

**COUNTY COUNCIL OF CECIL COUNTY
WORK SESSION MINUTES
January 7, 2020**

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

Absent: Councilman Patchell

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 Coutz, the Council moved to approve the minutes of the Council work session of December 17, 2019, as presented. Motion was approved unanimously.

2020 Council Calendar

Council Manager Massey requested that the Council consider scheduling a legislative session day on December 8, 2020, the second Tuesday in December because there will be no legislative session on December 1, due to the new Council term beginning on Monday, December 7. He explained that since there are no legislative sessions during November, this change will allow pressing legislation to be introduced on December 8 and approved on December 15.

Councilman Coutz made a motion to approve the designation of Tuesday, December 8, 2020, as a legislative session day. The motion was seconded by Vice President Gregory and approved by a vote of 4 to 0. Councilman Patchell was absent.

Cecil County Census Committee

Council Manager Massey provided an update on the Census Committee. The State approved a grant of \$20,000 to be used to encourage Cecil County residents to participate in the 2020 Census. The next meeting of the Census Committee is scheduled on Monday, January 27, 2020.

Review of Legislative Agenda

Al Wein, Director of Administration, provided introductory comments on Resolution No. 01-2020 Supplemental Appropriation – Grant Funds – Domestic Violence Department – Continuum of Care. There were no Council questions or comments.

Al Wein, Director of Administration, provided introductory comments on Resolution No. 02-2020 Appointment – Soil Conservation District – Bruce Yerkes. There were no Council questions or comments.

Resolution No. 75-2019 Appointment—Economic Development Commission, will be considered for approval at tonight’s session. Al Wein, Director of Administration, offered to answer questions. There were no Council questions or comments.

Resolution No. 76-2019 Supplemental Appropriation – Fund Balance – Volunteer Fire Service – Vehicle Replacement Program, will be considered for approval at tonight’s session. Al Wein, Director of Administration, offered to answer questions. There were no Council questions or comments.

Resolution No. 77-2019 Supplemental Appropriation – Fund Balance –Cecil College – Small Capital Budget, will be considered for approval at tonight’s session. Al Wein, Director of Administration, offered to answer questions. There were no Council questions or comments.

Resolution No. 78-2019 Supplemental Appropriation – Fund Balance –Maintenance and Repair, will be considered for approval at tonight’s session. There were no Council questions or comments.

Resolution No. 79-2019 Appointment – Library Board of Trustees – Linda Burris, 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 Miller attended Young Farmers Legislative Breakfast and stated his appreciation for the members’ dedication. He stated that he was glad that the Council is back in session. He thanked the audience for attending and wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Councilman Coutz thanked the audience for attending and wished everyone a Happy New Year. He attended the Young Farmers Breakfast and commended them for their good ideas. He praised the multiple generations of Cecil County farmers and stated that agriculture has the largest economic impact on the county. He also commented on the generosity of our community in helping the less fortunate.

Vice President Gregory welcome the audience back and stated that it was a busy week. She will be attending Cecil Night in Annapolis and the MACo legislative committee. She suggested that the Council should send a letter in support of the Clean Chesapeake Coalition comments regarding the agreement between Exelon and the State over the relicensing of the Conowingo Dam Hydroelectric Plant. The Council agreed by consensus to send a letter of support.

Council President Meffley wished everyone a Happy New Year. He participated in the New Year’s Day 5K run/walk in Chesapeake City. He also stated that the Elkton’s Planning and Zoning Board has approved the Southfields proposal with conditions. He also stated his hope that election campaigns will be above board, and that the voters should evaluate the candidate and not information on Facebook.

Adjournment

Vice President Gregory made a motion for adjournment, which was seconded by Councilman Coutz and approved by unanimous consent. Council President Meffley adjourned the work session at 9:23 a.m.

The next Council work session will be held on Tuesday, January 14, 2020 at 9am in the Elk Room of the County Administration Building.


James Massey
Council Manager

Approved:


Robert Meffley
Council President