

County Council of Dorchester County
Regular Meeting Minutes
November 5, 2018

The County Council of Dorchester County met in regular session on November 5, 2018 with the following members present: 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.

REGULAR SESSION

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilman Satterfield led the invocation and the pledge of allegiance.

CALL FOR ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO AGENDA

Jeremy Goldman, County Manager, advised that after publication of the agenda the following item was added: Hooper's Island Causeway Guardrail Replacement-Public Works. The Council adopted the amended agenda.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES- OCTOBER 16, 2018

The Council approved the minutes of October 16, 2018.

APPROVAL OF DISBURSEMENTS

The Council approved the vouchers as presented.

FINANCIAL REPORT: CASH AND INVESTMENTS

Councilman Travers reported total cash and investments as \$12,161,467.27.

CLOSED SESSION SUMMARY

The Council convened into Regular Session on November 5, 2018 at 5:45 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 5, 2018 at 5:46 p.m. to discuss the following items: 1) approved the requests of the Emergency Services Director by a 4 to 0 vote to: a) hire an individual to fill a full time Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) position; b) hire two individuals as full time contractual EMTs; and, c) to place five individuals on the Basic Life Support Provider on-call list; and, 2) approved the request of the Emergency Services Director to hire an individual to fill a Special Operations Manager position by a 3 to 1 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. 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

PROCLAMATION-NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

The Council presented a Proclamation declaring November 2018 Native American Heritage Month.

MANAGERS COMMENTS

REQUEST TO ADVERTISE FOR PROPOSALS-COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC IMPACT STUDY-HARRIET TUBMAN INITIATIVE-TOURISM

The Council approved the request of Amanda Fenstermaker, Tourism Director, to advertise for proposals to hire a consultant to conduct a Community and Economic Impact Study of the Harriet Tubman initiative. The Council acknowledged that funds for this project are through a Maryland Heritage Areas Authority grant with a \$10,000 match from Dorchester County which is in the FY19 budget.

FY19 PRETRIAL SERVICES PROGRAM GRANT AWARD-LMB-DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS-STATE'S ATTORNEY

The Council approved the request of Nancy Shockley, Local Management Board, on behalf of William Jones, State's Attorney; Joseph Hughes, Director of Corrections, and herself, to accept a FY19 Pretrial Services Program Grant award of \$29,250 with no local match. The Council acknowledged that: 1) funding will be used to hire a contractual, hourly employee as a Pre-trial Case Manager; and, 2) Director Hughes is currently developing a plan, including number of hours per week, hourly rate and job duties. Mr. Goldman noted that these three agencies have worked together to be in the forefront of other local jurisdictions. Councilman Travers said results are being realized in other programs implemented by Dorchester County in the Detention Center. Director Hughes noted that the County is receiving recognition outside of the area for programs such as this one.

TRAVEL REQUESTS

The Council approved the requests of Anna Sierra, Emergency Services Director:

- for Steve Garvin, Emergency Planner, and Ms. Shockley to attend the Maryland Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster First Annual Conference on December 10 to December 11, 2018 in Ocean City with costs, which are estimated to be \$550, being covered existing emergency management Homeland Security grants;
- for Kim Vickers, Chief, 911 Communications Center, to attend mandatory METERS training in Sykesville, Maryland on November 9, 2018 at the estimated cost of \$198.70 which will covered under existing budget allocations.

CARPET REPLACEMENT REQUEST-EMERGENCY SERVICES

The Council approved the request of Ms. Sierra to contract with Value Carpet One, lowest bidder, at the cost of \$4,587 to replace the carpet for the Emergency Services office and current Emergency Operators Center (EOC) space which will be covered under the radio project budget since it is necessary for the transition of the 911 Center into the current EOC space.

REQUEST TO PROCEED WITH DESIGN-WASH BAY-PUBLIC WORKS

The Council approved the request of Ryan White, Public Works Director, to proceed with the design of the wash bay for the Public Works Department by utilizing the County's engineering consultant, Lane Engineering, and its subcontractor, AWB Engineers, for building design services at the combined cost of \$38,090. The Council acknowledged that: 1) pursuant to State law plans must be signed by an architect; and 2) funds are in the FY17 Capital Budget for this purpose. Mr. White said the wash bay will be used for for all County Department and agency vehicles.

PURCHASE AGREEMENT-LANDFILL GAS COLLECTION SYSTEM

The Council agreed to enter into an agreement between Dorchester County and Dorchester Renewable Energy, LLC to purchase an active landfill gas collection system at the cost of \$500,000, which is in the FY19 Capital Budget for the Landfill Enterprise Fund specifically for the acquisition of this system.

AGREEMENT OF SALE-CEDAR STREET DEVELOPMENT, LLC

The Council agreed to conceptually approve the Agreement of Sale between Dorchester County and Cedar Street Development, LLC for 3 Cedar Street, Cambridge, Maryland contingent upon the legislative process being undertaken and final approval of the agreement language by legal counsel of both parties which Councilman Price opposed. Mr. Goldman said this is the beginning of the continuation of a public-private partnership

to move the Dorchester County Health Department to another property. Mr. Goldman noted that the purchase price is the average of two appraisals of the property.

CLARIFICATION OF BID AWARD-SHORTERS WHARF ROAD

Jeremy Goldman, County Manager, advised that: 1) at its October 16, 2018 meeting Mr. Merryweather inadvertently noted that the bid of William Mr. Heuer's that the Council accepted for the acquisition of 3186 Shorter's Wharf Road, Cambridge was \$160; 2) The bid was for \$1,600; and, 3) the deposit check was for \$160. By motion, the Council corrected the bid amount to \$1,600.

BOARD APPOINTMENT

The Council approved the request of Daniel P. McDermott, Executive Director, Upper Shore Workforce Investment Board (USWIB), to appoint Tyler Patton, the Vice President of Public Affairs for the Maryland Broadband Cooperative, to the USWIB as a Dorchester County representative.

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE MODIFICATION

Mr. Goldman said Tuesday, December 25, 2018 is Christmas Day, and Tuesday, January 1, 2019 is New Year's Day. The Council agreed to modify the holiday schedule to close County offices on Monday, December 24, 2018 and Monday, December 31, 2018. Councilman Nichols voted in favor via written proxy. The Council reached a consensus that the landfill will also be closed on these days as well as the day after Thanksgiving. Mr. Goldman said the landfill and transfer stations will be up staffed prior and after these days to ensure that every cardboard recycling container and other containers are free of material.

REQUEST TO SOLE SOURCE-CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT-CIRCLES USA-DORCHESTER COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

The Council approved the request of Nancy Shockley, Local Management Board Director, on behalf of Dorchester Community Partnership, to sole source and enter into a contractual agreement with Circles USA for the development of a strategic plan to reduce poverty in the County at the cost of \$20,000 utilizing already allocated Governor's Office of Children funding.

HOOPER'S ISLAND CAUSEWAY GUARDRAIL REPLACEMENT-PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. Goldman said the next item before the Council is the replacement of the Hooper's Island Causeway guardrail. Ryan White, Public Works Director, noted that the entire guardrail, a little under 12,000 feet, is in poor condition. He stated that: 1) he is seeking authorization to replace 3,000 feet; 2) barrels are being used to stop vehicles from going off the side; 3) two bids have been provided to the Council; 4) operational funds from the Public Works budget will be utilized; and, 5) for the next three to four years funds will be

allocated in the budget to replace 3,000 feet at a time. Mr. Goldman said Mr. White sought three bids but after reviewing the site, one company declined to submit a bid. In response to a question from Councilman Bradshaw, Mr. White advised that the replacement of the guardrail will occur close to December. Mr. Goldman explained that since thousands of yards of concrete were utilized to stabilize the guardrail, the posts must be drilled into that material which substantially increases the cost. Councilman Satterfield said on Saturday he moved 20 feet of rail off of the road and stood the barrels up. Pursuant to Councilman Satterfield's inquiry, Mr. White said sealant will be applied by in-house staff. Mr. White stated that he tried to cut costs and even sought the use of used guardrail but was denied. Based on a query from Councilman Travers, Mr. White said the guardrail will be double galvanized, the same as on State roads.

The Council approved Mr. White's request to proceed with the Hooper's Island Causeway Guardrail replacement and award the bid for the project to Guardrails, Etc., Inc., which submitted the lowest quote, at the cost of \$66,250.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There was no public comment.

COUNCIL'S COMMENTS/ADJOURNMENT

Councilman Satterfield thanked law enforcement personnel, emergency services and Public Works staff. He commended all of the Departments he has had opportunity to speak with over last couple of weeks for the work they are performing for citizens. He referred to a forum he recently participated in, during which it was noted that the County has 147 vehicles. He clarified that the number currently owns is 159. He said in 2014 the County owned 90 vehicles. He advised that he has a breakdown by each Department and with the reduction and replacement of vehicles a \$150,000 savings in maintenance costs has been achieved over the last four years.

Councilman Price commended Public Works and public safety staff as well as volunteer fire companies for their service. He acknowledged the organizations that held Halloween activities in past couple of weeks. He encouraged residents to participate in the Veterans Day event at the State of Maryland Veterans Cemetery at Beulah Sunday afternoon at 1:30 p.m.

Councilman Bradshaw echoed comments of Councilmen Satterfield and Price regarding emergency responders and law enforcement.

Councilman Travers said over last five months the Council has dealt with untrue comments, innuendos and statements. He thanked Department Heads and employees for their perseverance during this time. He expressed his belief the current Council has been very proactive and worked extremely hard to save taxpayers monies. Councilman Travers stated that the next Council meeting will be on November 20, 2018 at 6 p.m.

PROCLAMATION-HISTORICAL FREEDOM WEEK

The Council presented a Proclamation declaring November 11, 2018 to November 17, 2018 as Historical Freedom Week.

OTHER

Mr. Goldman said the Christmas Tree lighting, the re-dedication of the fountain as well as the dedication Circuit Court house doors will be held on November 24, 2018 which Council Members will attend.

Councilman Satterfield expressed his appreciation for Councilman Price's involvement with the Veterans Cemetery at Beulah and veteran activities during the time he sat on Board.

With no further business to discuss, the Council adjourned.

ATTEST:

DORCHESTER COUNTY COUNCIL:

Jeremy Goldman
County Manager

Ricky C. Travers, President

Tom C. Bradshaw, Vice President

William V. Nichols

Rick M. Price

Don B. Satterfield

Approved the 20th day of November, 2018.