

**COUNTY COUNCIL OF CECIL COUNTY  
WORK SESSION MINUTES  
October 2, 2018**

**PRESENT:** Council Members: President Bowsbey, Vice President 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 and video 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 Councilman Meffley, the Council moved to approve the minutes of the Council work session of September 18, 2018, as presented. Motion was approved unanimously.

**West Nile Virus**

Laurie Humphries, Acting Health Officer, introduced Dr. Henry Taylor, Deputy Health Officer, who provided an overview of the West Nile Virus. He stated that most people who are bitten by a mosquito with West Nile Virus will have no symptoms. He estimated that one person in 150 may become inflicted with serious symptoms that often lead to meningitis. He stated that there were no vaccines and treatment involves supportive care. He stated that prevention is the best care, avoiding mosquito bites. He also stated that the Health Department stresses awareness and education of West Nile Virus. Dr. Taylor also discussed the past eradication of Malaria and Yellow Fever in Maryland. He stated that old tires can collect water but that the chemicals in the tires usually destroy most of the larvae and “wigglers”. Council questions and comments ensued. He stated that there have been two cases of West Nile Virus in this region.

**Deep Roots**

Ola Boswell, Executive Director of Deep Roots, gave a presentation on her organization, a homeless shelter for families and children located at Clairvaux Farm in Earleville. She stated that her program supports families, provides job training and supports children from infant to eighteen years of age. She stated that the average family stay at Deep Roots is about six or seven months. Families are usually successful in moving out of the Deep Roots shelter and into housing. At the site, Ms. Boswell described a thrift store, community kitchen, dorm style and apartment housing, chapel and greenhouse. She also cited various children’s programs offered on site. Council Member questions and comments ensued. They praised the organization for its growth and progress in helping the homeless.

**Chesapeake City Bridge**

Councilman Meffley reported that the Chesapeake City Bridge over the C&D Canal is owned by the Army Corps of Engineers. He stated that the bridge is inspected every two years and that any

repairs include a process of photographing the finished repair so that future inspections can compare photographs for any changes or evidence of decay. Mr. Meffley stated that the Army Corps of Engineers reported no current structural problems. He did state that the bridge requires regular painting.

Councilman Meffley stated that weight limit on bridges is imposed by the State, not the Army Corps of Engineers. He said that there are no plans to adjust the maximum weight limit on the bridge.

#### **Review of Legislative Agenda**

A public hearing on Bill No. 2018-16 Agricultural Preservation District – Losten’s Dairy, LP, is scheduled for tonight’s legislative session. Steve O’Connor, Zoning Administrator, provided comments on the legislation. There were no Council questions or comments.

A public hearing on Bill No. 2018-17 Agricultural Preservation District – Bare Family Farm, is scheduled for tonight’s legislative session. Steve O’Connor, Zoning Administrator, provided comments on the legislation. There were no Council questions or comments.

A public hearing on Resolution No. 38-2018 Expedited Legislation – Enterprise Zone – North East and Perryville, is scheduled for tonight’s legislative session. Al Wein, Director of Administration, provided comments on the legislation. There were no Council questions or comments.

Al Wein, Director of Administration, provided introductory comments on Resolution No. 40-2018 Supplemental Appropriation – Grant – Community Services Department. In addition, Amy Lepore, Director of the Local Management Board, and Amanda Wood, Local Care Team Coordinator, provided additional details on this grant program to support for children in trauma, which will hire contractual trauma-trained therapists. Council questions and comments ensued.

Vice President Schneckenburger, resolution sponsor, provided introductory comments on Resolution No. 41-2018 Support – Tax Credit - Plumpton Park Zoo. He explained that this legislation is non-binding and proposes that the Council request that the Cecil County Delegation sponsor state legislation to provide property tax exemption to the property that the Plumpton Park Zoo is located, which is currently owned by the estate of Edward Plumpstead. He stated that the zoo leases the property from the Plumpstead Estate, which requires the zoo to pay all property tax on four parcels. He stated that the Plumpton Park Zoo is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and that the total tax bill is \$8,700. Council questions and comments ensued.

Resolution No. 38-2018 Expedited Legislation – Enterprise Zone – North East and Perryville, will be considered for approval at tonight’s session. There were no Council questions or comments.

Resolution No. 39-2018 Appointment – Bainbridge Development Corporation - Board of Directors – Martha Barchowsky and David Rudolph, will be considered for approval at tonight’s session. There were no Council questions or comments.

Bill No. 2018-15 Amendments – Cecil County Public Ethics Law – Various Additions and Changes, 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. He provided additional information about the White House Conference with Maryland State and Local Leaders.

**Council Member Comments**

Councilman Patchell attended the ribbon cutting for the Bohemia Manor High School turf field and the Consolidated Transportation Plan meeting.

Councilman Meffley attended the ribbon cutting for the Bohemia Manor High School turf field, Cecil Cares Volunteer Day at Deep Roots, the Consolidated Transportation Plan meeting, and Maryland Rural Development Corporation board meeting. He commended the Cecil Soccer League’s Chesland Complex and its activities.

Councilwoman Gregory attended the Boys and Girls Club’s Kuff a Cop fundraiser, Cecil Cares Volunteer Day at Voices of Hope, Heritage Pregnancy Banquet, and Republican Club Crab Feast.

Vice President Schneckenburger attended Cecil Cares Volunteer Day at Fair Hill, and the Consolidated Transportation Plan meeting.

Council President Bowsbey attended the Boys and Girls Club’s Kuff a Cop fundraiser, Heritage Pregnancy Banquet, and Cecil County Government’s customer service training session.

Council President Bowsbey also discussed the Council’s role in engaging an independent auditor as outlined in the Charter. She recommended that three Council Members should participate in the project with the finance staff and administration.

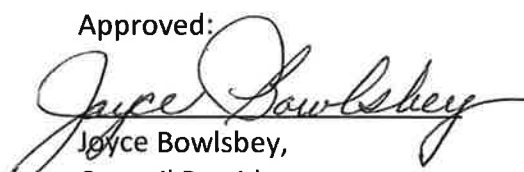
**Adjournment**

On a motion made by Councilwoman Gregory, seconded by Councilman Meffley, the work session was adjourned by Council President Bowsbey at 10:15 am.

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

Attest:

  
James Massey  
Council Manager

Approved:  
  
Joyce Bowsbey,  
Council President