

**COUNTY COUNCIL OF CECIL COUNTY  
LEGISLATIVE SESSION MINUTES  
LSD 2020-12  
June 16, 2020**

The County Council of Cecil County met in legislative session in an online virtual meeting because of the current health crisis and based on the Governor's orders to avoid public meetings. Council Members, presenters and members of the public participated in this meeting by going online to [www.ccgov.org/council](http://www.ccgov.org/council) and selecting "livestream".

The following members of the Council were present:

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

**NOTE:** The video and audio recording with transcription of this meeting is available on the County website at [www.ccgov.org](http://www.ccgov.org).

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting of the County Council of Cecil County of June 16, 2020 was called to order by Council President Meffley at 7:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL OF COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Council President Meffley asked for a roll call of attending Council Members. The Council Manager called the roll and recorded the following Council Members in attendance:

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

Council President Meffley announced that there were five Council Members present, which constitute a quorum.

**SUSPENSION OF RULES**

Councilman Coutz made a motion to suspend the rules to allow Council Members who are connected to participate and vote in this legislative session, because of the current health crisis and orders by the Governor to avoid public meetings. The motion was seconded by Councilman Miller.

Roll Call Vote: Coutz-Y, Miller-Y, Patchell-Y, Gregory-Y, Meffley-Y  
The motion was unanimously approved.

**OPENING PRAYER**

Councilman Miller introduced Pastor Steve Dixon from Porters Grove Baptist Church in Conowingo, who led the opening prayer.

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

On motion made by Councilman Coutz, seconded by Councilman Miller, the Council moved to approve the legislative agenda of June 16, 2020. Motion was unanimously approved.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

On motion made by Councilman Miller, seconded by Councilman Coutz, the Council moved to approve the minutes of the legislative session of June 9, 2020. Motion was approved unanimously.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Harold McCanick, Elk Neck, commented on the election results and his opposition to Resolution No. 34-2020.

Joyce Bowlsbey, Elkton, commented in support of Resolution No. 34-2020 and for Smithfield.

Rick Carver, Chesapeake City, commented in opposition to Resolution No. 34-2020.

Vincent Sammons, Rising Sun, commented on his first amendment rights being violated during the Council Session, his email to Cecil County Government being blocked, and his request for an investigation of these items.

Lori Hrinko, Cecil County Classroom Teachers Association, commented in support of the Smithfield loan legislation, the county's policy of banning signs in the Elk Room, and in support of more infrastructure.

### **PRESIDENT AND COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Councilman Coutz attended the Sheriff's Intel Meeting and expressed his concern that domestic violence and overdose fatalities have continued to increase during this health crisis. He stated that the administration and Council should get together to work on this issue.

Councilman Miller thanked Rev. Kevin Brown for his work in sponsoring a program discussing systematic racism, which he attended. He commented that he was able to see his grandchildren for the first time in several months. He also thanked the audience for attending.

Councilman Patchell attended the Planning Commission hearing on Granite Cliffs, a proposed subdivision north of Port Deposit. He commented that phase two restrictions are welcomed so that people can visit friends and go to restaurants.

Vice President Gregory attended the Drug Court graduation recently and commented on its significant impact on the lives of the graduates and their families. She also commented on questions about signs that she hopes can be resolved.

Council President Meffley commented that the sign issue has been resolved. He stated that the Upper Shore Regional Council has provided a grant to the Cecil County Farm Museum to support a new program where School of Technology students will have an opportunity for agricultural projects at the farm museum. He also stated that business grants, related to COVID-19, are available. He also mentioned that funds will be provided to Cecil Transit to support additional services. He reported that he had visited Cecilton recently to speak to businesses about the impact of the pandemic crisis. He stated that most were hurt, but have recently seen business begin to increase.

### **SPECIAL PRESENTATION**

Eric Sennstrom, Director of Land Use and Development Services, presented the 2019 Planning and Zoning Annual Report to the Council. He reviewed the document contents, which had been approved by the Planning Commission. Council questions and comments ensued.

### **INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS**

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

#### **Resolution No. 35-2020: Amendment – Solid Waste Management Plan 2016-2025**

A Resolution to amend the Cecil County Solid Waste Management Plan, which also includes the Cecil County Recycling Plan 2016-2025; which includes addition of West Coast Mushrooms composting facility to Chapter 3 and Table III-2, and the addition of Office Building Recycling Program.

Al Wein, Director of Administration, provided introductory comments. Additional comments were made by Scott Flanigan, Public Works Director. There were no Council questions or comments.

Introduced, read first time, order posted and scheduled for public hearing on July 21, 2020.

### **CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTIONS**

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

#### **Resolution No. 23-2020 Appointment—Board of Appeals – Michael Saunders**

A Resolution to confirm the appointment by the County Executive of Michael Saunders to the Cecil County Board of Appeals, as an alternate, for a three year term to expire on August 15, 2023.

The Resolution was introduced on June 9, 2020, and scheduled for consideration on June 16, 2020.

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. 23-2020.

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

The motion was approved unanimously.

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

#### **Resolution No. 24-2020 Appointment - Cecil County Ethics Commission – Janice K. Colvin**

A Resolution to confirm the appointment by the County Executive of Janice K. Colvin to the Cecil County Ethics Commission, for a four-year term to expire March 3, 2024.

The Resolution was introduced on June 9, 2020, and scheduled for consideration on June 16, 2020.

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

On motion made by Councilman Coutz, seconded by Councilman Miller, the Council moved to approve Resolution No. 24-2020.

Roll Call Vote: Coutz-Y, Miller-Y, Patchell-Y, Gregory-Y, Meffley-Y  
The motion was approved unanimously.

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

**Resolution No. 25-2020 Appointment—Board of License Commissioners – Stephen A. Miller**

A Resolution to confirm the reappointment by the County Executive of Stephen A. Miller to the Cecil County Board of License Commissioners, to a 3 year term to expire June 30, 2023.

The Resolution was introduced on June 9, 2020, and scheduled for consideration on June 16, 2020.

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. 25-2020.

Roll Call Vote: Coutz-Y, Miller-Y, Patchell-Y, Gregory-Y, Meffley-Y  
The motion was approved unanimously.

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

**Resolution No. 26-2020 Supplemental Appropriation – Fund Balance – Housing Fund – Housing Counselor**

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 \$6,000 to the Housing Fund of operating revenue and expense appropriation authority from the General Fund, in order to provide additional funding necessary to support the Housing Counselor position/program in Cecil County.

The Resolution was introduced on June 9, 2020, and scheduled for consideration on June 16, 2020.

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. 26-2020.

Roll Call Vote: Coutz-Y, Miller-Y, Patchell-Y, Gregory-Y, Meffley-Y  
The motion was approved unanimously.

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

**Resolution No. 27-2020 Supplemental Appropriation – Grant Funds – Parks and Recreation – County Parks Cleanup**

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 \$5,000 to the Special Revenue Other Grants Fund-Parks and Recreation Department to record the grant from the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development, the Forever Maryland Foundation, and the Maryland Environmental Trust for the purpose of community cleanup efforts at County parks.

The Resolution was introduced on June 9, 2020, and scheduled for consideration on June 16, 2020.

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

On motion made by Councilman Miller, seconded by Councilman Coutz, the Council moved to approve Resolution No. 27-2020.

Roll Call Vote: Coutz-Y, Miller-Y, Patchell-Y, Gregory-Y, Meffley-Y  
The motion was approved unanimously.

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

**Resolution No. 28-2020 Supplemental Appropriation – Grant Funds – Health Department – Coronavirus Pandemic**

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 \$16,199,744 to the Special Revenue Other Grants Fund-Health Department to record the grant made available under section 601(a) of the Social Security Act, as added by section 5001 of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act), allocated to the State of Maryland from the United States Department of the Treasury for the purpose of aiding local governments with expenses directly related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Resolution was introduced on June 9, 2020, and scheduled for consideration on June 16, 2020.

Al Wein, Director of Administration, provided comments. Council questions and comments ensued.

On motion made by Councilman Miller, seconded by Councilman Coutz, the Council moved to approve Resolution No. 28-2020.

Roll Call Vote: Coutz-Y, Miller-Y, Patchell-Y, Gregory-Y, Meffley-Y  
The motion was approved unanimously.

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

**Resolution No. 29-2020 Supplemental Appropriation – Grant Funds – Economic Development – Business Pandemic Relief**

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 \$5,000 to the Special Revenue Other Grants Fund-Office of Economic Development to record the grant from Baltimore Gas and Electric to provide county-administered business pandemic relief funds to assist small businesses that have been challenged by the economic hardships of the COVID-19 response.

The Resolution was introduced on June 9, 2020, and scheduled for consideration on June 16, 2020.

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. 29-2020.

Roll Call Vote: Coutz-Y, Miller-Y, Patchell-Y, Gregory-Y, Meffley-Y  
The motion was approved unanimously.

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

**Resolution No. 30-2020 Supplemental Appropriation – Grant Funds – Housing Fund – Coronavirus Pandemic**

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 Housing Fund \$103,824 of operating revenue and expense appropriation authority from a grant made available under section 601(a) of the Social Security Act, as added by Section 5001 of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) allocated to the Department of Housing and Urban Development from the United States Department of the Treasury for the purpose of aiding local housing authorities with expenses related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Resolution was introduced on June 9, 2020, and scheduled for consideration on June 16, 2020.

Al Wein, Director of Administration, provided comments. 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. 30-2020.

Roll Call Vote: Coutz-Y, Miller-Y, Patchell-Y, Gregory-Y, Meffley-Y  
The motion was approved unanimously.

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

**Resolution No. 31-2020: Approval – Compactor – Multiple Year Contract**

A Resolution to approve a five (5) year lease purchase agreement between the County and Alban Caterpillar to purchase a Compactor for the Central Landfill.

The Resolution was introduced on June 9, 2020, and scheduled for consideration on June 16, 2020.

Scott Flanigan, Public Works Director, provided comments. Council recognized Mr. Flanigan for saving money on this project.

On motion made by Councilman Coutz, seconded by Councilman Miller, the Council moved to approve Resolution No. 31-2020.

Roll Call Vote: Coutz-Y, Miller-Y, Patchell-Y, Gregory-Y, Meffley-Y  
The motion was approved unanimously.

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

**Resolution No. 32-2020: Approval – Grant Application – Community Development Block Grant – Coronavirus Funding**

A Resolution to authorize the Cecil County Department of Community Services, Housing and Community Development Division, to apply for funds from the Maryland Community Development Block Grant Program-COVID Funding, through the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development.

The Resolution was introduced on June 9, 2020, and scheduled for consideration on June 16, 2020.

Al Wein, Director of Administration, thanked the Council for their letter of support. There were no Council questions or comments.

On motion made by Councilman Miller, seconded by Councilman Coutz, the Council moved to approve Resolution No. 32-2020.

Roll Call Vote: Coutz-Y, Miller-Y, Patchell-Y, Gregory-Y, Meffley-Y  
The motion was approved unanimously.

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

**Resolution No. 34-2020: Loan Endorsement – Maryland Economic Development Assistance and Authority Fund – Smithfield Distribution, LLC.**

A Resolution endorsing a Maryland Economic Development Assistance and Authority Fund Loan pursuant to which the Smithfield Distribution, LLC (the "Borrower") has established a new 420,000 plus square foot facility and acquired the 50-acre (+/-) real property upon which the facility is situated in Principio Business Park in North East, Cecil County, Maryland.

The Resolution was introduced on June 9, 2020, and scheduled for consideration on June 16, 2020.

Chris Moyer, Economic Development Director, provided comments. Council questions and comments ensued.

On motion made by Councilman Miller, seconded by Councilman Coutz, the Council moved to approve Resolution No. 34-2020.

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

The motion was approved by a vote of 4 to 1. Vice President Gregory was opposed.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Cecil County Public Schools – Budget Amendment #75

Councilman Coutz made a motion, seconded by Vice President Gregory, to approve CCPS Budget Amendment #75, In the amount of \$1,100,972 for May 2020.

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

**ADJOURNMENT**

On motion made by Councilman Coutz, seconded by Councilman Miller, Council President Meffley adjourned the meeting at 8:04 p.m.

The next Council Legislative Session is scheduled on Tuesday, July 7, 2020 at 7:00 p.m., which is planned as a virtual meeting because of the current health crisis and Governor’s orders to avoid public meetings. The session will be livestreamed on the County Council’s webpage at [www.ccgov.org/council](http://www.ccgov.org/council). Members of the public who do not have broadband access, should call the Council Office for instructions to connect to the session via telephone.

Attest:

  
James Massey  
Council Manager

Approved:

  
Robert Meffley  
Council President