



Board of County Commissioners of Washington County, Maryland

Open Session Minutes

February 8, 2022

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 10:01 a.m. at 100 West Washington Street, Hagerstown, Maryland, with the following members present: Vice-President Terry L. Baker; Commissioner Wayne K. Keefer; Commissioner Randall E. Wagner; and Commissioner Charles A. Burkett.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Baker, seconded by Commissioner Wagner, moved to approve the minutes of February 1, 2022. The motion passed 4-1-0, Commissioner Keefer abstained due to an absence.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

The Commissioners provided a brief overview of events attended throughout Washington County.

Commissioner Keefer provided a brief explanation as to his absence from the past few meetings due to a recent serious illness with his wife; he thanked all those involved who aided he and Janine during that difficult time, to include Meritus staff, Hancock EMS, 911 staff, and all those who have participated in local blood drives. Commissioner Keefer shared his support for the denial of the Black Rock PUD (RZ-21-003), and his support for the apparatus fleet replacement; he recommended that allocation become a permeant budget line item.

Commissioner Burkett shared his opinion that the County should return to normal operation yet continue to perform responsibly.

Commissioner Wagner shared his well wishes to Commissioner Keefer and his wife. He thanked staff for prompt responses to communications.

President Cline shared that nine (9) years ago, February 4th, a fire engulfed Wolfe's on the square in Williamsport; he recognized all first responders involved in that disastrous event.

STAFF COMMENTS

County Clerk

Krista Hart encouraged citizens wishing to participate in the Board meetings, to submit a request to by calling 240.313.2204 or by email at khart@washco-md.net no later than 24 hours in advance.

Ms. Hart also recommended approval to appoint Deborah Reeser to serve a partial term through February 28 2022; and Matthew Schnebly to serve a partial term through September 30, 2022 on the Gaming Commission; this is not a paid board.

Commissioner Wagner, seconded by Commissioner Burkett, moved to approve the two (2) appointments as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

County Administrator

John Martirano shared that the COVID-19 positivity rate has been decreasing; he will meet with staff to discuss the hybrid work from home schedule. Additionally, he provided information on upcoming vaccination clinics for county employees. Mr. Martirano shared a few positive communications from citizens regarding Government staff.

He advised that the State of the County will be released at 1:00 pm today; he thanked all the staff members who played a part in the production.

County Attorney's Office

Kirk Downey requested that the Board affirm its position regarding the establishment of the Sheriff's salary at 90% of the State's Attorney salary effectuated by HB873.

Commissioner Wagner, seconded by Commissioner Baker, moved to approve the support of HB873 and to affirm their position in support of the proposed salary for the Sheriff position. The motion passed unanimously.

AGRICULTURE – FACES OF FARMING

Susan Grimes, Director, and Leslie Hart, Business Development Specialist, Business Development, presented a presentation focusing on agriculture as part of the Faces of Farming campaign.

BILL TO ALLOW LABOR ORGANIZATION AND COLLECTIVE BARGAINING FOR DEPUTIES

Sheriff Douglas Mullendore presented the recommendation to support a proposed bill to allow sworn deputies and correctional deputies to form or join labor organizations and engage in collective bargaining, as under Maryland law, State Officials.

Commissioner Keefer, seconded by Commissioner Burkett, moved to approve the support of the proposed bill, as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

SOLE SOURCE PROCUREMENT (PUR-1533) LIFEPAK MONITOR/DEFIBRILLATOR DEVICES

Rick Curry, Director, Purchasing, and David Chisholm, Assistant Director, Emergency Services, recommended award of a sole source procurement to Stryker Sales Corporation (formally Physio Control, Inc.) from Chicago, Illinois (IL), for the purchase of two (2) LifePak 15 Monitor/Defibrillators for the Division of Emergency Services in the amount of \$55,235.22 and to utilize another jurisdiction's contract (#001B2600009) with the State of Maryland, as per Section 1-106.2(a)(1) and (2) of the Code of Public Local Laws of Washington County, Maryland. Funds are available in account 495100.10.12800 GRT730, \$27,617.61; and 600400.10.11520, \$27,617.61.

Commissioner Burkett, seconded by Commissioner Wagner, moved to approve the award of PUR1533 to Stryker Sales Corporation, Chicago, IL, in the total amount of \$55,235.22, as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

PRESENTATION OF THE 2023 – 2032 CAPITAL BUDGET – DRAFT ONE

Kelcee Mace, Interim CFO, Budget and Finance; Andrew Eshleman, Director, Public Works; and Scott Hobbs, Director, Engineering, presented a first look at the County's proposed Capital Improvement Project (CIP) Plan budget for 2022-2031 that includes \$64,940,000 for Fiscal Year 2023 (FY23).

Mr. Eshleman discussed the library in the Town of Williamsport and options for relocation, renovations, or replacement. Mr. Eshleman recommended that the Commissioners consider the option of having a feasibility study performed on the matter.

Commissioner Cline advised staff that the memorialization placed onto the current Williamsport Library building be maintained and transferred to the new owner. Commissioner Keefer requested that the current Williamsport Library building be an individual line item in the Capital Project budget to ensure that it is funded.

The Commissioners discussed items noted in the presentation to include proposed projects and American Rescue Plan Act funding.

The Commissioners thanked Ms. Mace and the team for developing the plan.

CLOSED SESSION

Commissioner Wagner, seconded by Commissioner Burkett, moved to convene in closed session at 11:54 a.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; to consider a matter that concerns the proposal for a business or industrial organization to locate, expand, or remain in the State; and to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice on a legal matter, 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 personnel assignments and appointment to boards and commissions. Also, the Commissioners discussed business development updates with staff. The Commissioners discussed a contractual issue with counsel and received legal advice regarding said matter.

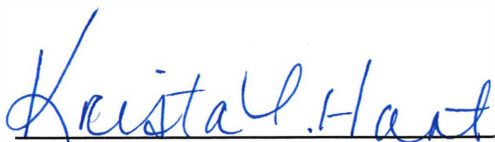
Present during closed session were Commissioners Jeffrey A. Cline, Terry L. Baker, Wayne K. Keefer, Randall E. Wagner, and Charles A. Burkett; also, present were John M. Martirano, County Administrator; Kirk C. Downey, County Attorney, and Krista L. Hart, County Clerk. Additionally, the following staff members were present at times: Josh O'Neal, Director, Information Technology; Dave Hays, Director, Emergency Services; Sheriff Douglas Mullendore; and Susan Grimes, Director, Business Development.

RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

Commissioner Wagner, seconded by Commissioner Burkett, moved to reconvene in open session at 12:53 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Wagner, seconded by Commissioner Keefer, moved to adjourn the meeting 12:54 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.



Krista L. Hart, *County Clerk*

