

**COUNTY COUNCIL OF CECIL COUNTY
LEGISLATIVE SESSION MINUTES
LSD 2024-05
March 5, 2024**

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 March 5, 2024, was called to order by Council President Gregory at 7:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Gregory announced that the Girls Scouts were going to lead the pledge.

ROLL CALL

Council Manager Culver called the roll and noted all five members were present.

OPENING PRAYER/MOMENT OF SILENCE

Reverend Dr. Rob Townsend of Moore's Chapel Church in Elkton gave the opening prayer.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On motion made by Councilwoman Culberson, seconded by Vice President Meffley, the Council moved to approve the agenda of March 5, 2024. The motion was approved unanimously.

PRESENTATIONS OF PROCLAMATIONS

2024 Girls Scout Week

Councilwoman Hamilton read the proclamation declaring March 10 to 16, 2024 as Girl Scout Week.

Endometriosis Awareness Month

President Gregory read the proclamation declaring March as Endometriosis Awareness Month.

Shannon Hannawald thanked the Council for the proclamation and noted how the disease can affect women and treatment options.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion made by Vice President Meffley, seconded by Councilwoman Culberson the Council moved to approve the minutes of the legislative session of February 20, 2024. The motion was approved unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Sean Brimm of North East spoke on meetings and free speech.

Ashley Christy of North East spoke on education funding issues.

Michael Langan of Chesapeake City spoke on education funding issues.

Justin Zimmerman of Chesapeake City spoke on education funding issues.

Matthew Stephen of Oxford, Pennsylvania spoke on education funding issues.

Sandra Ward of Elkton spoke on lowering taxes and more funding for EMS and parks.

Ron Rubusto of Elkton spoke on education funding issues and low test results.

Russ Johnson of Elkton spoke on Republican crime bills in the State Legislature.

Diana Hawley of North East spoke on education funding issues.

Harold McCanick of Elk Neck spoke on the need for a balanced budget and lower taxes.

PRESIDENT AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilwoman Culberson congratulated Rising Sun High School wrestlers Tyler Garvin and Mason Testerman on winning the State Championships. She also noted that the High School Scholarships applications for the State Delegation are now available and encouraged seniors to apply.

Councilman Miller also congratulated the Rising Sun wrestling team and noted the long family tradition of wrestling with the Garvin family. He also attended the Rooted In Our Community event at Cecil College on March 2 and noted that Alice Crothers gave a great lecture on farming and how farmers stress preservation, conservation and sustainability. He also attended the ribbon cutting for Hatchers on Main in Rising Sun on March 2.

Vice President Meffley thanked everybody for attending. He noted he also attended the Rooted In Our Community event at Cecil College and the ribbon cutting for Hatchers on Main in Rising Sun on March 2. He noted he did an interview with Cecil TV on March 4 and discussed the County budget and bond debt. He also noted that the Elkton Rotary has awarded \$7,000 in grants to various local organizations. Finally, on March 5, he attended the Read Across America Event at Thomson Estates Elementary School and noted the positive interaction with the children.

Councilwoman Hamilton also thanked everybody for coming out to the meeting. She also attended the Read Across America Event at Thomson Estates Elementary School and noted the tour of the school was well done.

President Gregory also thanked everybody for coming out to the meeting. She also attended the Read Across America Event at Thomson Estates Elementary School and noted the book she read was fun and entertaining for the children. She also noted MACo was hosting a video seminar on cannabis licensing on March 6 and she would be attending. She noted that the BOE Budget request for FY25 and that education funding from all sources has increased 45 million over the past three

years. She also discussed the 20 million tax refund and how that is assisting families during this economy and period of inflation.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS

Council Manager Culver stated for the record:

Resolution 13-2023 - Supplemental Appropriation – Wastewater Enterprise Fund – Wastewater Division – Department of Public Works – Washington Street Force Main Repair

A Resolution to amend the Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for Cecil County, Maryland, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, to provide additional \$200,000 expense authority to the Wastewater Enterprise Fund – Department of Public Works Facilities Maintenance – I&I Repair account for expenses related to the emergency repair of the Washington Street Force Main.

Introduced, read for the first time, order posted on March 5, 2024 and scheduled for consideration on March 19, 2024.

Director of Administration Steven Overbay noted this amendment is needed because of an emergency repair on the Washington Street Force Main from January 15 to 19. This main is 24 inches and a major transmission line and the County needed to pump and haul the sewage from this lift station during the repair.

CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTIONS

Council Manager Culver stated for the record:

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

A Resolution to amend the Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for Cecil County, Maryland, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, to move expenditure authority from the fund balance to the Roads Division – Department of Public Works in the amount of \$300,000 for expenses related to the removal of snow from County roadways.

Introduced, read for the first time, order posted on February 20, 2024 and scheduled for consideration on March 5, 2024.

Director of Administration Steven Overbay noted this will add funds to the snow removal line item in the budget to help purchase additional salt and pay contractors in the event of further snow events. He noted \$200,000 will go for the purchase of additional salt and \$100,000 for contractor contracts. He noted any unspent funds will revert to the general fund balance.

Councilwoman Culberson made a motion to approve Resolution 11-2024, which was seconded by Vice President Meffley.

Roll call vote: Hamilton – Y, Miller -Y, Culberson – Y, Meffley – Y, Gregory- Y
The motion was approved 5 to 0.

Council Manager Culver stated for the record:

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

A Resolution to confirm the reappointment by the County Executive of Matthew Carr, to a three-year term that will expire on December 31, 2026, to the Public Safety Pension Plan Board of Trustees.

Introduced, read for the first time, order posted on February 20, 2024 and scheduled for consideration on March 5, 2024.

Director of Administration Steven 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.

Councilman Miller made a motion to approve Resolution 12-2024, which was seconded by Councilwoman Hamilton.

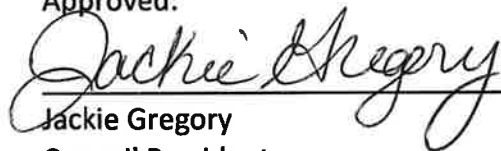
Roll call vote: Hamilton – Y, Miller -Y, Culberson – Y, Meffley – Y, Gregory- Y
The motion was approved 5 to 0.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion made by Councilwoman Culberson, seconded by Councilwoman Hamilton, President Gregory adjourned the meeting at 8:03 pm.

Council President Gregory announced that the next Council Legislative Session is scheduled on Tuesday, March 19, 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:


Jackie Gregory
Council President

Attest:


David M. Culver
Council Manager