

**COUNTY COUNCIL OF CECIL COUNTY
LEGISLATIVE SESSION MINUTES
LSD 2021-21
November 2, 2021**

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:

Robert Meffley, Council President
Jackie Gregory, Vice President
William H. Coutz, Council Member
Councilman Al Miller, Member
Vacant, 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 November 2, 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.

OPENING PRAYER

Council Member Miller introduced Pastor Robert Tucker, Five Rivers Baptist Church in Elkton, who led the opening prayer.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On motion made by Councilman Coutz, seconded by Vice President Gregory, the Council moved to approve the legislative agenda of November 2, 2021. Motion was approved unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion made by Councilman Coutz, seconded by Vice President Gregory, the Council moved to approve the minutes of the legislative session of October 19, 2021. Motion was approved unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Garrett Preisch, Elkton, commented in support of Bill No. 2021-12 Residential Noise Ordinance and his experience with a residential noise complaint.

Christopher Abernethy, Chesapeake City, commented on proposed backyard chicken legislation.

PRESIDENT AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilman Coutz thanked the audience for attending. He attended the reopening of Planet Fitness in Elkton and commented on their exciting reopening celebration. He attended the Manufacturers Leadership Breakfast. He attended the Trunk or Treat event at Elkton High School and commended DrugFreeCecil and Youth Empowerment Source for the event that attracted over 1,200. He also commended the Trunk or Treat event held at Hollingsworth Manor. He reported on the Sheriff's

Office Intel statistics that showed a downward trend and credited law enforcement for their enforcement. He recognized Bob Cameron as the new Heroin Coordinator for the Sheriff's Office.

Vice President Gregory commented that it has been a very busy week. She attended the Bainbridge Development Corporation annual meeting and reported that there should be new warehouses at the site next year. She attended the Cecil County Fair Appreciation Dinner to honor all the volunteers. She attended Elkton's Trunk or Treat events at the high school and Hollingsworth Manor. She invited the public to attend the North East Christmas Parade that will be held on December 4 at noon.

Councilman Miller thanked the audience for attending. He also thanked the Executive and Council Members for attending the Cecil County Fair board dinner to recognize volunteers. He commended the Town of Rising Sun for their outstanding Spooktacular Halloween Night. He attended Cecil Land Trust meeting where they discussed the biodigester at the Kilby farm and other opportunities to recycle waste. He commended DrugFreeCecil and Youth Empowerment Source for their sponsorship of Trunk or Treat, and credited Virgil Boysaw and Beth Creek for their leadership.

Council President Meffley thanked the audience for attending. He attended a tour of the Elkton Armory that the Town intends to renovate for a community center. He attended the Cecil Leadership Institute program at Cecil College on job readiness. He attended a fundraiser for Delegate Jacobs in Galena. He attended the Elkton Rotary meeting and reported that the organization donated to several civic groups. He stated that he appreciated public comments made today.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

Bill No. 2021-15 Supplemental Appropriation – Fund Balance –Roads and Bridges Capital Budget-Belvidere Road

A Bill to amend the Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for Cecil County, Maryland, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, in order to appropriate expenditure authority within the Roads and Bridges Capital Projects Budget in the amount of \$750,000 from the General Fund – Assignment of Fund Balance.

Rebecca Anderson, Budget Manager, provided comments. Council questions and comments ensued. Councilman Coutz clarified that funding for this project is coming from the fund balance.

Introduced, read first time, and order posted on November 2, 2021. The bill will be scheduled and advertised for public hearing on December 7, 2021.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

Resolution No. 55-2021 Supplemental Appropriation – Grants – Sheriff's Office – Crime Control and Prevention

A Resolution to amend the Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for Cecil County, Maryland for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, in order to provide a total of \$95,000 to the Special

Revenue Other Grants Fund- Sheriff's Office-Law Enforcement to record the grant awarded from the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention for the purpose of attracting and retaining qualified Deputies to join the Cecil County Sheriff's Office.

Rebecca Anderson, Budget Manager, provided comments. There were no Council questions or comments.

Introduced, read first time, and order posted on November 2, 2021. The resolution will be scheduled for consideration on November 16, 2021.

Resolution No. 56-2021 Supplemental Appropriation – Grants – Economic Development – Online Sales and Teleworking

A Resolution to amend the Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for Cecil County, Maryland, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022 in order to provide a total of \$85,136 to the Special Revenue Other Grants Fund- Office of Economic Development, to record the grant awarded from the Maryland Department of Commerce, for the purpose of allowing the County to make grants to businesses to assist the businesses in setting up an online sales framework and offering employees telework opportunities.

Steve Overbay, Acting Director of Administration, provided comments. There were no Council questions or comments.

Introduced, read first time, and order posted on November 2, 2021. The resolution will be scheduled for consideration on November 16, 2021.

Resolution No. 57-2021 Supplemental Appropriation – Fund Balance – Volunteer Fire Service – Vehicle Replacement Program

A Resolution to amend the Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for Cecil County, Maryland, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, to provide the Volunteer Fire Service Department's budget within the General Fund, expenditure appropriation authority to authorize \$575,000 to be expended for the County's match portion towards the Vehicle Replacement Program.

Rebecca Anderson, Budget Manager, provided comments. Council questions and comments ensued. Councilman Coutz clarified that funding for this legislation is from the fund balance.

Introduced, read first time, and order posted on November 2, 2021. The resolution will be scheduled for consideration on November 16, 2021.

Resolution No. 58-2021 Approval – MRI Software – Multiple Year Agreement

A Resolution to approve a three (3) year agreement between the County and MRI Software LLC to purchase software licenses and maintenance in the amount of \$57,858.

Rebecca Anderson, Budget Manager, provided comments. There were no Council questions or comments.

Introduced, read first time, and order posted on November 2, 2021. The resolution will be scheduled for consideration on November 16, 2021.

CALL FOR FINAL READING OF BILLS

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

Bill No. 2021-14 Public Schools – Bus Safety – Cameras

An Act to amend the Code of Cecil County, Chapter 101 Schools, to add Section 101-3 School Bus Safety Cameras in order to authorize the use of school bus monitoring cameras on school buses in Cecil County; to authorize certain enforcement and to provide that certain violations are a civil penalty; to provide for the use of fines; and generally relating to enforcement of traffic laws in Cecil County.

The Bill was introduced and posted on September 21, 2021; and public hearing held and concluded on October 19, 2021; and schedule for final consideration on November 2, 2021.

Lawrence Scott, County Attorney, stated that the administration is in support of the legislation and amendment. There were no Council questions or comments.

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

Amendment No. 01 to Bill No. 2021-14

Synopsis: To assign any remaining revenue to Cecil County Sheriff's Office

Introduced by: Council President on behalf of the Cecil County Public Schools

On Page 3, line 45, insert the following:

"3) Any revenue remaining will be assigned to the Cecil County Sheriff's Office for their use."

Councilman Coutz made a motion to approve Amendment No. 01 to Bill No. 2021-14, which was seconded by Vice President Gregory.

Roll Call Vote: Coutz-Y, Miller-Y, Gregory-Y, Meffley-Y
The motion was approved by a vote of 4 to 0.

Councilman Coutz made a motion to approve Bill No. 2021-14 As Amended, which was seconded by Vice President Gregory.

Roll Call Vote: Coutz-Y, Miller-Y, Gregory-Y, Meffley-Y
The motion was approved by a vote of 4 to 0.

OLD BUSINESS

Reconsideration of Vetoed Bill No. 2021-12 As Amended Residential Noise Ordinance

Council President Meffley stated that Council Members agreed to take no action on overriding of the Executive's veto. The Council is proposing to form an ad hoc committee of citizens and business

owners to discuss this legislation and consider proposing residential noise legislation that would resolve any issues that were identified in the original legislation.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion made by Vice President Gregory, seconded by Councilman Coutz, Council President Meffley adjourned the meeting at 7:38 p.m.

Council President Meffley announced that the next Council Legislative Session is scheduled on Tuesday, November 16, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. in the Elk Room of the County Administration Building. The public may attend and participate. The legislative session will continue to be livestreamed in real time 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:



Robert Meffley
Council President

Attest:


James Massey
Council Manager