

**COUNTY COUNCIL OF CECIL COUNTY
LEGISLATIVE SESSION MINUTES
LSD 2023-13
July 11, 2023**

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 - virtually
Robert Meffley, Vice President
Al Miller, Council Member
Donna Culberson, Council Member
Rebecca Hamilton, Absent

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 11, 2023, was called to order by Council Vice President Meffley at 7:00 p.m.

OPENING PRAYER

Councilman Miller introduced Pastor Dennis Gilbert of Charlestown Baptist Church in Charlestown who gave the opening prayer.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On motion made by Councilman Miller, seconded by Councilwoman Culberson, the Council moved to approve the legislative agenda of July 11, 2023. The motion was approved unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion made by Councilwoman Culberson, seconded by Councilman Miller, the Council moved to approve the minutes of the legislative session of June 20, 2023. The motion was approved unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments were offered.

PRESIDENT AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Vice President Meffley announced that Council comments were made at the Work Session of July 11, 2023.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS

Council Manager Culver stated for the record:

Resolution 37-2023 To allocate \$10,000,000 of unassigned general fund balance to a committed education fund.

A Resolution to allocate \$10,000,000 of unassigned general fund balance to address state mandated county increases associated with funding Cecil County Public Schools. This resolution moves \$10,000,000 from Unassigned to Committed funds category on the County Balance Sheet.

Introduced, read for the first time, order posted on July 11, 2023 and scheduled for consideration on July 18, 2023.

Director of Administration Steven Overbay thanked Council for supporting the FY24 Budget and this resolution reflects the discussions during the Budget Hearings to create a committed fund for future Board of Education mandated expenses for maintenance of effort and the Blueprint for Growth. This fund will help offset these mandated costs in future budget years.

Council Manager Culver stated for the record:

Resolution 38-2023 Amend - Maryland Economic Development Assistance and Authority Fund Loan – Lidl.

A Resolution to amend the grant agreement end date for the Lidl warehouse situated in Principio Business Park in North East, Cecil County, Maryland. This extension is in accordance with the Maryland Department of Commerce's final request to report or verify Lidl hired 80 full-time employees at the site.

Introduced, read for the first time, order posted on July 11, 2023 and scheduled for consideration on July 18, 2023.

Director of Administration Steven Overbay noted that Lidl and the Maryland Department of Commerce have been great partners and Lidl has met the requirements of the grant, however, because of the Covid pandemic and a change in leadership at Lidl, the necessary documents to close out the loan is still pending. Director Overbay noted that this should be completed by the end of September. Vice President Meffley inquired on the number of jobs created and Director Overbay noted that Lidl well exceeded the 80 full time jobs required.

Council Manager Culver stated for the record:

Resolution 39-2023 - Supplemental Appropriation – Grant Funds – Parks and Recreation – Calvert Regional Park Basketball Court Improvements.

A Resolution to amend the Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for Cecil County, Maryland for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, in order to provide a total of \$297,500 to the Special Revenue Other Grants Fund – Parks and Recreation, to record a grant awarded from the Maryland Department of Natural Resources to be used for basketball court improvements at Calvert Regional Park.

Introduced, read for the first time, order posted on July 11, 2023 and scheduled for consideration on July 18, 2023.

Director of Administration Steven Overbay noted this is the remaining amount from a 1.5 million dollar grant from the State for parks. Other projects, such as the turf field at Rising Sun High School, utilized this grant funding. These funds will replace the basketball courts at Calvert Park. Councilman Miller confirmed that this is just grant funds and no matching funds from the County and Director Overbay confirmed this is just grant funds.

CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTIONS

Council Manager Culver stated for the record:

Resolution 35-2023 Supplemental Appropriation – General Fund Balance – Board of Education – Safe and Secure School Entrances Projects - Rising Sun and Conowingo Elementary Schools.

A Resolution to amend the Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for Cecil County, Maryland, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, to provide the Board of Education budget with additional expenditure appropriation authority to utilize \$845,170 in funds from the General Fund Balance to finish safe and secure school entrances projects for the Rising Sun and Conowingo Elementary Schools.

Introduced, read for the first time, order posted on June 20, 2023 and scheduled for consideration on July 11, 2023.

Director of Administration Steven Overbay noted the Board of Education is in the process of rebidding the projects. Council Manager Culver noted that this resolution was scheduled to be voted upon tonight but will need to be tabled until the August 1, 2023 meeting in order for the bids to be opened on July 26, 2023 and the resolution be amended to reflect the revised costs.

Councilman Miller made a motion to table Resolution 35-2023 until August 1, 2023, which was seconded by Councilwoman Culberson.

Roll call vote: Miller -Y, Culberson – Y, Meffley – Y, Gregory – virtual – Hamilton-absent

Council Manager Culver stated for the record:

Resolution 36-2023 - Appointment – Commission for Women – Abigail Bingham.

A Resolution to confirm the County Executive's appointment of Abigail Bingham to the Commission for Women for a three (3) year term for expire July 12, 2026.

Introduced, read for the first time, order posted on June 20, 2023 and scheduled for consideration on July 11, 2023.

Director of Administration Steven Overbay noted Ms. Bingham is very well qualified for this Board and hopes to have the appointment approved.

Councilwoman Culberson made a motion to approve Resolution 36-2023, which was seconded by Councilman Miller.

Roll call vote: Miller -Y, Culberson – Y, Meffley – Y, Gregory – virtual, Hamilton-absent

Council Manager Culver stated for the record:

NEW BUSINESS

Cecil County Public Schools – Budget Amendment #111

Vice President Meffley noted the Budget Amendment for \$303,425 for May was discussed at the Board of Education Meeting.

Councilman Miller made a motion to approve Budget Amendment #111 in the amount of \$303,425 for May expenses. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Culberson. The motion was approved unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion made by Councilman Miller, seconded by Councilwoman Culberson, Vice President Meffley adjourned the meeting at 7:16 pm.

Council Vice President Meffley announced that the next Council Legislative Session is scheduled on Tuesday, July 18, 2023, 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