

**County Council of Dorchester County
Regular Meeting Minutes
June 6, 2017**

The County Council of Dorchester County met in regular session on June 6, 2017 with the following members present: Ricky C. Travers, President; Tom C. Bradshaw, Vice President; William V. Nichols; Rick M. Price and Don B. Satterfield. Also present were Jeremy Goldman, County Manager; and Donna Lane, Executive Administrative Specialist.

REGULAR SESSION

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilman Satterfield led the invocation and the pledge of allegiance.

CALL FOR ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO AGENDA

There were no additions or deletions to the agenda.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES- MAY 16, 2017

The Council approved the minutes of May 16, 2017.

APPROVAL OF DISBURSEMENTS

The Council approved the vouchers as presented with Councilman Travers abstaining for payments made to Simmons Center Market.

FINANCIAL REPORT: CASH AND INVESTMENTS

Councilman Travers reported total cash and investments as \$6,140,368.48.

CLOSED SESSION SUMMARY

The Council adjourned from a Regular Session and convened in a Closed Session pursuant to Title 3 of the General Provisions Article of the Maryland Annotated Code, pursuant to §3-305(b)(1) to discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom it has jurisdiction on June 6, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. in Room 110, County Office Building, 501 Court Lane, Cambridge, Maryland 21613.

Action taken at the Closed Session: 1) agreed to hire an individual to fill the vacant Economic Development Director position by a 5 to 0 vote; 2) approved the request of the Director of Corrections to reclassify two employees to fill a First Sergeant vacancy and a Lieutenant vacancy by a 5 to 0 vote; 3) approved the request of the Emergency Services Director to hire individuals to fill two vacant 911 Dispatcher positions by a 5 to 0 vote; 4) approved the request of the Emergency Medical Services Manager to hire an individual to fill a vacant Emergency Medical

Technician position and to add four individuals to the on call Basic Life Provider pool by a 5 to 0 vote; 5) confirmed the hiring of an individual to work on a contractual basis for the Dorchester County Family Access Center; 6) discussed personnel matters relating to a County department; and, 7) approved the hiring of individuals for several seasonal positions for the Dorchester County pool by a 5 to 0 vote.

The purpose of the Closed Session is also set forth in the Written Statement of Closing a Meeting Under the Open Meetings Act, which will be provided upon request. Voting in favor of the Closed Session were all of the present Council members.

REGULAR SESSION

MANAGERS COMMENTS

REQUEST TO USE PARKING LOT-ELECTRICAL OUTLETS-CUBMOBILE DERBY

The Council approved the request of Michael O'Connor, Chair, Cubmobile Committee to: 1) use the parking lot at the County Office Building for parking, registration and concessions; 2) place two sets of bleachers from Recreation and Parks on the sidewalk in front of the building; and, 3) use the electric outlets on the outside of the building for the use of a public-address system and a laptop computer.

LETTER OF SUPPORT REQUEST-SAFE ROUTES FOR SCHOOLS GRANT APPLICATION-CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

Based on the request of Sandra Tripp Jones, City Manager, the Council agreed to send a letter of support for the City of Cambridge's application to the Maryland Safe Routes to Schools Program for funds to plan and construct improvements on Bayly Road adjacent to Mace's Lane Middle School and Choptank Elementary.

FY18 CRITICAL AREA GRANT AWARD ACCEPTANCE REQUEST-PLANNING AND ZONING

The Council approved the request of Brian Soper, Environmental Planner, to accept a FY18 Critical Area Grant award from the Critical Area Commission in the amount of \$13,000 that assists in paying a portion of the Environmental Planner's salary.

BOARD OF APPEALS VACANCIES-PLANNING AND ZONING

Jeremy Goldman, County Manager, advised that, pursuant to Rodney Banks, Assistant Planning and Zoning Director, Gordon Hill, Alternate Member, has resigned from the Board of Zoning Appeals and there are two additional vacancies: a District 2 representative and a District 3 representative. He said the alternate member is not a district appointment. Councilman Travers expressed his belief that Wendell Foxwell is still serving as a District 3 representative. He said he will ask him if he wishes to continue to serve. Based on the nomination of Councilman Nichols, the Council appointed Jerry Burroughs as the District 2 representative on the Board of Zoning Appeals.

CONTRACT MANAGEMENT SERVICES-PINKS POND SHORELINE EROSION PROJECT-PUBLIC WORKS

The Council approved the request of Tom Moore, Public Works Director, to enter into a contract with the Delmarva RC&D Council, Inc. for management services for the construction phase in the amount of \$11,500 that is included in the previously approved Department of Natural Resources loan for this project. Councilman Bradshaw abstained since he is Chairman of RC&D.

Councilman Travers queried as to the estimated time for construction. Cindy Smith, Grant Monitor, expressed her belief that construction will commence in 2018, noting that the project is still in the permitting phase. She explained that funding is being sought from the National Fish and Wildlife Federation to partner with the City of Cambridge to broaden the project to include shoreline erosion projects for property owned by MTS Broadcasting and Great Marsh and Long Wharf, City of Cambridge properties. Councilman Bradshaw said he will ask Dave Wilson, RC&D, to provide an update on the project permitting process and funding.

TRAVEL REQUESTS

Tourism

The Council approved the requests of Amanda Fenstermaker, Tourism Director, for authorization to travel to: 1) the Keeping History Above Water Conference from October 29 to November 1, 2017 in Annapolis Maryland utilizing FY18 heritage area operating budget funds; and, 2) the Maryland Tourism and Travel Summit from November 8 to November 10, 2017 at the Hotel at University of Maryland in College Park using funding from the Tourism Operating Budget.

Emergency Services

The Council approved the request of Anna Sierra, Emergency Services Director, for herself and three 911 Center staff (Nicholas Kovach, 911 Supervisor; Loreal Vaughn, 911 Supervisor, Brian Stevanus, 911 Supervisor), to attend the National Emergency Number Association (NENA) Center Manager Certification Program in Sykesville from September 25 to September 29, 2017. The Council acknowledged that the course is paid for and sponsored by the Maryland Emergency Number Systems Board and lodging and food costs will be covered under existing budget allocations.

PRIVATE SECTOR MARKETING PARTNERSHIP GRANT AWARD-MARYLAND OFFICE OF TOURISM DEVELOPMENT-TOURISM

The Council approved the request of Amanda Fenstermaker, Tourism Director, to accept a Private Sector Marketing Partnership Grant in the amount of \$25,000 for promoting the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad Visitor Center experience. The Council acknowledged that is a 50% match which will be in the form of a commitment from local private business partners (\$12,500) and the FY18 Dorchester Tourism Operating budget (\$12,500).

MARYLAND FIRST RADIO NETWORK AGREEMENT REQUEST-EMERGENCY SERVICES

The Council approved the request of Ms. Sierra to enter into a Maryland FIRST Radio Network agreement between the Maryland Department of Information Technology, the Maryland State Interoperability Radio Control Board and Dorchester County, which allows the County to interface with the State system. In response to an inquiry from Councilman Travers, Mr. Goldman said this agreement will enable any Dorchester County public safety entity to program radios and operate on mutual aid channels in Caroline, Talbot and Queen's Anne County should the need arise.

REQUEST TO APPLY FOR COMMUNITY LEGACY GRANT FUNDING-505 AND 507 RACE STREET STABILIZATION-GRANT MONITOR

Cindy Smith, Grant Monitor, advised that Kenneth C. Holt, Secretary, has asked the Council to sponsor a Community Legacy grant application of Historic Cambridge Development (HCD), LLC for \$500,000 to stabilize the two buildings adjacent to the Hearn Building in order to continue the revitalization of the 500 block of Race Street through the adoption of a resolution. She explained that one requirement of the Community Legacy program requires that the applicant be a local government or community development corporation. She explained that: 1) HCD will prepare the application which County staff will review prior to submission; 2) there are no matching County funds being committed to this project; 3) she will provide grants administration and the County will act as the fiduciary agency for the funds to guarantee compliance; and, 4) HCD will be responsible for maintenance and construction. The Council agreed to adopt a resolution to submit this application with Councilman Price opposing.

SURPLUS PROPERTY DECLARATION REQUEST-TECHNOLOGY

The Council approved the request of Don Keyes, Technology Director, to declare old or broken electronic equipment as surplus property.

REQUEST TO PURCHASE VEHICLES-DORCHESTER COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

The Council approved the request of Nancy Shockley, Local Management Board (LMB) Director, on behalf of the Dorchester Community Partnership for Children and Families, to purchase the following through the approved State contract list: 1) a 7 passenger Dodge Caravan Mini-van for \$21,312 to be operated by the Dorchester County Health Department; and, 2) a Ford Escape 4 Wheel Drive for \$21,244 to be operated by LMB. The Council acknowledged that: 1) funding for the purchase of these vehicles is an allowable cost through a budget modification of the FY 2017 Administration and Program budget through the Governor's Office for Children (GOC); 2) annual maintenance, fuel and insurance costs will be funded in subsequent years by the LMB administrative budget; 3) the minivan will replace a vehicle that was transferred to the Health Department upon the closing of the Youth Services Bureau; and, 4) current GOC guidelines prohibit the van from being owned by the Dorchester County Health Department.

REQUEST TO USE ROOM 110-COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING-2018 ELECTION ACTIVITIES

The Council approved the request of Gwen Dales, Elections Director to use Room 110 of the County Office Building on various dates for the 2018 Elections Activities. The Council acknowledged that Council's Office staff has confirmed the room's availability on the requested dates.

UPPERSHORE WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR SERVICES

The Council agreed to enter into a multi-County Memorandum of Understanding with the Upper Shore Workforce Investment Board which serves as the mechanism for this organization to provide services in each County, including Dorchester.

DORCHESTER COUNTY SOCIAL SERVICES BOARD APPOINTMENT REQUESTS

The Council approved the request of Lisa Hartman, Acting Director, to appoint the following individuals to the Dorchester County Social Services Board: 1) David Wooten to serve a three year term commencing July 1, 2017 to fill a vacancy previously encumbered by Susan Wingate; and, 2) Emily Stone to serve a three year term commencing July 1, 2017 to fill the upcoming vacancy of Dr. James Bell.

LETTER OF SUPPORT-DEPT OF HOUSING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIC DEMOLITION FUND APPLICATION-ESLC

The Council approved the request of Rachel Roman, Program Coordinator, Eastern Shore Land Conservancy (ESLC), for a letter of support for ESLC's application to the Department of Housing and Community Development's Strategic Demolition Fund, to support reuse of the Phillips Packing Company, Factory F. The Council acknowledged that ESLC is seeking funding of \$500,000 to assist with building stabilization, environmental remediation and architectural and engineering costs associated with restoration.

COUNTY COUNCIL FY17-18 FIRST/SECOND QUARTER MEETING SCHEDULE

The Council agreed to adopt the County Council FY17-18 First/Second Quarter Meeting schedule with the following amendment: to remove the proposed July 3, 2017 meeting date. The Council acknowledged that this will result in only one meeting being held in July.

POLL CONFIRMATIONS

The Council confirmed its approval in the interim between meetings, by means of a poll, for the following:

- request of Anna Sierra, Emergency Services Director, to submit a State Homeland Security Grant Program application to Maryland Institute for EMS Systems for \$50,520, with no match, for equipment and training for EMS staff to improve preparedness for emergency situations by a 5 to 0 vote;

- request of Ms. Sierra to sole source and contract with Gannon's' Refrigeration Services, Inc., current vendor for Emergency Services refrigeration services, to replace a broken air conditioning unit on the 911 Center tower at a cost not to exceed \$11,000 by a 4 to 1 (no answer) vote;
- request of the Heart of Chesapeake Country Heritage Area Board to hire Michael Rosato to create a mural on the Miller Building (corner of Route 50 and Maryland Avenue) at a cost of \$19,250 using Maryland Heritage Area Authority funds and a contribution from the Dorchester Elks Lodge #223 by a 4 to 1 (no answer) vote;
- request of Tom Moore, Public Works Director, to spend up to \$410,000 of identified capital funding in the FY17 and FY16 budgets to acquire three or four dump trucks at an auction by a 5 to 0 vote. Mr. Goldman noted that the auction was today and staff was unable to acquire any vehicles at the targeted price.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There was no public comment.

COUNCIL'S COMMENTS/ADJOURNMENT

Councilman Nichols congratulated graduating seniors.

Councilman Satterfield encouraged motorists to look out for youth during summer break. He thanked emergency services personnel and law enforcement.

Councilman Price advised that the Maryland Department of Environment is holding a public hearing on June 7, 2017 at the Hurlock American Legion on the proposed vertical expansion of the Beulah landfill. He said it is an informational presentation and public comments are welcomed. Councilman Price expressed his understanding that MDE will accept written comments for a certain period of time after the hearing.

Councilman Price said he and Rebecca White, Executive Assistant to County Manager, attended a Maryland Health Care Commission public hearing last week. He said a Rural Health Care Delivery Work Group will use the community input to develop an approach for the Mid-Shore and other rural communities in Maryland to improve health and well-being. He said there are questionnaires available and cited the website address, which is mhcc.maryland.gov. He provided the Council information on the public hearings and encouraged public attendance. Councilman Price commended the organizers and those who attended the recent Memorial Day events.

Councilman Bradshaw referenced the upcoming end of the school year. He wished the graduates well and commended those who are going into the Armed Services. He advised that he spoke with Bill Henderson, Assistant Secretary, Aquatic Resources, Department of Natural Resources, last Friday. He said some of the items they discussed were crabs, oysters and deer management.

Councilman Bradshaw referenced efforts that are being made as a result of the passage of House Bill 924 “Natural Resources-Oyster Management-Prohibited Actions” during the 2017 Maryland General Assembly Legislative Session which provides the legislature control of oyster sanctuaries. He said he will keep the Council updated. Councilman Bradshaw expressed his condolences to the families of John Fetcho and Charlotte Jones who recently passed.

Councilman Bradshaw advised that on June 12, 2017 Charles “Chip” MacLeod, Special Legal Counsel and Clean Chesapeake Coalition (CCC) members, including himself, will meet with Exelon representatives to discuss issues relating to the Conowingo Dam, including water quality certification. He said they will also seek a partnership between CCC and Exelon regarding best management practices.

Councilman Bradshaw stated that it is his understanding that the Department of Natural Resources is in Harris Creek fixing areas in which substrate was placed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. He said additional problem areas were found. He advised that one of the topics at the June 12th Oyster Advisory Commission meeting is returning to the Little Choptank River for oyster restoration, which has been placed on an indefinite hold. He said he will keep Council updated.

Pursuant to a question posed by Councilman Nichols, Mr. Goldman expressed his understanding that there are no plans to remove and reconstruct the roundabout on Route 16, Church Creek Road. He said he spoke to Jay Meredith, District #1 Engineer, today and he did not reference this project. Councilman Nichols stated that an individual advised that they could not travel through the roundabout with a trailer. Councilman Travers said he believes the height of the blacktop is an issue, noting that the final coats have not been applied. Councilman Travers stated that the roundabout is a State project. Councilman Satterfield referenced the Council’s letter in opposition to the roundabout.

Mr. Goldman advised that he spoke to Mr. Meredith regarding the partial paving of Route 16. In response to a question from Councilman Travers, Mr. Goldman said: 1) the product that was applied was only designed for the travel portions; 2) there was a mechanical failure; 3) work will commence at a later date; and, 4) pursuant to Mr. Meredith the project plans will be changed. Councilman Satterfield noted that although the main surface and turn lanes are done, the area where the road was milled for rumble strips has not been completed. Councilman Bradshaw said he spoke to someone from the State Highway Administration who explained that the crew is now working in Salisbury. He referred to his prior commercial vehicle driving experience and noted that he and some residents are concerned that the roundabout may be too small to accommodate large trucks. Councilman Satterfield expressed his belief that farm equipment cannot utilize the roundabout.

Councilman Travers said he and Sheriff James Phillips represented the County at the Memorial Day event held at Long Wharf Park by American Legion Post #91. He stated that members of the Maces Lane Alumni Association joined the June 5, 2017 City/County meeting last night.

Councilman Bradshaw explained that the Atlantic Sturgeon was to be protected under the Endangered Species Act effective June 2, 2017 which will impact Dorchester County since they

are in the Nanticoke and Marshyhope Rivers. Councilman Bradshaw said this has been delayed, noting the new effective date is July 18, 2017. He expressed his understanding that this action may not take place. He said he will keep Council updated.

Councilman Travers announced that: 1) the next Council meeting will be held on June 20, 2017; and, 2) the Council reserves the right to meet in closed session prior to regular session.

With no further business to discuss, the Council adjourned.

ATTEST:




Jeremy Goldman
County Manager

DORCHESTER COUNTY COUNCIL:



Ricky C. Travers, President



Tom C. Bradshaw, Vice President



William V. Nichols



Rick M. Price



Don B. Satterfield

Approved the 20th day of June, 2017.