

**COUNTY COUNCIL OF CECIL COUNTY
LEGISLATIVE SESSION MINUTES
LSD 2022-15
July 5, 2022**

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
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 July 5, 2022, was called to order by Council President Meffley at 7:00 p.m.

OPENING PRAYER

Council Member Miller introduced Pastor Mike Moore from Nottingham Baptist Church in Nottingham, PA, who led the opening prayer.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On motion made by Councilman Coutz, seconded by Councilwoman Culberson, the Council moved to approve the legislative agenda of July 5, 2022. Motion was approved unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

Bill No. 2022-07 Supplemental Appropriation – Fund Balance – Courthouse Parking Lot

A Bill to amend the Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for Cecil County, Maryland, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, to move expenditure authority from the fund balance to the Courthouse Parking Lot, in the amount of \$120,000.

The Bill was introduced on June 7, 2022, advertised on June 22, 2022 and June 29, 2022; and scheduled for public hearing on July 5, 2022.

Steve O'Connor, Director of Land Use and Development Services, provided comments. There were no Council questions or comments.

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

Council President Meffley concluded the public hearing and stated that this legislation will be considered for approval at the next legislative session on July 26, 2022.

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

Bill No. 2022-08 Establishment - Police Accountability Board

To establish a Cecil County Police Accountability Board, including an Administrative Charging Committee, pursuant to the Maryland Police Accountability Act of 2021, in order to receive police misconduct complaints from the public and follow specified procedures to improve police accountability in Cecil County.

The Bill was introduced on June 7, 2022, advertised on June 22, 2022 and June 29, 2022; and scheduled for public hearing on July 5, 2022.

Lawrence Scott, County Attorney, provided comments. He stated that the Council and administration had discussed possible amendments to be considered. Council questions and comments ensued. Mr. Scott stated that the county website was set up to accept any complaints from the public.

Council President Meffley opened the hearing for public comments.

Margaret West, Elkton, asked about the inclusion of the Elkton Town Police in this practice. Mr. Scott indicated that all municipalities with police departments were included in this practice.

Council President Meffley concluded the public hearing and stated that this legislation will be considered for approval at the next legislative session on July 26, 2022.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion made by Councilman Coutz, seconded by Councilwoman Culberson, the Council moved to approve the minutes of the legislative session of June 21, 2022. Motion was approved unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Marcus Webster, representing Voices of Hope, stated that his organization has purchased two recovery houses and commented on his organization's statistics of treatment and services. Steven Hall, representing Voices of Hope, commented on the organization's outreach for harm reduction.

Kristen Lehr, Elkton, Mental Health Coordinator, Cecil County Public Schools, commented on the school system's mental health program for students and the need for additional funding.

Mandy Feeney, Elkton, Program Coordinator, Cecil County Public Schools, commented on the programs for younger children and the need for more program funding.

PRESIDENT AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilman Coutz thanked the audience for attending and public comments on the school system's programs. He attended two retirement ceremonies for Maryland State Police and presented certificates to Sgt. David Sexton and Sgt. Bradley Senn. He attended the Salute to Veterans held in

North East. He reported on the Sheriff's Office Intel meeting for the month. He thanked the speakers from Voices of Hope for their work with drug treatment and prevention.

Vice President Gregory thanked the audience for attending and their comments. She attended the Salute to Veterans held in North East. She reminded the audience that early voting begins on Thursday, July 7.

Councilman Miller thanked the audience for attending. He attended the Fourth of July Salute to Veterans in North East and commented that the event has grown. He commended Danny DeMarinis, Morgan Miller, and Hank Passi for their work on the event. He praised the Safetyville program for graduating the largest group of children. He commended Todd Creek and Marcia Adams for their work with the program. He announced that Cecil Fair begins on July 22.

Councilwoman Culberson thanked the audience for attending and comments by the Voices of Hope leaders. She congratulated them for opening two new homes for recovering addicts. She expressed her concern for the county's mental health needs for children and adults. She attended the Salute to Veterans in North East and commented on the outstanding program to recognize our veterans.

Council President Meffley attended Chesapeake City's 13K run along the Ben Cardin Trail. He also attended the Salute to Veterans and commended Hank Passi for his support. He attended a meeting at the Whitsett Center in Chestertown that will not longer be supported by the State and expressed his concern that 40% of their clients are from Cecil County.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

Bill No. 2022-10 Budget Transfer – Capital Projects – Circuit Court – Courthouse Parking Lot

A Bill to amend the Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for Cecil County, Maryland, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, to move expenditure authority within the Circuit Court Capital Projects Budget in the amount of \$12,218 from the Renovate Courtroom No. 3 Project to the Resurface Courthouse Parking Lot Project.

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

Introduced, read first time, and order posted on July 5, 2022. The Bill will be scheduled and advertised for public hearing on August 2, 2022.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

Resolution No. 41-2022 Master Water and Sewer Plan – Elkton West and Route 40 Business Corridor – Triumph Industrial Park

A Resolution to amend the Cecil County Master Water and Sewer Plan, Chapter 4, Section 4.1.9 North East River Advanced Wastewater Treatment Plant (NERAWWTP); and to amend Appendix B, Table 13 – Immediate, 5 and 10-year Priorities for Sewerage Development to reflect the addition of Triumph Industrial Park to the NERAWWTP.

Steve Overbay, Acting Director of Administration, provided introductory comments. Council President Meffley stated that this legislation will encourage more businesses in the industrial park.

Introduced, read first time, and order posted on July 5, 2022. The Bill will be scheduled and advertised for public hearing on August 2, 2022.

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

Resolution No. 42-2022 Supplemental Appropriation – Parks and Recreation – Program and Salaries Expenses

A Resolution to amend the Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for Cecil County, Maryland for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023 in order to increase revenue and offsetting expenses by \$200,000 for the Cecil County Parks and Recreation.

Steve Overbay, Acting Director of Administration, provided introductory comments. Mr. Overbay indicated that the administration will amend the legislation to indicate that the revenue is from the fund balance.

Introduced, read first time, and order posted on July 5, 2022. The legislation will be considered for approval on July 26, 2022.

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

Resolution No. 43-2022 Supplemental Appropriation – Grants Funds – Information Technology – Broadband Expansion – Neighborhood Connect

A Resolution to amend the Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for Cecil County, Maryland, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, in order to provide a total of \$2,797,982 to the Special Revenue Other Grants Fund-Information Technology to record the "Neighborhood Connect" grants awarded from the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development, administered by the Office of Statewide Broadband, for the purpose of bringing internet access to unserved areas of Cecil County.

Steve Overbay, Acting Director of Administration, provided introductory comments. Councilman Coutz commended the administration for seeking these grant funds.

Introduced, read first time, and order posted on July 5, 2022. The legislation will be considered for approval on July 26, 2022.

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

Resolution No. 44-2022 Supplemental Appropriation – Grant Funds – Information Technology – Broadband Expansion – Connected Communities

A Resolution to amend the Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for Cecil County, Maryland, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, to provide a total of \$271,548 to the Special Revenue Other Grants Fund-Information Technology, in order to record the "Connected Communities" broadband grant, awarded from the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development, administered by the Office of Statewide Broadband, for the purpose of improving wireless internet access at Calvert Park, Cecil Arena, the Child Advocacy Center, Circuit Courthouse, the Domestic Violence Center, the Help Center, and the Rising Sun Community Center.

Steve Overbay, Acting Director of Administration, provided introductory comments. Councilman Miller commended the administration for seeking these grant funds.

Introduced, read first time, and order posted on July 5, 2022. The legislation will be considered for approval on July 26, 2022.

Council Manager Massey stated for the record:

Resolution No. 45-2022 Approval – Franchise Agreement – Armstrong Cable Television

A Resolution to execute the renewal of a non-exclusive cable service franchise agreement by and between Cecil County, Maryland, and Armstrong Utilities Inc., operator of Armstrong Cable Television, for the installation, operation, maintenance and extension of the cable system for subscribers within the County, upon the terms and conditions and subject to the agreement.

Steve Overbay, Acting Director of Administration, provided introductory comments. Council President Meffley commended the administration that the franchise will allow cabling up to 400 foot at no additional charge to the customer.

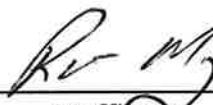
Introduced, read first time, and order posted on July 5, 2022. The Bill will be scheduled and advertised for public hearing on August 2, 2022.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion made by Councilman Coutz, seconded by Vice President Gregory, Council President Meffley adjourned the meeting at 7:44 p.m.

Council President Meffley announced that the next Council Legislative Session is scheduled on Tuesday, July 26, 2022, 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:



Robert Meffley
Council President

Attest:


James Massey
Council Manager