

**COUNTY COUNCIL OF CECIL COUNTY  
WORK SESSION MINUTES  
April 2, 2019**

**PRESENT:** Council Members: Robert Meffley, William Coutz, Al Miller, 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 Meffley called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and determined a quorum.

**NOTE:** Audio and video recording with transcription of this meeting are available on the County website [www.ccgov.org](http://www.ccgov.org).

**CLOSED SESSION**

**March 26, 2019**

**9:38 AM**

On motion made by Councilman Coutz, seconded by Vice President Gregory, the Council moved to convene in closed session pursuant to the Annotated Code of Maryland, General Provisions Article, § 3-305 (b) (1) to discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, or officials over whom this public body has jurisdiction; or any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals.

Roll Call Vote: Coutz-Y, Miller-Y, Patchell-Y, Gregory-Y, Meffley-Y.  
The motion was carried unanimously by a vote of 5 to 0.

The Council interviewed and hired John Downs to provide additional legal services.

On motion made by Vice President Gregory, seconded by Councilman Coutz, the Council moved to conclude the closed session at 9:58 AM.

**Approval of Minutes**

On a motion made by Councilman Coutz, seconded by Vice President Gregory, the Council moved to approve the minutes of the Council work session of March 26, 2019, as presented. Motion was approved unanimously.

On a motion made by Vice President Gregory, seconded by Councilman Coutz, the Council moved to approve the minutes of the Council closed session of March 26, 2019, as presented. Motion was approved unanimously.

**State Legislation Update**

Mr. Massey provided an update of the current status of state legislation that the Council had taken a position.

**Review of Legislative Agenda**

A public hearing for Resolution No. 16-2019 2020 Cecil County Strategic Plan, is scheduled at tonight's legislative session. Al Wein, Director of Administration, provided comments. There were no Council questions or comments.

A public hearing for 19-2019 Road Abandonment-Portion of Nazarene Camp Road, Cecil County, is scheduled at tonight's legislative session. Al Wein, Director of Administration, provided comments. There were no Council questions or comments.

Al Wein, Director of Administration, provided introductory comments on Bill No. 2019-04 Lease and Purchase – Vehicle and Equipment Financing, which will be introduced at tonight's session. There were no Council questions or comments.

Al Wein, Director of Administration, provided introductory comments on Bill No. 2019-05 Capital Improvement Plan – FY 2020-2024, which will be introduced at tonight's session. There were no Council questions or comments.

Al Wein, Director of Administration, provided introductory comments on Bill No. 2019-06 Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance – FY 2020, which will be introduced at tonight's session. There were no Council questions or comments.

Lisa Saxton, Finance Director, provided introductory comments on Resolution No. 26-2019 Fees – Structure Permit, which will be introduced at tonight's session. There were no Council questions or comments.

Al Wein, Director of Administration, provided introductory comments on Resolution No. 27-2019 Adoption of Property Tax Rate – FY 2020, which will be introduced at tonight's session. Councilwoman Gregory asked the administration to provide the budget total for constant yield.

Eric Sennstrom, Director of Land Use and Development Services, provided introductory comments on Resolution No. 28-2019 Budget Appropriation – Grant Funds – Broadband Expansion-Upper Shore Regional Council.

Resolution No. 12-2019 Approval - Master Water and Sewer Plan 2018, will be considered for approval at tonight's session. Al Wein, Director of Administration, provided comments. Councilwoman Gregory asked about water service for Southern States in Rising Sun. Eric Sennstrom, Director of Land Use and Development Services, stated that Southern States must identify who is to provide water service, enter an agreement with the provider, and make the request to the county. Council President Meffley asked how the county sees Southern States issue regarding contaminated wells. Mr. Sennstrom stated that there has been discussion over twelve years about the issue but they have made no request to the county.

Resolution No. 20-2019 Appointment-Board of Library Trustees–Steven Pearson, will be considered for approval at tonight’s session. There were no comments from the administration. There were no Council questions or comments.

Resolution No. 21-2019 Appointment - Board of Library Trustees – Tanya Area, will be considered for approval at tonight’s session. There were no comments from the administration. There were no Council questions or comments.

Resolution No. 22-2019 Appointment—Human Services Agency – John Ness, will be considered for approval at tonight’s session. There were no comments from the administration. There were no Council questions or comments.

Resolution No. 23-2019 Approval- Maryland Economic Development Assistance and Authority Fund – Loan for Northrop Grumman Innovation Systems, Inc., will be considered for approval at tonight’s session. There were no comments from the administration. There were no Council questions or comments.

Resolution No. 24-2019 Approval – Tasers with Accessories – Multiple Year Contract, will be considered for approval at tonight’s session. There were no comments from the administration. There were no Council questions or comments.

Resolution No. 25-2019 Approval – Gasoline and Diesel Fuel – Multiple Year Contract, will be considered for approval at tonight’s session. There were no comments from the administration. There were no Council questions or comments.

Bill No. 2019-03 Budget Appropriation – Capital Projects – Board of Education – Cherry Hill Middle School, will be considered for approval at tonight’s session. There were no comments from the administration. There were no Council questions or comments.

**Council Manager Report**

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

**Council Member Items**

Councilman Patchell will provide comments at tonight’s session.

Councilman Miller commented on the passing of Cecil Whig publisher, Ralph Hostetter. He attended the Eagle Court of Honor for Daniel Few of Troop 92 and commented on the impressive ceremony. He also commended Martin Summers who has sponsored thirty Eagle Scouts in this troop.

Councilman Coutz attended the Sheriff’s Office intel meeting and commented on the continuing increase in overdoses and fatal overdoses. He stated that the increase in fatalities is a result of the introduction of Benadryl into Fentanyl and other Opioids, which prevents Narcan from reviving the drug user.

Vice President Gregory expressed her condolences for the passing of Mary Rodgers, who had been a personal friend and community activist. She said that she would be greatly missed.

Council President Meffley attended Daffodil Days, sponsored by the Cecilton and Galena Lions Clubs. He said that he joined in picking daffodils and delivering them to the community.

**Adjournment**

Councilman Coutz moved for adjournment, which was seconded by Vice President Gregory. Council President Meffley adjourned the meeting at 9:39 am.

The next Council work session is scheduled on Tuesday, April 9, 2019 at 9am in the Elk Room of the County Administration Building.

Attest:

  
James Massey  
Council Manager

Approved:

  
Robert Meffley,  
Council President