

**COUNTY COUNCIL OF CECIL COUNTY
WORK SESSION MINUTES
November 19, 2019**

PRESENT: Council Members: Robert Meffley, Jackie Gregory, Al Miller, and George Patchell; James Massey, Council Manager; Terry Hale, Council Assistant; John Downs, Council Attorney; members of the press; and members of the public.

Absent: Council Member William Coutz

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

Approval of Minutes

On a motion made by Vice President Gregory, seconded by Councilman Miller, the Council moved to approve the minutes of the Council work session of November 12, 2019, as presented. Motion was approved by a vote of 4 to 0. Councilman Coutz was absent.

School Superintendent’s Update

Dr. Jeff Lawson, School Superintendent, commented on his visit to Kilby Dairy and a possible project to collect the schools’ cafeteria food leftovers for the farm’s biodigester for uses of producing natural gas and fertilizer. He stated that 40% of students in Cecil County Public School system made the honor roll in the first marking period. He stated that walls are going up at the new Chesapeake City Elementary School project. He stated that a new air conditioner would be installed at the Administrative Services Building in Bayview. The school system has hired a consultant to conduct a feasibility study to compare the costs of renovating North East Middle School or building a new facility. He reported that secure entrance projects were completed at Leeds Elementary School, Cecil Manor Elementary School and Cherry Hill Middle School. He stated that the school system will begin the FY21 budget process. He stated that his priorities are to honor the employees’ contracts, for special needs students and students in trauma.

Councilman Miller commended Dr. Lawson’s interest in the biodigester project and encouraged the school system to work with local farmers to provide fruits and vegetables for school cafeterias. Council President Meffley commended Dr. Lawson for his offer to speak to potential residents about the quality of school in Cecil County.

Review of Legislative Agenda

Resolution No. 66-2019 Appointments—Commission on Aging – Wilma L. Fitzner, Carol King, Julie Graham, Jamie McCloskey, and Mark Hill; will be introduced at tonight’s session. There were no comments from the administration. There were no Council questions or comments.

Resolution No. 67-2019 Appointment—Human Services Agency – John W. Donohue; will be introduced at tonight’s session. There were no comments from the administration. There were no Council questions or comments.

Resolution No. 68-2019 Appointment – Building Board of Appeals – Douglas Day, David Strouss, and Christopher Pearce; will be introduced at tonight’s session. There were no comments from the administration. There were no Council questions or comments.

Resolution No. 69-2019 Appointment – Library Board of Trustees- Joanne Morton: will be introduced at tonight’s session. There were no comments from the administration. There were no Council questions or comments.

Resolution No. 65-2019 Supplemental Appropriation – Sheriff’s Office – Technology and Furnishings; will be considered for approval at tonight’s session. Al Wein, Director of Administration, provided comments. There were no Council questions or comments.

Bill No. 2019-16 Amendment – Plumbing Code; will be considered for final approval at tonight’s session. There were no comments from the administration. There were no Council questions or comments.

Bill No. 2019-17 Amendment – Energy Conservation Standards; will be considered for final approval at tonight’s session. There were no comments from the administration. There were no Council questions or comments.

Bill No. 2019-18 Amendment – HVAC Standards; will be considered for final approval at tonight’s session. There were no comments from the administration. There were no Council questions or comments.

Bill No. 2019-19 Amendment – Building Construction – Building Code; will be considered for final approval at tonight’s session. There were no comments from the administration. There were no Council questions or comments.

Bill No. 2019-20 Agricultural Preservation District - William and Wanda Creeger - Hidden Valley Farm; will be considered for final approval at tonight’s session. There were no comments from the administration. There were no Council questions or comments.

Cecil County Public Schools – Budget Amendment #68, in the amount of \$97,197 for expenses of October 2019; 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 the upcoming meetings and events.

Council Member Items

Councilman Patchell visited Calvert Park last weekend and commented on the large crowds and activities there. He stated that out-of-county visitors expressed their admiration that the park was well designed and maintained. He commended Clyde van Dyke and his staff for their excellent care of the facility.

Councilman Miller attended the Kirwan Commission meeting and commented that he continues to learn about the proposal. He attended the open house at the School of Technology and commented on the large attendance. He applauded the start of the new diesel program. He attended the Public Works' public information meeting on the CECO sewer system transition at Cherry Hill Middle School and appreciated the exchange of information about this project.

Vice President Gregory thanked the Cecil County Chamber of Commerce for sponsoring First Responders Appreciation Banquet and congratulated all those who were recognized. She attended a fundraising breakfast at the Elkton VFW to benefit Veterans.

Council President Meffley attended the meeting on the Kirwan Commission and stated his appreciation for the insights discussed. He attended the Social Services Advisory Board meeting. He thanked the Lions Clubs of Cecil County for their support for vision screening at public schools. He attended the HVAC advisory board and commended the fifteen students who are to be certified. He attended the First Responders Appreciation Dinner and stated that it was well attended. He attended graduation of the drug court. He attended the Cecil County Firemen's Association and reported that 75% of the radios have been installed and that the system is running well. He stated that FEMA training will begin in April 2020. He stated that the overdose fatality rate in Cecil County is 53 for the year. He commented that Wayne Tome was reelected President of the Firemen's Association.

Adjournment

Vice President Gregory made a motion for adjournment, which was seconded by Councilman Miller and approved by unanimous consent. Council President Meffley adjourned the work session at 9:25 a.m.

The next Council work session will be held on Tuesday, November 26, 2019 at 9am in the Elk Room of the County Administration Building.


James Massey
Council Manager

Approved:


Robert Meffley
Council President