

**COUNTY COUNCIL OF CECIL COUNTY  
WORK SESSION MINUTES**

**November 7, 2023**

**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](http://www.ccgov.org/council).

**PRESENT:** Council Members: Bob Meffley, Al Miller, Donna Culberson, Jackie Gregory; David Culver, Council Manager; Terry Hale, Council Assistant, members of the administration and members of the public.

**Call to Order**

President Gregory called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm and announced that there were three Council Members present which constitute a quorum. Vice President Meffley arrived at 4:42 pm.

**Approval of Minutes**

On a motion made by Councilwoman Culberson, seconded by Councilman Miller, the Council moved to approve the minutes of the Council Work Session of October 24, 2023, as presented. The motion passed 3 to 0 with two absent.

**Review of Legislative Agenda**

**a. Introduction of Resolutions**

1. Resolution 57-2023 - Supplemental Appropriation – Grant Funds – Tourism – Winter Lights Cecil Nights

Director of Administration Steven Overbay noted that this grant was from the Upper Shore Regional Council and is the third year they have supported this event. The event goes from January 1 through February 26 and features the main street in each Town. He noted this event had been very successful highlighting the Towns and bring in additional revenue for the stores and restaurants. President Gregory noted this is a great event and hopes everybody goes out to see the displays and visit the local businesses.

2. Resolution 58-2023 Supplemental Appropriation – Grants – Economic Development – Supplement Marketing Costs

Director of Administration Steven Overbay noted that this grant is from the Maryland Department of Commerce to help promote tourism locally, statewide, nationally and internationally. Councilwoman Culberson inquired what type of international advertising would this be, and Director Overbay noted that these funds could help advertise events such as the Maryland 5 Star since this had international participants. Councilman Miler inquired on how the funds must be spent and Director Overbay noted it can be spent however the County would like and noted previous advertising campaigns done in the state and local market. Councilman Miller noted events, such as the Franklin Graham event at Fair Hill, was advertised nationally and brought many people into Cecil County.

3. Resolution 59-2023 - Operation Green Light for Veterans

Director of Administration Steven Overbay noted that this is the annual event that brings awareness to veterans transitioning from the military to civilian life and encourages everybody to use green lights until November 11 for this event. Councilwoman Culberson noted that this is a great idea to bring awareness for our veterans. President Greogry noted that numerous events are planned for Veterans Day throughout the County and encouraged everybody to attend.

4. Resolution 60-2023 – Supplemental Appropriation – Grant Funds – Emergency Services – MDOT Grant - Highway Safety

EMS Deputy Director John Donahue noted that this grant is part of the national highway safety fund to assist in the purchase of emergency and training equipment. This grant will help fund the purchase of pediatric stretchers for the ambulances and impairment goggles for training classes. Councilman Miller congratulated Director Donahue on receiving this grant and noted this should help with the transport of children when the need arises.

5. Resolution 61-2023 - Supplemental Appropriation - Grant Funds – Emergency Services – Hazard Mitigation Project Fund

Deputy Director John Donahue explained that this is a grant to assist the homeowner, Bill Martin of North Shore Drive, with the relocation and elevation of his house in the floodplain area. The house will be moved approximately 10 feet back and be raised about 10 feet in order to be 3 feet above the floodplain elevation. Mr. Martin thanked the County for all of its assistance during the grant process. Councilman Miller inquired if other homes in this area could apply for this type of grant and Deputy Director Donahue noted they could apply. Mr. Martin noted this area along the Elk River was marshland and is prone to flooding during storm events.

Director of Administration Steven Overbay sadly noted that former EMS Director Frank Muller passed away on November 7. He noted Mr. Muller's many accomplishments and the funeral arrangements. Councilman Miller inquired if all the arrangements are at Singerly Fire House and Director Overbay noted they all will be at that location.

6. Resolution 62-2023 - Supplemental Appropriation – Unassigned Fund Balance – Department of Emergency Services – Volunteer Fire Companies in Cecil County – On-Going Testing

Director of Administration Steven Overbay noted that this is a continuation of funding for the volunteer fire companies to test various pieces of equipment at the fire houses. Councilwoman Culberson inquired who did the testing, the County or a contractor and Director Overbay noted that the various governing bodies of the emergency equipment set the standards for performance and have contractors perform the tests. Deputy Director Donahue noted the various types of equipment that undergoes testing.

b. Consideration of Resolutions

1. Resolution 55-2023 – Supplemental Appropriation – Grant Funds – Circuit Court for Cecil County – Maryland Problem-Solving Court Universal Risk / Need Screening Pilot Program – BJA Sub-Grant

Director of Administration Steven Overbay noted the grant is to fund a full-time screener for new criminal cases. The individual hired would review the cases for drug use and recommend programs and drug court. He also noted this will be a full-time employee devoted to this and would not be of any cost to the County and that the grant is a multiyear grant until 2025.

2. Resolution 56-2023- Appointment—Economic Development Commission – Amy Marston and Kristina Brown.

Director of Economic Development William Sorenson noted that these two appointments are to fill unexpired terms that are traditionally held by representatives of Delmarva Power and Christiana Care. The two current appointees on the Economic Development Commission have taken on new roles at Delmarva Power and Christiana Care and need to vacate the rest of the appointment.

#### **Council Manager Report**

Council Manager Culver noted the updated Council Manager report is in the packet. He noted that numerous event invitations are being received and please respond to them as soon as possible so we can send notice on attendance. He noted the Board of Health Meeting is on the next work session agenda as well as a presentation for the Cecil County Libraries.

#### **Council Member Items**

Councilmembers deferred comments to the Legislative Session of November 7, 2023.

President Gregory announced that no further items are on the November 7, 2023 Work Session agenda.

#### **Adjournment**

Councilwoman Culberson made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Vice President Meffley. Council President Gregory adjourned the work session at 4:57 pm.

The next Council work session will be held on Tuesday, November 14, 2023, 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](http://www.ccgov.org/council).

Approved:

  
Jackie Gregory, Council President

  
David M. Culver  
Council Manager