

**COUNTY COUNCIL OF CECIL COUNTY
WORK SESSION MINUTES
February 11, 2020**

PRESENT: Council Members: Robert Meffley, Jackie Gregory, William Coutz, Al Miller and George Patchell; James Massey, Council Manager; Terry Hale, Council Assistant; 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: 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 Councilman Coutz, seconded by Vice President Gregory, the Council moved to approve the minutes of the Council work session of February 4, 2020. Councilman Miller noted a correction to the minutes regarding Resolution No. 08-2020, appointment of Ian Wingfield. Approved with corrections. Motion was approved unanimously.

State Legislation Update

Vice President Gregory reviewed MACo’s legislative initiatives that included support for school funding, school construction, and drug and mental health crisis; as well as the repeal of the “implied preemption” court doctrine.

Ms. Gregory reviewed legislative bills for consideration in order to consider Council support or opposition.

The Council agreed to oppose HB 388- Criminal Procedure-Civil Immigration Enforcement-Restrictions (Sanctuary State Bill); HB 565- Income Tax- Business and Economic Development Tax Credits-Termination; HB 223-End Ineffective Business Subsidies Act of 2020; and HB 677- Correctional Services-Immigration Detention- Prohibition (Dignity Note Detention Act).

The Council agreed to support SB 495-Bay Restoration Fund – Use of Funds – Municipal Wastewater Facilities; SB 540/HB 999- Member-Regulated Cooperatives- Establishment (Rural Broadband for the Eastern Shore Act of 2020); and SB 955/HB 1465-Federal Clean Water Act-Authority of State.

Letters of support and opposition will be submitted to assigned committees.

Census Committee Update

Council Manager Massey reviewed progress of the Cecil County Census Committee. Census flyers and bags have been distributed to state and county agencies. County transit buses, state and county agencies are displaying Census promotional signs. A public service video is in the final stage of production, which will be submitted to county cable companies for broadcast. A longer video

version will be displayed at state and county agency waiting rooms. Delmarva Power and Artesian Water have agreed to post Census reminders in their monthly billing. Public school food pantries have been supplied with Census grocery bags and flyers. B. Rae Perryman, Cecil Whig editor, has agreed to assist in promoting the local Census efforts.

Council Manager Report

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

Council Member Items

Councilman Patchell stated that a public workshop on Brantwood Park will be held on Monday, March 2 at 6:30 in the Elk Room.

Councilman Miller attended the school board meeting on the FY 2021 budget and stated that the Kirwan Commission recommendations were widely discussed. He attended A Taste of Maryland Agriculture at Michael's Eighth Avenue in Glen Burnie and stated that Governor Hogan announced that Maryland agriculture contributes \$11B to the state's economy. Mr. Miller stated that Jim Purdue was among the guests. He attended a basketball game at Cecil College and praised Jake Falko for his outstanding skills.

Councilman Coutz welcomed the audience on this rainy day. He praised the Cecil County Arts Council for their growth in activities to support the arts. He mentioned the Art Council's regular first Fridays programs and stated that their most recent program attracted over 200 attendees. He credited Annmarie Hamilton for leading this organization.

Vice President Gregory thanked the audience for attending. She congratulated Bog Turtle Brewery, a new business in Rising Sun. She attended the Steps to Recovery fundraiser at the Art Den in Rising Sun and praised April Foster for her leadership. She stated that this organization helps recovering addicts to be assimilated into society. She thanked the Cecil County Republican Central Committee for hosting Trump Watch at the Maryland Brewery.

Council President Meffley attended the Elkton Rotary Club and will be distributing dictionaries at Holly Hall Elementary School. He stated that Council Manager Massey will be speaking to the Rotary on February 17 about the importance of Census participation. He attended the Elkton Planning Commission and suggested that the public may be interested in attending the Town of Elkton Mayor and Commissioners Workshop Meeting on February 12 regarding annexation of 37 acres on east side of Maloney Road and south side of Route 40. He stated that another terminal has been approved at the end of Chesapeake Boulevard and a new cell tower was approved in Elkton.

Adjournment

Council President Meffley asked for a motion to adjourn the open session in order to go into closed session. 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 9:30 am.

The next Council work session will be held on Tuesday, February 18, 2020 at 9am in the Elk Room of the County Administration Building.

9:30 A.M.

CLOSED SESSION

On motion made by Vice President Gregory, seconded by Councilman Coutz, the Council moved to convene in closed session pursuant to the Annotated Code of Maryland, § 3-305 (b) (1) to discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, or officials over whom this public body has jurisdiction; or any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals.

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

The motion was carried unanimously by a vote of 5 to 0.

The closed session was concluded at 10:07 A.M.


James Massey
Council Manager

Approved:



Robert Meffley
Council President