



TALBOT COUNTY, MARYLAND

County Council

MINUTES

May 10, 2022

Present – President Chuck Callahan, Vice President Pete Leshner, Frank Divilio, Laura Everngam Price, County Manager Clay Stamp, and County Attorney Patrick Thomas. Council member Corey Pack was absent.

- I. Agenda – The Agenda of Tuesday, May 10, 2022 was brought forward for approval. Mr. Divilio made a motion to remove *Item VII, Update and Request by Mid-Shore Behavioral Health, Inc.* from the agenda as Ms. Dilley was unable to be in attendance; the matter will be rescheduled. Mr. Leshner seconded the motion and the Council approved the Agenda, as amended, by voting 4 – 0 as follows:

Mr. Callahan – Aye
Mr. Divilio – Aye
Mr. Leshner – Aye
Ms. Price - Aye

- II. Minutes – Mr. Callahan requested and received unanimous consent for approval of the Minutes of Tuesday, April 12, 2022 and Tuesday, April 19, 2022.

- III. Disbursements – Mr. Callahan requested and received unanimous consent for approval of the Disbursements of Tuesday, May 10, 2022.

- IV. Presentation of Certificates of Recognition to Brian Moore, Talbot County Facilities Manager; Joe Duncan, Northeast Regional Manager, Royal Plus, Inc.; Jason Ortt, Delmarva Mitigation Manger, Royal Plus, Inc.; Cody Erb, Local Estimator, Royal Plus, Inc. – Prior to presentation of the certificates, County Manager, Clay Stamp, stated that in December 2021 there was a fire in the North Wing of the Courthouse resulting in smoke and water damage. He stated that he made a call to Royal Plus, Inc. who responded immediately with personnel, equipment, and vehicles to begin mitigation of the damage. Additionally, Mr. Moore cut his vacation short in order to immediately return to Maryland to assess and address the fire damage. Staff from Royal Plus, Inc. introduced themselves and expressed their appreciation to Mr. Moore and County staff for their assistance. The Honorable Stephen Kehoe, Judge, Circuit Court, Patricia Campen, Register of Wills, and Kathi Duvall, Clerk, Circuit Court, expressed their appreciation to the staff of Royal Plus, Inc., Mr. Moore, Mr. Stamp and all County staff who assisted in getting court operations running again so quickly. Council members expressed their deep appreciation to Mr. Moore and Royal Plus, Inc. personnel and all those involved for their efforts and cooperation during restoration of the Courthouse. The Council presented the Certificates of Recognition to Mr. Moore, Mr. Duncan, Mr. Ortt and Mr. Erb.

- V. Presentation of Certificate of Recognition to Corporal Pierre L.A. Tue, Talbot County Department of Corrections Employee of the Year for 2021 – The Clerk read a certificate of recognition into the record which spoke of Corporal Tue’s hard work, dedication and commitment to his job at the Talbot County Department of Corrections and having been chosen by his peers as the Department’s Employee of the Year for 2021. Upon motion by Ms. Price, seconded by Mr. Divilio, the Council approved the certificate of recognition by voting 4 – 0 as follows:

Mr. Callahan – Aye
Mr. Divilio – Aye
Mr. Leshner – Aye
Ms. Price - Aye

Terry Kokolis, Director, Talbot County Department of Corrections, stated that Corporal Tue is to be commended for both his work within the Department and for his work in the community. He stated that Corporal Tue sets a good example for his colleagues, shows empathy toward others and is a good listener. At Mr. Divilio's request, Corporal Tue briefed the Council on the HOYAS (Helping Our Youth Achieve Success) mentorship program he helped establish in Chestertown.

Mr. Callahan presented the Certificate of Recognition to Corporal Tue who had several family members in attendance as well as staff from the Department of Corrections.

- VI. Update and Request by Mid-Shore Behavioral Health, Inc. – The item had been previously removed from the agenda.

- VII. Introduction of Legislation:

A BILL TO AMEND CHAPTER 56 (ELECTRICAL STANDARDS) OF THE TALBOT COUNTY CODE FOR THE PURPOSES OF INCORPORATING AMENDMENTS TO THE MARYLAND ELECTRICIANS ACT ENACTED BY THE MARYLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY PURSUANT TO SENATE BILL 762 – CHAPTER 708, ACTS OF 2021 AND INCORPORATING THE NATIONAL ELECTRICAL CODE, AS UPDATED FROM TIME TO TIME, AS THE MINIMUM STANDARD FOR ELECTRICAL WORK IN TALBOT COUNTY, MARYLAND was read into the record by the Clerk and brought forward for introduction. Prior to introduction, County Attorney, Patrick Thomas, stated that the purpose of the legislation is to incorporate changes in State law in 2021, the Maryland Electricians Act, which authorizes the State to issue licenses for certain classes of electricians, and to update references to the National Electrical Code in Chapter 56 of the Talbot County Code. He stated that he had worked with the Talbot County Board of Electrical Examiners on the proposed legislation and they had approved same. The legislation was introduced by Mr. Callahan, Mr. Divilio, Mr. Leshner, and Ms. Price as Bill No. 1499. A public hearing was scheduled for Tuesday, June 14, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. in the Bradley Meeting Room, South Wing, Talbot County Courthouse, 11 North Washington Street, Easton, Maryland 21601.

A BILL TO AMEND CHAPTER 60 (ETHICS PROVISIONS) OF THE TALBOT COUNTY CODE FOR THE PURPOSES OF INCORPORATING AMENDMENTS ENACTED BY THE MARYLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY PURSUANT TO HOUSE BILL 879 – CHAPTER 31, ACTS OF 2017, HOUSE BILL 363 – CHAPTER 252, ACTS OF 2021, AND HOUSE BILL 1058 – CHAPTER 425, ACTS OF 2021 AND PROVIDING THAT THE MEMBERS OF CERTAIN COUNTY BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AND COMMITTEES SHALL BE SUBJECT TO CHAPTER 60 AS NONELECTED OFFICIALS was read into the record by the Clerk and brought forward for introduction. Prior to introduction, County Attorney, Patrick Thomas, stated that his office had received a letter from the State Ethics Commission advising that several changes needed to be made to the Talbot County Ethics Code (Chapter 60 of the Talbot County Code) to comply with recent changes in State law and to incorporate changes made in State law in 2017 which had not yet been incorporated into the County's Code. Mr. Thomas stated that the proposed legislation brings County boards, committees, and commissions, under the County's Ethics Code, including, as required by State law, the Police Accountability Board and the Administrative Charging Committee. The legislation was introduced by Mr. Callahan, Mr. Divilio, Mr. Leshner, and Ms. Price as Bill

No. 1500. A public hearing was scheduled for Tuesday, June 14, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. in the Bradley Meeting Room, South Wing, Talbot County Courthouse, 11 North Washington Street, Easton, Maryland 21601.

VIII. Eligible for Vote:

Resolution No. 328, A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE TALBOT COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE WATER AND SEWER PLAN TO REVISE CHAPTER THREE – AMENDMENT PROCEDURES, was read into the record by the Clerk and brought forward for vote. Prior to the vote, County Attorney, Patrick Thomas, stated that following Council’s discussion at the last meeting, he had drafted an amendment to Resolution No. 328 which clarifies that any proposed amendments to the County’s Comprehensive Water and Sewer Plan which are initiated by the County can be introduced on any legislative day and deletes the language regarding the applicability of the amendment procedures to the County. Mr. Thomas stated that if the amendment is introduced, it will need to be reviewed by the Planning Commission for recommendation. The amendment, known as Amendment No. 1 to Resolution No. 328, was introduced by Mr. Callahan, Mr. Divilio, Mr. Leshner, and Ms. Price. Amendment No. 1 and Resolution No. 328 are eligible for vote on Tuesday, June 14, 2022.

IX. County Manager’s Report:

A. Talbot County Adult Public Guardianship Review Board - Requested Council approval for the appointment of Heather Howes to the Talbot County Adult Public Guardianship Review Board; said term will complete the unexpired term of Laura Higgins which will expire on January 1, 2025. Upon motion by Ms. Price, seconded by Mr. Divilio, the Council approved the appointment by voting 4 – 0 as follows:

Mr. Callahan – Aye
Mr. Divilio – Aye
Mr. Leshner – Aye
Ms. Price – Aye

B. Talbot County Golf Board – Requested Council approval for the reappointment of Ronald “Ron” Vener to a three-year term on the Talbot County Golf Board; said term will expire on June 1, 2025. Upon motion by Mr. Divilio, seconded by Mr. Leshner, the Council approved the reappointment by voting 4 – 0 as follows:

Mr. Callahan – Aye
Mr. Divilio – Aye
Mr. Leshner – Aye
Ms. Price – Aye

C. Talbot County Department of Social Services Board of Directors – Requested Council approval for the reappointment of Sarah Cloxton, Brenda Wooden, and Rosalee Potter, and the appointment of Sandy Brown, Rev. Susan “Sue” Browning and Samantha Jeter to three-year terms on the Talbot County Department of Social Services Board of Directors; said terms will expire on June 30, 2025. Upon motion by Mr. Leshner, seconded by Mr. Divilio, the Council approved the reappointments and appointments by voting 4 – 0 as follows:

Mr. Callahan – Aye
Mr. Divilio – Aye
Mr. Leshner – Aye
Ms. Price – Aye

- D. Request from Department of Corrections – Requested Council approval to replace the hot water heater at the Talbot County Department of Corrections and to award the work to Electrical Automation Services, Inc. in the sum of \$225,000; said replacement will be made utilizing FY22 budgeted funds. Upon motion by Mr. Leshner, seconded by Ms. Price, the Council approved the request by voting 4 – 0 as follows:

Mr. Callahan – Aye
Mr. Divilio – Aye
Mr. Leshner – Aye
Ms. Price – Aye

- E. Special Legislative Day - Requested Council approval to declare Tuesday, May 17, 2022 a Special Legislative Day. Upon motion by Mr. Leshner, seconded by Mr. Divilio, the Council approved the request by voting 4 – 0 as follows:

Mr. Callahan – Aye
Mr. Divilio – Aye
Mr. Leshner – Aye
Ms. Price – Aye

- F. Talbot County Notice of Award – Mr. Stamp stated that the County had recently been notified that the County was the recipient of a 2022 Achievement Award from the National Association of Counties (NACo) for “Creativity in County Government – Talbot County Leverages Resilience Strategy to Address COVID-19 Pandemic”. He stated that leaders from all parts of the Talbot County community came together to ensure that needs in the community were addressed as they surfaced. Mr. Pack will accept the award during the NACo conference in Colorado in July.

X. Public Comments: There were no public comments.

XI. Council Comments:

Ms. Price - Ms. Price expressed her appreciation to her colleagues for having MACo Executive Director, Michael Sanderson, and her come before them for a presentation in her capacity as President of MACo Board of Directors. She stated that she and Mr. Sanderson have been travelling around the state and thus far have visited seven jurisdictions – with 17 to go. She stated that she appreciated the time, conversation and discussion earlier this afternoon. Following Mr. Divilio’s comments, Ms. Price stated that the Talbot County Business Appreciation Breakfast was held last Friday in the Gold Room at the Tidewater Inn. She stated that, in her opinion, there were some incredible award winners who have served the community. She expressed her appreciation to Cassandra Vanhooser, Director of Economic Development and Tourism, who, in her opinion, did a phenomenal job putting the event together, and to all the people who put so much into it and were very deserving of the awards.

Mr. Divilio - Mr. Divilio stated that he had a wonderful weekend and expressed his appreciation to the organizations who made it so nice, including the Talbot County House and Garden Pilgrimage hosted by the Talbot County Garden Club which had, in his opinion, had a great tour of some homes around the county. He thanked the Spies family and Triple Creek Winery for, in his opinion, the wonderful two-day rodeo with individuals from all over the country coming to ride. He stated that the rodeo is a small, neat circuit, with the contestants in the crowd, seeing everyone, and socializing. He stated that, in his opinion, the rodeo was fun and energizing for the farm kids and 4H Clubs. He stated that even though the event with Matthew Peters of the Chesapeake Multi-Cultural Resource Center had to be moved from Idlewild Park to the middle school at the last minute due to the weather, the event was not hindered and the food was fantastic. Mr. Divilio again expressed his appreciation to those organizations who put on great events that bring the community out and that it was nice to see a lot of people I had not seen in a long time and it meant a lot to me and my family.

Mr. Leshner - No comments.

Mr. Callahan - Mr. Callahan concurred with Ms. Price's comments regarding the Business Appreciation Breakfast, stating that it was great to celebrate with the business community. He stated that, in his opinion, that's what makes Talbot County such a phenomenal and tight community – and a huge team. Mr. Callahan concluded his comments by stating that the Council was blessed to be a part of Corporal Tue's special moment for him and his family.

XII. Upon motion by Ms. Price seconded by Mr. Divilio, the Council voted to adjourn and to reconvene on Tuesday, May 17, 2022, a Special Legislative Day, at 4:30 p.m. in Open Session and then adjourn into Closed Session for discussion of legal, personnel and real estate matters as listed on the statement for closing the meeting, and at 6:00 p.m. for the regularly scheduled meeting by voting 4 – 0 as follows:

Mr. Callahan - Aye
Mr. Divilio – Aye
Mr. Leshner – Aye
Mr. Pack – Aye

The meeting adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

The transcript of the May 10, 2022 County Council meeting is available for review in the Office of the Talbot County Manager during regular office hours.

XIII. Meeting with Maryland Association of Counties (MACo) President, Laura Everngam Price and MACo Executive Director, Michael Sanderson –Members of the Council (Mr. Pack was absent) met with Ms. Price and Mr. Sanderson on Tuesday, May 10, 2022 at 2:30 p.m. in the Bradley Meeting Room. Mr. Sanderson provided a review of the 2022 Maryland Legislative Session. Topics discussed included Emergency Services (Emergency Transport Bill), Cybersecurity, the State Fiscal Surplus, Highway User Revenues, and Police Reform (Police Accountability Board and Administrative Charging Committee). Council discussion ensued with Mr. Sanderson and Ms. Price as the various topics were brought forward. Mr. Sanderson stated that it is anticipated that several legislative initiatives which did not pass during the 2022 Legislative Session will be brought forward again for review early in the 2023 Legislative Session and that MACo is already in the process of reviewing initiatives for the 2023 Legislative Session. The meeting adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

XIV. Summary of Closed Session Held on May 10, 2022:

1. Statement of the time, place, and purpose of the closed session:

Time of closed session: 4:15 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
 Place of closed session: Bradley Meeting Room and County Council Office
 Purpose of the closed session: To consider various matters as set forth in the statement for closing the meeting

2. Record of the vote of each member as to closing the session:

Names of members voting aye: Callahan, Divilio, Leshner, Price
 Members opposed: None
 Abstaining: None
 Absent: Pack

3. Statutory authority to close session and listing of each topic actually discussed, persons present, and each action taken in the session:

Topic Description	Statutory Authority	Reason for Closed Session Discussion	Persons Present	Action Taken
To discuss appointments to various County boards and committees	GP § 3-305(b)(1)(i)	Public discussion would discourage individuals from volunteering to serve	Chuck Callahan, Frank Divilio, Pete Leshner, Laura Price, Clay Stamp, Jessica Morris	No action
To discuss personnel matter in the Finance Office	GP § 3-305(b)(1)(i)	Discussion involves specific individual	Chuck Callahan, Frank Divilio, Pete Leshner, Laura Price, Clay Stamp, Jessica Morris	No action
To discuss personnel matter in the Sheriff's Office	GP § 3-305(b)(1)(i)	Discussion involves specific individuals	Chuck Callahan, Frank Divilio, Pete Leshner, Laura Price, Clay Stamp, Jessica Morris, Ken Davis, David Edwards, Angela Lane	Council concurred with proposal
To discuss personnel matter in the County Attorney's Office	GP § 3-305(b)(1)(i)	Discussion involves specific individual	Chuck Callahan, Frank Divilio, Pete Leshner, Laura Price, Clay Stamp, Jessica Morris	No action

CASH STATEMENT 5/10/2022

BALANCE 5/03/2022	49,036,632.81
CIGNA CLAIMS PAID THRU 5/2/2022	(67,917.27)
TALBOT CO. FREE LIBRARY/FY22 5/2022	(126,616.00)
TALBOT CO. HUMANE SOCIETY/FY22 5/2022	(34,167.00)
BOARD OF EDUCATION 5/2022	(3,658,800.00)
RETIREE HEALTH PLAN # 727 MAY 2022	(33,642.86)
FY22 ADMIN COST FEE 4TH QTR	(9,647.42)
SIGNATURE PUBLIC FUNDING/RENTAL PAYMENT	(32,469.74)
POSTAGE WIRE	(3,000.00)
SHERIFF SUMMONS ACCOUNT TRANSFER	(80.00)
WELLS FARGO GOLF EQUIP LEASE PYMT	(128.00)
USDA/RD MONTHLY BOND PYMT #97-08	(1,304.00)
DEPOSITS	1,284,602.92
CHECKS	(936,804.23)
ACH DISBURSEMENT(S)	(45,280.70)
BALANCE 5/10/2022	<u>45,371,378.51</u>

INVESTMENTS - CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT

<u>Certificate Date</u>	<u>Maturity Date</u>	<u>Yield</u>	<u>Amount</u>
PNC-MLGIP INVESTMENTS TOTAL		0.40%	20,500,000.00
BAYVANGUARD BANK			10,225,657.52
TOTAL INVESTED			<u>30,725,657.52</u>
PETTY CASH BALANCE			<u>12,605.00</u>
<u>GRAND TOTAL ALL FUNDS</u>			<u>76,109,641.03</u>