

**COUNTY COUNCIL OF CECIL COUNTY
WORK SESSION MINUTES
April 9, 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.

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.

In the absence of the first presenter, Council President Meffley revised the order of the agenda.

Independent Auditing Services

Councilman Coutz summarized the Auditor Selection Committee’s work in making a recommendation to the County for an independent auditor. He stated that the committee identified the requirements, reviewed a draft Request for Proposal that was subsequently sent out by the purchasing department. The committee evaluated the five proposals received and selected the top three for oral interview. After the price proposals were opened, the committee determined that one proposal’s pricing eliminated them from further consideration. The committee set up oral interviews with the remaining two proposers and agreed on their top choice. The purchasing department went back to the top choice for their final and best offer. The Council was presented with the committee’s recommendation, which will be considered for approval at the legislative session on April 16, 2019. Vice President Gregory concurred with Councilman Coutz’ summary.

There were no Council questions or comments.

State Legislation Update

Mr. Massey provided a final update of state legislation that the Council had taken a position.

Council Member Items

Councilman Patchell attended the Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon and stated that it was his favorite event.

Councilman Miller attended the Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon and commented that volunteering makes the volunteer feel good. He also attended a dinner at General Randy Taylor’s residence and commented that General Taylor showed his interest in Cecil and Harford Counties.

Councilman Coutz thanked the audience for attending today's work session. He attended the dinner at General Taylor's residence and stated that General Taylor will be leaving Aberdeen Proving Ground for another assignment. He attended the Economic Development Commission and commented on Delmarva Power's presentation about growth in Cecil County. He attended the Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon and commended Joyce Bowsbey's recognition. He participated as a referee at the CASA fundraising event, Kicking for Kids. He also attended Cecilton's Volunteer Fire Company awards banquet.

Vice President Gregory thanked the audience for attending today's work session. She attended the Cecilton Volunteer Fire Company awards banquet. She attended the fundraiser for CASA. She also thanked Community Service Department and Krista Gilmore for planning the Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon.

Council President Meffley attended the Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon and stated that volunteering helps the volunteer as well as the organization or person. He attended a Vocational Technology Advisory Board meeting and made suggestions for the curriculum. He also expressed his concern for the school's class scheduling. He also stated that he was pleased with the new diesel program at the School of Technology. He participated in the roast for Mayor Rob Alt. He attended the cleanup for the Friends of the Bohemia River. He attended the fish fry, sponsored by the Chesapeake City Lions Club. He also attended a memorial service for David Sakers, a longtime member of the Chesapeake City Lions Club. He plans to attend the Hacks Point Volunteer Fire Company awards banquet and the ribbon cutting for the new CASA office.

Census 2020

Audra Harrison, Director for Maryland Census, Maryland Department of Planning, addressed the Council on the importance of the Census. In 2010, Cecil County had a 73% participation rate, which was lower than the state average. She stated that each person who is not counted amounts to a loss of \$18,250 of federal funding. Ms. Harrison stated that the Census is mandated in the Constitution so that the county can receive correct federal funding, apportionment, as well as decisions that affect economic development and planning.

She stated that there are three ways for the public to respond to the Census. Census forms will be mailed to households that can be completed and mailed back. Responses can also be made by telephone and online. National Census Day will be held on April 1, 2020. Census forms will be sent in March 2020. She stated that she hoped that Cecil County will appoint a Census Count Committee that can encourage residents to respond to the Census. She stated that there will be enumerators to follow up on areas where there are low response rates.

Council Manager Report

Mr. Massey updated Council Members about upcoming meetings and events. Mr. Massey reported on Cecil County's program to collect farmers' used tires program. Councilman Miller stated that you had to be a Voting Member of Cecil County Farm Bureau to be able to receive a letter for the permission to take the tires to the landfill.

Adjournment

Councilman Miller moved for adjournment, which was seconded by Councilman Coutz. Council President Meffley adjourned the meeting at 9:38 am.

The next Council work session is scheduled on Tuesday, April 16, 2019 at 9am in the Elk Room of the County Administration Building.

Attest:


James Massey
Council Manager

Approved:


Robert Meffley,
Council President