

**COUNTY COUNCIL OF CECIL COUNTY
LEGISLATIVE SESSION MINUTES
LSD 2022-10
May 3, 2022**

The County Council of Cecil County met in legislative session at the County Administration Building, 200 Chesapeake Blvd., Elk Room, Elkton, MD. The following members of the Council were present:

Robert Meffley, Council President
Jackie Gregory, Vice President
William H. Coutz, Council Member
Al Miller, Council Member
Donna Culberson, Council Member

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

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the County Council of Cecil County of May 3, 2022, was called to order by Council President Meffley at 7:00 p.m.

OPENING PRAYER

Council Member Miller introduced Pastor Paul Papp from Wesley United Methodist Church in Elk Neck, 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 May 3, 2022. Motion was approved unanimously.

PRESENTATION OF PROCLAMATIONS AND CERTIFICATES

The presentation of certificates to First Class ranked Scouts will be rescheduled.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

Bill No. 2022-03 Agricultural Land Preservation District – Jeffrey and Stacey Coale

A Bill to approve the petition of Jeffrey and Stacey Coale for property located at 145 Christie Hill Road, Conowingo, MD 21918, (Acres 42.5, Election District 8, Tax Map 9, Grid 1, Parcel 521), requesting the establishment of an agricultural preservation district.

The Bill was introduced on April 5, 2022, advertised on April 20, 2022 and April 27, 2022; and scheduled for public hearing on May 3, 2022.

Steve Overbay, Acting Director of Administration, provided comments. There were no Council questions or comments.

Council President Meffley opened the public hearing for public comments. Harold McCanick, Elk Neck, commented in opposition to the legislation.

Council President Meffley concluded the public hearing and announced that the legislation will be considered for final approval at the next legislative session on May 17, 2022.

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 April 19, 2022. Motion was approved unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Dr. Joe Buckley, Elkton, Associate Superintendent for Administrative Services, Cecil County Public Schools, commented on false statements read at the Board of Education meeting that alleged school employees were fearful to report sexual misconducts and retribution for whistleblowers.

Dianne Heath, Warwick, Member, Board of Education of Cecil County, commented on why school funding should be increased to invest in students by providing materials, opportunities, recruit top teachers, modernize resources, which will benefit the community.

Christie Stephens, Conowingo, Member, Board of Education of Cecil County, commented on the increase of political games at school board meetings and social media personal attacks, which have been fostered by elected officials and political candidates.

PRESIDENT AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilman Coutz thanked the audience for attending and for their comments. He stated his appreciation for the comments regarding support for the public school system. He attended the YES and DrugFreeCecil Build-a-Burger fundraiser, Chamber of Commerce Legislative Wrap-up, and flag raising and opening of the Bainbridge Logistics Center. He reported on statistics from the Sheriff's Office Intel meeting that showed the numbers of overdoses have dropped but the number of fatal overdoses have increased.

Vice President Gregory thanked the audience for attending. She attended the Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon and commended Krista Gilmore and Community Services Department for their services to county residents. She stated that she will be participating in the roadside cleanup day next Saturday at Elk Neck.

Councilwoman Culberson thanked the audience for attending and welcomed them. She attended the Chamber of Commerce legislative breakfast, the Bainbridge flag raising and opening of the Bainbridge Logistics Center, and Freedom Hills Riding Center Family Fun Day.

Councilman Miller stated that he attended the YES and DrugFreeCecil Build-a-Burger fundraiser, Chamber of Commerce Legislative Wrap-up, flag raising and opening of the Bainbridge Logistics Center, and Elkton Alliance's Citizen of the Year program.

Council President Meffley stated that he attended the YES and DrugFreeCecil Build-a-Burger fundraiser, Chamber of Commerce Legislative Wrap-up, and flag raising and opening of the Bainbridge Logistics Center. He commented on attending the dedication of a tree dedicated to William Manlove at Cecilton Elementary School. He participated in a softball game between the Elkton Rotary and North East Rotary. He attended a meeting to discuss the future of the former Chesapeake City Elementary School and the proposed use of the original building.

Council Manager Massey reported on the National Day of Prayer to be held on Thursday and concerns about the debris at Hollywood Beach.

CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTIONS

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

Resolution No. 33-2022 Appointment - Acting Director of Administration - Steven Overbay

A Resolution to extend the Acting Director of Administration appointment of Steven Overbay for an additional four months, pursuant to Chapter C, Article 4, Section 413 of the Charter of Cecil County.

There were no Administration comments. There were no Council questions or comments.

Councilman Coutz made a motion to approve Resolution No. 33-2022, which was seconded by Councilwoman Culberson.

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

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

OLD BUSINESS

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

Rezoning Case # 2022-02 APPLICANT: Yug Patel, LLC. Request to rezone .42 and .23 acres from Business Local (BL) to Business General (BG). PROPERTY LOCATION: 712 Craigtown Road, Port Deposit, MD 21904. Election District: 7, Tax Map: 23E, Parcel: 92 & 471. PROPERTY OWNER: Yug Patel, LLC. PRESENTLY ZONED: Business Local (BL)

There were no Council questions or comments.

Councilman Coutz made a motion to deny the application of Yug Patel, LLC to rezone .42 and .23 acres located at 712 Craigtown Road, Port Deposit, MD from Business Local (BL) to Business General (BG), based upon no convincing evidence of a mistake in the zoning classification of the property during the last comprehensive rezoning; and based upon no convincing evidence of a change in the character of the neighborhood since the last comprehensive rezoning.

The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Culberson.

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

The motion was unanimously approved.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion made by Vice President Gregory, seconded by Councilwoman Culberson, Council President Meffley adjourned the meeting at 7:33 p.m.

Council President Meffley announced that the next Council Legislative Session is scheduled on Tuesday, May 17, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. in the Elk Room of the County Administration Building. The legislative session will be livestreamed at the county's webpage at www.ccgov.org/council. The recording and transcription will be uploaded to the county's website as soon as possible.

Approved:



Robert Meffley
Council President

Attest:



James Massey
Council Manager