

**COUNTY COUNCIL OF CECIL COUNTY
LEGISLATIVE SESSION MINUTES
LSD 2023-14
July 18, 2023**

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:

Jackie Gregory, Council President
Robert Meffley, Vice President
Rebecca Hamilton, 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 July 18, 2023, was called to order by Council President Gregory at 7:00 p.m.

OPENING PRAYER

Councilman Miller introduced Pastor Tim Beardsley of Ebenezer United Methodist Church in Rising Sun who gave the opening prayer.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On motion made by Councilwoman Culberson, seconded by Vice President Meffley, the Council moved to approve the legislative agenda of July 18, 2023. The motion was approved unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion made by Councilwoman Culberson, seconded by Councilman Miller, the Council moved to approve the minutes of the legislative session of July 11, 2023. The motion was approved unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Sean Brimm of Elkton spoke on the need to stop sexual abuse on children.
Tanya Emkey of Aberdeen thanked the administration on the FOIA request for Indian Acres.
Harold McCanick of Elk Neck thanked the administration and Council on the tax cuts for FY24.

PRESIDENT AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilwoman Hamilton stated she hopes everyone has a safe summer.

Vice President Meffley noted he attended the MRDC Meeting. He noted the need to fund the teachers and urged the federal government to fully fund the head start program. He also noted that the weed control program is being subcontracted for the remainder of the year.

Councilman Miller noted that the Cecil County Fair is beginning July 21 and will run through July 29 and urged everybody to come out and enjoy the events. He also noted the Weed Control Board will be meeting on August 2 and will discuss the subcontract and areas that need immediate attention.

Councilwoman Culberson noted that parent rights are of concern to her and she will continue to participate in organizations that defend these rights. She also outlined the intel number for the previous week.

President Gregory noted she attended the Special Olympics picnic on July 15 at the North East Park and noted that this is a great organization. She also urged everybody to attend the Cecil County Fair and noted the chicken dinner at the Fair is July 24.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS

Council Manager Culver stated for the record:

40-2023 – Approval – Tasers with Accessories – Multiple Year Contract

A Resolution to approve a five (5) year agreement between the County on behalf of the Cecil County Sheriff's Office and Axon Enterprise, Inc. for the acquisition of Sixty-five (65) Taser 10 Inert Magazine Red with two spares, Inert Unitary Cartridge, Taser 10 Blackhawk Holster RH, Enhanced Hook-and-Loop Training (halt) Suit V2, Target Frame Professional 27.5 in X 75 in, Certification Bundle. The bundle includes all training cartridges, unlimited duty cartridges, and instructor training vouchers.

Introduced, read for the first time, order posted on July 18, 2023 and scheduled for consideration on August 1, 2023.

Director of Administration Steven Overbay noted that this was a 5-year contract for the tasers. Director Overbay noted that these tasers will be for correctional officers and will be an upgrade. The contract also will provide training for the officers.

Council Manager Culver stated for the record:

41-2023 – Appointment and Reappointments—Board of License Commissioners – Kristen Ortt, Stephen Miller, Russ Johnson

A Resolution to confirm the reappointments by the County Executive of Kristen Ortt to expire June 30, 2024, Stephen Miller to expire on June 30, 2026, and the appointment of Russ Johnson to fill a vacancy to expire on June 30, 2025.

Introduced, read for the first time, order posted on July 18, 2023 and scheduled for consideration on August 1, 2023

County Attorney Lawrence Scott noted that he represents the Board of License Commissioners and that Ms. Ortt and Mr. Miller have been excellent members. He also noted that Mr. Johnson is on the Planning Board and has done an outstanding job.

Council Manager Culver stated for the record:

42-2023 - Appointment—Adult Public Guardianship Review Board – Dianne Fox

A Resolution to confirm the reappointment by the County Executive of Dianne Fox, to a three-year term that will expire on November 5, 2025, the Cecil County Adult Public Guardianship Review Board.

Introduced, read for the first time, order posted on July 18, 2023 and scheduled for consideration on August 1, 2023

Director of Administration Steven Overbay noted Ms. Fox is an outstanding member on this board. He noted this board is responsible for adult guardianship case reviews and makes recommendations to the Courts on the care of these adults.

CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTIONS

Council Manager Culver stated for the record:

Resolution 37-2023 - To allocate \$10,000,000 of unassigned general fund balance to a committed education fund.

A Resolution to allocate \$10,000,000 of unassigned general fund balance to address state mandated county increases associated with funding Cecil County Public Schools. This resolution moves \$10,000,000 from Unassigned to Committed funds category on the County Balance Sheet.

Introduced, read for the first time, order posted on July 11, 2023 and scheduled for consideration on July 18, 2023.

Director of Administration Steven Overbay thanked Council for supporting the FY24 Budget and this resolution reflects the discussions during the Budget Hearings to create a committed fund for future Board of Education mandated expenses for maintenance of effort and the Blueprint for Growth. This fund will help offset these mandated costs in future budget years.

Councilwoman Culberson made a motion to approve Resolution 37-2023, which was seconded by Vice President Meffley.

Roll call vote: Hamilton – Y, Miller -Y, Culberson – Y, Meffley – Y, Gregory- Y
The motion was approved unanimously.

Council Manager Culver stated for the record:

Resolution 38-2023 - Amend - Maryland Economic Development Assistance and Authority Fund Loan – Lidl

A Resolution to amend the grant agreement end date for the Lidl warehouse situated in Principio Business Park in North East, Cecil County, Maryland. This extension is in accordance with the

Maryland Department of Commerce's final request to report or verify Lidl hired 80 full-time employees at the site.

Introduced, read for the first time, order posted on July 11, 2023 and scheduled for consideration on July 18, 2023.

Director of Administration Steven Overbay noted that Lidl and the Maryland Department of Commerce have been great partners and Lidl has hired in excess of the requirement of the grant. Director Overbay noted that the verification of the hiring and retention would be completed by the end of September.

Councilwoman Culberson made a motion to approve Resolution 38-2023, which was seconded by Councilman Miller.

Roll call vote: Hamilton – Y, Miller -Y, Culberson – Y, Meffley – Y, Gregory- Y
The motion was approved unanimously.

Council Manager Culver stated for the record:

Resolution 39-2023 - Supplemental Appropriation – Grant Funds – Parks and Recreation – Calvert Regional Park Basketball Court Improvements

A Resolution to amend the Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for Cecil County, Maryland for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, in order to provide a total of \$297,500 to the Special Revenue Other Grants Fund – Parks and Recreation, to record a grant awarded from the Maryland Department of Natural Resources to be used for basketball court improvements at Calvert Regional Park.

Introduced, read for the first time, order posted on July 11, 2023 and scheduled for consideration on July 18, 2023.

Director of Administration Steven Overbay noted this is the remaining amount from a 1.5 million dollar grant from the State for parks. These funds will replace the basketball courts at Calvert Park. He also noted that the turf field at Rising Sun High School utilized this grant funding.

Councilman Miller made a motion to approve Resolution 39-2023, which was seconded by Councilwoman Hamilton.

Roll call vote: Hamilton – Y, Miller -Y, Culberson – Y, Meffley – Y, Gregory- Y
The motion was approved unanimously.

Council Manager Culver stated for the record:

NEW BUSINESS

Cecil County Public Schools – Budget Amendment #112

President Gregory noted the Budget Amendment for \$200,759 for June was discussed at the Board of Education Meeting.

Councilman Miller made a motion to approve Budget Amendment #112 in the amount of \$200,759 for June expenses. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Culberson. The motion was approved unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT


On motion made by Councilwoman Culberson, seconded by Councilman Miller, President Gregory adjourned the meeting at 7:30 pm.

Council President Gregory announced that the next Council Legislative Session is scheduled on Tuesday, August 1, 2023, at 8:00 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:


Jackie Gregory
Council President

Attest:


David M. Culver
Council Manager