

**County Council of Dorchester County
Regular Meeting Minutes
November 20, 2018**

The County Council of Dorchester County met in regular session on November 20, 2018 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 Travers led the invocation and the pledge of allegiance.

CALL FOR ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO AGENDA

Jeremy Goldman, County Manager, advised that the following items were added to the agenda after publication: 1) Community Rating System Cycle Verification-Planning and Zoning; and, 2) a Board Nomination. The Council approved the amended agenda.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES- NOVEMBER 5, 2018

The Council approved the minutes of November 5, 2018. Councilman Nichols abstained since he was not present at this meeting.

APPROVAL OF DISBURSEMENTS

The Council approved the vouchers with additions. Councilman Price abstained for payments made to DGH.

FINANCIAL REPORT: CASH AND INVESTMENTS

Councilman Travers reported total cash and investments as \$9,792,472.66.

CLOSED SESSION SUMMARY

The Council convened into Regular Session on November 20, 2018 at 5:50 p.m. in Room 110, County Office Building, 501 Court Lane, Cambridge, Maryland 21613 and motioned to adjourn into 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. Present were: Ricky C. Travers, President; Tom C. Bradshaw, Vice President; 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. Voting in favor of the Closed Session were all of the present Council Members.

The Council convened in a Closed Session on November 20, 2018 at 5:51 p.m. to discuss the following items: 1) approved the Closed Session minutes for November 5, 2018; 2) acknowledged its decisions in the interim between meetings, by means of a poll, to confirm the promotion of an existing employee to Supervisor of Dog Control and to hire an individual to fill a vacant Dog Control Officer position by a 4 to 1 (1 no answer) vote; and, 3) approved the request of the Emergency Services Director to change an existing employee's status from on-call to full-time to fill a vacant Paramedic position by a 4 to 0 vote. Present were: Ricky C. Travers, President; Tom C. Bradshaw, Vice President; 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. Councilman Nichols joined at the end of the meeting. 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

FY19 MARYLAND HERITAGE AREAS AUTHORITY GRANT AWARDS TOURISM-FINANCE

The Council approved the request of Cindy Smith, Assistant Finance Director, to accept the following FY19 Maryland Heritage Areas Authority Grant Awards for which the Council approved the submission of grant applications at its April 17, 2018 meeting:

- Cannery Park Rail to Trail conversion for \$50,000 with a cash match of \$40,000 from the National Recreational Trails program and a \$12,500 in-kind services match from Dorchester County Public Works Department;
- Economic and Community Impact of the Harriet Tubman Visitor Experience for \$10,000 with a cash match of \$10,000 from Dorchester County that is included in the FY19 budget;
- Smithsonian Traveling Exhibit - WaterWays for \$5,000 with a \$5,000 match from Dorchester County which is included in the FY19 budget.

REQUEST TO PURCHASE DENTISTRY EQUIPMENT-DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

The Council approved the request of Joseph Hughes, Director, Department of Corrections, to purchase a Transport III Portable Dental Unit from Aseptico, the only manufacturer for this unit, at the cost of \$8,200 with a two year full warranty, utilizing funds under the medical services line item for inmates. The Council acknowledged that

pursuant to the contract with the dentist the County is responsible for purchasing this equipment. Pursuant to a query from Councilman Satterfield, Director Hughes and Mr. Goldman noted that the cost to transport an inmate to a dentist outside of the Detention Center is approximately \$1,000.

BID AWARD-ROOF REPAIR-DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

The Council approved the request of Director Hughes to contract with Arocon Roofing & Construction, which submitted the lowest quote, for \$296,667, using FY19 Capital Budget funds to repair two areas of the Detention Center roof.

REQUEST TO PURCHASE LANDFILL TARP-PUBLIC WORKS

The Council approved the request of Ryan White, Public Works Director, to purchase two tarps from Amcon Environmental for \$6,537.60, which includes delivery, using FY19 budget funds. Pursuant to an inquiry from Councilman Price, Mr. White said there will be no change in the configuration or use of the tarps, which will cover trash on the ground daily.

REQUEST TO SOLE SOURCE/PURCHASE-911 CENTER RELOCATION PROJECTS

The Council approved the following requests of Anna Sierra, Emergency Services Director, relating to the 911 Center relocation:

- to sole source and purchase from Xybix eight adjustable consoles and storage pods that fit the new room design and layout at the cost of \$124,036.25 using Emergency Numbers Systems Board funds;
- to sole source and contract with Communications Electronics to install additional electric and data infrastructure at the cost of \$38,400 using Emergency Numbers Systems Board funds;
- to sole source with Bay Country Security, current vendor, to modify the security system to maintain limited access to the 911 Center and the server room at the cost of \$14,480 using Emergency Numbers Systems Board funds; and,
- to sole source with Carousel Industries, current vendor, to relocate cables and VESTA call taking equipment at the cost of \$8,585.72 using Emergency Numbers Systems Board funds.

Mr. Goldman noted that current vendors are being used to ensure consistency. Pursuant to a question posed by Councilman Price, Ms. Sierra confirmed compatibility with existing furniture and equipment.

TAX PAYMENT AND FORBEARANCE AGREEMENT EXTENSION-RELIANCE HOME MOBILE PARK

Mr. Goldman noted that: 1) in February 2017 the Council entered into an agreement with Northern Chesapeake Management, LLC (Northern Chesapeake) for the payment of overdue trailer court taxes which included the waiver of all interest, fines and penalties; 2) the company is in default of this agreement; and, 3) as a result of a recent sale the company has funds to apply towards this debt and is interested in extending the agreement including the continued waiver of interest, fines and penalties.

Councilman Bradshaw made a motion to re-enter into the agreement which Councilman Satterfield seconded for discussion. A discussion ensued about possible options during which Mr. Goldman noted that a lien will be filed through the court system. Councilman Bradshaw withdrew his motion and Councilman Satterfield withdrew his second. The Council directed Mr. Goldman to begin negotiations with the company owner/attorney to address this matter.

EXTENSION OF TOWER LICENSE AGREEMENT-GREENBRIAR TOWER

The Council confirmed the extension of the Tower License Agreement dated September 18, 2008 by and between the County Council and New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC for the tower located at 2949 Greenbriar Road, Cambridge for an additional five year term from September 18, 2018 through September 17, 2023 under the same terms, covenants and conditions of the original agreement with the exception of the rent. The Council acknowledged that pursuant to this License Agreement the annual rent of this second five-year extension is \$10,963.53.

COMMUNITY RATING SYSTEM CYCLE VERIFICATION-PLANNING AND ZONING

Mr. Goldman advised that Brian Soper, Environmental Planner, is present to provide the Council information on the County's Community Rating System cycle verification which was received late yesterday. He said no action is required. Mr. Soper advised that: 1) the company has participated in the CRS program since 2012; 2) it is a program that allows for a discount to eligible flood insurance policies within the County; 3) the first re-verification process was just completed; 4) the County's CRS class was a Class 8 which represents a 10% discount; 5) through the collaborative efforts of Planning and Zoning from which CRS Coordinator duties originated as well as Emergency Services and Public Works, the Council has moved up to a Class 6 which represents a 20% reduction; 6) currently residents with eligible policies have a \$90 per year on average reduction which will now increase to \$180 for a total savings of approximately \$233,000; 7) the discounts will become effective May 1, 2019; and, 8) currently Dorchester County is the first County on the Eastern Shore to reach a Class 6 as well as the third County in Maryland behind Prince George's County and Howard County. Mr. Soper said key improvements which garnered the new rating include: 1) Program Open Space preservation (does not include Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge); 2) higher regulatory standards including

freeboard and the inclusion of limit of moderate wave action options on maps; and, 3) the Flood Mitigation Plan that was adopted as part of the Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Mr. Soper advised that public outreach is still critical to maintain and improve the County's CRS class. He said participation in the Eastern Shore Climate Adaptation Partnership as well as the ability to discuss with other counties ways Dorchester can improve its score was helpful. He expressed his belief that continued participation and work amongst the County Departments will be instrumental in the future in reaching a Class 5 or higher. Anna Sierra, Emergency Services Director, congratulated Mr. Soper for his leadership, noting he set the goal of a Class 6. She noted that she and Mr. White worked with him on this matter. The Council thanked them.

BOARD NOMINATION

Based on information provided by Councilman Travers, the Council agreed to nominate Tracy Tyler as Dorchester County's representative on the Chesapeake College Board of Trustees with Councilman Satterfield abstaining.

OTHER

Mr. Goldman said it has been an honor and privilege to serve the current Council and County citizens. He thanked them for their support.

PUBLIC HEARING-HURLOCK TRANSITION HOME-COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT-DELMARVA COMMUNITY SERVICES-FINANCE

Cindy Smith, Assistant Finance Director, said it has been a pleasure working with the Council for the past four years. She advised that this is the second public hearing on the progress of the rehabilitation of a Women's & Children's Transition Home at 206 Academy Street, Hurlock. She stated that Michelle Nichols, Program Manager, Delmarva Community Services, is present to provide an update. Ms. Nichols said as a result of their work with the cold weather shelter a need for transitional housing was identified for women and children in particular; therefore, they sought funding in 2017. She said Ms. Smith will show before and after pictures during her update. She noted that major renovations of the five bedroom Academy Street home were undertaken, including window replacement, exterior work, the complete renovation of the kitchen as well as roof, flooring and wall repair using Community Development Block grant funding. She said the anticipated project completion date will be in mid December 2018 and she expects to be providing services in early January 2019. She advised that the cold weather shelter will be open on December 1, 2018 and that there is a waiting list for the transitional housing. In response to a question posed by Ms. Smith, Ms. Nichols said transitional housing differs from shelter housing because individuals can stay for up to 24 months. She noted that the average length of stay is 12 months. Ms. Nichols explained that they work with the family to develop a plan with a goal of self-sufficiency, including moving into permanent housing. She clarified for Ms. Smith that up to five families can

be housed in the residence at one time. Ms. Nichols thanked the Town of Hurlock elected officials, Ms. Smith and the Council for their support. The public hearing concluded.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There was no public comment.

COUNCIL'S COMMENTS/ADJOURNMENT

Councilman Nichols said over the last four years positive, major changes have been made. He commended and thanked Councilmen Satterfield, Bradshaw and Price for their service to citizens during their term in office. He stressed the need to continue to make improvements for the betterment of the County and its citizens.

Councilman Satterfield wished the newly elected and remaining members success and expressed his hope they will continue pursuing projects already in process. He cited high speed internet on Hooper's Island as one of the accomplishments during this term. He thanked Mr. Goldman, Council's Office staff and the Department Heads for their assistance. He said he is available to provide aid to the new Council and will continue to be an advocate for County employees. He thanked Councilman Price for his involvement with veterans.

Councilman Price said it has been an honor and privilege to serve on Council for the past 12 years. He thanked the Council's Office staff and members of the various County agencies for sharing their knowledge and expertise. He acknowledged the late Jane Baynard, former County Manager, for the knowledge she passed onto him. He cited his pursuit of fiscal conservatism which included opposing tax increases in order to achieve a savings for taxpayers. He highlighted several accomplishments including the commencement of the Comprehensive Plan Update. He encouraged citizens to keep informed and partake in the events held in the County.

Councilman Bradshaw stated that it has been an honor to serve on the Council. He thanked those who supported him over the past eight years. He highlighted his efforts to ensure that he responded to residents' inquiries and requests for assistance. He said he was the front person in the media on some issues for which the Council were kept informed and supported him. He highlighted the team effort between Department Heads and Council to serve residents. He wished the incoming Council members the best of luck.

Councilman Travers said it has been an honor to serve as President and help guide the Council through the past four years. He concurred with Councilman Nichols' statement that many accomplishments were made during that time. He noted that the County has received recognition for several achievements, including being one of five counties in the State to obtain special funding for the Detention Center and third in the State for achieving a Class 6 CRS certification. He referenced the accolades the County received

for the development and implementation of a plan to dispose of tax sale properties which is being used as a guide for other counties. He thanked all of the Council members for working together for the betterment of the County.

Councilman Travers said if, due to rain, the tree lighting ceremony set for Saturday night is moved to Sunday the change will be broadcast through the media and social networks. He advised that the dedication of the newly refurbished Circuit Court House fountain will be held at the same time. He commended County staff who performed interior, ground and electrical work.

Councilman Travers announced that the next Council meeting will be held on December, 2018 at which the new Council will be sworn in.

With no further business to discuss, the Council adjourned.

ATTEST:

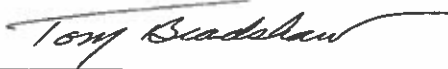


Jeremy Goldman
County Manager

DORCHESTER COUNTY COUNCIL:



Ricky C. Travers, President



Tom C. Bradshaw, Vice President

William V. Nichols



Rick M. Price



Don B. Satterfield

Approved the 30th day of November, 2018.