comments on Resolution No. 17-2018 Master Water and Sewer Plan – Wastewater Tables – Table 10 – Upgrades to the Wastewater Treatment Plant – Elk Neck State Park. Council questions and comments ensued.

Eric Sennstrom, Director of Land Use and Development Services, provided introductory comments on Resolution No. 18-2018 Master Water and Sewer Plan – Map amendment – Foundation of Eldercare. There were no Council questions or comments.

Al Wein, Director of Administration, provided introductory comments on Resolution No. 19-2018 Fees – Mosquito Control Spraying. Council questions and comments ensued.

Resolution No. 20-2018 Fees – Wastewater Rates, and Resolution No. 21-2018 Adoption of Property Tax Rate – FY 2019, which are related to the county budget, will be discussed during this afternoon's budget hearing.

Resolution No. 11-2018 Appointment – Department of Social Services Board – David Rudolph, will be considered for approval at tonight's session. There were no questions or comments.

Resolution No. 12-2018 Appointment – Historic District Commission – Ron Edwards, Audrey Edwards, and Nancy Simpers, will be considered for approval at tonight's session. There were no questions or comments.

Resolution No. 13-2018 Appointment – Human Services Agency – Shalini Arora and Clyde VanDyke, will be considered for approval at tonight's session. Al Wein, Director of Administration, provided comments. There were no Council questions or comments.

Resolution No. 14-2018 Appointment – Drug and Alcohol Abuse Council – Lorri Irrgang, will be considered for approval at tonight's session. There were no questions or comments.

Resolution No. 15-2018 Budget Appropriation – Grant Fund – Animal Services – Maryland Department of Agriculture, will be considered at tonight's session. Council questions and comments ensued.

Under New Business, the County Executive is requesting Council confirmation of Lisa Saxton as Director of Finance. Al Wein, Director of Administration, provided comments. Council comments ensued.

Council Manager Report

Mr. Massey updated Council Members about upcoming meetings and events. He provided copies of the Maryland Department of Planning notes on the recent Listening Tour.

Vice President Schneckenburger asked Council Members to review these comments to determine if the Council agrees as a group with them. He stated his concern about comments regarding Cecil County's role in Wilmapco.

Council Member Comments

Councilman Patchell attended the County Executive's press conference on his proposed FY 2019 budget. He extended hearts and prayers to the families that were displaced due to the fire at Owens Landing in Perryville and commented that the town was enveloped in smoke. He also thanked the first responders who fought the three-story fire. He praised the Perryville Volunteer Fire Company for their dedication in responding on Easter day to Owens Landing and a traffic accident on Route 222.

Councilman Meffley attended the County Executive's press conference on his proposed FY 2019 budget. He also commented on a friend living in Owens Landing who lost everything in the fire. He also attended a tour of Sun-Med Growers and commented on its outstanding operation.

Councilwoman Gregory thanked the audience for attending and wished that everyone had a nice Easter holiday. She attended a library program, My Special Book, held at the Elk Neck Elementary School where she helped students choose books from the bookmobile.

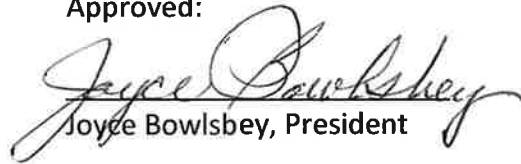
Vice President Schneckenburger attended the County Executive's press conference on his proposed FY 2019 budget. He commented that he was pleased that there is no proposed tax increase and hopes that the Council will pass a budget. He commented on the first responders at Owens Landing and the dedicated firefighters of Community Fire Company of Perryville and Perry Point Fire Department; and the fireboats from Havre de Grace and Charlestown. He thanks all the fire companies and first responders. He attended the tour of SunMed Growers and commented on its quality operations. He will be attending the Economic Development Commission meeting and Cecilton Volunteer Fire Company annual awards banquet.

Council President Bowsbey attended the County Executive's press conference on his proposed FY 2019 budget. She also attended the tour of SunMed Growers and commented on its well designed operation. She also attended Cecil College Foundation's Wellwood Wine Pairing Dinner, which raises funds for college scholarships. She reminded Council Members of the Volunteer Recognition Luncheon on April 19 and the Trash Bash on April 22. She also extended her condolences to the families affected by the fire at Owens Landing in Perryville. She thanked first responders and firefighters for their exceptional efforts.

On a motion made by Councilwoman Gregory, seconded by Vice President Schneckenburger, the work session was adjourned by Council President Bowsbey at 9:32 am.

The next Council work session will be held on Tuesday, April 10, 2018 at 9 am.

Approved:


Joyce Bowsbey, President

Attest:


James Massey
Council Manager