

COUNTY COUNCIL OF CECIL COUNTY
WORK SESSION MINUTES
May 7, 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.

CLOSED SESSION

April 23, 2019

9:32 a.m.

Council President Meffley asked for a motion to go into closed session, which was made by Councilman Coutz and seconded by Councilwoman Gregory.

Role Call Vote: Coutz-Y, Miller-Y, Patchell-Y, Gregory-Y, Meffley-Y.

The motion was carried by a vote of 5 to 0. Council President Meffley, Vice President Gregory, Councilman Coutz, Councilman Miller and Councilman Patchell voted in favor of the motion. There was no opposition.

Council Manager Massey read into the record:

The Council is going into closed session as authorized by the General Provisions Article, §3-305 (b)(1) of Annotated Code of Maryland to discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom it has jurisdiction; or any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals;

PRESENT: Council Members: President Meffley, Vice President Gregory, Councilman Coutz, Councilman Miller and Councilman Patchell; James Massey, Council Manager; Terry Hale, Council Assistant; and guest: Victor Jackson.

The Council discussed the assignment of the Council Attorney with Mr. Jackson.

On motion made by Councilman Coutz, seconded by Vice President Gregory, the Council moved to conclude the closed session at 10:02 a.m.

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 April 23, 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 April 23, 2019, as presented. Motion was approved unanimously

FY 2019 Third Quarter Financial Projections

Rebecca Anderson, Budget Manager, and Lisa Saxton, Finance Director, presented the FY 2019 third quarter financial projections. Ms. Anderson stated that future financial projection reports will be submitted to the County by the Thursday prior to the presentation in order to give Council Members time to review and prepare any questions.

She stated that the third quarter projections finds the county's general fund expecting a favorable variance from budget of over \$2M. The projected net of all revenue streams is \$823,090 greater than budget. Projected expenditures are expected to approach but not equal the budget. A total of \$1.2M less than budget is projected to be spent. Expenditures increased by approximately \$5.8M when compared to FY 2018. The increases are the same variance as the last quarter projections, the first time principal and interest payments on the 2017 public improvement bonds, increases in personal costs compared to last year across all County Departments as well as the increases in FY 2019 allocations to Cecil County Public Schools, Cecil College, and the Cecil County Public Library, when compared to FY 2018.

The Landfill Fund is projecting a \$164,439 increase in operating revenues compared to budget and \$110,668 lower in expenditures. If this continues, the operating gain will be \$275,106 to the positive and will continue to add to the fund balance of the landfill enterprise.

The Wastewater Fund is projecting a revenue deficit for the year of almost \$600,000. The third quarter savings in Wastewater expenses compared to budget is \$271,888. The loss in net position is \$581,588 and should continue.

Review of Legislative Agenda

Al Wein, Director of Administration, provided introductory remarks on Resolution No. 32-2019 Budget Appropriation and Budget Transfer – Fund Balance - Volunteer Length of Service Award Program, which will be introduced at tonight's session. He indicated that they will propose amendments to add a member of the County council to the board of the trust. There were no Council questions or comments.

Al Wein, Director of Administration, provided introductory remarks on Resolution No. 33-2019 Approval – Internet Service – Windstream – Multiple Year Contract, which will be introduced at tonight's session. There were no Council questions or comments.

Al Wein, Director of Administration, provided introductory remarks on Resolution No. 34-2019 Amendment – Personnel Procedures and Policies, which will be introduced at tonight's session. Anna Gardner, Human Resources Manager, clarified the difference between overtime and offset time.

Resolution No. 30-2019 Supplemental Appropriation and Budget Transfer- Grant Funds- Community Services Foundation- Animal Services, will be considered for approval at tonight's session. Al Wein, Director of Administration, provided remarks. Council Members asked if these funds were restricted to the request of the donor. Mr. Wein stated that they agreed to use funds for building expansion of Animal Services as requested by the donor.

Resolution No. 31-2019 Supplemental Appropriation- Fund Balance- Animal Services, will be considered for approval at tonight's session. Al Wein, Director of Administration, provided remarks. Council Members requested that they be notified by the administration when a department or agency is over budget. The Council also discussed the increase in cat population at the facility and the associated costs. Mr. Wein also stated that the Council will be receiving regular reports on the animal shelter.

Council Manager Report

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

Council Member Items

Councilman Patchell participated in the Trash Bash held in Perryville. He attended the ribbon cutting for Brantwood Park and commended Clyde VanDyke and the Friends of Parks and Recreation for their contributions to the event.

Councilman Miller attended Emergency Services employee recognition and oath of office ceremonies and stated that he was impressed with their long term commitment to the department.

Councilman Coutz thanked the audience for attending the work session. He attended a program at Singerly Fire Company and stated that he was impressed with their service statistics. He stated that the fire company is concerned about future funding. He attended the Expressions of Healing at the Art Council and praised the artists for their exceptional skills. He also attended the Collegium de Vinum Gala and stated that the student speakers were most impressive.

Vice President Gregory attended the ribbon cutting for Brantwood Park with her daughter. She attended the open house at the Maryland State Police Barrack. She attended the North East Volunteer Fire Company awards banquet and commended their dedication and sense of community.

Council President Meffley attended the ribbon cutting for Elkton West Sewer Expansion. He attended the Lincoln Day Dinner, sponsored by the Republican Central Committee; and Build a Burger event, sponsored by Youth Empowerment Source. He attended the Eagle Court for Cameron D. Spaeth and stated his admiration that he earned 37 merit badges. He attended the Rising Sun Volunteer Fire Company awards banquet and the National Day of Prayer service at the Chesapeake City Presbyterian Church.

9:45 A.M.

CLOSED SESSION

Council President Meffley asked for a motion to go into closed session, which was made by Vice President Gregory and seconded by Councilman Coutz.

Roll Call Vote: Coutz-Y, Miller-Y, Patchell-Y, Gregory-Y, Meffley-Y.

The motion was carried by a vote of 5 to 0. Council President Meffley, Vice President Gregory, Councilman Coutz, Councilman Miller and Councilman Patchell voted in favor of the motion. There was no opposition.

Council Manager Massey read into the record:

The council is going into closed session as authorized by the General Provisions Article, Section 3-305 (b)(1) of the Annotated Code of Maryland to discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom it has jurisdiction; or any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals.

The open session was reconvened at 10:29 a.m.

Adjournment

Councilman Coutz moved for adjournment, which was seconded by Vice President Gregory, and approved by consensus. Council President Meffley adjourned the meeting at 10:20 am.

The next Council work session is scheduled on Tuesday, May 14, 2019 at 9am in the Elk Room of the County Administration Building.

Attest:


James Massey
Council Manager

Approved:


Robert Meffley,
Council President