

COUNTY COUNCIL OF CECIL COUNTY
LEGISLATIVE SESSION MINUTES
LSD 2021-08
April 20, 2021

The County Council of Cecil County met in legislative session in an online virtual meeting because of the current health crisis and based on the Governor's orders to avoid public meetings. Council Members, presenters and members of the public participated in this meeting by going online to www.ccgov.org/council and selecting "livestream".

The following members of the Council were present:

Robert Meffley, Council President
Al Miller, Council Member
Jackie Gregory, Vice President
William H. Coutz, Council Member
George Patchell, Council Member

NOTE: The video and audio recording with transcription of this meeting is available on the County website at www.ccgov.org.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the County Council of Cecil County of April 20, 2021 was called to order by Council President Meffley at 7:00 p.m. Council President Meffley led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

Council President Meffley asked for a roll call of attending Council Members. The Council Manager called the roll and recorded the following Council Members in attendance:

Roll Call Vote: Coutz-Present, Miller-Present, Patchell-Present, Gregory-Present, Meffley-Present.

Council President Meffley announced that there were five Council Members present, which constitute a quorum.

SUSPENSION OF RULES

Councilman Coutz made a motion to suspend the rules to allow Council Members who are connected to participate and vote in this legislative session, because of the current health crisis and orders by the Governor to avoid public meetings. The motion was seconded by Vice President Gregory.

Roll Call Vote: Coutz-Y, Miller-Y, Patchell-Y, Gregory-Y, Meffley-Y
The motion was approved unanimously.

OPENING PRAYER

Councilman Miller introduced Reverend Jason Cornish from Providence United Methodist Church in Elkton who led the opening prayer.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On motion made by Councilman Coutz, seconded by Councilman Miller, the Council moved to approve the legislative agenda of April 20, 2021. Motion was unanimously approved.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

Bill No. 2021-03 Establishment – Emergency Medical Services Advisory Board

A Bill to establish the Emergency Medical Services Advisory Board, its membership, organization and role.

The Bill was introduced on March 16, 2021; advertised on April 7, 2021 and April 14, 2021; and scheduled for public hearing on April 20, 2021.

Dan Schneckenburger, Director of Administration, and Wayne Tome, Emergency Services Director, provided comments. There were no Council questions or comments.

Council President Meffley opened the public hearing for public comment. There were no public comments.

Council President Meffley concluded the public hearing and announced that Bill No. 2021-03 will be considered for final approval at the next legislative session on May 4, 2021.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion made by Councilman Coutz, seconded by Councilman Miller, the Council moved to approve the minutes of the legislative session of April 6, 2021. Motion was approved unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Joyce Bowlsbey, Elkton, Planning Commission member, stated that Alder Energy had withdrawn their application for special exception for a proposed solar generation station on Liberty Grove Road in Colora.

PRESIDENT AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilman Patchell thanked the audience for attending. He participated in DPW's Household Hazardous Waste Day on April 18 and commended their efforts. He stated that 550 residents participated in recycling oil, paint and gas.

Councilman Miller stated that the Cecil County Fair Committee met with Health Department officials and determined that the fair could be held this summer. He stated that the Cecil County Fair will be held July 23-31, 2021. He attended the Farm Bureau meeting and stated that COVID vaccinations will be held at Fair Hill, Kilby Creamery and Warwick Mushroom. The Farm Bureau is assisting in promoting these sites to their members and farming community. He commended Lauren Levy, Health Officer, and John Donohue, Deputy Director of Emergency Services for their efforts in reaching out to rural county residents.

Councilman Coutz commended the Planning Commission and LUDS staff for the well run meeting that gave residents an opportunity to speak on the Alder special exception application for the solar generation station in Colora. He attended the Sheriff's Office Intel meeting and reviewed their monthly statistics. He expressed his concern that overdose incidents exceed last year's numbers. He commended the administration for their sponsorship of the Opioid Summit to be held on April 23. He also recognized the administration for their open lines of communication and providing information to Council Members. He participated in the Rising Sun Little League parade and announced that Be Free Boutique had recently opened in Rising Sun.

Vice President Gregory announced that the North East VFW is sponsoring a golf tournament on May 15, Armed Forces Day. She will be attending the Drug Court graduation, Opioid Summit and North East Library dedication. She also congratulated Mayor Joe Zang on his accomplishments and extended best wishes on his retirement from office.

Council President Meffley noted that one of Mayor Zang's greatest achievements was to get the federal, state, county and municipal government to work together so that Cecilton could provide water to neighborhoods in Earleville where the wells had been contaminated. He congratulated incoming Mayor Mike Cooper. He participated in the Elkton Little League parade with the County Executive and Councilman Coutz. He recognized Martin Thompson who has worked with the Little League for thirty years. He also recognized David Williams who has been a long-term contributor to the Little League.

OLD BUSINESS

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

File 2021-03 APPLICANT: York Building Products. REQUEST: Request to rezone 47 acres from Suburban Transition, (ST) to Heavy Industrial, (M2). PROPERTY LOCATIONS: 1875 W. Old Philadelphia Road, North East, MD 21901, Election District: 5, Tax Map: 30i, Parcel: 53. 1825 W. Old Philadelphia Road, North East, MD 21901, Election District: 5, Tax Map: 30i, Parcel: 15. PROPERTY OWNER: Mason Dixon Sand and Gravel Co. of PA and York Building Products, Inc. PRESENTLY ZONED: Suburban Transition (ST).

There were no administration comments. Council comments ensued.

Councilman Coutz made a motion to approve the application of York Building Products to rezone 47 acres located at 1875 W. Old Philadelphia Road, North East, MD.; and 1825 W. Old Philadelphia Road, North East, MD. from Suburban Transition (ST) to Heavy Industrial (M2) based upon a mistake in the zoning classification of the property during the last comprehensive rezoning.

The motion was seconded by Vice President Gregory.

Roll Call Vote: Coutz-Y, Miller-Y, Patchell-Y, Gregory-Y, Meffley-Y
The motion was unanimously approved by a vote of 5 to 0.

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

File 2021-04 APPLICANT: York Building Products. REQUEST: Request to rezone 36.4 acres from Suburban Transition, (ST) to Heavy Industrial, (M2). PROPERTY LOCATIONS: 2040 W. Old Philadelphia Road, Perryville, MD 21903, Election District: 5, Tax Map: 30, Parcel: 18. Mountain Hill Road, Perryville, MD 21903, Election District: 5, Tax Map: 30i, Parcel: p/o 116. W. Old Philadelphia Road, Perryville, MD 21903, Election District: 5, Tax Map: 30, Parcel: 85. 1931 W. Old Philadelphia Road, North East, MD 21901, Election District: 5, Tax Map: 30, Parcel: 125. 919 W. Old Philadelphia Road, North East, MD 21901, Election District: 5, Tax Map: 30, Parcel: 13. 1909 W. Old Philadelphia Road, North East, MD 21901, Election District: 5, Tax Map: 30, Parcel: 14. PROPERTY OWNER: York Building Prod. Co., Inc., and Principio Iron Co. PRESENTLY ZONED: Suburban Transition, (ST).

There were no administration comments. Council comments ensued.

Vice President Gregory made a motion to approve the application of York Building Products to rezone 36.4 acres located at 2040 W. Old Philadelphia Road, Perryville MD; and Mountain Hill Road, Perryville MD; and W. Old Philadelphia Road, Perryville MD; and 1931 W. Old Philadelphia Road, North East MD; and 1919 W. Old Philadelphia Road, North East MD; and 1909 W. Old Philadelphia Road, North East MD; from Suburban Transition (ST) to Heavy Industrial (M2), based upon a mistake in the zoning classification of the property during the last comprehensive rezoning.

The motion was seconded by Councilman Miller.

Roll Call Vote: Coutz-Y, Miller-Y, Patchell-Y, Gregory-Y, Meffley-Y
The motion was unanimously approved by a vote of 5 to 0.

NEW BUSINESS

Cecil County Public Schools – Budget Amendment #85

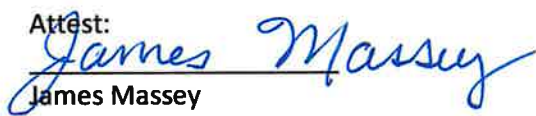
Vice President Gregory made a motion to approve Budget Amendment #85, in the amount of \$426,600 for March 2021, which was seconded by Councilman Coutz. The Council unanimously approved the motion by a voice vote of 5 to 0.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion made by Councilman Coutz, seconded by Vice President Gregory, Council President Meffley adjourned the meeting at 7:27 p.m.

The next Council Legislative Session is scheduled on Tuesday, May 4, 2021 at 7:00 p.m., which is planned as a virtual meeting because of the current health crisis. The session will be livestreamed on the County Council's webpage. Members of the public who do not have broadband access should contact the Council Office for instructions to be connected via telephone.

Attest:


James Massey
Council Manager

Approved:


Robert Meffley
Council President