

**COUNTY COUNCIL OF CECIL COUNTY
WORK SESSION MINUTES
January 4, 2022**

OPEN SESSION – Elk Room

4:30 P.M.

NOTE: The recording and transcription of this meeting are available on the County website at www.ccgov.org/council.

PRESENT: Council Members: Robert Meffley, William Coutz, Al Miller, Donna Culberson and Jackie Gregory; James Massey, Council Manager; Terry Hale, Council Assistant, members of the administration, and members of the public.

Call to Order

Council President Meffley called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm, and announced that there were five Council Members present, which constitute a quorum.

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 December 21, 2021, as presented. The motion approved unanimously.

Council President Meffley suspended the rules to delay the financial projection presentation until after the other presentations.

Youth Empowerment Source

Beth Creek, Executive Director of YES, Youth Empowerment Source, explained that this private nonprofit organization's mission is to build stronger communities by inspiring and equipping children, youth, and families to become lifelong learners.

She provided an overview of their programs, which included the Initiative for Children of Incarcerated Parents, the Legacy Program for Disconnected Youth, ACTIVATE Summer Camp, My Family Matters parenting workshop, and Drug Free Cecil Youth Coalition. She emphasized the importance of her partnerships with the Health Department and Cecil County Public Schools. She stated that YES has been recognized as a state and national model for other communities.

Ms. Creek asked the Council to consider support for YES from the county's opioid settlement award. Council Members commended Ms. Creek and YES for their outstanding efforts in the community.

COVID Update

Lauren Levy, Health Officer, provided the latest COVID statistic that compared the State to Cecil County. She stated that the 7-day positivity rate and 7-day case rate has increased dramatically. She explained Governor Hogan's declaration of a state of emergency status because of hospital capacities. She stated that the Health Department is offering home PCR test kits, home rapid test kits, and community clinics at no charge. She provided statistics on the number of vaccinated residents based on age. She advised that vaccinations are available from the Health Department, Christiana Union Hospital, local pharmacies and community providers. She reviewed the recent CDC quarantine and isolation recommendations issued by CDC. She stated that the Health Department is continuing to emphasize safety protocols to mitigate the spread of COVID.

First Quarter FY 2022 Financial Projections

James Appel, Finance Director, presented the first quarter FY 2022 financial projection.

On the first page of his report, he reviewed the actual revenue and expenditures by department with the projected figures. On the second page of his report, he reviewed the general fund balance sheet of assets, liabilities and fund balance. On the third page of his report, he reviewed the income tax receipts, as of September 30, 2021. On the fourth page of his report, he reviewed the Perryville casino revenue, as of September 30, 2021. On page 5 of his report, he reviewed the landfill fund revenues and expenditures. On page 6 of his report, he reviewed the wastewater fund revenues and expenditures. Council questions and comments ensued.

Review of Legislative Agenda

Council President Meffley led a review of the legislative agenda.

Resolution No. 60-2021 Appointment – Electrical Examiners Board – Richard LeBrun and Donald Hicks, will be considered at tonight’s session. There were no comments from the administration. There were no Council questions or comments.

Resolution No. 61-2021 Supplemental Appropriation – Grant Funds – Economic Development – Upper Shore Regional Council – Agriculture Microgrant Program, will be considered at tonight’s session. Steve Overbay, Acting Director of Administration, provided comments. There were no Council questions or comments.

Resolution No. 62-2021 Supplemental Appropriation – Grant Funds – Economic Development – MARBIDCO – Agriculture Microgrant Program, will be considered at tonight’s session. Steve Overbay, Acting Director of Administration, provided comments. There were no Council questions or comments.

Council Manager Report

Council Manager Massey reported that the Martin Luther King, Jr. celebration will be held on Monday, January 17th as a virtual meeting. He stated that the State of the County event will be held on Monday, January 24 as a virtual meeting. He also reported on a proposed hot mix asphalt plant being proposed on Belvidere Road in Port Deposit.

Council Member Items

Councilman Coutz, Vice President Gregory, Councilman Miller, Councilwoman Culberson and Council President Meffley agreed to save their comments until the legislative session.

Adjournment

Councilman Coutz made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Vice President Gregory. Council President Meffley adjourned the session at 5:57pm.

The next Council work session will be held on Tuesday, January 11, 2022, at 4:30 pm in the Elk Room of the County Administration Building. The session will also be livestreamed on the County Council's webpage at www.ccgov.org/council. Members of the public who do not have broadband access should contact the Council Office for instructions to be connected via telephone.


James Massey
Council Manager

Approved:


Robert Meffley, Council President