

COUNTY COUNCIL OF CECIL COUNTY
LEGISLATIVE SESSION MINUTES
LSD 2026-09
May 5, 2026

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:

Al Miller, Council President
Robert Meffley, Council Vice President
Rebecca Hamilton, Council Member
Donna Culberson, Council Member
Dawn Branch, Council Member

NOTE: The recording with transcription of this meeting is available on the County website at www.cecilcountymd.gov

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the County Council of Cecil County of May 5, 2026, was called to order by Council President Miller at 7:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Miller led all those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Council Manager Henson called the roll and noted that five Council members were present.

OPENING PRAYER/MOMENT OF SILENCE

Pastor Andrew Goins, Elk Neck Baptist Church, Elkton, Maryland offered the opening prayer.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On motion made by Vice President Meffley, seconded by Councilwoman Culberson, the Council moved to approve the agenda of May 5, 2026. The motion was approved unanimously.

PRESENTATION OF PROCLAMATIONS

Small Business Appreciation Month May 2026

Council recognized May 2026 as Small Business Appreciation Month.

Councilwoman Culberson read the Proclamation into the record of the minutes. County Council presented the Proclamation to Department of Economic Development Business Development Specialist Jake Herman.

National Small Business Week May 3-9, 2026

Council recognized May 3-9, 2026 as National Small Business Week.

President Miller read the Proclamation into the record of the minutes. County Council presented the Proclamation to Department of Economic Development Business Development Specialist Jake Herman.

National Safe Boating Week May 16-22, 2026

Council recognized May 16-22, 2026 as National Safe Boating Week.

Vice President Meffley read the Proclamation into the record of the minutes. County Council presented the Proclamation to U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary representatives Daniel McCaffery, Division 21 Staff Officer-Public Affairs; Charles Foster, Division 21 Staff Officer-Operations; Tony Colgan, Flotilla 21-05 Vice Commander and Ken Bosland, Flotilla 21-05 Recreational Boating Safety Visitor.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion made by Councilwoman Culberson, seconded by Councilwoman Branch, the Council moved to approve the minutes of the April 21, 2026 Legislative Session.

President Miller noted that Council's approval of Cecil County Public Schools Budget Amendment #146 was inadvertently omitted from the March 17, 2026 Legislative Session minutes. He stated the minutes were subsequently updated to include Council's vote, and requested Council's approval of the minutes, as amended.

On a motion made by Councilwoman Hamilton, seconded by Councilwoman Branch, the Council moved to approve the minutes of the Legislative Session of March 17, 2026 as amended. The motion was approved unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Council Manager Henson stated that there were no speakers.

PRESIDENT AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilwoman Branch thanked those in attendance for joining the meeting.

Councilwoman Branch stated that she attended the Cecil County Chamber of Commerce Legislative Wrap-Up Breakfast on April 23rd.

Councilwoman Branch stated that the 3rd annual Ag Day event was held April 28th-30th. She stated that Cecil County Public Schools (CCPS) partners with Cecil County Government to provide Ag-related education and information to 7th graders.

Councilwoman Branch stated she attended the North East Fire Company Awards event on May 2nd, during which she met Charlie Stewart, a member of the North East Fire Company for 69 years. She stated a 12-year-old girl was recognized for heroism for removing her father and sister from their wrecked vehicle prior to it catching fire.

Vice President Meffley stated he attended the Elkton Fishing Rodeo on May 2nd, noting that participation increases each year. He stated the event was a success, congratulating Town Commissioner Rob Massimiano for his efforts associated with the rodeo. He stated that the County will present a Proclamation to Commissioner Massimiano on May 6th.

Vice President Meffley stated he attended the Legislative Wrap Up Breakfast on April 23rd, noting that the event provides a great deal of information regarding activity during the recent Legislative Session.

Vice President Meffley stated he attended the Cecil County Employee Recognition event on May 1st during which employees were recognized for service milestones ranging from 5 to 35 years. He commended the Administration for recognizing County employees.

Vice President Meffley stated he participated in Cecil County Arts Council's Art of Golf event on April 24th.

Vice President Meffley commended Geographic Information System (GIS) Manager David Black and Administration regarding ongoing installation of fiber optic cable throughout Cecil County. He stated a resident of the 1100 block of Frenchtown Road requested extension of service, which currently terminates at the 800 block.

Vice President Meffley announced that the Cecil County School of Technology (CCST) Awards event will be held on May 6th at Rising Sun High School.

Councilwoman Hamilton stated she attended the Kicking Bear Youth Ministry Annual Banquet on April 25th. She stated the faith-based organization provides opportunities for at-risk youth to attend summer camp activities at Fair Hill.

Councilwoman Hamilton stated she attended the Cecil County Chamber of Commerce (Chamber) forum for State Delegate and Council candidates on April 29th, adding that the next Chamber-sponsored candidate forum is scheduled on May 6th for Board of Education and Sheriff candidates. She noted that the Republican Women of Cecil County will host Sheriff candidates on May 11th at the American Legion in Elkton.

Councilwoman Hamilton stated that Five Rivers Church will host National Day of Prayer events on May 7th.

Councilwoman Culberson thanked meeting attendees for joining the meeting.

Councilwoman Culberson provided Emergency Services Intel for the previous week, reporting 245 calls for service, 13 of which were mental health related; 40 domestic calls, 26 of which were physical; and 5 overdose calls, none of which resulted in fatalities.

Councilwoman Culberson stated she attended the Legislative Wrap-Up Breakfast on April 23rd, adding that it was an informative event.

Councilwoman Culberson stated she attended the Zaxby's Ground Breaking event in Perryville on May 4th, adding that the Veteran-owned restaurant is expected to open in about 7 months.

President Miller stated that he attended the Elkton and Rising Sun Fishing Rodeos on May 2nd.

President Miller stated he attended the (CCST) Flower Show on May 2nd.

President Miller congratulated CCST Commercial Vehicle & Heavy Equipment Repair student Gabriel Stollings, who advanced to the SkillsUSA National Competition in Atlanta, Georgia.

President Miller stated he attended the North East Fire Company Awards event on May 2nd, commending the Fire Company for the event.

CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No. 13-2026

Council Manager Henson stated for the record:

Resolution No. 13-2026 Annexation – Town of Elkton – 128 Belle Hill Road (Tax Map 027B, Parcel 0772)

A Resolution to approve the request of the Town of Elkton for a waiver of the five-year hold in accordance with §4-416 of the Local Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland. The request from the Town of Elkton is regarding property owned by PECO Energy Company, located on the south side of Belle Hill Road and north of Route 279, consisting of approximately 4.916 acres, identified on Tax Map 027B, Parcel 0772, which is being annexed into the Town of Elkton pursuant to Town of Elkton Annexation Resolution A1-2026. The property's proposed rezoning from Cecil County's High Density Residential District (RM) to the Town of Elkton's Highway Interchange Commercial (C3) zoning upon its annexation will result in substantially different uses, or substantially higher density, exceeding 50%, than could be granted for proposed development under the County's RM zoning.

Introduced and ordered posted on April 7, 2026; scheduled for Public Hearing on April 21, 2026; and scheduled for consideration on May 5, 2026.

Director of Administration Schneckenburger stated that Administration offered no further comments.

Councilwoman Hamilton queried if the parcel would be added to the Enterprise Zone. Director of Administration Schneckenburger answered in the negative, stating that the parcel is already tax-exempt.

Vice President Meffley made a motion to approve Resolution No. 13-2026, which was seconded by Councilwoman Culberson.

Roll call vote: Hamilton – Y, Culberson – Y, Branch – Y, Meffley – Y, Miller – Y

Resolution No. 14-2026

Council Manager Henson stated for the record:

Resolution No. 14-2026 Annexation – Town of Elkton – 100 Belle Hill Road (Tax Map 027B, Parcel 0283)

A Resolution to approve the request of the Town of Elkton for a waiver of the five-year hold in accordance with §4-416 of the Local Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland. The request from the Town of Elkton is regarding property owned by JD Stonewall Ayars Development, LLC, located on the south side of Belle Hill Road and north of Route 279, consisting of approximately 8,555 square feet of land, identified on Tax Map 027B, Parcel 0283, which is being annexed into the Town of Elkton pursuant to Town of Elkton Annexation Resolution A2-2026. The property's proposed rezoning from Cecil County's High Density Residential District (RM) to the Town of Elkton's Highway Interchange Commercial (C3) zoning upon its annexation will result in substantially different uses, or substantially higher density, exceeding 50%, than could be granted for proposed development under the County's RM zoning.

Introduced and ordered posted on April 7, 2026; scheduled for Public Hearing on April 21, 2026; and scheduled for consideration on May 5, 2026.

Director of Administration Schneckenburger stated that Administration offered no additional comments.

Councilwoman Hamilton queried if the property will be included in the Enterprise Zone. Director of Administration Schneckenburger answered in the affirmative.

Councilwoman Culberson made a motion to approve Resolution No. 14-2026, which was seconded by Councilwoman Hamilton.

Roll call vote: Hamilton – Y, Culberson – Y, Branch – Y, Meffley – Y, Miller – Y

Resolution No. 15-2026

Council Manager Henson stated for the record:

Resolution No. 15-2026 Annexation – Town of Elkton – 17 Swallow Drive (Tax Map 027B, Parcel 0808)

A Resolution to approve the request of the Town of Elkton for a waiver of the five-year hold in accordance with §4-416 of the Local Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland. The request from the Town of Elkton is regarding property owned by JD Stonewall Ayars Development, LLC, located on the south side of Belle Hill Road and north of Route 279, consisting of approximately 3.5910 acres of land, identified on Tax Map 027B, Parcel 0808, which is being annexed into the Town of Elkton pursuant to Town of Elkton Annexation Resolution A3-2026. The property's proposed rezoning from Cecil County's High Density Residential District (RM) to the Town of Elkton's Highway Interchange Commercial (C3) zoning upon its annexation will result in substantially different uses, or substantially higher density, exceeding 50%, than could be granted for proposed development under the County's RM zoning.

Introduced and ordered posted on April 7, 2026; scheduled for Public Hearing on April 21, 2026; and scheduled for consideration on May 5, 2026.

Director of Administration Schneckenburger stated that Administration offered no additional comments.

Vice President Meffley made a motion to approve Resolution No. 15-2026, which was seconded by Councilwoman Culberson.

Roll call vote: Hamilton – Y, Culberson – Y, Branch – Y, Meffley – Y, Miller – Y

Resolution No. 23-2026

Council Manager Henson stated for the record:

Resolution No. 23-2026 Appointment – Commission on Aging – Randall Schwandt and Christine Gehris

A Resolution to confirm the reappointments of Randall Schwandt and Christine Gehris, to terms that expire June 30, 2028, to the Commission on Aging.

Introduced by Council President at the request of the County Executive.

Introduced and ordered posted on April 21, 2026; and scheduled for consideration on May 5, 2026.

Director of Administration Schneckenburger stated that Administration offered no additional comments.

Councilwoman Culberson made a motion to approve Resolution No. 23-2026, which was seconded by Councilwoman Branch.

Roll call vote: Hamilton – Y, Culberson – Y, Branch – Y, Meffley – Y, Miller – Y

CALL FOR FINAL READING OF BILLS

Bill No. 2026-05

Council Manager Henson stated for the record:

Bill No. 2026-05 – Cecil County Code – Chapter 39, Ethics, As Amended

A Bill to amend Cecil County Code – Chapter 39, Ethics in order to make administrative corrections.

Introduced by Council President at the request of the County Executive.

Introduced, read for the first time and ordered posted on April 21, 2026; and scheduled for consideration on May 5, 2026.

Director of Administration Schneckenburger stated that Bill 2026-05 corrected minor errors in the original Ethics Bill 2025-10.

Councilwoman Branch made a motion to approve Bill No. 2026-05, which was seconded by Councilwoman Hamilton.

Roll call vote: Hamilton – Y, Culberson – Y, Branch – Y, Meffley – Y, Miller – Y

ADJOURNMENT

President Miller requested a motion to adjourn the meeting.

On motion made by Councilwoman Culberson, seconded by Councilwoman Branch, President Miller adjourned the meeting at 7:35 pm.

Council President Miller announced that the next Council Legislative Session is scheduled on Tuesday, May 19, 2026 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.cecilcountymd.gov. The recording and transcription will be uploaded to the county's website as soon as possible.

Approved:



Al Miller
Council President

Attest:



L. Michelle Henson
Council Manager