

**COUNTY COUNCIL OF CECIL COUNTY
LEGISLATIVE SESSION MINUTES
LSD 2020-18
August 18, 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 and selecting "livestream".

The following members of the Council were present:

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

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 August 18, 2020 was called to order by Council President Meffley at 7:00 p.m. Council President Meffley led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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 legislation session, because of the current health crisis and orders by the Governor to avoid public meetings. The motion was seconded by Vice President Gregory.

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

OPENING PRAYER

Councilman Miller introduced Reverend David Burke from Mt. Pleasant United Methodist Church in Colora, 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 August 18, 2020. Motion was unanimously approved.

PRESENTATION OF PROCLAMATIONS/CERTIFICATES

Council President Meffley announced that the Council and administration will present a proclamation to Chief Matthew Donnelly, Elkton Police Chief, who will be retiring after thirty-one years of service. Council President Meffley will present at Chief Donnelly's final walk-out on August 27, 2020.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion made by Councilman Coutz, seconded by Vice President Gregory, the Council moved to approve the minutes of the legislative session of August 11, 2020. Motion was approved unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Harold McCanick, Elk Neck, stated that August 19, 2020 is National Aviation Day.

PRESIDENT AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Vice President Gregory had no comments.

Councilman Coutz thanked Mr. Moyer and Ms. Edwards for their presentation on enterprise zones at the work session. He also expressed his best wishes to Mr. Moyer who has accepted a new position at Evergreen Investment. He also commented on the Sheriff's Office intel meeting where drug and violent crime statistics remain the same. He asked the community to help their neighbors.

Councilman Patchell commented on the importance of broadband for students while schools are closed for the pandemic. He stated that Governor Hogan announced that \$10M was available to help expand broadband in rural communities. He also wished Chris Moyer good luck in his new position.

Councilman Miller attended the Cecil County Firemen's Association and commented about emergency responses to the flooding. He thanked Rev. Willie Walton for presenting photo albums of forty-five years of fire service in Cecil County. He also thanked Chris Moyer for his service to Cecil County and wished him well at his new position. He stated the need for broadband in the Calvert community.

Council President Meffley thanked Chris Moyer for his service to Cecil County. He stated that he had worked with citizens on many complaints regarding vandalism, flooding, and parking and road conditions. He stated that he enjoys helping citizens with their problems.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

Bill No. 2020-10: Supplemental Appropriation and Budget Transfer – Roads and Bridges Capital Projects – Mechanics Valley Road over CSX Bridge Project

A Bill to amend the Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for Cecil County, Maryland for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021 to transfer existing bond appropriation authority within the Roads and Bridges Capital Projects Budget from the completed Belvidere Road Culvert Project (\$32,505.11), the completed

Painting of County Bridges Project (\$57,868.00) and remaining VLT casino funds leftover from various completed roads and bridges projects (\$34,626.89) to the Mechanics Valley Road over CSX Bridge Project (\$125,000).

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

Introduced, read first time, and order posted. The public hearing on Bill No. 2020-10 will be advertised and scheduled on the Council legislative session of September 15, 2020.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

RESOLUTION NO. 46-2020: Appointment - Cecil County Ethics Commission – Robert Boonstoppel

A Resolution to confirm the reappointment by the County Executive of Robert Boonstoppel to the Cecil County Ethics Commission, for a four-year term to expire July 18, 2024.

There were no introductory comments from the administration. Councilman Coutz clarified that Mr. Boonstoppel had served on the Ethics Commission for two previous terms of four years each.

Introduced, read first time, order posted and scheduled for consideration on September 1, 2020.

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

Resolution No. 47-2020: Approval – Application – Enterprise Zone Expansion

A Resolution to expand the existing Cecil County Enterprise Zone by 568.5 acres, more or less, of which 386.83 acres, more or less, are within the Town of Elkton.

Chris Moyer, Economic Development Director, provided introductory comments. There were no Council questions or comments.

Introduced, read first time, and order posted. The public hearing on Resolution No. 47-2020 will be advertised and scheduled on the Council legislative session of September 15, 2020.

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

Resolution No. 48-2020: Supplemental Appropriation – Grant Funds – Land Use and Development Services –Broadband Expansion

A Resolution to amend the Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for Cecil County, Maryland for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021, in order to provide a total of \$16,600 to the Special Revenue Other Grants Fund- Department of Land Use and Development Services to record the grant awarded from the Upper Shore Regional Council for the purpose of bringing internet access to underserved areas of Cecil County.

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

Introduced, read first time, order posted and scheduled for consideration on September 1, 2020.

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

Resolution No. 49-2020: Approval – Westlaw Edge Software – Multiple Year Contract

A Resolution to approve a three (3) year lease agreement between the Cecil County Government and Thomson Reuters West Publishing Corp. to purchase Westlaw Edge Software with State and Municipal Analytics Subscription for a total cost of \$52,218.

There were no introductory comments by the administration. Councilman Coutz requested the rate of the agreement for one year.

Introduced, read first time, order posted and scheduled for consideration on September 1, 2020.

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

Resolution No. 50-2020: Supplemental Appropriation – Fund Balance – Cecil College Transportation Training Facility

A Resolution to amend the Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for Cecil County, Maryland for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021 in order to provide Cecil College additional General Fund expenditure appropriation authority in the amount of \$85,000. The additional expenditure authority will provide the necessary funding to relocate Cecil College's transportation training facility and operational grounds to a different location on the property owned by the Bainbridge Development Corporation.

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

Introduced, read first time, order posted and scheduled for consideration on September 1, 2020.

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

Resolution No. 51: Approval – Workers Compensation Claims Administration Subscription – Multiple Year Contract

A Resolution to approve a three (3) year fee compensation agreement between Cecil County, Maryland and Riggs, Counselman, Michaels & Downes, Inc. (RCM&D) Self-Insured Services Company, Inc. (SISCO) for a total cost of \$148,666.

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

Introduced, read first time, order posted and scheduled for consideration on September 1, 2020.

CALL FOR FINAL READING OF BILLS

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

BILL NO. 2020-09 Amendment – Collective Bargaining – Law Enforcement Deputy Sheriffs and Correctional Deputy Sheriffs

A Bill to amend Chapter 70 (Officers and Employees), Article II, of the Cecil County Code, pursuant to authority set forth in the Annotated Code of Maryland, to now include the labor organization representing certain Law Enforcement Deputy Sheriffs in the Cecil County Sheriff's Office, Correctional Deputy Sheriffs in the Cecil County Sheriff's Office, and full-time, regular, non-exempt uniformed employees on the Public Safety pay scale within the Cecil County Department of Emergency Services at the rank of captain and below, formulation of a memorandum of understanding of agreements made pursuant to collective bargaining, and dispute resolution procedures, timeframes and rules for conducting non-binding arbitration where the County and a bargaining unit are unable to reach an agreement on the contents of a memorandum of understanding or collective bargaining agreement through mediation, as well as rules for remedying unfair labor practices.

Council President Meffley asked for the Amendments to this legislative be read into the record.

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

**AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO
BILL NO. 2020-09**

Synopsis: To specify the ranks of Sheriff Deputies included in the definition of Employee; and to add the option of a collective bargaining agreement to the memorandum of understanding, within the legislation.

Introduced by: Council President on behalf of the County Executive

On page 3, line 46, insert "at the rank of Captain and below".

On page 3, line 47, insert "at the rank of Lieutenant and below".

On page 4, line 73, insert "Or Collective Bargaining Agreement".

On page 4, line 75, insert "Or Collective Bargaining Agreement".

On page 4, line 78, insert "Or Collective Bargaining Agreement".

**AMENDMENT NO. 2
TO BILL NO. 2020-09**

Synopsis: To specify the ranks of Sheriff Deputies included in the definition of Employee; and to add the option of a collective bargaining agreement to the memorandum of understanding, and to replace references to former Cecil County Board of Commissioners, within Appendix A.

Introduced by: Council President on behalf of the County Executive

Replace Appendix A in its entirety and insert revised Appendix A.

**AMENDMENT NO. 3
TO BILL NO. 2020-09**

Synopsis: To add an appendix that addresses the procedure for collective bargaining for the Division of Emergency Medical Services.

Introduced by: Council President on behalf of the County Executive
Insert Appendix B as attached.

The Bill was introduced on July 7, 2020, advertised on July 22, 2020 and July 29, 2020, and scheduled for public hearing on August 4, 2020, and postponed to August 11, 2020. Final consideration was postponed until August 18, 2020.

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

On motion by Councilman Coutz, seconded by Vice President Gregory, the Council moved to approve Amendment Nos. 1-3 to Bill No. 2020-09.

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

On motion by Councilman Coutz, seconded by Vice President Gregory, the Council moved to approve Bill No. 2020-09 as amended.

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

OLD BUSINESS

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

Rezoning Case #2020-03 APPLICANT: 109-111 Providence Road. REQUEST: Request to rezone 0.7 acres from Rural Residential (RR) to Northern Agricultural Residential (NAR); LOCATION: 109-111 Providence Road, Elkton, MD 21921. Election District: 4, Tax Map: 13, Parcel: 360. PROPERTY OWNER: 109-111 Providence Road, LLC (Dave Fennimore). PRESENTLY ZONED Rural Residential, (RR)

There were no Council questions or comments.

Councilman Coutz moved to approve the application of 109-111 Providence Road LLC. to rezone 0.7 acres located at 109-111 Providence Road, Elkton, MD. from Rural Residential (RR) to Northern Agricultural Residential (NAR), based upon a mistake in the zoning classification of the property during the last comprehensive rezoning. The motion was seconded by Vice President Gregory.

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

NEW BUSINESS

Cecil County Public Schools – Budget Amendment #77

Councilman Coutz made a motion, seconded by Vice President Gregory, to approve CCPS Budget Amendment #77, In the amount of \$3,506,937 for June 2020.

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

ADJOURNMENT

On motion made by Vice President Gregory, seconded by Councilman Coutz, Council President Meffley adjourned the meeting at 7:36 p.m.

The next Council Legislative Session is scheduled on Tuesday, September 1, 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. 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