

**COUNTY COUNCIL OF CECIL COUNTY
WORK SESSION MINUTES
March 22, 2016**

PRESENT: Council Members: President Robert Hodge, Vice President Alan McCarthy, Joyce Bowlsbey, Dan Schneckenburger and George Patchell; Al Wein, Director of Administration; Jason Allison, County Attorney; Lyle Sheldon, CEO, Upper Chesapeake Health; Dr. Richard Szumel, CEO, Union Hospital; Dr. Angela Poppe Ries, President, Medical Staff, Upper Chesapeake Health; Victoria Stone, Cecil County UM Extension; James Massey, Council Manager; Terry Hale, Council Assistant; members of the press; and members of the public.

OPEN SESSION – Elk Room

9:00 a.m. – Council President Hodge called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and determined a quorum.

NOTE: Audio recording of this meeting is available on the County website www.ccgov.org.

Approval of Minutes

On a motion made by Vice President McCarthy, seconded by Councilman Schneckenburger, the Council moved to approve the minutes of the Council work session of March 15, 2016. Motion was carried unanimously.

Upper Chesapeake Health

Mr. Sheldon introduced Dr. Szumel and Dr. Poppe Ries who will be assisting him in his presentation on the proposal to close the current Harford Memorial Hospital in Havre de Grace and build a new medical campus near Bulle Rock.

Dr. Szumel described the changing trends in hospital care to illustrate how Union Hospital is collaborating with other regional hospitals to deliver better health care. He described a new crisis center that will open in next summer in Elkton, which will offer patient beds for mental health and detox services in partnership with Father Martin's Ashley.

Mr. Sheldon commented on the vision of health care in northeastern Maryland and the strategies developed by Upper Chesapeake Health in optimizing health care. He also stated that the Harford Memorial Hospital facility is out-of-date and that a new facility was needed. Upper Chesapeake proposes to build a new medical campus near Bulle Rock on a 97 acre site. The new facility will be 190,000 square foot and include a full service emergency room. This facility will be designed for comprehensive behavior programs to address anxiety, depression and other related issues. Recently, Upper Chesapeake Health merged with the University of Maryland Medical Center.

Dr. Poppe Ries described the reasons for regionalization of health care for better services. She described how services will be coordinated between Union Hospital in Elkton, Upper Chesapeake in Bel Air and the new Havre de Grace facility. She also explained that the new Havre de Grace facility will have a helicopter pad and commercial ambulance service to

transport patients to other facilities as needed. The proposed medical campus will include commercial and retail opportunities for other related businesses.

Mr. Sheldon stated that plans for the new medical facility are still in the early stage and many approvals will be needed from the state and local government to allow for the new free standing medical facility.

Council comments and questions ensued.

Cecil County Makers Station

Ms. Stone made a presentation about the new Cecil County Makers Station, which will open on April 7 in the Rudy Park Village of Elkton. Cecil County UM Extension received a grant to support this program that involves youth in three dimension printing, digital design, robotics and other hands-on projects. This program targets disadvantaged youth who do not have computer access at home and offers community mentors to create a variety of products. Council comments and questions ensued.

Review of State Legislation

Council Manager Massey updated the Council on actions taken by the General Assembly on bills that the Council supported or opposed.

Council Manager Report

Mr. Massey reminded Council Members of upcoming events, which included the administration's public hearing on the new animal shelter facility on April 7 at 6pm, the Rural Maryland Council luncheon on April 8 at noon, and the ribbon cutting for Highlands Sewer Project on April 15 at 3pm.

Council Member Comments

Councilman Schneckenburger commented that the Firemen's Association have expressed concerns regarding the proposed Havre de Grace medical campus. He attended the Military Appreciation Ceremony at Uncle Bob's and commented on its success. He received a plaque in recognition of Cecil County veterans.

Councilwoman Bowsbey commented on a very productive Upper Shore Regional Council Executive Board meeting, which she attended with Vice President McCarthy. The board is developing priority areas where they can apply for grants. She also reported on actions taken by the Planning Commission. Ms. Bowsbey acknowledged that Ann Marie Denver from the local Relay for Life organization provided daffodils to Council Members in recognition of the American Cancer Society's Daffodil Days.

Councilman Bowsbey commented on a letter from Harley Williams regarding that the county amend their zoning regulations to allow adult communities. She stated that she will bring this issue to Mr. Sennstrom in Planning and Zoning.

Vice President McCarthy attended the Upper Shore Regional Council and reported that the group prioritized three areas of mutual concern to the three counties, which included last mile broadband and drug addiction.

President Hodge distributed a draft of a letter to support an application from the Chesapeake Feline Association for a grant from the Maryland Department of Agriculture. The Council agreed by consensus to support a letter of support.

President Hodge also stated that the Maryland Transportation Authority had responded to the Council's request to participate in developing policies regarding bicycling on the Hatem Bridge. He asked that Councilman Patchell serve as the Council's representative. The County administration and Town of Perryville will also have a representative.

CLOSED SESSION
10:30 A.M.

On motion made by Vice President McCarthy, seconded by Councilwoman Bowsbey, the Council moved to convene in closed session pursuant to the Annotated Code of Maryland, State Government, 10-508(a)(8) to consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending or potential litigation.

The motion was carried unanimously.
Roll Call Vote: McCarthy - Y, Bowsbey - Y, Schneckenburger - Y, Patchell - Y, Hodge - Y.

OPEN SESSION
10:52 A.M.

The open session resumed at 10:52 a.m.

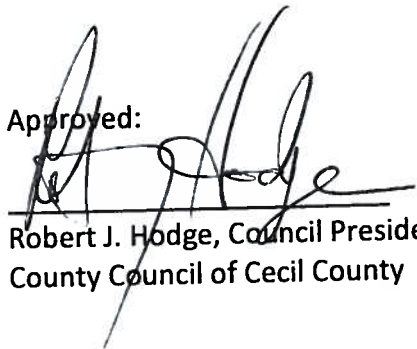
Adjournment

Council President Hodge adjourned the work session at 10:53 a.m.

Attest:


James Massey
Council Manager

Approved:


Robert J. Hodge, Council President
County Council of Cecil County

