

**County Council of Dorchester County
Regular Meeting Minutes
October 4, 2016**

The County Council of Dorchester County met in regular session on October 4, 2016 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 E. Thomas Merryweather, County Attorney; Jeremy Goldman, County Manager; and Donna Lane, Executive Administrative Specialist.

REGULAR SESSION

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilman Bradshaw led the invocation and the pledge of allegiance.

CALL FOR ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO AGENDA

The Council approved the following additions to the agenda: Eastern Shore Innovation Center License Agreement request and a Tax Sale Property Offer.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES- SEPTEMBER 20, 2016

The Council approved the minutes of September 20, 2016 as amended.

APPROVAL OF DISBURSEMENTS

The Council approved the vouchers as presented.

FINANCIAL REPORT: CASH AND INVESTMENTS

Councilman Travers reported total cash and investments as \$8,303,071.85.

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 and pursuant to §3-305(b)(3) to consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related thereto on October 4, 2016 at 5:45 p.m. in Room 110, County Office Building, 501 Court Lane, Cambridge, Maryland 21613.

Action taken at the Closed Session: 1) confirmed the hiring by the Sheriff of an individual to fill a Dog Control Officer position and the promotion of an existing employee to Supervisor of the Dog Control unit by a 5 to 0 vote; 2) approved the request

of the Emergency Services Director for two individuals to remain as on-call Paramedics by a 5 to 0 vote; 3) discussed a license agreement for space at the Eastern Shore Innovation Center-agreed to consider in open session; 4) discussed an offer to purchase County owned property acquired by tax sale-agreed to consider in open session.

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 Closed Session were all of the present Council members.

REGULAR SESSION

BOARD OF HEALTH

Roger Harrell, Health Officer, referenced last year's retirement of John Winslow and introduced Donald Hall, Program Director, Dorchester County Addictions Program.

Mr. Hall advised that the Dorchester County Addictions Program currently employs two administrative, seven clinical and four support staff members and serves 145 clients. He explained that they provide individual counseling and have the following: 1) five outpatient groups that meet once a week; 2) an intensive group that meets four times a week; and, 3) drinking while driving education group that meets once a week.

Mr. Hall said they recently returned to the Dorchester County Detention Center, currently serve seven inmates and plan to increase participation to include males and females and run an intensive program that will meet multiple times a week. He advised that once participation increases, they plan on administering to inmates before release, the medication vivitrol, which blocks the effects of opioids and alcohol. He explained that studies show that the majority of inmates who take this medication before leaving do not relapse.

Mr. Hall stated that funds of \$308,222 from a substance treatment abuse outcomes partnership grant will be utilized to hire a case manager who will provide services for inmates prior to leaving the Detention Center; and a licensed clinical social worker. He explained that this social worker will work with adolescents in schools and provide services to families seeking temporary care and assistance as well as programs supported by Maryland after school opportunity programs. He advised that: 1) care coordination is being provided for 27 residents; 2) five are in recovery housing; and, 3) \$24,000 was received to provide recovery housing for inmates leaving the Detention Center for approximately nine weeks per person through a STOP grant.

Mr. Hall said there are three certified peer support specialists at Dry Dock which has had 280 visits in the past month and two referrals for treatment. He explained that it is their intention to hire three additional peers to include a forensic peer who will work with the Collaborative Supervision and Focused Enforcement (CSAFE) initiative in the County and two who will work with the offender population as well as provide presentations to educate the community about recovery and to share valuable resources. He said there is

one peer counselor who currently works with the Health Enterprise Zone, however, since that funding is scheduled to end in March 2017 that position may be eliminated.

Mr. Hall said in September the Health Department received an award of \$43,269 for overdose education and naloxone distribution for FY17. He explained that they are in the process of hiring a naloxone (Narcan) trainer to serve Dorchester, Talbot, Caroline and Kent counties. He noted that as part of the award Dorchester County received \$5,625 to purchase naloxone for distribution within the County. He said they are planning on conducting 12 trainings per year.

Mr. Hall stated that the Dorchester County Addictions Program recently entered into a contract with PowderHorn Consulting to obtain CARF accreditation which is required as part of the fee for service transition. He invited the Council to attend the Second Annual Recovery Work Celebration to be held by Dry Dock on October 15, 2016 from noon to 5 p.m.

Councilman Nichols said he recently viewed on a news media story about a rise of fentanyl related deaths. Mr. Hall noted that the majority of admissions are for opioid addiction. He stated that funding through a STOP award will be utilized to purchase best practice curriculum which his staff will use to address substance abuse treatment. He advised that his staff is receiving additional training. He said the first naloxone training is scheduled for October 19, 2016. He explained that substance use abusers and their family members will be trained as well as the general community, law enforcement and Correctional Officers. Mr. Hall said staff worked with the Local Management Board to obtain funding to hire a forensic peer, in addition to the peer that is being hired for the program which will work with CSAFE as well as those who are seeking treatment and visiting the recovery center.

Mr. Hall explained that vivitrol, which is not an opioid or addictive, reverses the effects of opioids, is usually injected in a muscle and remains in the system for roughly 30 days. He said education is necessary in order to prevent an overdose. He noted that counseling will be provided in conjunction with the administering of this drug. He advised that it is their intention to give vivitrol to inmates prior to their release, noting that recovery housing can also be provided. He said the goal is to ensure that there is no gap in service.

Councilman Price questioned whether any of the actions that have or are being taken are as a result of the establishment of the Governor's Heroin and Opioid Emergency Task Force. Mr. Hall stressed that the actions being taken are in order to combat addiction in the County and are not a result of the task force. Mr. Goldman noted that Dorchester is the first county in the State in which every sworn officer is trained in the use of and carries naloxone. Mr. Hall expressed appreciation for the collaboration between the County's Emergency Services Department and the Health Department and its continued support. He said funding will also be utilized to recertify first responders and law enforcement.

Mr. Goldman advised that due to demand the cost of naloxone has increased. Mr. Hall reiterated his prior statement that a trainer will be hired to work with four counties. He explained that they are discussing the possibility of purchasing the medicine in bulk and distributing based on the funding provided to each County.

In response to a question from Councilman Price, Mr. Harrell said there have been no calls from residents about mosquitos as a result of the recent rain and/or concerns about the Zika virus. He noted that they are continuously working with the Department of Agriculture regarding mosquito spraying. He explained that there have been no official reports relating to mosquitos carrying the Zika virus in Dorchester County nor any travel cases of those who contracted the virus and visited the county.

Mr. Harrell thanked Mr. Hall for his update. He advised that the Health Department William Jones, State's Attorney, Daniel Dvorak, Chief of Police, City of Cambridge and others are considering initiatives to combat drug abuse including the possible establishment of a Drug Court. He expressed his appreciation to Mr. Goldman and Anna Sierra, Emergency Services Director, for their assistance in obtaining data on Narcan use and how many lives were saved. Mr. Goldman explained that service specific questions allow the County's emergency responders to obtain actual data.

Mr. Harrell expressed appreciation for the partnership with the County's Emergency Services Department, the City of Cambridge Police Department and the Sheriff's Office with Narcan and training. He thanked the Council for the opportunity to serve as Health Officer and for its continued support.

The Council thanked Mr. Hall and Mr. Harrell.

ANNUAL TRANSPORTATION MEETING TOPIC DISCUSSION

Councilman Travers referenced the September 24, 2015 letter the Council sent to Pete K. Rahn, Secretary, Maryland Department of Transportation, listing potential transportation improvements along State Highways in the County for future State of Maryland funding consideration. He expressed his belief that the following items are still pertinent: 1) Woods Road from U.S. Route 50 to MD Route 16; 2) MD Route 343 (Washington Street), U.S. Route 50 and Crusader Road intersections; and, 3) MD Route 392 intersection with MD Route 331, Town of Hurlock.

Councilman Price advised that Town of Secretary representatives asked him to not continue to pursue the lowering of the posted speed limit on Main Street to 25 mph and visibility issues at Willow and Main Street. He noted that East New Market officials would like to the Council to submit pothole repair of Cambridge Avenue as a proposed improvement. Mr. Goldman said this request can be forwarded to the State Highway Administration. Councilman Price said the town officials also asked that the Council submit to the State a request to address visibility issues at Route 14 and Route 392.

Councilman Travers questioned whether general maintenance of rail crossings should not be pursued again this year. Mr. Goldman stated that there is a separate funding source for rail. Councilman Bradshaw inquired about potential work being undertaken on three railroad crossings he traveled across today which were sprayed with paint. Mr. Goldman explained that even though the rail line is in embargo the State is moving forward with a grade replacement and repair process which involves replacing timber with a different material. He advised that Harry Romano, Office of Freight and Multimodalism, MDOT, Rail Program and Policy Manager, is aware of the rail crossing maintenance issues as well as the need to repair the crossing at Bucktown Road at which a serious bicycle accident occurred this year. Mr. Goldman expressed dismay that the State is spending money to repair the grade of crossings with no intention of fixing the rail line. Councilman Bradshaw advised that residents have asked that the Council remain diligent in seeking the State's commitment to keeping the rail.

Councilman Price suggested that a request be submitted for a study of the Route 50 and Linkwood Road intersection where a fatality occurred earlier in the year. Councilman Bradshaw noted that this intersection has been an issue for years. Councilman Travers said a motorist's negligence may have been the cause of that accident.

Pursuant to Councilman Travers' inquiry, Councilman Bradshaw recognized that the item regarding guardrails has been resolved. Councilman Travers expressed his understanding that repairs of the timber boardwalk at Sailwinds Park Visitor Center are underway and queried as to whether that item should be dropped. He also referenced the prior request for air conditioning in the bathrooms at that facility. Mr. Moore and Mr. Goldman suggested that those items remain as improvement requests.

Councilman Travers said it appears that the cement barriers on the sides and in the center of the Frederick C. Malkus Bridge need to be painted. Councilman Bradshaw expressed his belief that it has been painted in the past, but not in the last several years.

The Council recognized that Mr. Goldman will send correspondence to the Donnie Drewer, District Engineer, State Highway Administration seeking the following: 1) the repair of potholes on Cambridge Avenue in East New Market; 2) a study of the Route 50 and Linkwood Road intersection; and, 3) the painting of the cement barriers on the side and center of the bridge.

The Council agreed to submit the following improvements Tom Moore suggested: 1) cooperative improvements on Woods Road, particularly in light of the State's construction of a traffic circle at Woods Road and Route 16 and the establishment of Woods Road as an interconnector/bypass to westbound Route 50 and Route 16; and 2) the overlay of Handley Road to repair damage caused by the construction of the State Highway Administration's new facility.

MANAGERS COMMENTS

OBSERVANCE OF HALLOWEEN

The Council agreed to set the date and hours Halloween is to be observed by County residents on Monday, October 31, 2016 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. for children ages 12 and under. This policy will not supersede prescheduled times and dates set by municipalities.

REFERRAL TO PLANNING COMMISSION-REVISION-BILL NO. 2015-3-RETREAT CENTER OR CAMP

Based on the legal advice of E. Thomas Merryweather, County Attorney, the Council agreed refer the revision of Bill No. 2015-3 titled "AN ACT OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF DORCHESTER COUNTY MARYLAND TO AMEND CHAPTER 155, ENTITLED ZONING ORDINANCE, SECTION 155-50, NN, SUPPLEMENTARY USE REGULATIONS, SECTION 155-13, TERMS DEFINED, AND SECTION 155 ATTACHMENT 1, TABLE OF PERMITTED USES OF THE DORCHESTER COUNTY CODE TO ADD RETREAT CENTER OR CAMP AS A SPECIAL EXCEPTION USE IN THE AC, AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION, RC, RESOURCE CONSERVATION, AND AC-RCA, AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION – RESOURCE CONSERVATION AREA DISTRICTS, ADD THE DEFINITION OF RETREAT CENTER OR CAMP, AND INCLUDE SUPPLEMENTARY USE REGULATIONS FOR A RETREAT CENTER OR CAMP" to the Planning Commission to work with the Critical Area Commission staff in an effort to revise this bill so that it is satisfactory to both the County and the Critical Area Commission.

REQUEST TO SOLE SOURCE-GIS UPGRADE-PLANNING AND ZONING

The Council approved the request submitted by Nicholas Ward, GIS Specialist, on behalf of Steve Dodd, Planning and Zoning Director, to sole source with Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI) and purchase GIS software at the cost of \$16,000 utilizing FY2017 Capital funding. The Council acknowledged that this purchase will allow the County to interface with the City's system which will lower ongoing licensing costs.

HANGAR ROOF REPLACEMENT BID AWARD-AIRPORT

Meighan "Chis" Chisholm, Airport Manager, noted that the restoration of the "Big" Hangar at the Cambridge-Dorchester Regional Airport, has been delayed for several years due to lack of funding. He explained that since last winter, due an increase in steel prices, the anticipated cost for the complete restoration of this hangar has doubled. He said he is seeking the Council's authorization to proceed with the roof replacement and insulation, noting the remainder of this project will be delayed. He noted that the structure is showing damage from rain and snow. He explained that the channel along the top of the front door of the building is corroded therefore the track is being assessed

today. In response to a query from Councilman Travers, Mr. Goldman and Mr. Chisholm explained that an individual expressed interest in renting space in this hangar and is now considering the T Hangar which is currently being leased by two entities. Mr. Chisholm noted that one of the tenants may be leaving from that building.

The Council approved the request of Mr. Chisholm to award the replacement of the roof and insulation of the Big Hangar to Bob Breeding Contractors, Inc., the lowest bidder, at the cost of \$95,525 utilizing Airport FY17 funding.

GRANT ADMINISTRATION REQUEST-BONNIE BROOK WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS-SANITARY COMMISSION-PUBLIC WORKS

Tom Moore, Public Works Director, on behalf of the Sanitary Commission, said he is seeking authorization from the County for Cindy Smith, Grant Monitor, to provide administrative support to the Commission staff on the administration of a United States Department of Agriculture grant/loan in the amount of \$600,000 for a major improvement project to a well and storage portion of the Bonnie Brook water system. He explained that this system serves 112 homes. Mr. Goldman advised Council that Ms. Smith met with the Sanitary District staff members and is willing to act in advisory role.

The Council approved Mr. Moore's request. The Council recognized that some grant administrative line item funding may be available for the administrative services provided by Ms. Smith.

BID AWARD RECOMMENDATION-HAZARD MITIGATION CONTRACT-TOURISM

The Council approved the request of Amanda Fenstermaker, Tourism Director, to award the bid for a Hazard Mitigation Risk-Assessment and Survey for Historic Resources to Olshesky Design Group, LLC at the cost of \$44,000 due to its strong background in historic preservation at the intersection of hazard mitigation, in particular impacts of flooding to historic structures. The Council acknowledged Maryland Historical Trust grant funding of \$44,000 is available and there is no cash commitment on part of the County.

STATE PHASE III WATERSHED IMPLEMENTATION PLAN-MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT

The Council recognized the receipt of correspondence from Ben Grumbles, Secretary, Maryland Department of Environment, on behalf of Governor Hogan's Chesapeake Bay Cabinet to initiate discussions with Council, County staff and constituents to develop a cost effective Watershed Improvement Plan (WIP) that meets federal requirements while supporting local needs and interests.

E. Thomas Merryweather, County Attorney, suggested the Council ask Charles "Chip" MacLeod, Special Legal Counsel, for his comments. Councilman Bradshaw concurred,

noting that the Clean Chesapeake Coalition is willing to assist its member counties in responding to this invitation to ensure that items such as oyster restoration and removing sediment from the Conowingo Dam are included in any plan.

Councilman Price queried as to whether there is a correlation between the Governor's invitation and the County's draft WIP which included an estimated implementation cost of \$87 million. Mr. Goldman said a cash contribution may not be necessary. He, Councilmen Travers and Bradshaw referenced the Bonnie Brook water system improvement project, the Madison Woolford sewer extension project as items that will count towards Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) requirements by 2025.

The Council agreed to seek comments from Mr. MacLeod.

TELEPHONE POLL CONFIRMATIONS

The Council confirmed its decision in the interim between meetings, by means of a poll, took the following actions: 1) to approve the request of Anna Sierra, Emergency Services Director, to attend the Federal Emergency Management Radiological Emergency Program Workshop scheduled for October 4-5, 2016 in Philadelphia, PA. with the understanding that Exelon Corporation will provide a direct cash grant to cover all costs associated with the travel, including food by a 4 to 1 (no answer) vote; and, 2) to send a letter of support for the application of Blackwater Paddle and Pedal Adventures to the Chesapeake Bay Trust for a shoreline protection grant for its Blackwater River location by a 5 to 0 vote.

EASTERN SHORE INNOVATION CENTER LICENSE AGREEMENT-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The Council approved the request of Steve Dolbow, Incubator Manager, to enter into an Eastern Shore Innovation Center License Agreement with iValue LED Light, LLC (Suite #17) with an initial term of 24 months commencing on approximately September 21, 2016 and ending on September 20, 2018 with monthly installments based on licensed square feet, due on or before the first day of each month.

TAX SALE PROPERTY OFFER

The Council approved the offer from Edward J. Moody to purchase a County owned lot acquired by tax sale which is located between 1937 and 1945 Liners Road, Property No. 05-072697, for \$300.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There was no public comment.

COUNCIL'S COMMENTS/ADJOURNMENT

Councilman Price provided the following update based on the recent Maryland Association of Counties Legislative Committee meeting: 1) the members voted to pursue as legislative initiatives the reinvestment in local roads, bridges and infrastructure, strong and smart State funding for school construction, energy facility siting, and balancing the release of police body camera video; 2) Horacio Tablada, Deputy Secretary, Maryland Department of the Environment, spoke about proposed best available nitrogen removal technology (BAT) septic system regulation reform; 3) meetings with shore counties regarding nutrient training flexibility for storm water permits will be organized and held in late November; 4) discussions were held regarding the Maryland Department of Transportation scoring card method which the Governor is trying to recall or appeal this requirement; 5) the Board of Education order pertaining to school calendars will not be rescinded or appealed unless direction to do the same is provided by the court.

Councilman Price reminded the public to remain attentive and diligent due to the upcoming storm and to look out for neighbors if circumstances become challenging.

Councilman Bradshaw referenced his past comments regarding the special interest the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) has in the Choptank Watershed Complex from Delaware to the Choptank River, including Little Choptank. He also referenced his September 20, 2016 comments about the possible inclusion of the Atlantic sturgeon on the endangered species list. He advised that staff conducted a search from 2007 to present and found no correspondence from NOAA about the potential placement of this fish on that list. He expressed his understanding that Maryland Department of Natural Resources staff have sent a letter to NOAA in support of this action and noted their desire to include the Nanticoke River, Broad Creek River and Marshyhope River, which are the areas they are targeting for oyster restoration, i.e. sanctuary. He expressed dismay that the designation of the Atlantic sturgeon as an endangered species may have a substantial adverse effect on the economy if every activity, including dredging, bulkhead placement, commercial fishing and recreational fishing are curtailed to not disturb this one species. He advised that the Clean Chesapeake Coalition and the Delmarva Fisheries Association are monitoring this matter and he will continue to provide updates to the Council.

In response to an inquiry from Councilman Travers, Councilman Price said a Maryland Association of Counties committee is meeting regarding a possible compromise relating to State mandated sprinkler system requirements. Councilman Travers requested additional information. He referenced the Council's adoption of legislation to provide a local tax credit. Jeremy Goldman, County Manager, the Fire Marshall's Office and firemen expressed their belief at a recent Fireman's Association meeting that MACo is seeking repeal. He said he will contact MACo staff about this matter.

Councilman Travers said the IRONMAN Maryland Welcoming Ceremony for athletes was held last Thursday and was very well attended. He noted that there were 37 countries and 46 of 50 states were represented. He advised that the swim was cancelled

and the bicycle portion of the race was shortened due to the inclement weather. He commended the organizers and volunteers. He recognized the substantial economic benefit this triathlon has to Dorchester County.

Councilman Travers stated that the groundbreaking for the replacement of the North Dorchester High School was held this week. He advised that staff is closely monitoring Hurricane Matthew, noting that its path has slightly shifted from the east, which may lessen its impact. He cautioned the public to be aware of potential flooding and winds.

Councilman Travers announced that the next County Council meeting will be held on October 18 2016 and the Council reserves the right to meet in closed session.

With no further business to discuss, the Council adjourned.

ATTEST:

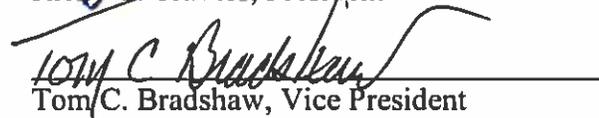


Jeremy Goldman
County Manager

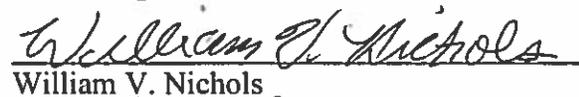
DORCHESTER COUNTY COUNCIL:



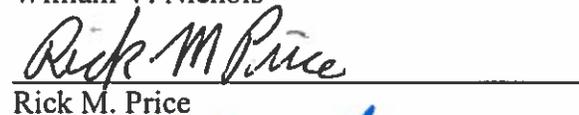
Ricky C. Travers, President



Tom C. Bradshaw, Vice President



William V. Nichols



Rick M. Price



Don B. Satterfield

Approved the 18th day of October, 2016.