

**COUNTY COUNCIL OF CECIL COUNTY
LEGISLATIVE SESSION MINUTES
LSD 2020-23
December 8, 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 December 8, 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

Vice President Gregory 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 Councilman Miller.

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

The motion was approved unanimously.

OPENING PRAYER

Councilman Miller delivered the opening prayer.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On motion made by Vice President Gregory, seconded by Councilman Miller, the Council moved to approve the legislative agenda of December 8, 2020. Motion was unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion made by Vice President Gregory, seconded by Councilman Miller, the Council moved to approve the minutes of the legislative session of October 20, 2020. Motion was approved unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Dan Schneckenburger, Elkton, commented that he was pleased to be back in Cecil County. Danielle Hornberger, North East, commented on her new position, her nominees and the pandemic. Debbie Brown, Chamber of Commerce, congratulated the new County Executive and Council Members. Dan DeMarinis, Elkton, congratulated the new County Executive and Council Members.

PRESIDENT AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Vice President Gregory commended the Town of Cecilton for their recent holiday open house and parade. She attended award banquets held by Water Witch Fire Company, and North East Fire Company. She expressed her appreciation for the County Inauguration organizers and extended her best wishes to Executive Hornberger and Council President Meffley.

Councilman Coutz welcomed the new County Executive, Council President Meffley and Vice President Gregory. He attended the Sheriff's Office Intel meeting and reported on the increase in calls for service and the increase in overdoses. He stated that there have been eighty-three overdose fatalities in Cecil County in 2020. He also welcomed the nominees for executive appointment.

Councilman Miller thanked Councilman Coutz for his Intel report. He thanked County Executive Hornberger and Senator Gallion for attending the mini AG tour. He also thanked Bruce Yerkes and Chris Brown from the Soil Conservation District and the Kilby Family Incorporated for being the first stop on the tour. He described the route of the tour and variety of agriculture they visited. He congratulated the newly sworn in officials.

Councilman Patchell congratulated the newly sworn in officials. He commented that he was looking forward to a productive year.

Council President Meffley attended the Cecilton holiday parade and commented that everyone was wearing a mask. He expressed his appreciation for the county inauguration ceremony. He commented that he missed face to face meetings instead of virtual meetings. He stated that he looked forward to working with the Council in 2021. He expressed his wish that everyone stay healthy.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

Resolution No. 65-2020 Approval – COVID Supply Storage – Multiple Year Contract

A Resolution to approve a three (3) year lease agreement between the County and Nowland Development, Inc. to rent 4,808 square feet of space, located at 400 Pintail Circle, Elkton, for a total cost

of \$165,877 for use for COVID Supply Storage.

Dan Schneckenburger, Director of Administration-designee, provided comments. John Donohue, Deputy Chief of Emergency Services, was also available to answer questions. There were no Council questions or comments.

Introduced, read first time and order posted on December 8, 2020 and scheduled for consideration on December 15, 2020.

NEW BUSINESS

Cecil County Public Schools – Budget Amendment #80

Council President Meffley made a motion to approve Budget Amendment #80, in the amount of \$49,449 for October 2020, which was seconded by Councilman Miller. The Council unanimously approved the motion by a voice vote of 5 to 0.

CONFIRMATION OF EXECUTIVE APPOINTMENTS

Council President Meffley asked Dan Schneckenburger, Director of Administration-designee, to introduce each nominee.

Mr. Schneckenburger introduced himself as the nominee for Director of Administration and gave a brief summary of his experience. There were no Council questions or comments.

Vice President Gregory made a motion to approve the nomination of Dan Schneckenburger as the Director of Administration. The motion was seconded by Council President Meffley.

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

Mr. Schneckenburger introduced Michele Campbell Ennis as the nominee for Director of Human Resources. Ms. Ennis provided a brief summary of her experience. There were no Council questions or comments.

Councilman Coutz made a motion to approve the nomination of Michele Ennis as the Director of Human Resources. The motion was seconded by Vice President Gregory.

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

Mr. Schneckenburger introduced James Appel as the nominee for Director of Finance. Mr. Appel provided a brief summary of her experience. Councilman Miller asked if Mr. Appel would be coming to work from Anne Arundel County. Mr. Appel responded that he would be coming to work every day as he has been driving to Washington for many years, which is about the same driving time.

Vice President Gregory made a motion to approve the nomination of James Appel as the Director of Finance. The motion was seconded by Council President Meffley.

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

Mr. Schneckenburger introduced Steven Overbay as the nominee for Director of Economic Development. Mr. Overbay provided a brief summary of his experience. There were no Council questions or comments.

Vice President Gregory made a motion to approve the nomination of Steven Overbay as the Director of Economic Development. The motion was seconded by Councilman Coutz.

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

Mr. Schneckenburger introduced Lawrence Scott as the nominee for County Attorney. Mr. Scott provided a brief summary of his experience. There were no Council questions or comments.

Vice President Gregory made a motion to approve the nomination of Lawrence Scott as the County Attorney. The motion was seconded by Council President Meffley.

Roll call vote: Coutz-Y, Miller-N, Patchell-Y, Gregory-Y, Meffley-Y
The motion was approved by a vote of 4 to 1. Councilman Miller was opposed.

Mr. Schneckenburger introduced Dave Warnick as the nominee for Director of Information Technology. Mr. Warnick provided a brief summary of his experience. There were no Council questions or comments.

Councilman Coutz made a motion to approve the nomination of Dave Warnick as the Director of Information Technology. The motion was seconded by Vice President Gregory.

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

Mr. Schneckenburger introduced Wayne Tome as the nominee for Director of Emergency Services. Mr. Tome provided a brief summary of his experience. There were no Council questions or comments.

Vice President Gregory made a motion to approve the nomination of Wayne Tome as the Director of Emergency Services. The motion was seconded by Council President Meffley.

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

Council President Meffley stated that Council Members did their due diligence in reviewing the resumes of the nominees and speaking with some. He expressed his appreciation to the administration for their work in selecting department directors.

Councilman Miller verified that Rebecca Anderson will continue as the Deputy Director of Finance.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion made by Vice President Gregory, seconded by Councilman Miller, Council President Meffley adjourned the meeting at 7:46 p.m.

The next Council Legislative Session is scheduled on Tuesday, December 15, 2020 at 7:00 p.m., which will be held in the Elk Room of the County Administration Building, unless otherwise noted.

Attest:


James Massey
Council Manager

Approved:


Robert Meffley
Council President