



Board of County Commissioners of Washington County, Maryland

Open Session Minutes

August 25, 2020

MOMENT OF SILENCE AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

A moment of silence was observed, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag by the full assemblage.

CALL TO ORDER

President Jeffrey A. Cline called the regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners of Washington County, Maryland, to order at 10:32 a.m. at 100 West Washington Street, Room 1113, Hagerstown, Maryland, with the following members present: Vice President Terry L. Baker, Commissioner Wayne K. Keefer, Commissioner Cort F. Meinelschmidt, and Commissioner Randall E. Wagner.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Baker, seconded by Commissioner Wagner, moved to approve the minutes of August 11, 2020. The motion passed 4-0, Commissioner Meinelschmidt abstained.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Vice-President Baker requested that representatives from Budget and Finance present information on the maintenance of effort funding for children who have been removed from public schools and enrolled in private schools.

Commissioner Keefer discussed the possibility for the Board of Education to use savings within it's budgets due to COVID-19/school closures and assisting parents with increased daycare expenses associated with facilitating online learning for students, since providing a safe learning environment is a tenant of Washington County Public Schools.

Commissioner Meinelschmidt discussed the Washington County Public Schools and the distance learning. He shared that his daughter will be protesting the decisions made at Western Heights Middle School, September 2nd at 9 am.

Commissioner Wagner echoed the other Commissioner's comments.

President Cline shared information on the possibility of opening the meetings for citizens participation and the development of said plan.

REPORTS FROM COUNTY STAFF

Division of Engineering

Scott Hobbs, Director, and Matt Mullenix, Director, HEMPO, requested approval to submit a letter of support for the I-81 Transportation Systems Management and Operations: Smart Work Zones Advanced Transportation and Congestion management Technologies Deployment 2020 Grant Request. Mr. Hobbs shared that no financial commitment is required from Washington County.

Commissioner Baker, seconded by Commissioner Wagner, moved to submit the letter of support as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Additionally, Mr. Hobbs shared that the Maryland Department of Transportation Tour will be held virtually on October 7, 2020. He added that the number one transportation priority is the widening of I-81.

OLDEN RURAL LEGACY PROGRAM EASEMENT (RLP)

Chris Boggs, Land Preservation Administrator, Planning and Zoning, recommended approval of the Olden RLP project, paid for 100% by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, for \$546,360 for 184.12 easement acres and to adopt an ordinance approving the purchase. Mr. Boggs shared that the property is located at 3702 Rohrsersville Road, Rohrsersville, Maryland, containing mostly hay, cropland and woodland. The Olden property lies in a part of Washington that was heavily trafficked during the Civil War and the Battle of Antietam. Mr. Seifarth shared that fourteen (14) development rights will be extinguished with the easement.

Commissioner Wagner, seconded by Commissioner Keefer, moved to approve the Olden RLP, and to adopt an ordinance approving the purchase of the easement and to authorize the execution of the necessary documentation to finalize the easement purchase. The motion passed unanimously.

(Ordinance No. ORD-2020-27 is recorded among the Acts, Ordinances, and Resolutions of Washington County and the original is in the County Commissioners' Office.)

CONSENSUS – APPLICATION FOR ZONING MAP AMENDMENT RZ-20-001

Jill Baker, Director, Planning and Zoning, requested approval to approve or deny the applicant's request to rezone the properties located at 11107, 1111, 11115, and 11119 Hopewell Road, as presented in the during the Public Hearing on August 11, 2020. No citizen comments received in the Clerk's office.

The Commissioners reached a consensus to approve the amendment and directed staff to prepare a Decision and Findings of Fact to be presented to them for consideration and vote during a future meeting.

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATIVE PURCHASE (INTG-20-0038) LEASE
/PURCHASE OF ONE (1) USED D8T DOZER AND ON (1) NEW EXCAVATOR FOR
SOLID WASTE DEPARTMENT**

Brandi Naugle, Buyer, Purchasing, and Dave Mason, Deputy Director, Solid Waste, recommended authorization by Resolution, for the Washington County Department of Water Quality, Solid Waste Department to purchase one (1) used CAT D8T Waste Handler Dozer (\$170,820.66/annual lease amount for five years), and one (1) new CAT 366 Excavator (\$84,231.89/annual lease amount for five years) from Carter Machinery Company, Inc., Baltimore, Maryland, and to utilize another jurisdiction's contract (#032119-CAT), awarded by the Caterpillar, Inc. and contingent upon approval of the final Lease Agreement by the County Attorney's Office. Mr. Mason shared that if approved, there will be four (4) pieces of equipment replaced / traded. These funds are budgeted in the amount of \$350,000 in the department's operating account 21-21020.

Commissioner Meinelschmidt, seconded by Commissioner Keefer, moved to award by Resolution, the Intergovernmental Cooperative Purchase (INTG-20-0038) to Carter Machinery Company, Inc., as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

(Resolution No. RS-2020-38 is recorded among the Acts, Ordinances, and Resolutions of Washington County and the original is located in the County Commissioner's Office.)

PUBLIC HEARING: REQUESTS BY ORGANIZATIONS TO BE ADDED TO THE LIST OF NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS TO WHICH THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MAY CONTRIBUTE FUNDS, PURSUANT TO §1-108 OF THE CODE OF THE PUBLIC LOCAL LAWS OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, MD

President Cline convened a public hearing at 11:03 a.m. to obtain public comment regarding requests by various Washington County nonprofit organizations to which the Board of County Commissioners may contribute funds, pursuant to the §1-108 List. Mr. Downey presented the letters of request received from:

- TruNorth;
- Main Street Hancock, Inc.

Mr. Downey explained that approval by the Board for the nonprofit organizations to be added to the §1-108 list does not assure that the organizations will receive funding from the County. That decision is made separately as a part of the Community Organization Funding process and ultimately the County's budgetary process.

The Public Hearing will remain open and citizens who wish to make comments on the inclusion of either party on the 1-108 List, contact the County Clerk no later than Monday, August 31, 2020 via email at khart@washco-md.net; or mail to 100 West Washington Street, Suite 1101, Hagerstown.

The Commissioners took no action at this time and instructed staff to bring the matter forth at a future meeting for consideration.

STUDENT LEARNING CENTER

Andrew Eshleman, Director, Public Works, and Jaime Dick, Deputy Director, Parks and Recreations, presented the Board with information regarding the implementation of a Student Learning Center. Mr. Eshleman explained that the Center would be available for children of essential County personnel where teleworking is not an option.

Mr. Eshleman shared that the center would accept 15 students with a cost to operate of 10 hours per day, \$2,200 per week; the cost to the employee would need to be \$150.00 per child. He recommended that the fee for employees be more cost efficient at \$75.00 per child.

The Commissioners took no action on the matter.

CONVENE IN CLOSED SESSION

Commissioner Wagner, seconded by Commissioner Meinelschmidt, moved to convene in closed session at 11:27.m. to discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom this public body has jurisdiction; or any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals, in accordance with Section 3-305(b)(1) of the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland. The motion passed unanimously.

In closed session, the Commissioners discussed potential appointments to a board over which the Commissioners have appointing authority and gave staff direction in regards thereto. Additionally, the Commissioners discussed the employment, recruitment, or assignment of County personnel with staff.

Present during closed session were Commissioners Jeffrey A. Cline, Terry L. Baker, Randy E. Wagner, and Wayne K. Keefer (Cort F. Meinelschmidt was absent). Also present were Kirk C. Downey, County Attorney/Interim County Administrator; Krista L. Hart, County Clerk, and at various times, Dave Hays, Director, Emergency Services; Dave Chisholm, Assistant Director,

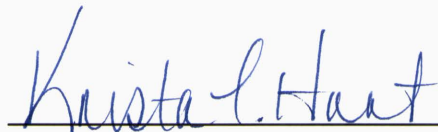
Emergency Services; Jeremy Mose, Director, Environmental Management; Davina Yutzy, Deputy Director, Water Quality; and Deb Condo, Deputy Director, Human Resources.

RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

Commissioner Wagner, seconded by Commissioner Baker, moved to reconvene in open session at 12:48 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Meinelschmidt, seconded by Commissioner Wagner, moved to adjourn at 12:48 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Krista L. Hart", is written over a horizontal line.

Krista L. Hart, *County Clerk*