

**County Council of Dorchester County  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
December 2, 2014**

The County Council of Dorchester County met in regular session on December 2, 2014 with the following members present: William V. Nichols; Tom Bradshaw; Rick Price; Don Satterfield; and Ricky Travers. Also present were E. Thomas Merryweather, County Attorney; Jay L. Newcomb, Acting County Manager; and Donna Lane, Executive Administrative Specialist.

**REGULAR SESSION**

**OATH OF OFFICE**

Amy Craig, Clerk of the Circuit Court, presided over a Swearing-In Ceremony for the Dorchester County Council members.

**CALL TO ORDER BY E. THOMAS MERRYWEATHER, COUNTY ATTORNEY**

E. Thomas Merryweather, County Attorney, called the meeting to order.

**ANNUAL ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

The Council elected the following Officer by majority: President- Councilman Travers.

Due to the lack of a majority the Council agreed to add to its December 16, 2014 agenda the election of a Vice President. Councilman Bradshaw opposed. The Council further agreed that Councilman Nichols will continue to serve as Vice President until another individual is appointed to that position.

**INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Councilman Travers 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- NOVEMBER 18, 2014**

The Council approved the regular session minutes of November 18, 2014.

**APPROVAL OF DISBURSEMENTS**

The Council approved the vouchers as presented with Don Satterfield abstaining for payments made to his wife, Ruth Satterfield, and himself for civil process service.

## FINANCIAL REPORT: CASH AND INVESTMENTS

Councilman Travers reported total cash and investments as \$13,202,547.43.

The Council adjourned into a public hearing.

## PUBLIC HEARING-COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT-SHELTER RENOVATION-GRANT MONITOR

Cindy Smith, Grant Monitor, advised that this is the second of two public hearings on the program performance of a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) for the renovation of the existing Salvation Army homeless shelter facility pursuant to CDBG requirements.

Ms. Smith said on December 18, 2012 the Council accepted a CDBG award from the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development in the amount of \$70,000. She explained that DHCD offered to provide another \$100,000 for the project after viewing the facility which the Council accepted in April 2013. She noted that the Salvation Army provided a match slightly above \$26,000; raised over \$17,000 from the community to furnish the facility; and obtained a Mid Shore Community Foundation grant in the amount of \$15,000 for the installation of a sprinkler system. She said the project, which cost a little over \$200,000, is substantially complete.

Ms. Smith introduced Lieutenant Aaron Abram who runs the Salvation Army facility with his wife and Kevin Hill, President, Hill-Kimmel Contracting, the contractor for the project.

Mr. Hill explained that renovations to the facility included modifications to meet American Disabilities Act requirements and the installation of a sprinkler system. He said it is now more energy efficient. He said he enjoyed working on the project.

Lieutenant Abram said he and his wife assumed responsibility for the shelter in June and are hopeful it will open in a couple of weeks. He noted that the facility is open year around, seven days a week, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. He explained that it is a two week emergency homeless shelter and that one week extensions can be made based on need. He noted that the facility's capacity was increased from eight to 28 and there are separate facilities for men, women and families. He said the Salvation Army partners with individuals and local churches to provide meals to residents. Lieutenant Abram thanked the Council and the public for supporting the Salvation Army and this project.

Councilman Travers referenced the "before" and "after" pictures Ms. Smith provided each Council member, noting that the facility was greatly improved.

Ms. Smith said copies of those pictures are also on the back table of the meeting room for the public and encouraged both the public and the Council members to visit the renovated shelter.

In response to an inquiry from E. Thomas Merryweather, County Attorney, Ms. Smith confirmed that no action by Council is required.

There were no public comments.

The public hearing was closed.

### **MANAGERS COMMENTS**

#### **2015 MARYLAND ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS-MEMBER AND ALTERNATE**

Based on the request of Michael Sanderson, Executive Director, Maryland Association of Counties, the Council agreed to appoint Councilman Price as the representative for Dorchester County on the Maryland Association of Counties Legislative Committee and Councilman Nichols as the alternate representative.

#### **THIRD/FOURTH QUARTER FY2014-FY2015 COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE**

The Council approved the Third/Fourth Quarter FY2014-FY2015 meeting schedule as follows: January 6; January 20; February 3; February 17; March 3; March 17; April 7; April 21; May 5; May 12; May 19; June 2 and June 16, 2015. The Council recognized that the meeting scheduled on May 12, 2015 is being held to accommodate a budget public hearing only.

#### **FY16 BUDGET ADOPTION SCHEDULE**

The Council approved the FY2016 Budget Adoption Schedule.

#### **REFERRAL TO PLANNING COMMISSION-FLOODPLAIN ORDINANCE TEXT AMENDMENT-PLANNING AND ZONING**

The Council approved the request of Rodney Banks, Assistant Planning and Zoning Director, to refer to the Planning Commission for its review and recommendation a text amendment to revise the County's Floodplain Ordinance to reflect federal revisions.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

## COUNCIL'S COMMENTS/ADJOURNMENT

Councilman Bradshaw noted that Governor Martin O'Malley submitted to the Maryland General Assembly's Joint Committee on Administrative, Executive, and Legislative Review (AELR Committee) the Phosphorus Management Tool regulation which was also published in the *Maryland Register*. He said earlier today he received an emailed copy of correspondence Bill Satterfield, Executive Director, Delmarva Poultry Industry, Inc., (DPI) sent to DPI members asking them to contact AELR Committee members to urge them to hold public hearings and to designate a comment review period, which he has provided to Council. He explained that they are currently accepting written comments. Councilman Bradshaw advised Council that although the draft letter Mr. Satterfield provided mentioned the economic study that was conducted on the potential impact the implementation of this tool, it did not address the economic impact this regulation may have on counties due to the potential loss of poultry farmers. He said it only referenced the impact to poultry farmers and included figures regarding the possible economic benefit to the Chesapeake Bay.

Councilman Bradshaw said he is proud to serve District 5 for another four years. He expressed appreciation for the support his family has provided him, noting that his wife and daughter are in attendance.

Councilman Nichols said it is a pleasure to serve a sixth term on the Council. He expressed his belief that the FY16 budget process will be arduous particularly since there is an approximate State deficit of \$5 million and the County is also facing a deficit. He explained that his family was unable to attend due to prior obligations.

Councilman Price advised Tom Moore, Public Works Director, that several residents said the trash and recycling containers at the Secretary transfer station over the Thanksgiving holiday were so full they feared an overflow. He inquired as to whether any action can be taken to ensure that this does not occur during the upcoming Christmas and New Year's Eve holidays. In response to a question posed by Councilman Travers, Mr. Moore said the Landfill Division only has a limited number of dumpsters and that additional runs may be necessary.

Councilman Price expressed his gratitude to his constituents for electing him to another four year term. He said he is looking forward to representing District 4 and County residents. He encouraged the public to attend the upcoming local Christmas parades.

Councilman Satterfield thanked his wife and mother for their support. He said he has had an opportunity to work for the County and is delighted to be chosen to serve District 1 and County residents. He commended Councilman Newcomb for his years of service as a Council member.

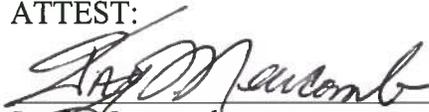
Councilman Travers thanked the Council members for electing him President and his constituents for electing him to continue to serve on the Council. He expressed concern about the challenges the Council will face during the FY16 budget process. He said

additional information regarding the State's budget will be provided at the Maryland Association of Counties Winter Conference which will be held in January 2015.

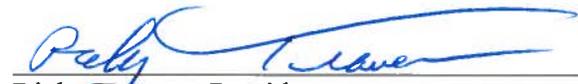
Councilman Travers said the Council will meet in executive session on December 9, 2014 to discuss a legal item and the next Council meeting will be held on December 16, 2014.

With no further business to discuss, the Council adjourned.

ATTEST:

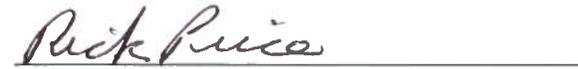
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jay L. Newcomb  
Acting County Manager

DORCHESTER COUNTY COUNCIL:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Ricky Travers, President

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
William V. Nichols, Vice President

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Tom Bradshaw

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Rick Price

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Don Satterfield

Approved the 16<sup>th</sup> day of December 2, 2014.