

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

**March 5, 2024**

**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, Rebecca Hamilton, 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 five Council Members present which constitute a quorum.

**Approval of Minutes**

On a motion made by Councilwoman Culberson, seconded by Vice President Meffley, the Council moved to approve the minutes of the Council Work Session of February 27, 2024, as presented. The motion passed 5 to 0.

**Review of Legislative Agenda**

**a. Introduction of Resolutions**

1. Resolution 13-2024 - Supplemental Appropriation – Wastewater Enterprise Fund – Wastewater Division – Department of Public Works – Washington Street Force Main Repair

Director of Administration Steve Overbay noted this budget amendment was for an emergency repair on the Washington Street Force Main. Director of Public Works Scott Flanigan noted the break occurred on January 15 and it took four days to repair. He noted during this time they needed to pump and haul the sewage from the station to the wastewater plant. Vice President Meffley inquired on the type of pipe that broke and the age of the pipe. Director Flanigan noted it was ductile iron and was installed in the late 1970's or early 80's. Councilman Miller inquired on the condition of the rest of the pipe and Director Flanigan noted that the replacement of the force main is in the CIP and the review of the pipe will be occurring in the near future. Vice President Meffley inquired on the length of the force main from this station and Director Flanigan noted it was over 1,000 feet but did not have an exact measurement at this time.

**b. Consideration of Resolutions**

1. Resolution 11-2024 – Supplemental Appropriation – Unassigned General Fund Balance – Roads Division – Department of Public Works – Snow Removal

Director of Administration Steve Overbay noted this budget amendment is to replenish the snow removal account because of the number of snow events this year. He noted \$200,000 would be for additional salt purchases and \$100,000 would be for contractors. He noted any unspent funds would go back to the fund balance. Councilman Miller inquired on the impact this would have on

the FY25 Budget and Director Overbay noted the salt being purchased now will be used next year if we do not have any more snow events so the budget should remain about the same.

2. Resolution 12-2024 - Appointment – Public Safety Pension Plan Board of Trustees – Matthew Carr

Director of Administration Steve Overbay noted Mr. Carr is being reappointed as the representative of the Detention Center at the Sheriff's Office and Sheriff Adams concurs with this reappointment. He noted this term will be for 3 years.

**State Legislative Update**

President Gregory inquired if Councilmembers had any updates to provide or bills to consider.

Councilwoman Culberson noted SB 0917/HB 1257 Public Schools – Restorative Practices Schools – Establishment and that she believed this should not be a state mandate but left to the local jurisdictions. Council agreed to continue to watch this bill. Councilwoman Culberson also noted HB 1400/SB 1032 - Public Schools - Student Use of Force – Authorization allows students to reasonably defined themselves. Councilman Miller had some concerns on this bill because it could be subjective. Council agreed to send a letter of support.

President Gregory gave the MACo update on bills that were discussed. She noted HB 1115/SB 1026 - County Boards of Education – Budgets – Notice (Transparency in Education Spending Act) is the MACo sponsored bill. Councilwoman Culberson inquired if this would require all BOE's to report in the same format and President Gregory noted it does not, but it requires additional reporting information from the BOE. Councilman Miller noted the BOE's must report in the same format to the State. President Gregory also noted the Blueprint reporting will also change how the State receive reports. Council agreed to send a letter of support. President Gregory also noted HB 1025/SB 841 - Transportation Equity, Fairness, and Privacy Act of 2024 that will require the State Legislature to raise the gas tax instead of automatic increases and Council agreed to watch this bill.

President Gregory noted HB 1166/SB 501 - Wear, Carry, and Transport Laws that requires the State Police to print a handbook on gun law changes. Councilwoman Hamilton noted this has a large fiscal impact note and will not likely pass. Council agreed to send a letter of support. President Gregory also noted HB 615/SB 512 - Prohibited Behavior on School Grounds and Property that would help remove students who do not behave properly from school events. Council agreed to watch this bill. President Gregory also noted HB 947/SB 488 - Gun Industry Accountability Act of 2024 which would allow the Attorney General or an individual to go after the gun industry and sue them after someone else commits gun violence and Council agreed to watch this bill.

President Gregory also noted HB 1247/SB 1063 - Environment - Advanced Clean Cars II Program - Application and Enforcement and noted this would stop the Department of the Environment from adopting California advanced clean cars act. Council agreed to send a letter of support.

President Gregory also discussed HB 522/SB 492 - Public Schools - Student Telehealth Appointments - Policy and Access that would allow students to get telehealth meeting in school with or without parental consent. Councilwoman Culberson noted this would be another

distraction at the school and should only be with parental consent. Council agreed to watch this bill.

Councilwoman Hamilton inquired when crossover day was for bills and it was noted on March 18.

Councilman Miller noted that the Farm Bureau did not have any more bills to discuss this evening and noted the positive impacts farms have on the environment.

#### **Council Manager Report**

Council Manager Culver noted the updated Council Manager report is in the packet. He also reminded Councilmembers to send invitations to the office so everybody can be notified and to reply as soon as possible to events.

#### **Council Member Items**

Councilmembers deferred comments to the Legislative Session of March 5, 2024.

President Gregory announced that no further items are on the March 5, 2024 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 4:59 pm.

The next Council work session will be held on Tuesday, March 12, 2024 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