

**COUNTY COUNCIL OF CECIL COUNTY
LEGISLATIVE SESSION MINUTES
LSD 2019-18
September 17, 2019**

The County Council of Cecil County met in legislative session at the County Administration Building, 200 Chesapeake Blvd., Elk Room, Elkton, MD. The following members of the Council were present:

Robert Meffley, Council President
William H. Coutz, Council Member
Al Miller, Council Member
George Patchell, Council Member
Absent: Jackie Gregory, Vice President

NOTE: The video and audio recording with transcription of this meeting is available on the County website at www.ccgov.org.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the County Council of Cecil County of September 17, 2019 was called to order by Council President Meffley at 7:00 p.m. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

OPENING PRAYER

Councilman Miller introduced Pastor Josh McCord from Conowingo Baptist Church in Conowingo, who led the opening prayer.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On motion made by Councilman Coutz, seconded by Vice President Gregory, the Council moved to approve the legislative agenda of September 17, 2019. Motion was unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion made by Vice President Gregory, seconded by Councilman Coutz, the Council moved to approve the minutes of the legislative session of September 3, 2019. Motion was approved unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Brian Meehan, Elkton, commented in opposition to Southfields project.
John Conolly, Elkton, commented in opposition to Southfields project.
Jennifer Janach and Peter Kline, Chesapeake City, commented in opposition to Southfields project.
Linda Brammer, Elkton, commented in opposition to Southfields project.
Christel Petrizzo, Elkton, commented in opposition to Southfields project.
Harold McCanick, Elk Neck, commented on Constitution Day, Citizenship Day, and the Compensation Review Commission.

PRESIDENT AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilman Patchell attended Bainbridge Day and commented on the men who came back to revisit their Naval Training Station. He attended the Parks and Recreation Committee and commented on fifteen board members of the Friends of Parks and Recreation.

Councilman Miller attended Lobsterfest, a fundraiser for Union Hospital and Janes United Methodist Church golf tournament, and the Fraternal Order of Police crab feast. He attended the Farm Bureau directors meeting last night and commented on drafting policies and procedures for the organization. He announced the Josie Perry, a Rising Sun High School teacher, is a finalist in the Maryland Teacher of the Year competition.

Councilman Coutz thanked the audience for attending and for their comments. He stated that he had attended most of the events that other Council Members attended. He commented Council President Meffley and Councilman Miller for their efforts in promoting the diesel program at the School of Technology.

Vice President Gregory thanked the audience for attending and the citizens who made comments at tonight's session. She attended the 90th anniversary of the North East Fire Company Ladies Auxiliary and commented on their strong support of the fire company. She attended the Combat Motorcycle Veterans scavenger hunt, the Library's crab crawl in North East and the Fraternal Order of Police crab feast. She commended the Chesapeake City Ecumenical Council and VFW for their support of the 9-11 ceremony.

Council President Meffley thanked the audience for attending and the citizens who made comments at tonight's session. He attended the CASA Casino Night, the First Friday Night in Elkton, the Harts Amphitheater concert, the Economic Development Commission, the Chamber of Commerce's Government Relations Committee, the Sheriff's Office Intel meeting, the 9-11 Patriots Day in Chesapeake City, the Fraternal Order of Police crab feast, and Fire Chief's meeting. He attended Bainbridge Day and commended their efforts to keep the history of the Naval Base. He attended the ribbon cutting for the diesel program at the School of Technology. He will be attending the Harvest Dinner and Fallfest in Elkton.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

Resolution No. 53-2019 Amendment – Personnel Policies and Procedures – Retirement Benefits

A Resolution to amend the Cecil County Post Retirement Benefits for Eligible Employees ("OPEB") policy; including eligibility requirements, health reimbursement, and contribution rates.

Al Wein, Director of Administration, provided introductory comments. There were no Council questions or comments.

Introduced, read first time and order posted on September 17, 2019, and scheduled for consideration on October 1, 2019.

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

Resolution No. 54-2019 Appointment—Planning Commission – Bill Miners and Wyatt Wallace

A Resolution to confirm the reappointment by the County Executive of Bill Miners and Wyatt Wallace to the Cecil County Planning Commission; to a three year term, which is to expire on August 31, 2022.

There were no introductory comments from the administration. There were no Council questions or comments.

Introduced, read first time and order posted on September 17, 2019, and scheduled for consideration on October 1, 2019.

CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTIONS

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

Resolution No. 45-2019 Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation-Application Finalists-FY 2020

A Resolution to approve seventeen applications as FY 2020 Application Finalists to be submitted to the Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation.

Al Wein, Director of Administration, provided comments. There were no Council questions or comments.

The Resolution was introduced and posted on August 6, 2019; and scheduled for consideration September 17, 2019.

On motion made by Councilman Miller, seconded by Councilman Coutz, the Council moved to approve Resolution No. 45-2019

Roll call vote: Coutz-Y, Miller-Y, Patchell-Y, Gregory-Y, Meffley-Y
Motion was unanimously approved.

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

Resolution No. 51-2019 Supplemental Appropriation – Fund Balance – Volunteer Fire Service

A Resolution to amend the Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for Cecil County, Maryland for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020 in order to provide the Volunteer Fire Service Department Budget within the General Fund additional expenditure appropriation authority in the amount of \$164,154. The additional expenditure authority will fund the FY20 allocation budget shortfall resulting from the error by the Maryland State Assessment Office in the assignment of fire district codes to new County properties. There were no comments from the administration. Councilman Coutz clarified that this application is for a competitive grant award.

The Resolution was introduced and posted on September 3, 2019 and scheduled for consideration on September 17, 2019.

There were no comments from the administration. There were no Council questions or comments.

On motion made by Councilman Coutz, seconded by Vice President Gregory, the Council moved to approve Resolution No. 51-2019

Roll call vote: Coutz-Y, Miller-Y, Patchell-Y, Gregory-Y, Meffley-Y
Motion was unanimously approved.

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

Resolution No. 52-2019 Supplemental Appropriation – Child and Adult Care Food Program – Community Service Fund

A Resolution to amend the Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for Cecil County, Maryland for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020 in order to provide a total of \$102,120 to the Community Services Fund – Help Center Division to record the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). Funding and oversight for the program will be passed from the Department of Social Services to Cecil County as part of the consolidation efforts between the two government agencies.

The Resolution was introduced and posted on September 3, 2019, and scheduled for consideration on September 17, 2019.

There were no comments from the administration. There were no Council questions or comments.

On motion made by Vice President Gregory, seconded by Councilman Coutz, the Council moved to approve Resolution No. 52-2019

Roll call vote: Coutz-Y, Miller-Y, Patchell-Y, Gregory-Y, Meffley-Y
Motion was unanimously approved.

CALL FOR FINAL READING OF BILLS

Council President Meffley asked for a consensus that the Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundations legislation, Bill Nos. 2019-10, 11, 12, and 13 be considered together. Council Members unanimously approved of this request.

Council Manager Massey read into the record:

Bill No. 2019-10 Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation – Mary Lee Howard Vosters

A Bill to approve the application of Mary Lee Howard Vosters for the property of 609 Randalia Road (Tax Map 42, Grid 18, Parcel 3) requesting a recommendation of approval to submit an application for the purchase of an easement to the Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation.

Bill No. 2019-11 Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation – Farmington Acres, LLC

A Bill to approve the application of Farmington Acres, LLC, for the property of 755 Barnes Corner Road (Tax Map 10, Grid 24, Parcel 36) requesting a recommendation of approval to submit an application for the purchase of an easement to the Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation.

Bill No. 2019-12 Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation – Clay Farms, GP

A Bill to approve the application of Clay Farms, GP, for the property of 954 New Cut Road (Tax Map 57, Grid 9, Parcel 3) requesting a recommendation of approval to submit an application for the purchase of an easement to the Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation.

Bill No. 2019-13 Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation – James and Ann Higgins

A Bill to approve the application of James and Ann Higgins, for the property of 559 Theodore Road (Tax Map 23, Grid 6, Parcel 73) requesting a recommendation of approval to submit an application for the purchase of an easement to the Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation.

These Bills were introduced on August 6, 2019, and the public hearing was held and concluded on September 3, 2019.

On motion made by Vice President Gregory, seconded by Councilman Coutz, the Council moved to approve Bill Nos. 2019-10, 2019-11, 2019-12 and 2019-13

Roll call vote: Coutz-Y, Miller-Y, Patchell-Y, Gregory-Y, Meffley-Y
Motion was unanimously approved.

Council Manager Massey read into the record:

Bill No. 2019-14 Budget Transfer and Appropriation – Capital Budget – Roads and Bridges Capital Budget – Belvidere Road Culvert Project

A Bill to amend the Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for Cecil County, Maryland for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020 to transfer existing bond appropriation authority within the Roads & Bridges Capital Projects Budget in the amount of \$128,707.96 from a portion of the savings on the completed Upgrade Nottingham Roads Facility Project (\$18,353.68) and the completed Waibel Road Improvement Project (\$110,354.28); to be transferred to the Replace Belvidere Road Culvert Project (\$128,707.96).

The Bill was introduced on August 6, 2019, and the public hearing was held and concluded on September 3, 2019.

Al Wein, Director of Administration, provided final comments. There were no Council questions or comments.

On motion made by Councilman Coutz, seconded by Vice President Gregory, the Council moved to approve Bill No. 2019-14.

Roll call vote: Coutz-Y, Miller-Y, Patchell-Y, Gregory-Y, Meffley-Y
Motion was unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS

Cecil County Public Schools – Budget Amendment #66

Councilman Coutz made a motion, seconded by Vice President Gregory, to approve Cecil County Public Schools Budget Amendment #66, in the amount of \$4,384,893 for July and August 2019.

The motion was approved by a voice vote of 5 to 0.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion made by Councilman Coutz, seconded by Vice President Gregory, Council President Meffley adjourned the meeting at 7:49 p.m.

The next Council Legislative Session is scheduled on Tuesday, October 1, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in the Elk Room of the County Administration Building, 200 Chesapeake Blvd., Elkton, Maryland.

Approved:



Robert Meffley
Council President

Attest:



James Massey
Council Manager