



Deposition of:
County Council Meeting

April 28, 2020

In the Matter of:
Talbot County Council Meeting

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COUNTY COUNCIL OF TALBOT COUNTY, MARYLAND

Council Meeting

April 28, 2020; 6:00 p.m.

Wye Oak Room - Talbot County Community Center
Easton, Maryland

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

- Corey W. Pack
- Chuck F. Callahan
- Frank Divilio
- Pete Leshner
- Laura E. Price

Reported by
Diane Houlihan

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<p>1 TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS</p> <p>2</p> <p>3 MR. PACK: We're going to go ahead and get</p> <p>4 started. If everyone wouldn't mind standing</p> <p>5 for a word of prayer followed by the Pledge of</p> <p>6 Allegiance.</p> <p>7 (Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance.)</p> <p>8 MR. PACK: Thank you. Council, you do</p> <p>9 have the April 14th minutes. We had a chance</p> <p>10 to go through those minutes. Are there any</p> <p>11 additions, deletions, or corrections to those</p> <p>12 minutes? Hearing none, the chair moves that</p> <p>13 they be accepted with unanimous consent.</p> <p>14 We also have disbursements from April the</p> <p>15 21st and April the 28th. We all had a chance</p> <p>16 to review those in Granicus and to ask</p> <p>17 questions of our finance officer. The chair</p> <p>18 would ask are there any additions, deletions,</p> <p>19 or corrections to those disbursements? Hearing</p> <p>20 none, the chair moves that they also be</p> <p>21 accepted with unanimous consent. Thank you.</p>	<p>1 MR. STAMP: Thank you all very much for</p> <p>2 having us on this evening. We're here to,</p> <p>3 Fredia and I are here together to give you a</p> <p>4 presentation of an opportunity and to share a</p> <p>5 strategy with you that we would propose going</p> <p>6 forward that would help us address some of the</p> <p>7 challenges that we're facing with the</p> <p>8 coronavirus, the pandemic.</p> <p>9 I'm going to start off by saying we</p> <p>10 certainly, Fredia and I both appreciate your</p> <p>11 support. And we recognize that this crisis</p> <p>12 that we're facing right now is multipronged.</p> <p>13 And clearly, the life safety piece of it trumps</p> <p>14 everything. And we're working on that</p> <p>15 diligently and supporting our public health</p> <p>16 officer in many ways.</p> <p>17 But also we recognize that there's an</p> <p>18 economic component to this. And we've been</p> <p>19 working really hard with our business community</p> <p>20 to facilitate calls.</p> <p>21 And Cassandra is here as well. She's</p>
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<p>1 Council, next on your agenda, we're going</p> <p>2 to get an update of the COVID-19. This is the</p> <p>3 Coronavirus Aid Relief and Economic Security</p> <p>4 Act that was passed by Congress. We're going</p> <p>5 to have with us Mr. Clay Stamp, our director of</p> <p>6 the county's emergency services, and also</p> <p>7 assistant county manager, and I see walking in</p> <p>8 now is Dr. Fredia Wadley, Talbot County health</p> <p>9 officer.</p> <p>10 Good to see both of you. And I think you</p> <p>11 have a slide presentation that I'm blocking.</p> <p>12 So let me move out of the way.</p> <p>13 MR. STAMP: Thank you, Mr. President and</p> <p>14 members of the Council.</p> <p>15 MS. PRICE: Dr. Wadley.</p> <p>16 MR. STAMP: Talk loudly?</p> <p>17 MS. PRICE: When you need me to advance</p> <p>18 it, just tell me.</p> <p>19 DR. WADLEY: Yes. They said you'd be</p> <p>20 the. . .</p> <p>21 MS. PRICE: I am.</p>	<p>1 taking the lead to try to open the two-way</p> <p>2 communications with our business community so,</p> <p>3 number one, they find out what we're doing and</p> <p>4 they have a feel for that. Number two, we hear</p> <p>5 what is going on in the community.</p> <p>6 And we started to bring in added-value</p> <p>7 solutions to them, like bringing speakers on</p> <p>8 the call or what have you. We've been able to</p> <p>9 see certain things pop up like Feed the Front</p> <p>10 and the Family Meal.</p> <p>11 And going forward, we know that we have to</p> <p>12 address this epidemic, this crisis that we're</p> <p>13 in in a comprehensive manner.</p> <p>14 So now, we have been given an opportunity</p> <p>15 to receive some funds passed down by the</p> <p>16 federal government to the State government and</p> <p>17 then to county government. And there's many</p> <p>18 columns of this CARES funding that's coming out</p> <p>19 of Congress. And there's funding going to</p> <p>20 hospitals, there's funding going to schools,</p> <p>21 there's funding going.</p>

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1 What we're here tonight to talk to you
2 about is a stream of funding that's coming down
3 to public health, local public health, and
4 county governments. And I don't want to get
5 ahead of myself, but it comes in two phases.
6 And we're going to go over the numbers
7 with you. Fredia is going to walk us through
8 this presentation. And then we'll answer
9 questions. I don't want to go too far because
10 I think you're going to get into that.
11 So I'm going to pitch it over to Fredia
12 and we'll do the presentation. Then we'll
13 answer questions.
14 DR. WADLEY: Okay. Let's get started,
15 first slide.
16 I think probably this is the first time I
17 can remember when there's been \$6.4 million and
18 such little guidance from the federal
19 government. That is one part of it of trying
20 to put this plan together. We know that it
21 sounds too easy right now and later on you'll

Page 7

1 find out it's not that easy. There will be
2 some very close looking at the plan.
3 Our timeline is only from March 1st until
4 December of 30th of 2020.
5 The money is divided. The first phase, a
6 little over 3.2 million for all the
7 health-related costs. And that can be in the
8 public arena or the private arena.
9 And the other phase is 3.2 million. And
10 that can go for county costs, the way they see
11 the best way I guess to get back to something
12 close to normal. That second half does not
13 have to be health related. It can be used --
14 it can't be used to replace lost revenue.
15 That's probably the one big guidance. And I'm
16 sure they're going to check to see if something
17 was paid out of another source, don't double
18 dip. So there will be a good cross checking on
19 that.
20 And as Clay said, sometimes it's hard to
21 keep up with the streams and where the money

Page 8

1 is. So we'll be looking at that.
2 It has to be all to COVID-19-related
3 expenses. They said if it's used for
4 businesses, it must follow the federal
5 guidelines that they put out.
6 We're not exactly sure if that means you
7 can only do the programs that they did, but I
8 guess if you're putting in the same type
9 program, they want you to use the same
10 guidelines that they did. And as Clay said,
11 Talbot County, we've sort of developed our plan
12 together.
13 Okay. The next slide.
14 There's some things I want you to think
15 about as we went through this. It sort of
16 helps explain what we were trying to do when we
17 put it together. And the first thing is that
18 we have been told that this is our timeline.
19 But if they let us carry over funds from
20 December, that will be the same fiscal year.
21 So that's entirely possible.

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1 The reason that's so important, this is a
2 short timeline for spending the funds. So if
3 they came down close the timeline and said you
4 can carry over funds, we already know that
5 we're going to have to be doing a lot of
6 testing and contact tracing past the
7 December 30th deadline. So we wanted to keep
8 that in mind in case we could carry it over.
9 Second thing is it's a short timeline and
10 there's a lot of unknown variables. We've
11 looked at what's happened in other counties.
12 We may have some of the same emergencies, like
13 outbreak in nursing home, group homes, stand up
14 an alternative site. Those are very expensive.
15 Yet we might get lucky and not have one. So
16 you need to set the funds aside in case you
17 have an emergency, but also try to plan how you
18 can move them if you don't need them for that
19 emergency to another place that might need even
20 more funds.
21 The assistance programs that we can think

Page 10

1 of that individuals that might need due to
 2 unemployment and all, we want to look at what
 3 is already existing, what agencies already have
 4 a similar type program so that you can latch
 5 onto so you can get the program up earlier with
 6 the same guidelines and at the same time use
 7 less funds for administrative management costs
 8 and more would go to what the need really was.
 9 We also wanted to be very flexible. From
 10 the award letter that I got for the health
 11 yesterday, they're asking for just buckets,
 12 categories. And then you build toward that
 13 every two weeks, and then they reimburse you.
 14 Which means that the way it appears to us is
 15 you do not have to come in for a budget
 16 modification if you already have that pocket
 17 there.
 18 They're not trying to limit you to the
 19 exact cost because they know this has to be put
 20 together very rapidly and you probably are not
 21 going to know some of that until you get into

Page 11

1 it, like some of these emergencies.
 2 So we wanted to make sure that we got the
 3 right buckets there, the right categories so
 4 that we wouldn't have to go in and ask for a
 5 budget modification, because that can take a
 6 long time. Especially with all of this
 7 dollars, the funding period may be over before
 8 you get your modification back. So we tried to
 9 think of how can we do this so that that
 10 spending will go as smoothly as possible.
 11 And of course, I mentioned the
 12 accountability. That's another reason if you
 13 go with already an approved program with
 14 guidelines, then you'll be able to account for
 15 that much better. And we're, as I said,
 16 looking at the resources, other sources.
 17 But one of the things we want to be very
 18 cautious about or careful about is to have a
 19 team appointed that can follow those
 20 expenditures very carefully. And so you can
 21 look at what you're not spending on and do you

Page 12

1 need to bring up the other item so that you try
 2 to keep that one to a certain level.
 3 So with only eight months to go, you need
 4 to have a team that really will look at that
 5 more than just monthly, okay, to see how you
 6 need to switch any of those funds to get the
 7 best utilization of them.
 8 Okay. Next slide.
 9 MS. PRICE: Real quick. Did they give us
 10 some categories to start with?
 11 DR. WADLEY: They gave us some categories
 12 that you could spend on and some category that
 13 you couldn't spend on and --
 14 MS. PRICE: Like the buckets, do we have
 15 to come up with that all by ourselves?
 16 Did we have to come up with the buckets
 17 all by ourselves?
 18 DR. WADLEY: Oh, yes.
 19 MR. PACK: Yes.
 20 DR. WADLEY: We can come up with the
 21 buckets by ourself. But they did give you some

Page 13

1 ideas of the type of funds that you might use
 2 or the type of buckets.
 3 We just wanted to make our buckets
 4 inclusive. And I'll show you that in a minute
 5 when I talk about it.
 6 We looked at the needs. And as we said
 7 before, half of that is for the health-related
 8 needs, and we'll go through that.
 9 But for the non-health-related needs, we
 10 looked at not only the government and
 11 municipalities and all and what they're going
 12 to be spending extra on COVID, but there could
 13 be individual assistance for those individuals
 14 that's been out of employment, probably being
 15 pressed with utility bills, renter bills.
 16 And then there's also small business. I
 17 know there's another source, but do we want to
 18 put a small business portion there, and
 19 especially if you get to the end and you
 20 haven't spent some of the others, could you use
 21 it on that.

Page 14

1 So those are sort of the needs, the big
 2 needs that we broke out.
 3 Okay. Next slide.
 4 And our approach to the plan, although
 5 this is not as important to you, is looking
 6 what we spent May, March, and April to get an
 7 idea of what's going forward and what we might
 8 need for some of those items. But also look
 9 for what we were going to plan to do
 10 differently starting May through December. And
 11 that just sort of helped us know that we
 12 weren't missing anything in collecting the
 13 expenditures that we've already spent.
 14 Next slide.
 15 So here is the buckets for health-related
 16 costs. In fact, after I got the budget letter
 17 that they sent out, I probably can condense the
 18 first two into one, and that's just enhance the
 19 testing.
 20 Number one would stand up a testing site,
 21 drive through, at Talbot County Health

Page 15

1 Department or another site if it's more
 2 convenient. But also I put extra dollars in
 3 there in case we have to buy testing from
 4 private labs. I'm hoping we don't have to do
 5 that. I'm hoping that we'll get enough tests,
 6 but testing has been a disaster since it
 7 started. And I don't want to be left if the
 8 private labs gear up and the others don't come
 9 through, then we'll still be able to do some
 10 testing. And if the State comes through when
 11 you have plenty, we won't use those dollars.
 12 The next one is a big one. It's contact
 13 tracing. If you remember, the governor said
 14 there's triggers that we're going to use for
 15 when we reopen. Number one is the metrics are
 16 going down.
 17 Now, a lot of people use the new cases.
 18 But since he expected that we'd do a lot of new
 19 testing with the test from South Korea, that
 20 when you test, you're going to find more. We
 21 know we haven't tested enough. So he said

Page 16

1 maybe we should use the number that's being
 2 hospitalized and deaths. So we could use that
 3 as one trigger.
 4 But the next things that have to happen is
 5 you have to have the robust testing before you
 6 open up because then you want to test,
 7 identify, and isolate or quarantine rapidly to
 8 keep the spread from going. He's not able to
 9 do that in the beginning because we've never
 10 had the testing capability to identify who has
 11 it.
 12 And then the second one was we needed to
 13 increase our contact tracing if we expected to
 14 really be able to handle this going forward.
 15 So those two things will be within the Health
 16 Department.
 17 Then they also mentioned that with this,
 18 if you really do it the right way, you have
 19 quarantine and isolation costs. And let me
 20 give you an example. There's a little known
 21 rule or law that says when you quarantine

Page 17

1 somebody, you have to provide what they need in
 2 the way of food, lodging, or whatever if they
 3 don't already have it or they're not
 4 quarantining at home.
 5 So that could turn out to be an expensive
 6 item when you get to quarantines of people who
 7 really don't have the money. We find some
 8 families that there's several in one family.
 9 And they are not positive or having symptoms,
 10 so often you'd like to isolate one so that they
 11 won't give it to the rest of the household
 12 members.
 13 There's also some expensive events that
 14 we're not sure if they'll happen or not. One
 15 of those is the potential nursing home
 16 outbreak. We've been very lucky in this
 17 county. We haven't had the first case. And I
 18 hate to say that because there's over 180
 19 long-term care facilities with a COVID-19
 20 outbreak.
 21 But when that happens, that can be very

Page 18

1 expensive. The State has some help and backup
 2 in the way of go teams and bridge team. But
 3 you may call on them and those are already out.
 4 So you don't get them.
 5 So if you happen to have that and you have
 6 to handle it on your own, it can be significant
 7 because often you have to come up with the
 8 staff. And then also potential outbreak in
 9 group home.
 10 Personal protective equipment, as Clay can
 11 tell you, has been a big cost up to this point
 12 and a big concern, not only for hospitals and
 13 nursing homes, but for providers and even our
 14 own first responders and departments.
 15 And the biggest cost would probably be to
 16 stand up an alternative treatment site at
 17 Chesapeake College. What is happening now at
 18 Regional Peninsula is that they've sort of been
 19 hit with the cases due to the poultry industry.
 20 And they're ready to move someone out, but they
 21 may not need to go back into the household

Page 19

1 because they still are contagious.
 2 So they've actually sent up dormitory
 3 rooms that they are sort of like a convalescent
 4 or don't need a lot of care. But they're
 5 having to do that now.
 6 So if we had to do something in the way of
 7 a convalescent site or even a transition site,
 8 which was mentioned for the Chesapeake College
 9 by the Corps of Engineers, then that would have
 10 to come out of these funds also.
 11 Next slide.
 12 When we look at the categories for the
 13 non-health-related costs, we were, of course,
 14 looking at what already we can identify for the
 15 departments and municipalities. But the second
 16 one could be broken out to be assistance to
 17 individuals. And that can vary already. We've
 18 already had feeding programs ongoing. And food
 19 banks are running out of food. So we're
 20 already having to look at purchasing the food
 21 for those feeding programs.

Page 20

1 We know there will be problems in paying
 2 utilities, especially if individuals in low
 3 income did not get paid while they were staying
 4 at home. That and rental costs could be a
 5 problem. And then also sheltering for
 6 homeless.
 7 Maybe even legal services for those that
 8 are being evicted. We do have the Midshore Pro
 9 Bono, but we're looking to that to see how
 10 they're handling theirs.
 11 And then the next big category is small
 12 businesses assistance programs. And what's
 13 going on working with the Cassandra, Clay is
 14 doing some calling around to see what could we
 15 have that would not take so much to get up and
 16 get going and you could use the funds,
 17 especially if other areas don't use all of
 18 their funds.
 19 Next slide.
 20 So this is just broken down. It's big
 21 guesstimates. But to give you sort of a feel of

Page 21

1 what the breakdown might look like. And the
 2 buckets would be under some of these big
 3 breakdowns.
 4 So if you'll flip to the next slide.
 5 And what we really spend on these
 6 different items or buckets has a lot of
 7 variables, even though it's only eight months.
 8 One of those is if they let us roll over any
 9 dollars. The second one is whether some of
 10 these expensive events will occur. If they
 11 don't, we can use the dollars for something
 12 else.
 13 We also need to do the close monitoring of
 14 expenditures to slip between those categories.
 15 What other funds might become available,
 16 we don't know yet. There's still other sources
 17 promised.
 18 How rapidly the jobs can get up as we try
 19 to reopen. And also how easily the departments
 20 can handle some of these programs that we'll be
 21 asking them to do.

Page 22

1 Next slide.

2 Here is the one thing we like or the two

3 things we really like, even though we can't put

4 a lot of flesh on the plan, is that we've done

5 one plan instead of two to make sure that we

6 are covering with each to the best of our

7 ability. It's a good overarching. It's

8 dynamic, so it can change over these eight

9 months and flexible enough to move between the

10 different buckets.

11 We're aiming at little administration

12 costs so that we can have more for services.

13 We're using existing programs for the same

14 reason and trying to do the close oversight so

15 that this will really work and we'll get the

16 best use for the dollars.

17 So I'll stop there and see if there's any

18 questions.

19 MR. STAMP: So I just wanted to add one or

20 two things.

21 But I think it's important to note that

Page 23

1 the manner in which this money is being passed

2 down in the two phases, just reiterating. The

3 first phase is a done deal. That money has

4 been green lighted for the Health Department to

5 use for the health aspect of the situation.

6 Phase two is not guaranteed. So phase two

7 has to be tied to this plan. We have chosen to

8 send a global plan for phase one and phase two.

9 And the State is very receptive to that. But

10 we have to, in this plan, which we've outlined

11 here, have to demonstrate how we would perform

12 this.

13 And so we tried to identify the buckets

14 and clearly leverage the funds to address

15 business, individual assistance, and also our

16 ability to attack the pandemic.

17 One thing. So the Emergency Operation

18 Center, one of the things we've done with all

19 of our stakeholders is we're having them

20 collect costs associated with response. Even

21 our fire companies, other ones. We're asking

Page 24

1 them to collect costs and forecast to the end

2 of the year what those costs are. And in

3 essence, we're creating a needs list. And then

4 from that needs list, there are a number of

5 funds that are going to become available to

6 help with us with this. CARES is one of those

7 funds, and this is the plan we're talking about

8 tonight.

9 But the other program is we're under a

10 national disaster right now. And the State of

11 Maryland has been approved for a FEMA disaster

12 declaration. So there's funding that can come

13 there. There's other grant streaming.

14 So what we really are trying to do is

15 identify our needs list and our forecasting,

16 and this is just one of those buckets, one of

17 those grants that we can use.

18 MR. PACK: Go ahead.

19 MS. PRICE: The money that the (inaudible)

20 have gotten for these types, that's not part of

21 the 6.4 million? That was a separate?

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1 MR. STAMP: Yes.

2 MS. PRICE: Okay.

3 DR. WADLEY: Yes. For example, the Health

4 Department, when it refers to in these

5 guidelines about the previous plan, we got

6 \$144,000. The majority of that was spent on

7 PPE, a few other costs. But that's where the

8 majority went.

9 MS. PRICE: Throughout the State, we've

10 been pretty good with laptops, iPads, things

11 like that. A lot of the counties weren't. And

12 they got millions of dollars for that, for

13 additional expenses. The school money is --

14 DR. WADLEY: Contact tracing and all like

15 that, any of that equipment has to come out of

16 here for their laptops or whatever they use.

17 MS. PRICE: Oh, it does. That's what I

18 was curious about, if the million dollars or

19 whatever Talbot County schools got is part of

20 the 6.4?

21 DR. WADLEY: One thing that I can --

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1 MR. STAMP: No.

2 DR. WADLEY: That makes the costs go --

3 excuse me. I didn't hear her.

4 MR. STAMP: So her question was the

5 schools, CARES money for the school is

6 separate.

7 DR. WADLEY: Separate.

8 MR. STAMP: It's not part of the 6.4.

9 MS. PRICE: That's what I wanted to know.

10 DR. WADLEY: Now, that was one thing we

11 were concerned about because there might be

12 quite a few schoolings in it.

13 But there's also a separate fund for

14 hospitals and nursing homes based on their

15 Medicare caseload. Okay.

16 So it could turn out that they won't need

17 all the PPE.

18 This is really a lot of unknowns going in

19 is the reason you want to be flexible or you

20 could be in December and haven't spent a whole

21 lot. And I don't know what they'll do, take it

Page 27

1 back or what.

2 MR. PACK: I think the approach that you

3 all have taken is a wise approach. And I think

4 many counties are taking the same approach,

5 which is a team approach, to sit down and draft

6 one plan to send up to DBM.

7 The big five counties, they're getting

8 their funding straight from the Treasurer's

9 Office, from what I understand. And they're

10 sending their plans directly into the

11 Department of Treasury.

12 But the team approach that we are

13 proposing I think is the best approach because

14 you're hitting both those health issues as well

15 as the non-health-related issues that are

16 impacted by the COVID-19 epidemic.

17 The one thing that I would ask that we

18 also take a look at are the post mental health

19 for our frontline responders. I have a strong

20 suspicion that you're going to see a lot of

21 postpartum stress disorder coming out of this,

Page 28

1 almost the same way you did in a military

2 campaign.

3 You see the news, what these nurses are

4 going through, what these doctors are going

5 through. We heard the unfortunate report of

6 the doctor who took her life up in New York.

7 And I'm fearful that we're going to see a lot

8 more of these type of post traumatic episodes.

9 So I know that we have to get this plan up

10 by this Friday. But I would like to see if we

11 can earmark a little bit of that money off to

12 the side maybe underneath the health side of it

13 for mental health, post event mental health

14 care for our first line responders. I think

15 that would be something else I would like to

16 see.

17 I like the approach of working through

18 existing agencies. Neighborhood Service Center

19 and other agencies like that who already have

20 infrastructure in place, they already have the

21 staffing in place. You talk about keeping your

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1 administrative costs as low as possible. And

2 task them with doing the registration and all

3 of the legwork that would need to be done to

4 qualify people for the funding.

5 We can certainly match those dollars or

6 even enhance those dollars with this additional

7 funding to make it go even further.

8 I like the idea of bringing Choptank and

9 Easton Utility and Delmarva to the table just

10 to see what they may already have in the

11 kitchen, what they're working on, and kind of

12 see again how we can use those dollars to match

13 and expand out to help people in the greatest

14 way we possibly can.

15 There will be a day of reckoning. We know

16 that. And I think this is just a foreshadowing

17 of what's to come out and letting people out

18 there know we are here to offer some

19 assistance.

20 We heard Matt Peters on the call earlier

21 today, and we do know that there are people who

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<p>1 are severely impacted by this. Yes, they're</p> <p>2 not facing eviction today, they're not facing</p> <p>3 their utilities being cut off today. But that</p> <p>4 bill will come due. And I think having these</p> <p>5 funds available to mitigate that is a great way</p> <p>6 to approach it.</p> <p>7 So my hat goes off to the both of you for</p> <p>8 coming up with this strategy.</p> <p>9 So are you seeking an approval tonight</p> <p>10 from Council to move forward with this?</p> <p>11 Can I get any more comment from anyone</p> <p>12 else? Are we good with the plan the way it's</p> <p>13 laid out? Anything else you see is missing in</p> <p>14 the plan? Chuck.</p> <p>15 MR. CALLAHAN: I think it's great. I</p> <p>16 really appreciate the hard work that you're</p> <p>17 doing, both of you.</p> <p>18 How did the 6.4 million come about?</p> <p>19 Meaning does each county get it or is it the</p> <p>20 size of our county?</p> <p>21 DR. WADLEY: This is my interpreter.</p>	<p>1 in that area with her economic development</p> <p>2 team.</p> <p>3 MR. CALLAHAN: Right.</p> <p>4 MR. STAMP: And some really well respected</p> <p>5 and smart people in the community. And we</p> <p>6 would define guidelines to rescue smaller</p> <p>7 businesses that weren't able to take advantage</p> <p>8 of some of these recent grants that came out.</p> <p>9 MR. CALLAHAN: Correct.</p> <p>10 MR. STAMP: So she would take the lead in</p> <p>11 that effort. And she's already begun</p> <p>12 conversations. We've been working with the</p> <p>13 business community.</p> <p>14 MR. CALLAHAN: Sure, sure.</p> <p>15 MR. STAMP: We're responding to this in a</p> <p>16 comprehensive manner.</p> <p>17 So we have flexibility to shift money</p> <p>18 between buckets. That's why we've designed it</p> <p>19 the way we have.</p> <p>20 And the oversight group, of course,</p> <p>21 Council will have -- I mean we're going to be</p>
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<p>1 MR. CALLAHAN: No problem.</p> <p>2 MR. STAMP: His question was what was the</p> <p>3 State formula.</p> <p>4 It was a population-based formula.</p> <p>5 DR. WADLEY: They say population. When I</p> <p>6 look at the counties around us, it does seem to</p> <p>7 come out by population.</p> <p>8 MR. CALLAHAN: I see, I see. Okay.</p> <p>9 So the other question I had was like down</p> <p>10 the road when we're learning where these</p> <p>11 categories are and we're shifting money around,</p> <p>12 so if we see a small business that needs help,</p> <p>13 so I'm assuming that's where Cassandra comes</p> <p>14 in, talks to you guys, and that's how it flows</p> <p>15 into the county and then the county gives it to</p> <p>16 the small business.</p> <p>17 MR. STAMP: Yes. So we talked about the</p> <p>18 buckets. So you're referring to the business</p> <p>19 sector support.</p> <p>20 MR. CALLAHAN: Yes.</p> <p>21 MR. STAMP: Cassandra would take the lead</p>	<p>1 reporting to Council. And the oversight group,</p> <p>2 Andy will be a lead player in this and Angela,</p> <p>3 myself, and Fredia. And then we'll pull in the</p> <p>4 subject matter experts in the different buckets</p> <p>5 for individual support, business, and of course</p> <p>6 public health.</p> <p>7 DR. WADLEY: Another reason for wanting</p> <p>8 different people to handle pieces of it, this</p> <p>9 is eight months. Got to do it. One person</p> <p>10 can't do it all. So you have to sort of divide</p> <p>11 it out for it to work.</p> <p>12 MR. CALLAHAN: Right, right.</p> <p>13 DR. WADLEY: And as President Pack said,</p> <p>14 if you've got programs in the county that's</p> <p>15 already doing it, the easiest way is to use</p> <p>16 their guidelines. You may have to tweak them</p> <p>17 in a place or two, but it's a lot easier than</p> <p>18 establishing another program.</p> <p>19 MS. PRICE: So we know that we would</p> <p>20 support, for example, the hospital, if they're</p> <p>21 having a surge in Anne Arundel County or down</p>

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1 in Salisbury, that we would possibly take them
 2 here. Or we've already heard from Ken Kozel
 3 that we would be able to take overflow patients
 4 here.
 5 So since each county is getting an
 6 allocation based on population, if we were
 7 helping another county with some of their
 8 overages, I guess maybe we would maintain some
 9 flexibility of who that would get charged to.
 10 Is it the resident? So if someone from Queen
 11 Anne's County say had to come here for
 12 treatment or whatever, instead of out of Talbot
 13 County's expense, just something to keep in
 14 mind --
 15 DR. WADLEY: They've made allocations by
 16 county. If you -- you set up your small
 17 business and individual and all of that. That
 18 can easily be by county. Okay.
 19 MS. PRICE: Right. On the health side --
 20 DR. WADLEY: If you're helping the
 21 hospital, okay, that's still one of five

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1 counties. And how much those other counties
 2 put back for PPE is also -- could be very
 3 important to us because they could say I spent
 4 all my money on something else, I don't --
 5 that's what happens when you have a hospital
 6 that serves a region and not just one county.
 7 MR. STAMP: So the only thing I would say
 8 to that is we're talking about micro issues
 9 that we'll be sensitive to. And we'll work
 10 through those issues to make sure we do the
 11 responsible thing.
 12 But also, I will remind you that we have
 13 to submit this plan. This plan has to be
 14 approved. And the State does have the ability
 15 to shift some money around to target areas that
 16 are having problems as well.
 17 So there's a lot of minor details or those
 18 kind of details that we probably don't have
 19 answers to right now, but the fact that we will
 20 make sure that we do the right thing. Of
 21 course, we'll (inaudible).

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1 MS. PRICE: Right. If there's a surge in
 2 one area that shifts it over to another county,
 3 then you shift the funds, hopefully would go
 4 with it.
 5 MR. PACK: If you remember, Ken answered
 6 this question in one of the calls we had
 7 regarding patients from outside of the service
 8 area for Shore Health. And his answer seemed
 9 to be that that's more of a business practice
 10 they've always done.
 11 So in this particular case, it's due to
 12 the virus, but it sounded to me that taking
 13 patients from other areas within a hospital
 14 networking wasn't an extraordinary or unusual
 15 thing that they do.
 16 MS. PRICE: Right. But if we were
 17 spending \$100 on PPE equipment, but then all of
 18 a sudden we are taking a big influx from
 19 someplace else, then we used our dollars up for
 20 PPE, so to speak.
 21 So I'm just saying if -- and we would know

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1 that. I mean obviously you're going to see
 2 that happening, and hopefully we haven't seen
 3 surges where we're going to have to take people
 4 from other areas.
 5 DR. WADLEY: We can easily ask --
 6 MS. PRICE: The hospitals is the one
 7 (inaudible) disbursement. And they have their
 8 own bucket, so to speak.
 9 DR. WADLEY: They have their own bucket.
 10 MS. PRICE: Their own funding. So they
 11 would get that as a -- the hospitals would get
 12 that as like the overall hospital system of UMS
 13 would get it. So it really wouldn't matter
 14 whether it was BWMC or Shore Health.
 15 DR. WADLEY: The reason I think that every
 16 county will want to do that is keep in mind
 17 that that is part of the four triggers.
 18 Because one of the surge things is having
 19 enough PPE. And that has been one of the
 20 biggest things. And they have already run that
 21 through health departments and EMS.

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1 So I don't see health departments -- it
 2 wouldn't be to their advantage to say I'm not
 3 going to purchase any PPE. That has been one
 4 of their main concerns this whole time.
 5 MR. PACK: Yeah. Again, I applaud you on
 6 the concept behind the plan and in trying to
 7 figure out what boxes, what buckets things
 8 should go in.
 9 Because I think the overarching idea
 10 behind the CARES Act is that we're not coming
 11 out of this thing tomorrow or in a couple of
 12 days or a couple of weeks. This is going to
 13 be, the term they're using, it's the slow burn
 14 to get through this.
 15 So having those contingencies in place is
 16 a good way to manage as we go through this slow
 17 burn.
 18 We've been at it now this is day 47 of the
 19 virtual EOC here in Talbot County.
 20 A took a call before I came in today from
 21 Steve Schuh, the old CC. Just wanted to find

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1 out how Talbot County was doing. And I said
 2 that we had a good team. And that's the first
 3 thing that I was saying, we have a good team
 4 and we put good people around the table and
 5 we're working through the process as best we
 6 can.
 7 There are some stress factors built in
 8 along the way at each level. You hear it when
 9 you talk to Kelly at the schools, you can hear
 10 it when you talk to the small business owner
 11 who has been shut down for the last 40 some odd
 12 days.
 13 But we're trying to develop this plan to
 14 help people the best way we can. Money doesn't
 15 solve all the problems, but keeping people safe
 16 is the main reason behind this. And I think
 17 this is a good approach as we're coming over
 18 it.
 19 MR. STAMP: Thank you, Council President
 20 Pack.
 21 I would say a couple of things real quick.

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1 This is actually quite exciting because we've
 2 created a system where we have a skeleton, if
 3 you will. And we're communicating.
 4 And now with this inflow of funding, we
 5 can actually -- now we understand the
 6 communication with whether it's our providers
 7 out there or whether it's the business
 8 community or the Neighborhood Service Center,
 9 we know what the needs are. Now we have
 10 resources to help plug in solutions to the
 11 challenges. So it is kind of exciting.
 12 We're collaborating. Even though there's
 13 separate buckets that are coming to hospitals
 14 and education and this bucket, we're all still
 15 going to be collaborating to figure out where
 16 to leverage -- to find deficiencies and
 17 leverage dollars in the right manner.
 18 MR. PACK: And there was even a bucket
 19 that went directly to the airport. They got
 20 direct funding from CARES.
 21 MR. STAMP: We definitely want to have

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1 them at the table, too, then, right?
 2 MR. PACK: Right. (Inaudible.)
 3 MR. DIVILIO: Mr. Pack, if I could just
 4 weigh in with my opinion.
 5 And reading through this, I'm very
 6 excited.
 7 There's one thing that Talbot County can
 8 seem very large, very daunting, and lonesome
 9 when you're in this, if your business is going
 10 under or you've been sent home and the business
 11 isn't open where you work.
 12 When I look at the different department
 13 heads that we have, we've got some of the best
 14 people out there. And I love it. And I'm very
 15 proud of them. And when I think about our
 16 buckets and I think about the Health Department
 17 that you guys and health industry that you guys
 18 control, the business sector with Cassandra,
 19 think about Childlene Brooks at the Senior
 20 Centers, Marilyn Neal at the Neighborhood
 21 Service Center, these are all some of the most

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1 compassionate people that I've ever met. And
 2 they're willing to listen.
 3 And if you go to the Talbot County
 4 website, their contact information is there.
 5 And they know how to help you. And this is
 6 going to be one of the greatest tools that we
 7 have to be able to give back and help these
 8 people.
 9 And I greatly appreciate all the work and
 10 stress that you both have or all three of you
 11 have been going through and will continue to go
 12 through this year. But I want the community to
 13 know that you are the ones that's going to keep
 14 this community afloat, not us.
 15 So make sure that they know that they can
 16 reach out to you guys. You've got the
 17 compassion, you'll listen and help and point
 18 them in the right direction.
 19 So thank you for being who you guys are.
 20 MR. PACK: Okay. My only two cents was
 21 that we look at the post traumatic mental

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1 health side of it and maybe put something else
 2 in there for that. But you have Beth Ann at
 3 For All Seasons and that group. I would bring
 4 them in for that treatment.
 5 But other than that, I think the plan is
 6 good. I'm ready to go. I need a motion.
 7 There's no other comments? We need a motion.
 8 MR. CALLAHAN: So moved.
 9 MR. PACK: By Mr. Callahan.
 10 MR. DIVILIO: Second.
 11 MR. PACK: From Mr. Divilio. Any further
 12 comment or questions?
 13 Madam Secretary, where are you? Got to
 14 find you. Please call your roll on the -- I'm
 15 ready whenever you are.
 16 SECRETARY: Mr. Pack.
 17 MR. PACK: Aye.
 18 SECRETARY: Mr. Divilio.
 19 MR. DIVILIO: Aye.
 20 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.
 21 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.

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1 SECRETARY: Ms. Price.
 2 MS. PRICE: Aye.
 3 SECRETARY: Mr. Leshner.
 4 MR. LESHNER: Aye.
 5 MR. PACK: Okay. Thank you very much.
 6 Appreciate it. Thank you.
 7 Council, next on your agenda is amendment
 8 to our emergency declaration that was drafted
 9 back on March the 16th and amended on
 10 March the 31st.
 11 Mr. Kupersmith has rejoined us from his
 12 paternity leave. And we're happy to see him
 13 again.
 14 Congratulations to you, sir, on the new
 15 addition to your family. How is the family
 16 doing?
 17 MR. KUPERSMITH: It's complete chaos, but
 18 a lot of fun.
 19 MR. PACK: Okay. Good seeing you. Okay.
 20 The declaration. Madam Secretary, where
 21 are you? There you are. If you could read the

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1 title of the . . .
 2 SECRETARY: Second amended emergency
 3 declaration, amending and restating the first
 4 amended emergency declaration of March 31,
 5 2020, declaring a State of Emergency in Talbot
 6 County for a period of 30 days, ordering the
 7 temporary closure of certain buildings and the
 8 suspension of certain meetings and ordering
 9 temporary closure of short-term rentals and bed
 10 and breakfasts, subject to certain exceptions,
 11 in order to prevent the spread of COVID-19.
 12 MR. PACK: Thank you very much, Madam
 13 Secretary.
 14 Mr. Kupersmith, on this version or this
 15 edition of the emergency declaration, if you
 16 could just point out the amended portions for
 17 the public, I appreciate it.
 18 MR. KUPERSMITH: Sure. So the main
 19 amendment here is extending the emergency
 20 declaration, which currently expires on
 21 April 30th. This would extend it through

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1 May 31st. That's the big change.
 2 For extension of licenses, any licenses
 3 that would be expiring are extended also until
 4 June 30th. So that's a month after the
 5 May 31st expiration.
 6 And then we added some language in section
 7 ten, which is the short-term rental section, to
 8 clarify that no new reservations can be made
 9 during the period from March 31st through
 10 May 31st. So no new reservations while the
 11 declaration is in effect for that period, but
 12 you could be making reservations further out,
 13 for events later this summer or this fall. So
 14 there's language that clarifies that.
 15 MR. PACK: Thank you very much,
 16 Mr. Kupersmith.
 17 Any questions regarding the amended
 18 emergency declaration before Council?
 19 MR. DIVILIO: Mr. Pack, I have one
 20 amendment that I would like to offer up to that
 21 amendment. Just amending it to change it from

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1 30 days to 15 days to more align with the press
 2 conferences that our governor is holding.
 3 My thought process behind that was if we
 4 go to May 15th, we'll have the May 12th
 5 meeting, which that will give us, what, two
 6 Fridays of the governor's speeches to kind of
 7 get an idea of where he's going so that we can
 8 plan to extend or where we need to be.
 9 MR. PACK: So you're talking about having
 10 a shorter period rather than the full 30-day
 11 period for the declaration?
 12 MR. DIVILIO: Yes.
 13 MR. PACK: You can always change the
 14 declaration if we need to. I mean you're
 15 trying to stay consistent with the health
 16 component of the declaration, not so much the
 17 artificial date that was put in place for the
 18 schools.
 19 MR. DIVILIO: Sure. And certainly I
 20 understand that and respect that.
 21 I like the flexibility to it. If we're

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1 one of -- when you look at the different states
 2 and what's going on around us and what our
 3 governor is doing, I feel that he's making
 4 changes pretty regularly. He's kept a lot of
 5 things open, and the schools especially, that
 6 other states have closed.
 7 Right now his plan is to come back on the
 8 15th to give us an update on that.
 9 I like the idea of having the flexibility
 10 to follow his lead as opposed to us trying to
 11 come back and make changes.
 12 MR. PACK: Well, we can.
 13 MR. DIVILIO: We can.
 14 MR. PACK: If we see that our numbers are
 15 trending statewide, we always can come back and
 16 revise the declaration.
 17 MS. PRICE: So either way on the 12th we
 18 can say we're going to cut it short or we're
 19 going to -- but if we go the full 30 and things
 20 change, to your point, we just say --
 21 MR. PACK: Change it.

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1 MS. PRICE: -- the declaration is over.
 2 It's like a burn ban.
 3 And that way if we, for some -- we don't
 4 have to come back and change it if things don't
 5 change enough to. I think we would all like to
 6 see.
 7 So I think it's six of one, half dozen of
 8 the other really.
 9 MR. PACK: If things are improved that
 10 well, to your point, then on the 12th we can
 11 make that change.
 12 MS. PRICE: Yup.
 13 MR. DIVILIO: We can be behind the eight
 14 ball or in front of it.
 15 MR. PACK: That's your perspective.
 16 But if things were to improve that
 17 dramatically over the next two weeks come the
 18 12th, then we could change the declaration to
 19 either lessen that time as far as STRs.
 20 But if things are the way the projection
 21 from our experts, from our health officer and

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1 from our emergency services director, is that
 2 we haven't even seen this flattening of this
 3 curve. I don't think that the 15th is going to
 4 give us that time that we're going to see
 5 looking at the data that the numbers are going
 6 to drop off to where we can relax STRs on the
 7 15th, in my opinion.
 8 I mean we're still trending statewide high
 9 as far as the death number, the number of
 10 deaths in the state, and the number of positive
 11 tests, which we knew we were going to get. We
 12 knew that.
 13 Mr. Stamp, you have. . .
 14 MR. STAMP: The only thing I would say is
 15 I would like to highlight that the declaration
 16 of State of Emergency is an instrument that
 17 allows the Emergency Operations Center to do
 18 its work.
 19 And so that will be required probably for
 20 a while because not only are we combating the
 21 life safety crisis, but we're also working on

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1 the economic front to try to work that as well.
 2 I think the issue may be that you want to
 3 relax provisions within the declaration at some
 4 point in time sooner than maybe later. For
 5 example, with the STRs, you may on the 15th of
 6 May or whatever you decide, decide to back that
 7 out but allow the instrument of the State of
 8 Emergency to continue to allow us to continue
 9 to coordinate.
 10 I mean I don't -- as long as I have that
 11 State of Emergency in place, the core State of
 12 Emergency allows us to do our coordination
 13 work. That's the only thing that concerns me,
 14 that I maintain that in place.
 15 But again, the provisions within that may
 16 be concerning or may need to be relaxed could
 17 be done at any time you feel appropriate.
 18 MS. PRICE: Right. I agree. I mean I'm
 19 scrolling through these things. And they don't
 20 really have anything to do with the
 21 stay-at-home order, so to speak. Even if --

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1 and let's hope that the stay-at-home order gets
 2 lifted in the next week or two. That doesn't
 3 change most of what's in here as far as what
 4 Director Stamp has to do and the procurement.
 5 And you probably, even though there's not
 6 a stay-at-home order, you might not get back
 7 into having board meetings. We might still
 8 hold our meetings like that.
 9 If you really just scroll through it. We
 10 might not want to open public buildings right
 11 back up even if you don't have a stay-at-home.
 12 You still don't want people running here,
 13 there, and everywhere.
 14 So if you really scroll through what's in
 15 here, there doesn't seem to be a reason to do
 16 that.
 17 MR. DIVILIO: I guess my thought process
 18 was that if schools are going to open up on the
 19 15th, if the governor is okay with putting 30
 20 kids in a classroom, then I sort of feel
 21 like --

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1 MR. PACK: Mr. Divilio, that's not --
 2 MR. DIVILIO: That's kind of where we're
 3 going. And he's been making a lot of decisions
 4 along those lines.
 5 So that's why I was saying why don't we
 6 correlate with his time scale or timeline of
 7 the 15th is when he's coming back out.
 8 MS. PRICE: -- say, for example, number
 9 five, closure of public buildings. If school
 10 starts back in session, well, then obviously we
 11 probably get rid of a portion of number five.
 12 But there are certain things that are in here
 13 that I think that the county manager and
 14 emergency operations manager still need for
 15 sure.
 16 And so just like the governor is going to
 17 be loosening things up little by little, we're
 18 probably going to pull things out of here
 19 little by little rather than the whole thing.
 20 MR. PACK: Yeah. You got 30 days. If
 21 they improve, I mean aside from what the

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1 governor stated, that 15th is not going to be a
 2 magic date. That date will probably be pushed
 3 back again, as it already has been twice
 4 already.
 5 So I would not put that artificial date in
 6 this document because it probably, more than
 7 likely, will change. It will change.
 8 MS. PRICE: He didn't lift anything this
 9 past Friday, not even outdoor activities. So
 10 it's going to be, unfortunately --
 11 MR. DIVILIO: I don't know. I guess I
 12 reached out to our Board of Ed, and I thought
 13 if -- and maybe it's two totally different
 14 issues. But I just feel like we're if pushing
 15 the can down the road two weeks at a time for
 16 the schools, and school is a community, you've
 17 got adults, you've got kids, you've got
 18 everybody going in and out of there, there must
 19 be a thought process there.
 20 And so that's what I was thinking, that he
 21 has a lot more information than us. So I was

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1 thinking why don't we just align with him was
 2 my thought process is where I was going.
 3 MR. PACK: Well, we are. I think the
 4 document that's drafted is aligning with the
 5 overall State stay-at-home order and emergency
 6 declaration.
 7 The artificial date of the 15th for
 8 schools I think was just a date they stuck in
 9 there to shoot for. And as you very well know,
 10 we have not seen that 14-day, even close to
 11 that 14-day descent on deaths statewide.
 12 I was on the phone call earlier today with
 13 a representative from Prince George's County.
 14 And you're talking about a county that's being
 15 hammered right now. They are being literally
 16 knocked out of the box with this thing.
 17 So and what's happening just to our south
 18 in Wicomico County, with what is happening down
 19 there.
 20 So I don't think the 15th date needs to be
 21 inserted here. We have that 30-day window. If

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1 things do by some miracle start to improve,
 2 then we can come back and make those revisions.
 3 As Ms. Price just said, open up county
 4 buildings would be a good start if things were
 5 to improve.
 6 MS. PRICE: I'm hoping that they start
 7 looking at us as individual regions. Eastern
 8 Shore, western Maryland.
 9 I mean we haven't had any new cases in a
 10 while. We've had just the one death throughout
 11 the whole. We haven't had our nursing homes
 12 hit.
 13 I would be -- I know some of the
 14 Republican delegates have said why not start
 15 looking at things -- it's just like every state
 16 is not the same, regions within the state.
 17 So I don't think this does any harm. I'm
 18 with you. I want this to open up as fast as
 19 possible, especially as a small business owner.
 20 We want to be able to do this stuff. But I
 21 think we have just as much flexibility on the

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1 12th to amend it as to extend it.
 2 MR. CALLAHAN: I'd like to comment on it,
 3 too, Mr. Pack.
 4 I think it's a very good suggestion. I
 5 could go one way or the other with it. I think
 6 it's -- when the governor is throwing these
 7 May 15th, that sort of sometimes is a feel-good
 8 number on the date, and I'm not so sure it's
 9 realistic either.
 10 But to some of the things that Clay has
 11 indicated, which are very good points, and I
 12 really appreciate that Clay, there probably is
 13 going to be a period in the month of May
 14 towards the end of May, and I'm hoping you
 15 agree with me, that we have to start getting
 16 Talbot County in line of going back online,
 17 too, a little bit.
 18 That's one of the reasons that my
 19 amendment, we'll be talking about just in one
 20 second after this.
 21 So I just keep pushing the can down the

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1 road a little bit. I understand it's very
 2 sensitive and we're dealing with safety and
 3 stuff like that. Okay.
 4 But you and your team in the Health
 5 Department have done a phenomenal job so far,
 6 and I think you're going to be -- the next 60
 7 days, so to speak, is going to be great.
 8 But like we just talked about in the last
 9 presentation, we've got to deal with this for
 10 the rest of the year. But there is going to be
 11 a period where we have to really get back to
 12 some type of sensitivity to the business aspect
 13 of it. And I would appreciate that we think
 14 that way and have some goals for that.
 15 And there's a lot, of lot of hurting
 16 people right now, not necessarily with being
 17 with the virus. But they're hurting mentally,
 18 physically in business, and money wise.
 19 They're really very hurt, and they want to get
 20 up and running.
 21 And I can tell you if we have 70 and

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1 80-degree days in the next several weeks,
 2 there's going to be a lot of people that are
 3 going to be upset.
 4 MS. PRICE: And that's not our order,
 5 Mr. Callahan. That's the governor.
 6 MR. CALLAHAN: Bear with me. I'm just
 7 speaking, I'm just speaking. So please let me
 8 have the floor for a second.
 9 And I'm just trying to look out for us as
 10 a team. When people start calling us and we
 11 get all the phone calls, that we are very
 12 sensitive, but yet, as Mr. Pack said, we're
 13 very sensitive of safety around here.
 14 And yes, the Council is the Board of
 15 Health. We are. We make those decisions, but
 16 there is going to come a time where, yes, the
 17 governor is making the decisions, but we have
 18 to make some decisions here, too, for our
 19 people and not rely on over here. We have to
 20 make some -- I was elected to take care of
 21 Talbot County, not the State. So there's a lot

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1 to that.
 2 So I'll end it with that.
 3 MR. STAMP: So is there a question? Were
 4 you seeking a response from me? I wasn't sure.
 5 MR. CALLAHAN: No, not at all. You're
 6 doing a phenomenal job.
 7 MR. STAMP: No, no. I do want to say that
 8 that level of sensitivity that you're talking
 9 about.
 10 MR. CALLAHAN: Yes.
 11 MR. STAMP: That balanced approach.
 12 MR. CALLAHAN: Yes.
 13 MR. STAMP: From the beginning we've
 14 talked about balance.
 15 MR. CALLAHAN: Yes.
 16 MR. STAMP: Where's the balance.
 17 Look, when we talk about Talbot County and
 18 we talk about our risks, we talk about our five
 19 pillars.
 20 MR. CALLAHAN: Right.
 21 MR. STAMP: Economic stability is one of

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1 those pillars, and it's being threatened right
 2 now. And the livelihood of individuals is
 3 being threatened, right. So that sensitivity
 4 is there.
 5 And we do have -- we have federal
 6 guidelines, we have State guidelines. We'd be
 7 wise to adhere to those guidelines.
 8 But I assure you that working for you,
 9 your team has that level of sensitivity and
 10 that balance because this crisis is not just
 11 about the virus. The crisis is also about the
 12 economic impact to people that were on the edge
 13 that are now in trouble.
 14 So that sensitivity, I just want to assure
 15 you that sensitivity is there.
 16 MR. CALLAHAN: And I'm sure it is, I'm
 17 sure it is.
 18 MR. PACK: And to this amendment and to
 19 the next amendment, the reason why I won't be
 20 supporting either is that until I hear from our
 21 health officer and my emergency director that

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1 we are ready to modify or terminate this
 2 document, I'm not willing to go down that road
 3 because it's not supported by any medical data,
 4 any health-related data to say we should be
 5 making this change, that we should be allowing
 6 people to come back into neighborhoods any
 7 earlier than it's safe for them to do that.
 8 And I mean that.
 9 Yes, people are hurting across the board.
 10 I get phone calls, too. You're not the only
 11 one people call or e-mail.
 12 But this is not supported by anyone in the
 13 health profession to make this change. And
 14 just because the governor has thrown out an
 15 arbitrary date for school opening, which it
 16 probably will be changed, we should not take
 17 that.
 18 You know, you can't scold them on one hand
 19 for not giving you an answer, but on the other
 20 hand use his date, his artificial date and
 21 stick it into your document. That just seems

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1 like basically it's disingenuous. On one hand
 2 you're saying he's not doing enough, he's not
 3 giving us a date, he's not giving us
 4 information. Yeah, but let's use his
 5 artificial number and stick it into our
 6 document.
 7 Why? When there's nothing to support that
 8 at your local level for doing that, nothing.
 9 Your health officer doesn't support it, your
 10 emergency director doesn't support it, but you
 11 want to change the document artificially.
 12 MS. PRICE: I mean there's nothing in our
 13 emergency declaration that shuts down business.
 14 I wish we had that power. Truly I do.
 15 There's nothing in our document that makes
 16 people stay at home. There's nothing in our
 17 document that keeps our kids from going to
 18 school.
 19 We cannot override the decision being made
 20 at the State level. I wish we could.
 21 And as soon as we have the authority to do

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1 that, I will push as hard as anybody to get
 2 things opened back up. If the governor comes
 3 down with saying okay, we're going to do things
 4 by region, you're darn right I'm going to look
 5 at our region and look at our data and look as
 6 much at the economic as I am at the health
 7 because to me at this point, they're equal.
 8 You are going to have people with mental
 9 health problems, with suicidal thoughts, with
 10 all of these things from being poor and not
 11 being able to collect.
 12 Businesses that don't qualify for these
 13 programs. I'm one of them. I didn't qualify
 14 for it. Yeah, I'm open. But we're still
 15 struggling.
 16 MR. PACK: You make too much money.
 17 MS. PRICE: So you know, I had to lay off
 18 my employees. So I get it. I know you get it
 19 and those who own a small business.
 20 I know you understand it. Your museum is
 21 shut down. You don't know what is going to

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1 happen and philanthropy is drying up.
 2 So as soon as we have the authority to
 3 make those decisions, I will be your head
 4 cheerleader for that one. But there's nothing
 5 we can do right now.
 6 MR. PACK: And as I said coming in, I got
 7 a phone call before I left the house from Steve
 8 Schuh. He's been chairing a lot of the phone
 9 calls from the governor. He was asking how is
 10 the county doing. He wanted to take a pulse.
 11 And I did share with him some concerns
 12 that we have. You and I talked about it
 13 earlier today.
 14 There's some things about the State plan
 15 that I personally don't agree with. I don't
 16 agree with the fact that you can go into a car
 17 dealership and purchase a car but you can't go
 18 into a car wash and get your car washed. I
 19 don't agree with you can go for a long walk by
 20 yourself, but you can't play on a 250-acre golf
 21 course. I don't agree with the fact that you

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1 can take a boat out to go fishing on a charter
 2 boat, but you can't take your boat out for a
 3 recreational ride.
 4 So there's some things about the decision
 5 that I don't like, either. I really don't.
 6 And I made that case when I talked to Mr. Schuh
 7 earlier today. So we'll see.
 8 If they're making these phone calls, they
 9 want to hear from counties, then hopefully they
 10 will start incorporating some of these changes,
 11 small changes in place.
 12 And I certainly will agree with Ms. Price.
 13 I think you have to take a reasonable approach
 14 when you're doing this. If you look at Garrett
 15 County's numbers and you look at the Eastern
 16 Shore numbers, with the exception of Wicomico,
 17 the infection rate here has been dramatically
 18 lower than what is happening in Prince George's
 19 County and what's happening in Baltimore
 20 County.
 21 So hopefully when they look at these

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1 openings, and I know the governor is sensitive
 2 as well.
 3 And I know we've been on this for a while
 4 and I'm going to call the vote in a second.
 5 But I know the governor is sensitive to
 6 opening one region, maybe Deep Creek in Garrett
 7 County, and then everyone flock out there and
 8 now Garrett County sees a spike. I know he's
 9 sensitive to that and I could appreciate that.
 10 But I hear what you all are saying. I
 11 just don't feel that artificially placing a
 12 May 15th date is the right way to handle a
 13 health issue in the county. I really don't.
 14 So if there's no further comment, there
 15 has been an amendment made. I need a second on
 16 the amendment.
 17 Hearing none, Madam Secretary, the
 18 amendment fails.
 19 MR. CALLAHAN: And the other one I
 20 offered, Mr. Pack, is basically what we've been
 21 talking about for 15 minutes.

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1 MR. PACK: Okay. Why don't we have Madam
 2 Secretary read -- do you have Mr. Callahan's
 3 amendment, Madam Secretary?
 4 SECRETARY: I do.
 5 MR. PACK: Could you or Mr. Kupersmith,
 6 whatever who feels comfortable, just read the
 7 wording of his amendment so that we can make
 8 sure we. . .
 9 MR. KUPERSMITH: Sure. I'm happy to
 10 highlight the amendment. I won't go line by
 11 line.
 12 MR. PACK: That's fine.
 13 MR. KUPERSMITH: I'm just going to give
 14 you the gist of it.
 15 MR. PACK: Thank you.
 16 MR. KUPERSMITH: Which is that it would
 17 change section ten of the emergency
 18 declaration, which deals with short-term
 19 rentals, to say no new reservations for less
 20 than 15 nights for the period from March 31st
 21 to May 31st shall be made.

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1 So what it's doing is basically saying as
 2 long as the booking is at least 15 nights, then
 3 you can do a booking. And the reason for that
 4 15-day time period is that it's consistent with
 5 the quarantining, self-quarantining principles
 6 that public health authorities have provided
 7 that say you should self-quarantine for 14
 8 days.
 9 So the idea is if somebody came here from
 10 somewhere else, we're going to have them stay
 11 for at least 15 days so that they can do a full
 12 14-day self-quarantine. So that's the reason
 13 for the timing.
 14 So somebody could do 15 days, they could
 15 do 20 days, they could do the full month.
 16 That's the proposed amendment. So it
 17 provides more flexibility to short-term rental
 18 owners to be able to do some limited short-term
 19 rentals.
 20 MR. PACK: Mr. Callahan, you have any
 21 comment on your amendment?

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1 MR. CALLAHAN: Yeah, I do.
 2 MR. PACK: I'll hear from you.
 3 MR. CALLAHAN: I really appreciate, first
 4 of all, I've talked to each one of you and
 5 you've told me your feelings and you feel like
 6 it's not the right time to do this.
 7 But I feel like it gives a little bit of
 8 flexibility to the owners to bring in a little
 9 bit of revenue this month because I'm hoping if
 10 we're not going to do it this month, I'm hoping
 11 that we can do something in June.
 12 But I would just ask Council to consider
 13 it so some of these people can have a little
 14 bit of revenue and it's livelihood.
 15 MS. PRICE: Well, everybody's livelihood
 16 is being hurt. And the whole purpose behind
 17 was we don't want -- we've done such a good job
 18 here. Look at our numbers. The last thing we
 19 want to do right now is to bring people here.
 20 There's nothing to do. The hotels, I
 21 believe I read some information, even the

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1 hotels are not taking in any reservations at
 2 this time.
 3 We still have it available for emergency
 4 personnel if need be. We would certainly
 5 accommodate that.
 6 But at this point, our numbers are so
 7 good, I think the last thing we want is for
 8 them to come here. There's nothing to do,
 9 nothing is open, no restaurants, no -- and then
 10 the only thing they'd do is possibly bringing
 11 that virus with them and going into our grocery
 12 stores and possibly infecting other people.
 13 There's nothing for them to do.
 14 As soon as we can open back up for
 15 business and we get tourism going again, we
 16 hope that all of our hotels and bed and
 17 breakfasts and everything will be opened up
 18 again.
 19 But the purpose behind this was we didn't
 20 want people coming from out of the area. And I
 21 believe that's still part of the governor's

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1 orders.
 2 MR. PACK: That is correct.
 3 MS. PRICE: So you're not supposed to be
 4 leaving your house. So if you're not supposed
 5 to be leaving your house per the governor's
 6 orders, then they can't come here anyway. So
 7 I'm not so sure that we could even do this if
 8 we wanted to.
 9 MR. PACK: I mean if you look on any of
 10 the overhead road signage around the state, and
 11 I'm assuming other states as well, it says
 12 essential travel only, essential.
 13 And coming here for 15 days because you're
 14 fed up of what's happening in D.C. or New York
 15 or New Jersey and you just want to get away for
 16 15 days, that's not essential travel, that's
 17 not essential.
 18 Another thing about this that troubles me
 19 is the enforcement. If the renter decides
 20 after a week he's ready to go back, who
 21 enforces that? I mean there's no way of

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1 knowing when that renter says okay, I've been
 2 here a week and I want to go back home. How do
 3 you know?
 4 MR. CALLAHAN: (Inaudible) they paid for
 5 15.
 6 MR. PACK: Well, you see, it's not the
 7 point of the money. It's the point of
 8 unnecessary travel and the risk of transmission
 9 of this disease.
 10 I mean money aside, yeah, money is
 11 important, it is important. It has a purpose.
 12 But it's the transmission of this disease that
 13 you're playing with here, Chuck. And that's
 14 what I'm trying to stress with you, is that you
 15 want to minimize people's travel in the county.
 16 Fifteen days or five, \$500 or 1,500. You want
 17 to minimize their travel. And you don't want
 18 to open up this until we have clear health
 19 direction that we're ready to do so. That's
 20 all I'm trying to say.
 21 MR. DIVILIO: Mr. Callahan, when I think

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1 about this, and I start thinking about I guess
 2 my personality and how I would think about
 3 things, we think out of the box. And you have
 4 to, as any business owner or entrepreneur,
 5 you're always thinking out of the box.
 6 Could people come here for 15 days safely,
 7 yes. Could they stay in a short-term rental
 8 and self-quarantine, absolutely. Could they
 9 clean the rental before the next person comes,
 10 yes. It's all possible.
 11 And the question is does Talbot County
 12 want to be out in front of this or behind it.
 13 Do we want to go ahead and lift it and then
 14 people can come here once the governor does it,
 15 or are we going to wait for the governor to
 16 lift it and then we say okay, now you can start
 17 booking rentals.
 18 So I can certainly understand where you're
 19 coming from with this and putting Talbot County
 20 ahead of things so that business can start, can
 21 be prepared for Hogan whenever he does lift

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1 that stay-at-home order.
 2 I hate when government slows things down.
 3 This will be one of those times if this doesn't
 4 pass.
 5 MR. CALLAHAN: Right.
 6 MR. DIVILIO: And yes, we're going to be
 7 behind the eight ball waiting for the governor
 8 to make a change and then we'll all be rushing
 9 to meet again and fix it.
 10 MR. PACK: Well, I don't really agree with
 11 that characterization of behind the eight ball.
 12 To Ms. Price's point, anything as far as
 13 the movie theaters, the bowling allies, the
 14 restaurants, they're shut down. Bringing
 15 someone here for 15 days on an unnecessary
 16 trip, to do what, to self-quarantine. He can
 17 do that in New Jersey. He can do that in D.C.
 18 MS. PRICE: I'm pretty sure we probably
 19 can't even do this.
 20 MR. PACK: He doesn't need to come here
 21 for 15 days to self-quarantine.

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1 MR. DIVILIO: We're not saying quarantine.
 2 We're not even --
 3 MR. PACK: Well, I mean to
 4 Mr. Kupersmith's point, the reason why the 15
 5 days, I'm assuming, was the number of days that
 6 was selected was because that's the quarantine
 7 period.
 8 But you can do that at home. You don't
 9 need to come here to quarantine in our
 10 neighborhoods. I don't get it.
 11 MR. DIVILIO: And not that we're inviting.
 12 Obviously this is not an invitation for that.
 13 The governor still has the stay-at-home order
 14 in place so people can't even come here.
 15 MR. CALLAHAN: Right, right.
 16 MR. DIVILIO: It's just a matter of do we
 17 want to put the cart before the horse.
 18 MS. PRICE: Well, again, we've got the
 19 12th. I mean we've got a couple of more weeks.
 20 And if he lifts the stay-at-home order, we can
 21 change this on the 12th.

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1 We can meet and declare a special
 2 legislative day any time we want if four of us
 3 agree and lift any or all of these orders.
 4 So I don't think that we need to get
 5 behind the eight ball. I think we're all very
 6 much paying attention to what is going on and
 7 we're antsy.
 8 I get it. We want people to come here
 9 safely. And as soon as we are able to do that,
 10 I think we're going to be all for it.
 11 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay.
 12 MR. PACK: From a billiard standpoint, you
 13 want to be behind the eight ball. You want to
 14 knock it in the hole. So that's where we want
 15 to be, right, if you're shooting pool. Anyway.
 16 MS. PRICE: Unless you're playing that
 17 game where you don't want to sink the eight
 18 ball.
 19 MR. PACK: Right.
 20 MS. PRICE: Right.
 21 MR. PACK: So we have a motion by

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1 Mr. Callahan. We had a chance to kind of kick
 2 it around a bit. We've had a chance to talk
 3 about it.
 4 I need a second to the motion.
 5 Hearing none, Madam Secretary, the motion
 6 fails.
 7 So Mr. Kupersmith, now back before us is
 8 the original amendment as read by Madam
 9 Secretary.
 10 Any further discussion on the original
 11 amendment to the emergency declaration as read
 12 by Madam Secretary?
 13 This is to extend out to May 31st. And
 14 this will give license holders through
 15 June 31st for those licenses so they won't have
 16 to worry about pushing to get those licenses
 17 renewed.
 18 MR. LESHER: Mr. Pack, this is clearly an
 19 important measure, just as much so as it was
 20 the last time we passed this.
 21 We need to empower our Emergency Services

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1 Department to be able to take these measures.
 2 We commend them for all the work that they've
 3 been doing, and we need to equip them with the
 4 tools to continue doing that good work.
 5 So we need to -- if it's in order, I'll
 6 move passage of this.
 7 MR. PACK: Motion by Mr. Leshner on the
 8 amendment.
 9 MS. PRICE: Second.
 10 MR. PACK: Seconded by Ms. Price. Any
 11 further discussion on the amended declaration?
 12 MR. DIVILIO: The only comment I would
 13 really like to make is on number eight, the
 14 boards and commission meetings. I don't want
 15 government to be the chokehold for anyone, any
 16 business, any individual who is on the verge of
 17 trying to get the permit to get going.
 18 Again, I really hope that -- I know
 19 technology can be extremely difficult, but I
 20 want to make sure that we are doing our best to
 21 continue life in Talbot County for the

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1 residents as much as possible.
 2 MR. PACK: Yes. As a matter of fact, the
 3 Public Works Advisory Board has two meetings
 4 the 1st of May. That will be meeting.
 5 Does the Planning Commission have a
 6 meeting in May as well?
 7 MR. KUPERSMITH: They're planning on it.
 8 SECRETARY: They're looking at May 30th.
 9 MR. PACK: I know the Liquor Board heard a
 10 case under the last declaration.
 11 So we're still moving. And to your point,
 12 yes, with technology we are certainly keeping
 13 our distance, as you can see here tonight.
 14 That's why we're in the Wye Oak Room. We're
 15 setting up to do that by conference call. We
 16 are moving forward.
 17 Ray sent out the agenda on those meetings
 18 last week, or early this week I should say.
 19 So yeah, we're moving. Of course, if
 20 there's something of a crucial matter, then
 21 they can always bring that to county manager to

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1 have another meeting if they need to. Okay.
 2 We have a motion and a second. Madam
 3 Secretary, if there's no further discussion,
 4 please call the roll on the amended emergency
 5 declaration of Council.
 6 SECRETARY: Mr. Pack.
 7 MR. PACK: Aye.
 8 SECRETARY: Mr. Divilio.
 9 MR. DIVILIO: Aye.
 10 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.
 11 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.
 12 SECRETARY: Ms. Price.
 13 MS. PRICE: Aye.
 14 SECRETARY: Mr. Leshner.
 15 MR. LESHER: Aye.
 16 MR. PACK: Okay. Thank you very much.
 17 And Council, now moving on, we have a
 18 discussion of proposed assistance to the tax
 19 payers during COVID-19.
 20 Thank you very much, Mr. Stamp.
 21 MR. STAMP: Thank you.

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1 MR. PACK: Have a good evening.
 2 We're going to hear from Ms. Lane. She's
 3 coming in the room now. There she is. Angela
 4 Lane, our finance officer, is here.
 5 Ms. Lane, the floor is yours when you're
 6 ready.
 7 MS. LANE: Good evening. I guess at our
 8 last meeting, Council had asked staff to come
 9 back with some possible recommendations for
 10 ways we may be able to help our citizens
 11 through this trying times, particularly as
 12 businesses are shut down.
 13 So I've given you a list of several areas
 14 where I think we may be able to assist them. I
 15 don't know if you want me to just go through
 16 the list.
 17 MR. PACK: Yeah, why don't you, please.
 18 Yes.
 19 MS. LANE: Under sewer payments, we
 20 actually can allow partial payments now, but we
 21 would like to encourage people if they can't

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1 make their full payment, to make a partial
 2 payment.
 3 I'm proposing that we would waive interest
 4 and penalties for all bills for the months of
 5 April through December of 2020.
 6 I would also request that Council consider
 7 only including properties with an unpaid
 8 balance as of December 31, 2019, in our 2001
 9 tax sales. That basically gives people a
 10 little extra time before we would sell their
 11 property at tax sale just for sewer. If they
 12 have real property taxes, we can't waive that.
 13 That's in State law. But it is just for a
 14 balance due from a sewer bill. That would give
 15 them additional time to get caught up.
 16 MR. PACK: Right.
 17 MS. LANE: Particularly in businesses.
 18 Since we aren't metered, a number of our
 19 businesses have fairly high bills and with
 20 being shut down, it's kind of hard for them to
 21 deal with the extra payments. I don't think

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1 (inaudible) restaurants and hotels in the
 2 county.
 3 MR. PACK: Right.
 4 MS. LANE: Under real property taxes, I
 5 would like to consider allowing partial
 6 payments. This would not change the due dates
 7 for tax bills. And those properties would have
 8 to be included if they are unpaid in the
 9 May 2021 tax sale. We can't waive that.
 10 That's in State code.
 11 But we've never allowed partial payments
 12 on our tax bills, but I think that would be a
 13 benefit to a number of tax payers. We do hear
 14 that periodically that it makes it easier for
 15 them to budget.
 16 Even if the due dates don't stop or
 17 change, the first installment is due in
 18 September. The second installment would still
 19 be due the end of December. But being able to
 20 just make a monthly payment is something a
 21 number of businesses and tax payers have asked

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1 for over the years.
 2 Another option could be that we would
 3 allow or we would waive interest and penalties
 4 for the period of October through December.
 5 There's some pitfalls with this. This
 6 would impact collections for the Towns of
 7 Oxford, Queen Anne, St. Michael's, and Trappe.
 8 They would also have to agree to waive that and
 9 the State.
 10 Now, with the State, we could possibly pay
 11 their lost revenues, if the Council wanted to
 12 do that. We believe that loss would be
 13 approximately \$19,000, but there are some
 14 challenges with waiving interest and penalties
 15 on real property tax bills. And at this point,
 16 we have not heard that the State is even
 17 considering that as an option.
 18 MR. PACK: Okay.
 19 MS. PRICE: I do think that would be worth
 20 bringing to them as they have extended the tax
 21 filing deadlines for not just individuals but

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1 also businesses, things like that. So I think
 2 it's probably worth --
 3 That may be something we get MACo involved
 4 with and seeing, maybe talk to some of your
 5 finance director friends and see if that's
 6 worth sending a letter saying would they
 7 consider something like that, as we move
 8 (inaudible) planning process.
 9 MS. LANE: Right. The one thing I do
 10 know, real property taxes are all earmarked for
 11 debt service at the State level. So I'm not
 12 sure how much flexibility they have in terms of
 13 what revenues they need to pay their debt
 14 service. All real property tax payments go
 15 towards debt service.
 16 MS. PRICE: Right. I think we were just
 17 talking about maybe the interest and penalties.
 18 MS. LANE: That all goes there, too. So
 19 I'm not sure. It's something we'll pursue.
 20 There's obviously more hoops that we need to
 21 jump through to do that option.

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1 MS. PRICE: Okay.
 2 MS. LANE: Public accommodations taxes.
 3 We are not proposing any changes. Those are
 4 collected from the guests at the time of their
 5 stay.
 6 MR. PACK: Nobody is traveling anyway.
 7 MS. LANE: Right. So it's not a big
 8 issue.
 9 The mobile manufactured homes, they pay
 10 \$50 per unit per quarter. We are proposing
 11 that upon request of the property owner, we
 12 would defer payments for the quarter ending
 13 June 30, 2020, and September 30, 2020, until
 14 December 31st.
 15 We have four communities that this would
 16 impact. Some of them have already paid through
 17 June 30th. And they have all but one have
 18 already paid through March 31st. So they're
 19 current. It's just going forward. And that
 20 would be upon request from the property owner.
 21 And again, I would recommend that we waive

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1 all interest and penalties on any of those
 2 payments for the period of April through
 3 December 2020 if they are late.
 4 MR. PACK: And these are all located in
 5 the county. So we do not have to go through
 6 municipalities regarding this one, correct?
 7 MS. LANE: Right. This is just for the
 8 county.
 9 And then we have a number of leases
 10 through the airport. And we're proposing that
 11 the airport manager would negotiate deferral
 12 terms with any airport tenant that would
 13 request it. We've worked -- they've worked
 14 with the Office of Law, working on amended
 15 agreements.
 16 And right now, the deferral term would be
 17 for an initial period of 90 days. And at that
 18 point, it would be reevaluated and extended if
 19 necessary. No penalties and interest would be
 20 assessed. And at the conclusion of the
 21 deferral period, they would be developing a

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1 repayment plan for the lost rent revenue at
 2 that point. And there would be no deferral for
 3 fuel bills.
 4 MR. PACK: Thank you, Ms. Lane.
 5 We have our airport manager, Mr. Micah is
 6 here with us.
 7 Micah, let's start from the bottom of the
 8 page and go up since you're here.
 9 MR. RISHER: Okay.
 10 MR. PACK: You can speak to your bullet
 11 points here. Thank you for being with us this
 12 evening, and I'll turn the floor over to you.
 13 MR. RISHER: Thank you. So we started
 14 looking at this about a month ago when the
 15 pandemic really started to hit home. We had
 16 some businesses that were immediately impacted.
 17 Obviously our restaurant was forced to shut
 18 down. And we had some smaller businesses that
 19 do advertising with us, rental cars, things of
 20 that nature. They started feeling the impact
 21 almost immediately.

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1 So we really have this all across the
 2 scale. We have some tenants that their rent is
 3 on the lower end, a few hundred dollars, some
 4 that are 1,000 or so. Those are the ones that
 5 have come to me and asked for relief right now.
 6 I've had conversations with some of our
 7 larger tenants that own the larger businesses
 8 at the airport. They're doing okay right now.
 9 But obviously the longer things are shut down,
 10 the more losses that they're incurring that
 11 there may be a need for relief.
 12 So really this is a proactive measure to
 13 have something in place, something that's
 14 already vetted that we've run through the
 15 Office of Law. That way when that tenant comes
 16 and says I'm up against the wall, we need help,
 17 we can put them in this vehicle to help them
 18 get them what they need and then we can work
 19 out a repayment plan on the back side.
 20 MR. HOLLIS: It's also supported by your
 21 board, correct?

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1 MR. RISHER: Absolutely, yes.
 2 MR. PACK: That was going to be my next
 3 question, Mr. Hollis. Thank you very much.
 4 MR. RISHER: That's where we started. We
 5 had a special meeting. We talked about all
 6 these options with the board. So this is fully
 7 supported by the Airport Advisory Board and
 8 myself.
 9 MR. PACK: Ms. Price, (inaudible).
 10 MR. RISHER: Ms. Price.
 11 MR. PACK: So the negotiation would be
 12 handled by yourself?
 13 MR. RISHER: Right. And the reason for
 14 that, Mr. Pack, is because each plan would be
 15 individualized. Some, depending on the amount
 16 of help they need, we wanted to be able to
 17 tailor it to something that fit that
 18 individual, that business. And it's probably
 19 not going to be a cookie cutter, one size fits
 20 all.
 21 Some people, they might need 12 months to

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1 pay it back. Some people might be like I want
 2 to get current as quickly as possible. So that
 3 allows me to give the individualized approach
 4 to each business.
 5 MR. PACK: So you would write this up and
 6 go to the Office of Law for drafting. And then
 7 you would bring it back to the property owner
 8 for his signature or her signature on it?
 9 MR. RISHER: Absolutely.
 10 MR. PACK: To be executed.
 11 MR. RISHER: Yes, sir.
 12 MR. PACK: Ms. Price, you're our rep. You
 13 have any comment on this?
 14 MS. PRICE: I was not in attendance at
 15 that virtual meeting. But someone paying rent,
 16 it's difficult, and even paying it back is
 17 difficult.
 18 And as I was listening to the presentation
 19 earlier about the different funding mechanisms
 20 that are coming through, that is some place we
 21 might be able to help small business, those who

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1 don't qualify because just because you can
 2 start paying rent again doesn't mean you have
 3 enough money to pay the back rent, which every
 4 landlord is going to expect, both in the
 5 housing community and in commercial properties.
 6 So I do hope that commercial landlords,
 7 now that we are one of them, are going to work
 8 with the business owners in this case. So I'm
 9 very supportive of deferring it. And then with
 10 individual businesses, they just have to figure
 11 out where they can go get loans or help or
 12 grants in order to help pay for the either lost
 13 or declining revenues they have incurred during
 14 this time.
 15 MR. RISHER: Absolutely. The overarching
 16 goal here is to help our businesses and all of
 17 our tenants to get through this. That way
 18 they're still there on the other end and we can
 19 give them what they need to still exist.
 20 MR. PACK: Right. I know some of the
 21 banking institutions, when they do the

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1 forbearance of mortgages, 90 days or 60 days.
 2 What they do is give you a balloon payment at
 3 the end of that forbearance period, which is no
 4 help at all. That's no help at all. Instead
 5 of amortizing it at the end of the, restructure
 6 the amortization of the loan and tack it on at
 7 the end, they want it all in 90 days.
 8 Well, if the homeowner was struggling in
 9 the 60th day, surely he's struggling in the
 10 90th day.
 11 MR. RISHER: Yes.
 12 MR. PACK: So hopefully you guys won't
 13 be --
 14 MR. RISHER: We --
 15 MR. PACK: -- balloon payments.
 16 MR. RISHER: We really truly want to help
 17 our community.
 18 MR. PACK: Thank you.
 19 MR. RISHER: Get through this.
 20 MR. PACK: Thank you. Council, we have
 21 two, four, six, eight bullets underneath the

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1 airport portion of this. Do we want to vote on
 2 these collectively or do you want to take them
 3 one by one?
 4 MR. LESHER: Mr. Pack, I've got just a
 5 quick question.
 6 MR. PACK: Sure.
 7 MR. LESHER: For, probably for Ms. Lane.
 8 Which is since the airport is an Enterprise
 9 Fund and if this results in less airport income
 10 for a particular fiscal year, either the one
 11 that we're in or the coming fiscal year, are
 12 general county finances insulated from any
 13 negative balance or any lack of balance in the
 14 airport's funding? Do these ultimate
 15 repayments accrue to that fiscal year? Are we
 16 insulated from that or is there a possible
 17 negative impact on the county generally?
 18 MS. LANE: In terms of sort of their
 19 financial statements, we would still -- there's
 20 no reason why we wouldn't accrue the revenue in
 21 the current fiscal year, unless we have some

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1 real concern that we will never collect those
 2 revenues. And sometimes we know there are
 3 certain tenants who may -- who will probably
 4 not pay. So we wouldn't accrue that.
 5 So the airport, from a revenue standpoint,
 6 their financials would look fine. There may be
 7 some tweaking for some specific rents where we
 8 do have concerns.
 9 If, at the end of the fiscal year, they're
 10 in a negative cash position, the general fund
 11 will make a loan to cover their cash position
 12 at the end of the year and they would have to
 13 pay us interest for that.
 14 But that's the only impact, with the
 15 expectation that in the next fiscal year when
 16 they collect the rest of the revenues, they
 17 would be in a positive cash position.
 18 MS. PRICE: So we can be pretty confident
 19 that the airport will pay us back.
 20 MR. RISHER: Yes. And something else,
 21 too, just to kind of put it out there.

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1 Of course, we have received the \$157,000
 2 CARES grant that's going to be coming to the
 3 airport shortly. So that's going to help the
 4 airport if we needed to adjust for some of
 5 these lost revenue.
 6 And also, in my budget, my request for
 7 '21, I do have areas of the budget that I do
 8 not plan on touching until I know the ship is
 9 steady. So there's some capital areas that
 10 we're not even going to bring up yet, some
 11 special project areas.
 12 So we have money in the budget that we'll
 13 probably wait later in the year to make sure
 14 the ship is steady and this is coming in
 15 before we start expending those funds.
 16 I really, as of right now, I don't see
 17 that becoming an issue for '21's budget.
 18 MR. LESHER: And the board is comfortable
 19 with that risk, then?
 20 MR. RISHER: Yes, sir.
 21 MS. PRICE: So your question was whether

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1 you want to do these eight collectively. So
 2 I'll make a motion to do all eight
 3 collectively.
 4 MR. PACK: Okay. Do all eight
 5 collectively.
 6 MR. CALLAHAN: Second it.
 7 MR. PACK: Okay. I don't know
 8 (inaudible). So we're going to do all eight
 9 collectively then.
 10 MS. PRICE: So I'll make a motion for all
 11 eight.
 12 MR. PACK: So a motion on all of these
 13 eight items. And Ms. Lane has already read off
 14 to us.
 15 Ms. Price made a motion, seconded by
 16 Mr. Callahan, to accept these eight, these
 17 assistance for tax payers at the airport or
 18 business owners at the airport.
 19 Madam Secretary, would you please call
 20 your roll.
 21 SECRETARY: Mr. Pack.

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1 MR. PACK: Aye.
 2 SECRETARY: Mr. Divilio.
 3 MR. DIVILIO: Aye.
 4 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.
 5 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.
 6 SECRETARY: Ms. Price.
 7 MS. PRICE: Aye.
 8 SECRETARY: Mr. Leshner.
 9 MR. LESHER: Aye.
 10 MR. PACK: And thank you very much.
 11 Micah, before you leave.
 12 Ms. Lane, will you also be coordinating
 13 with Micah with the writing, drafting of these
 14 documents or will your office be involved in
 15 any way?
 16 MS. LANE: We will probably be involved
 17 after the fact. I believe the initial
 18 negotiations and the initial paperwork will be
 19 handled between the airport and the Office of
 20 Law.
 21 MR. PACK: So Tony, okay.

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1 And you may be a bit short handed over the
 2 next couple of weeks.
 3 Micah, thank you very much.
 4 MR. RISHER: Thank you.
 5 MR. PACK: Appreciate all your help at the
 6 airport, really do.
 7 MR. HOLLIS: Mr. President?
 8 MR. PACK: Yes.
 9 MR. HOLLIS: Would it be possible to just
 10 quickly take the introduction of the numbered
 11 resolution while your airport manager is here?
 12 I think it's a very short agenda item. It
 13 would be number nine.
 14 MR. PACK: You're messing up my agenda
 15 here, Mr. Hollis. But for you, I guess I can
 16 do that.
 17 Ms. Lane, stay put.
 18 We're going to jump to the numbered
 19 resolution, unless there's an objection by
 20 anybody of Council at the request of our county
 21 manager.

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1 Madam Secretary, you should have a
 2 numbered resolution, which is item number nine.
 3 If you wouldn't mind reading the title of that.
 4 SECRETARY: A resolution to approve
 5 execution of an option to lease as well as the
 6 terms of a long-term lease of certain
 7 unimproved land located adjacent to the
 8 existing cellular tower on Corkran Road at
 9 Easton Airport to New Cingular Wireless PCS,
 10 LLC. The land to be leased consisting of 414
 11 square feet. The term of the option being one
 12 year in exchange for the non-refundable sum of
 13 \$1,000, and the term of the lease being five
 14 years with rent of \$1,000 per month, subject to
 15 a three percent annual escalator and the right
 16 to renew said lease for five successive renewal
 17 terms of five years each.
 18 MR. PACK: Thank you very much, Madam
 19 Secretary.
 20 Mr. Risher, I'll hear from you, please.
 21 MR. RISHER: Yes, sir. So here is some of

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1 that revenue that we're looking for.
 2 We've been working on this deal for about
 3 a year with AT&T, New Cingular Wireless. It is
 4 their subsidiary.
 5 So this is putting another tenant on the
 6 cell tower. Of course, we have Verizon on
 7 there fully operational right now. We have a
 8 deal with T-Mobile. They're still in their
 9 option period. We got their option approved,
 10 got their lease approved before they went into
 11 that merger with Sprint.
 12 So they actually contacted me earlier this
 13 month as well. That merger is complete and
 14 they're going to be moving forward very
 15 shortly.
 16 So this, AT&T, is very exciting. Putting
 17 this will be the third carrier on the tower.
 18 Similar terms. Actually the exact same terms
 19 as what we did with the previous two.
 20 So this is a win-win for obviously the
 21 airport, the county, and will improve cell

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1 service for users of AT&T services.
 2 MR. PACK: Absolutely, great. We need all
 3 the coverage we can on that end of the county
 4 going towards Cordova.
 5 MR. RISHER: That's right.
 6 MR. PACK: Absolutely. Any questions of
 7 Micah on the cell tower lease of AT&T, a third
 8 carrier?
 9 I guess we're all happy about that, more
 10 revenue going to the airport.
 11 Chair would entertain a motion.
 12 MR. DIVILIO: So moved.
 13 MR. PACK: I'm sorry, I'm sorry. I
 14 apologize. This is a numbered resolution.
 15 Can I have by a show of hands for
 16 introduction?
 17 Madam Secretary, by Council. And you have
 18 a number for the resolution?
 19 SECRETARY: Yes. This will be Resolution
 20 Number 284. And the public hearing will be
 21 held on Tuesday, May 26th, at 6:30.

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1 MR. PACK: Tuesday, May 26th. Okay.
 2 Micah, we'll see you back then. Thank
 3 you.
 4 MR. RISHER: Thank you.
 5 MR. PACK: We're going to jump back over
 6 to where we were with Ms. Lane.
 7 Moving up on our sheet, we have the mobile
 8 manufactured homes. This would be a savings
 9 for those property owners of \$25 per quarter --
 10 per unit per quarter, per unit per quarter.
 11 Excuse me.
 12 Any questions of Ms. Lane on that, that
 13 reduction? There are two bullet items here.
 14 Do you want to take them separately or
 15 together?
 16 MS. PRICE: So question. So any interest
 17 and penalties would not be back. So we would
 18 start January 1st of 2021. And if they have
 19 not been current by the end of December.
 20 MS. LANE: Right.
 21 MS. PRICE: Interest and penalties would

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1 start January 1st, it wouldn't be back to when
 2 they stopped making their payment?
 3 MS. LANE: Right.
 4 MS. PRICE: Got it.
 5 MS. LANE: They're all current with the
 6 exception of one, who is just behind with their
 7 March payment. They actually pay quite well.
 8 MS. PRICE: So I'll make a motion to
 9 accept that recommendation on the mobile
 10 manufactured home.
 11 MR. PACK: So just that one bullet or both
 12 of them?
 13 MS. PRICE: Both.
 14 MR. PACK: Okay. We're going to do both
 15 of them again. Motion to do both of these
 16 together.
 17 Can I get a second to the motion, if
 18 there's one?
 19 MR. DIVILIO: Second.
 20 MR. PACK: Seconded by Mr. Divilio. Any
 21 questions about either bullet item?

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1 MR. CALLAHAN: I only have one.

2 MR. PACK: Go ahead.

3 MR. CALLAHAN: When you're using the

4 wording mobile manufactured home, what are you

5 actually defining that as?

6 MS. LANE: That's what is in our code, is

7 mobile manufactured home. Those are the

8 communities that we used to called trailers.

9 Hyde Park, Swann Haven, Waltons, Foster has one.

10 Those are the four.

11 MR. CALLAHAN: So we're really talking

12 trailer, not manufactured homes like Beracah?

13 MS. LANE: No.

14 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Just making sure if

15 somebody said something.

16 MS. LANE: This is actually the

17 terminology we have in the code.

18 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. I was just curious

19 if it comes up.

20 MR. PACK: Okay. Good?

21 MR. CALLAHAN: Yeah.

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1 MR. PACK: We have a motion and a second.

2 If there's no further conversation or comment,

3 Madam Secretary, on the mobile home, mobile

4 manufactured discount, will you please call

5 your roll.

6 SECRETARY: Mr. Pack.

7 MR. PACK: Aye.

8 SECRETARY: Mr. Divilio.

9 MR. DIVILIO: Aye.

10 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.

11 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.

12 SECRETARY: Ms. Price.

13 MS. PRICE: Aye.

14 SECRETARY: Mr. Leshner.

15 MR. LESHER: Aye.

16 MR. PACK: Moving up, Council, your next

17 item is the public accommodations tax. There's

18 only one bullet item there.

19 MR. LESHER: There's no change proposed.

20 MR. PACK: I'm sorry. You're right.

21 Thank you very much, Mr. Leshner. So nothing

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1 for us to do there.

2 So jump up to the next item, which is your

3 real property tax bill. This has some nuances

4 to it. So open that up for any comment or

5 question of Ms. Lane on this one.

6 MS. LANE: I would certainly say I would

7 like to see us be allowed to accept partial

8 payments.

9 MR. PACK: Okay. The top bullet there.

10 MS. LANE: Then we may have to try to do

11 some more work on whether waiving interest and

12 penalties is even an option, if that's

13 something Council wants to pursue.

14 MS. PRICE: So I do have a question about

15 credit card payments right now. We do accept

16 them but we're charging a fee?

17 MS. LANE: Uh-huh. We're not allowed

18 under State law to discount. We're not allowed

19 to absorb that discount. So you have to use a

20 third party vendor and they all charge a fee.

21 MS. PRICE: Right. I mean as a business

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1 owner, I do too. But we don't have to pass

2 along the fee.

3 MS. LANE: Under State law, we are not

4 allowed to discount. So we can't absorb that

5 fee for taxes.

6 MS. PRICE: So if the bill is \$100 and

7 it's an extra dollar for the credit card

8 charge, we have to charge \$101?

9 MS. LANE: Yeah. We're not allowed to

10 accept them in our offices.

11 MR. PACK: Any other comment or question?

12 Okay.

13 MS. LANE: And every county uses a third

14 party for property tax collections.

15 MS. PRICE: I mean everybody, other than

16 maybe Wal-Mart or something like that. But you

17 don't -- I mean as a business, you don't have

18 to pass along the fee.

19 So I just didn't know that about

20 government, that we must pass on the fee.

21 MS. LANE: We're not allowed to discount

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1 property taxes.
 2 MS. PRICE: It's not a discount on
 3 property taxes. It's just waiving the fee.
 4 MS. LANE: Right. But then we would be
 5 reducing what we would be paying out to the
 6 State and to the municipalities.
 7 MR. PACK: Let's move on, please.
 8 So the first bullet item is what's being,
 9 I'm hearing from Ms. Lane, recommended that
 10 Council proceed on. Can the chair get a motion
 11 on that first bullet item?
 12 MR. LESHER: I can support that. So I'll
 13 move in favor of --
 14 MS. PRICE: Second.
 15 MR. PACK: Motion made by Mr. Leshner,
 16 seconded by Ms. Price. Any further discussion
 17 on the allowance of partial payments for real
 18 property for FY21? This will be a big savings
 19 for our customers.
 20 Madam Secretary, please call your roll.
 21 SECRETARY: Mr. Pack.

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1 MR. PACK: Aye.
 2 SECRETARY: Mr. Divilio.
 3 MR. DIVILIO: Aye.
 4 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.
 5 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.
 6 SECRETARY: Ms. Price.
 7 MS. PRICE: Aye.
 8 SECRETARY: Mr. Leshner.
 9 MR. LESHER: Aye.
 10 MR. PACK: Okay. And the first item is
 11 the sewer payment. We have three bullet items
 12 there. Partial payments, waiver of interest
 13 and penalties, and also include the unpaid
 14 balances through December 31st, 2019.
 15 MR. LESHER: My question on this, I
 16 presume that it's the same answer as with the
 17 airport Enterprise Fund, because these are self
 18 funded.
 19 MS. LANE: Right. Actually, again, we
 20 will -- all the revenues are accrued. We
 21 really don't write off anything because

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1 eventually we will sell these properties at tax
 2 sale if balances remain unpaid.
 3 In terms of the interest loss, it's pretty
 4 insignificant. Looking across all five
 5 sanitary districts, I'm projecting that we may
 6 lose between eight to \$10,000 for waiving the
 7 penalties. So that's not particularly
 8 significant over all five districts.
 9 MR. PACK: Good.
 10 MR. LESHER: I can move in support of all
 11 three of these provisions as outlined by the
 12 finance office.
 13 MR. PACK: Thank you very much.
 14 MS. PRICE: Second.
 15 MR. PACK: Motion made by Mr. Leshner,
 16 seconded by Ms. Price. Any further discussion
 17 on the sewer payment? Okay.
 18 Madam Secretary, please call your roll.
 19 SECRETARY: Mr. Pack.
 20 MR. PACK: Aye.
 21 SECRETARY: Mr. Divilio.

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1 MR. DIVILIO: Aye.
 2 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.
 3 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.
 4 SECRETARY: Ms. Price.
 5 MS. PRICE: Aye.
 6 SECRETARY: Mr. Leshner.
 7 MR. LESHER: Aye.
 8 MR. PACK: Ms. Lane, let me thank you very
 9 much for taking time to go through this. And
 10 I'm hoping that the tax payers and the citizens
 11 of Talbot County really understand that we are
 12 sensitive to the plight that many of them are
 13 going through.
 14 As we said earlier with Mr. Stamp and
 15 Dr. Wadley, that there will be a day of
 16 reckoning when these bills will come due. So
 17 hopefully by offsetting these and allowing them
 18 to pay it over a period of time, we're kind of
 19 softening the blow with our citizens.
 20 So thank you very much for doing this. We
 21 certainly appreciate it.

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1 MS. LANE: Do you want me to pursue trying
 2 to waive interest and penalties with the State?
 3 Do you want me to contact them?
 4 MR. PACK: Any direction from Council on
 5 that one?
 6 MS. LANE: And our municipalities?
 7 MS. PRICE: Definitely need to talk to the
 8 municipalities and then figure out the best way
 9 to go with the State.
 10 I don't know if it's an individual county
 11 or getting some feedback from the Maryland
 12 Association of Counties first to see whether
 13 it's a collective letter.
 14 I know they're working on some other
 15 things. So this might be something. I mean
 16 I'm happy to bring it up to them and see if
 17 there would be an interest.
 18 As a matter of fact, they sent out two
 19 questions to the board of directors today for
 20 things that asking us if they wanted us to
 21 pursue. So I mean I could mention it and see

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1 what kind of feedback I get. If we want to
 2 send out a survey to the counties and find out
 3 how many counties are interested in pursuing
 4 something like this and if there's a majority.
 5 MR. PACK: I mean --
 6 MR. LESHER: My inclination would be
 7 rather than tasking our Finance Office with
 8 this, let's start with MACo.
 9 I think that the lynchpin on this is
 10 whether or not the State would agree to waive
 11 interest and penalties. I think that we should
 12 follow the State's lead. If they don't do it,
 13 we shouldn't do it. If they do it, I'm ready
 14 to follow along.
 15 MR. PACK: I can sign on with that.
 16 MR. LESHER: But let's not burden the
 17 Finance Office with investigating that.
 18 MR. PACK: Ms. Lane, you got your
 19 instruction there. We'll just wait to see what
 20 direction the State goes with waiving of those
 21 interest and penalties on real property. And

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1 if that's the case, then we'll follow suit.
 2 MS. LANE: Perfect. Thank you.
 3 MR. PACK: Again, thank you very much for
 4 doing this. We really appreciate it. And I
 5 hope the citizens do as well. So that's done
 6 for that one.
 7 Now item number eight. We have a
 8 presentation on the county's priority listing
 9 for the Maryland Department of Transportation.
 10 This is an annual listing that we do.
 11 Ray Clarke, county engineer, is with us
 12 and also is Mike still here? Oh, there he is,
 13 in the back. Mike is here with us as well.
 14 Mike, good seeing you.
 15 And I'll turn the floor over to you, Ray.
 16 MR. CLARKE: Sure thing. Again, as you
 17 indicated, Mr. Pack, each year the Maryland
 18 Department of Transportation requests that the
 19 county I guess put together a priority list for
 20 the Consolidated Transportation Program.
 21 And ultimately we're recommending that we

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1 move forward with the list that we provided
 2 last year. And that basically consists of four
 3 projects, with the fourth project being an A,
 4 B, and C projects.
 5 I can just give you the heading. And if
 6 you like, we can discuss those in length if
 7 you'd like.
 8 The Maryland --
 9 MR. LESHER: Mr. Pack.
 10 MR. PACK: Yes, one moment, Mr. Clarke.
 11 MR. LESHER: Mr. Pack, can we get
 12 Mr. Clarke the microphone? I think the phone
 13 is picking him up, but I want to make sure he
 14 gets on the video as well.
 15 MR. CLARKE: So yes. We have the
 16 Consolidation Transportation Program. We have
 17 basically four projects, with the fourth
 18 project basically being an A, B, and C.
 19 The headings of the first project is
 20 basically the Maryland Route 33 capacity and
 21 evacuation improvements.

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1 The second project is the Maryland Route
 2 329 Rural Oak Road Road safety improvements.
 3 The number three project consists of two
 4 intersections, US Route 50 and Maryland Route
 5 309 as well as US50 and Maryland Route 662,
 6 intersection capacity improvements.
 7 And then our fourth project consists of
 8 three separate projects primarily in the Town
 9 of Easton. And that would be US Route 50 and
 10 Maryland Route 328, Goldsborough Street,
 11 intersection improvements, and then US Route 50
 12 Maryland Route 331, or 331, Dover Street,
 13 intersection improvements, and then finally US
 14 Route 50 and Chapel Road intersection
 15 improvements.
 16 So I think we would recommend that we
 17 proceed with these projects as our listing for
 18 SHA and present those to SHA.
 19 MR. PACK: Okay. I know that first one
 20 has probably been on this list for some time
 21 now.

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1 MR. CLARKE: It has.
 2 MR. PACK: Quite some time. Okay.
 3 Any question about any of these?
 4 MR. LESHER: I recall we tweaked it last
 5 year, that priority number one.
 6 MR. CLARKE: Yes.
 7 MR. LESHER: Reversing two of the elements
 8 in it to prioritize the emergency road
 9 elevation because of high tide events.
 10 And I'm sure all these other look
 11 familiar. This is probably otherwise the same
 12 as we were looking at last year.
 13 My only question on this is number three,
 14 which includes the overpass on Route 50 at 662
 15 is -- we know that's a big ask.
 16 MR. CLARKE: It is.
 17 MR. LESHER: We also know that we've got
 18 some serious problems at various Route 50
 19 intersections farther south which are outlined
 20 as 4A, 4B, and 4C at Goldsborough Street, Dover
 21 Road, and Chapel Road.

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1 And I wonder just as a matter of
 2 practicality whether we might, thinking that
 3 those might stand a better chance of
 4 shorter-term accomplishment, if we might want
 5 to elevate those, swap that with priority
 6 three.
 7 I don't know if there are people who feel
 8 strongly about that. I know it's related to
 9 potential for the medical center to move to
 10 that area.
 11 I question whether the State is really
 12 going to pay attention to that one at all
 13 unless and until we see the medical center
 14 under construction and the consequent traffic
 15 increases that would come with it.
 16 I know that the Town of Easton has long
 17 been making these high priorities as well, and
 18 I wonder if we might help the case on those and
 19 get some attention from the State if we elevate
 20 those priorities 4A, B, and C to a higher
 21 ranking.

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1 MS. PRICE: Do we not remember our meeting
 2 when we sat down with SHA that none of them are
 3 going to happen anyway, and especially with
 4 what's going on right now?
 5 I don't disagree with you on that. But if
 6 number one is not going to get done, swapping
 7 three and four, and four is actually three
 8 intersections and the little italics, and five
 9 is just an overpass should be planned as a
 10 long-term solution because it's not just one
 11 intersection. We're talking about three.
 12 MR. DIVILIO: So after that meeting, they
 13 didn't have a plan. They admitted to us that
 14 they hadn't even thought about traffic after
 15 the bridge is built.
 16 MS. PRICE: Right.
 17 MR. DIVILIO: So I'm almost more inclined
 18 to put four in their face with number one and
 19 say we've got a serious problem and this is
 20 what we want addressed as you're working with
 21 your big plan. They're not even interested in

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1 St. Michael's.
 2 MR. LESHER: Well.
 3 MR. DIVILIO: But I thought that that's
 4 a --
 5 MR. LESHER: One thing that has changed
 6 since our meeting is that we have a new
 7 secretary of transportation, who hopefully will
 8 be less dismissive of our meetings.
 9 MS. PRICE: I don't think it's a matter of
 10 being dismissive or not. I think it's a matter
 11 of there's no money for it. They're going to
 12 do their own projects before they get down to
 13 county projects. And being this is the tenth
 14 year, nothing has changed. Corey knows that,
 15 nothing.
 16 MR. LESHER: These are State projects.
 17 These are State roads.
 18 MR. MERTAUGH: I think one thing to keep
 19 in mind, for example, this list, it used to
 20 have Maryland 404 and Dover Bridge on it for
 21 seemed like an eternity.

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1 MR. PACK: That's right.
 2 MR. MERTAUGH: So you just never know.
 3 Like 404, that came about primarily when
 4 Governor Hogan got elected and he was trying to
 5 spread some money around.
 6 So the list is sort of a pie in the sky,
 7 but it does have value. You just don't know
 8 when.
 9 MR. PACK: Dover Bridge stayed on the list
 10 for a long time.
 11 MR. MERTAUGH: A very long time.
 12 MR. PACK: Three governors on this list.
 13 MR. MERTAUGH: Also, just real quick. The
 14 second one is actually new to the list.
 15 MS. PRICE: Yeah.
 16 MR. MERTAUGH: So I just wanted to mention
 17 that.
 18 MR. PACK: We had discussed that, yeah, at
 19 the local level as far as Royal Oak Road.
 20 Yeah.
 21 MS. PRICE: How did that get bumped up to

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1 number two?
 2 MR. PACK: -- either way.
 3 MR. CALLAHAN: I have no problem with
 4 taking Mr. Leshler's recommendation.
 5 MS. PRICE: Why is number two number two?
 6 MR. CLARKE: I think because of the
 7 accident we had roughly about a year or two ago
 8 is why that got bumped. We had an accident, a
 9 fatality on Maryland Route 329 that ultimately
 10 I think --
 11 MS. PRICE: Might want to speak up.
 12 MR. CLARKE: We had a fatality on Maryland
 13 Route 329 a couple of years ago. And I think
 14 that's the reason we basically have identified
 15 that.
 16 MS. PRICE: So a State highway project
 17 will probably be looking at what's going to
 18 carry the most people capacity wise.
 19 So by putting that as our priority number
 20 two, if the State looks at that and goes why is
 21 that small little road -- I mean I understand

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1 any death. We're dealing with COVID right now.
 2 Any death is terrible. But that's one
 3 incident, where these other three
 4 intersections, if we're talking about moving
 5 those up and with the talk about the potential
 6 third Bay Bridge crossing, as Mr. Divilio said,
 7 those go right along with that.
 8 You can add capacity to the Bay Bridge,
 9 but if you've got choke points at every traffic
 10 light on the way through Queen Anne's, Talbot,
 11 and Dorchester Counties.
 12 So I don't know that I support number two
 13 being number two. So I think I might want that
 14 down. As sad as that one incident is, I don't
 15 know that the State is going to look at that as
 16 a priority, just like they might not be looking
 17 at St. Michael's Road as a priority.
 18 MR. DIVILIO: The State did say in that
 19 meeting, too, that they don't monitor -- they
 20 monitor roads for safety by tracking
 21 fatalities, not accidents.

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1 MR. MERTAUGH: Accidents also.
 2 MR. DIVILIO: They do? They didn't bring
 3 that. They just said fatalities. Hopefully it
 4 is accidents as well.
 5 MR. CLARKE: I mean for the Council, I
 6 mean, again, this is the list that we would
 7 submit to the State. I mean we could move the
 8 4A, B, and C. That could go up to number two
 9 if that would be something that Council would
 10 like. Then move basically I guess item number
 11 two as number four.
 12 MS. PRICE: Yeah. I'd probably support
 13 that.
 14 MR. DIVILIO: I would support that because
 15 I think we have little -- I guess not. With
 16 speeds and things like that. Royal Oak Road,
 17 there are some things that I feel we could do
 18 locally that might make it safer versus the
 19 other four. I don't think there's anything
 20 else the county can do.
 21 MR. MERTAUGH: And I'll take the hit for

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1 it being number two. I just added it to the
 2 list. So it probably isn't an appropriate
 3 location to be the second one.
 4 MS. PRICE: How about flipping two and
 5 four?
 6 MR. LESHER: I would support that.
 7 I do think that the evacuation routes on
 8 33 really should remain our number one. We
 9 need to be consistent about that. We need to
 10 press the State about that.
 11 But I think swapping two and four so that
 12 those Route 50 intersections at Goldsborough,
 13 Dover, and Chapel.
 14 MR. PACK: Okay.
 15 MR. LESHER: Are number two.
 16 And again, it may not happen this year,
 17 but they're going to hear from us every year
 18 and they need to hear the same items from us
 19 every year.
 20 One thing that we might want to consider
 21 in future years and that we discussed briefly

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1 with the State transportation folks at MACo is
 2 general pedestrian and bicycle safety
 3 improvements. And I think we talked in
 4 particular in reference to some of the
 5 crossings of the Easton Parkway of Route 322.
 6 Might be down at the bottom of the list, but
 7 let's not forget that that's been an incident,
 8 we've had incident there that raised that to
 9 our attention in this community, too.
 10 MR. MERTAUGH: As a process, they
 11 actually -- every fall they do the CDP
 12 presentation. And so they always have like a
 13 pre-meeting with staff. And those type
 14 projects are usually done in their district
 15 office. So that's when we try and bring those
 16 kind of things up. So this fall, we'll bring
 17 that up with them.
 18 MR. LESHER: Thank you.
 19 MR. MERTAUGH: Pedestrian crossings.
 20 MR. LESHER: Thank you.
 21 MR. MERTAUGH: Thank you.

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1 MR. PACK: I think we're moving 4A, B, and
 2 C up to number two. And are we pushing number
 3 two down to be the new number four?
 4 MR. DIVILIO: Yes.
 5 MR. PACK: Okay. With that modification
 6 made to the document, can I get a motion on the
 7 document, please?
 8 MS. PRICE: So moved.
 9 MR. PACK: By Ms. Price.
 10 MR. LESHER: Second.
 11 MR. PACK: Seconded by Mr. Leshner. Any
 12 further discussion on the document?
 13 Madam Secretary, please call your roll.
 14 SECRETARY: Mr. Pack.
 15 MR. PACK: Aye.
 16 SECRETARY: Mr. Divilio.
 17 MR. DIVILIO: Aye.
 18 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.
 19 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.
 20 SECRETARY: Ms. Price.
 21 MS. PRICE: Aye.

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1 SECRETARY: Mr. Lesher.
 2 MR. LESHER: Aye.
 3 MR. PACK: Thank you very much.
 4 Now, Mr. Risher, we have an airport matter
 5 also with MDOT.
 6 MR. RISHER: Yes, sir. This is a new
 7 strategy for us this year. I want to belay any
 8 fears that we're not going to compete with any
 9 roads money over there, obviously the MAA and
 10 the arm of the MDOT that funds our projects
 11 here with the State.
 12 And their budget has been cut in half over
 13 the last couple of years. So where they used
 14 to get four to \$6 million a year to help out
 15 with projects at small airports like Easton,
 16 fiscal 21 they're at a little bit over
 17 2 million. And the year after that, they're
 18 down to about 1.6, and that's before COVID.
 19 So this was a strategy that we actually
 20 came up with with folks, our counterparts at
 21 MAA. This is to increase visibility at the

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1 secretary level. And so this strategy would
 2 give our airport a little more visibility at
 3 the secretary level with other airports in the
 4 state.
 5 Some counties, they don't put their
 6 airport projects high and that never makes it
 7 to the secretary level.
 8 I recommend if we send this up, it would
 9 catch the secretary's eye. That way when MAA
 10 does have, when they're fighting for dollars,
 11 so to speak, and what airport is going to get
 12 what dollars, our MAA counterparts can go to
 13 the secretary and say look, Easton Airport,
 14 they want to do this project, their County
 15 Council is supporting it, this is a priority to
 16 the county. And the goal being we should be
 17 able to get more grant funding from the State.
 18 Obviously this was all pre-COVID. So
 19 there's a lot of question marks out there now.
 20 But this certainly will not hurt us. This can
 21 only aid us in getting grant money.

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1 So it's a specific ask for fiscal 21 with
 2 helping us out with our obstruction removal
 3 project phase one. That's removing most of the
 4 trees and obstacles off the back of the Black &
 5 Decker parcel and some parcels down there. So
 6 it's a specific ask for this year, and that's
 7 the summary of it.
 8 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. So Corey is gone for
 9 a second here. So how does the Council feel?
 10 MS. PRICE: I'll make a motion to support
 11 sending that as a priority to MDOT.
 12 MR. DIVILIO: I'll second it.
 13 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. A move and a second
 14 it that we go ahead and do the runway safety
 15 improvement.
 16 Madam Secretary, call the roll.
 17 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.
 18 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.
 19 SECRETARY: Mr. Divilio.
 20 MR. DIVILIO: Aye.
 21 SECRETARY: Ms. Price.

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1 MS. PRICE: Aye.
 2 SECRETARY: Mr. Lesher.
 3 MR. LESHER: Aye.
 4 MR. CALLAHAN: So moved. Motion passed.
 5 MR. MERTAUGH: Thank you.
 6 MR. CLARKE: Thank you.
 7 MR. DIVILIO: Can I ask real quick just
 8 while we've got both of you guys here. Would
 9 this be a good time to bring up a road
 10 abasement to think about or something to think
 11 of down the road?
 12 Seger's Corner. I saw that we just tar
 13 and chipped it again. It's, I don't know, half
 14 a mile long. And after seeing how much it cost
 15 for a road, I feel like we don't need it. You
 16 can turn right onto Long Woods Road right
 17 there. It's just an extra road that could save
 18 Warren enough to buy another piece of equipment
 19 in a year.
 20 It just might be just something to check
 21 out. Segar's Road in Cordova. It's right next

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1 to Reese's Landing.

2 MR. MERTAUGH: Okay. Sure thing.

3 MR. CALLAHAN: Corey, we just did Micah

4 with the airport improvement. We okayed that.

5 MR. PACK: Okayed that. Thank you very

6 much, Chuck.

7 MR. CALLAHAN: Thank you.

8 MR. PACK: Okay. So Council, moving on,

9 we have county manager's report.

10 And Mr. Hollis, I'll turn it over to you.

11 MS. PRICE: They have musical chairs over

12 there is what I think is happening.

13 MR. HOLLIS: So we're recommending your

14 approval to award Bid 20-03 to the low bidder,

15 Century Engineering of Dover, Delaware, in the

16 amount of \$393,675.23, contingent upon review

17 and approval by Maryland Department of the

18 Environment.

19 A total of four bids were received.

20 MR. PACK: Okay. Mr. Clarke, good seeing

21 you again. You have anything additional to add

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1 onto this bid?

2 MR. CLARKE: No, sir. This was all based

3 upon the low bid as well as being a responsible

4 bidder. We did find Century to be the lowest

5 bid as well as a responsible bidder.

6 MR. PACK: Okay.

7 MR. LESHER: So Mr. Clarke, I know we

8 rebid this with different specifications the

9 second time around. Some of the bidders went

10 up, some went down.

11 Did we change any specifications other

12 than the rule under which we would evaluate

13 this proposal?

14 MR. CLARKE: No. We ended -- like for the

15 part two, we established the number of hours

16 that would be required for doing part two,

17 which was the salary survey as well as the

18 economic study.

19 In addition to that, we also made some

20 changes to -- one of the biggest changes we

21 made is to help save costs, both in the design

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1 portion as well as in the construction portion.

2 We found through Orenco, there's a new tank

3 system, a very water-tight tank that we can

4 utilize. And it would be cheaper to actually

5 replace the septic tanks with this new tank.

6 And then we are not having to evaluate the

7 tanks in that nature. So we would just drop

8 these new tanks in.

9 So that was also the other thing that we

10 directed all bidders to go ahead and utilize

11 and specify around this one tank or equal.

12 MR. LESHER: So that might have reduced

13 some of the labor involved in this, which

14 helped --

15 MR. CLARKE: Exactly. Require not a lot

16 of going out to the house to determine if the

17 tank is in good shape or not.

18 MR. LESHER: Thank you.

19 MR. PACK: Okay. No further questions of

20 Mr. Clarke, the chair would entertain a motion

21 on Bid 20-03.

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1 MS. PRICE: So moved.

2 MR. LESHER: Second.

3 MR. PACK: Moved by Ms. Price, seconded by

4 Mr. Leshar. Any further discussion?

5 MR. CALLAHAN: Just one question,

6 Mr. President.

7 Remind me. Have we worked with Century

8 before?

9 MR. CLARKE: We have not. They're

10 actually doing design work up at Queen Anne's

11 County. They're doing the step system in Queen

12 Anne's County right now.

13 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. You're comfortable

14 with using somebody you haven't used?

15 MR. CLARKE: Yes. And we've been talking

16 with Queen Anne's County about Century.

17 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Great.

18 MR. PACK: Okay. Nothing further? Motion

19 and a second.

20 Madam Secretary, call your roll on Bid

21 20.3.

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1 SECRETARY: Mr. Pack.
 2 MR. PACK: Aye.
 3 SECRETARY: Mr. Divilio.
 4 MR. DIVILIO: Aye.
 5 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.
 6 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.
 7 SECRETARY: Ms. Price.
 8 MS. PRICE: Aye.
 9 SECRETARY: Mr. Leshner.
 10 MR. LESHER: Aye.
 11 MR. PACK: Okay.
 12 MR. HOLLIS: So Council, we're requesting
 13 your approval to send a letter of intent to
 14 USDA to request an obligation of funds for an
 15 additional \$1.4 million of road and sewer work
 16 in the Town of St. Michael's. Specifically
 17 they'll be used for replacing gravity sewer
 18 lines under West Harbor, (inaudible) and Green
 19 Streets, (inaudible) Street and the Town of
 20 St. Michael's' parking lot.
 21 MR. PACK: Okay. Do we have a motion?

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1 MR. LESHER: So moved.
 2 MR. PACK: Moved by Mr. Leshner.
 3 MR. DIVILIO: Second.
 4 MR. PACK: Seconded by Mr. Divilio. Any
 5 comment on the request?
 6 Hearing none, Madam Secretary, please call
 7 your roll.
 8 SECRETARY: Mr. Pack.
 9 MR. PACK: Aye.
 10 SECRETARY: Mr. Divilio.
 11 MR. DIVILIO: Aye.
 12 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.
 13 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.
 14 SECRETARY: Ms. Price.
 15 MS. PRICE: Aye.
 16 SECRETARY: Mr. Leshner.
 17 MR. LESHER: Aye.
 18 MR. HOLLIS: Thank you, Ray.
 19 Council, your director of economic
 20 development and tourism is requesting your
 21 approval to send a letter of support to the

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1 Federal Highway Administration supporting
 2 Chesapeake Country National Scenic Byway's
 3 nomination as an All-American Road.
 4 MS. PRICE: Make a motion.
 5 MR. DIVILIO: I'll second it.
 6 MR. PACK: Second by Mr. Divilio. Made by
 7 Ms. Price.
 8 And this is somewhat time sensitive,
 9 Council. That's why it is on the agenda.
 10 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay.
 11 MR. PACK: This evening.
 12 MR. LESHER: Can we give our economic
 13 development and tourism director a moment to
 14 tell us --
 15 MS. PRICE: She's here.
 16 MR. LESHER: -- the significance of this
 17 particular move?
 18 MR. HOLLIS: Sure.
 19 MS. VANHOOSER: Yes, I will. Thank you
 20 very much.
 21 So we're requesting a letter of support

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1 for an All-American Road nomination for the
 2 Chesapeake Country Scenic Byway, which starts
 3 in Chesapeake City and goes all the way to
 4 Smith Island.
 5 This is as a result of a bill that was
 6 passed by Congress last year reviving America's
 7 Scenic Byways Act of 2019. And our own Senator
 8 Ben Cardin was the sponsor of this bill. And
 9 Susan Collins, who is a Republican, was his
 10 cosponsor.
 11 And this is something we have advocated
 12 for long and hard in the halls of Congress to
 13 reopen this byways program. It protects the
 14 scenic beauty of a road like the Chesapeake
 15 Country Scenic Byway.
 16 And for those of you who have been here
 17 long enough to know, one of my very first
 18 projects was the interpretive plan for the
 19 Chesapeake Country Midshore part.
 20 The upper shore is a National Scenic
 21 Byway. And we had planned to ask for

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<p>1 designation for the midshore and lower shore</p> <p>2 for a National Scenic Byway, but we decided to</p> <p>3 go for an All-American Road nomination instead,</p> <p>4 which is a higher designation.</p> <p>5 It is a platinum star when you talk about</p> <p>6 what type of marketing you can do for a</p> <p>7 national road. It's particularly appealing to</p> <p>8 international visitors to follow a byway.</p> <p>9 And so we really believe that this is a</p> <p>10 great opportunity for us. And all of the</p> <p>11 destination marketing organizations and tourism</p> <p>12 directors on the Eastern Shore are working on</p> <p>13 this project, as well as our Heritage Area</p> <p>14 partners. We're part of the Stories of the</p> <p>15 Chesapeake Heritage Area. The Dorchester</p> <p>16 County Heart of Chesapeake Country and the</p> <p>17 Lower Shore Heritage Area are all partners in</p> <p>18 this as well.</p> <p>19 So all of the Eastern Shore working</p> <p>20 together to seek this designation for</p> <p>21 Chesapeake Country.</p>	<p>1 MS. VANHOOSER: Thank you.</p> <p>2 MR. PACK: I thought I had a motion</p> <p>3 already --</p> <p>4 MS. PRICE: We already did the motion and</p> <p>5 second. Then we had our discussion.</p> <p>6 You can enthusiastically vote for it.</p> <p>7 MR. LESHER: I will.</p> <p>8 MR. PACK: -- by Ms. Price, seconded by</p> <p>9 Mr. Divilio. So the motion is already on the</p> <p>10 floor.</p> <p>11 I think this is a great idea. The more</p> <p>12 designations or the more attention we can put</p> <p>13 towards the area, the better for tourism and</p> <p>14 for people coming in to know that we have those</p> <p>15 certain designations on our roadways. So I</p> <p>16 certainly will support this.</p> <p>17 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay.</p> <p>18 MS. VANHOOSER: Thank you.</p> <p>19 MR. PACK: Almost there. Madam Secretary,</p> <p>20 please call your roll.</p> <p>21 SECRETARY: Mr. Pack.</p>
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<p>1 We're respectfully asking that Talbot</p> <p>2 County support this nomination.</p> <p>3 MR. PACK: And it has to be up by what</p> <p>4 date?</p> <p>5 MS. VANHOOSER: So the nomination goes in</p> <p>6 on May the 15th.</p> <p>7 MR. PACK: May 15th.</p> <p>8 MS. VANHOOSER: And we're asking that we</p> <p>9 have our letter by May the 1st so we can pull</p> <p>10 everything together.</p> <p>11 It has to be reviewed by State Highways.</p> <p>12 The State Highways Administration here is a</p> <p>13 partner in this, and they have to sign off on</p> <p>14 our application.</p> <p>15 And this is a program that's administered</p> <p>16 by the Federal Highway Administration.</p> <p>17 MR. PACK: So it has some more steps ahead</p> <p>18 of it.</p> <p>19 MS. VANHOOSER: Yes.</p> <p>20 MR. LESHER: Mr. Pack, with enthusiasm, I</p> <p>21 would move for the letter of support.</p>	<p>1 MR. PACK: Aye.</p> <p>2 SECRETARY: Mr. Divilio.</p> <p>3 MR. DIVILIO: Aye.</p> <p>4 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.</p> <p>5 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.</p> <p>6 SECRETARY: Ms. Price.</p> <p>7 MS. PRICE: Aye.</p> <p>8 SECRETARY: Mr. Leshner.</p> <p>9 MR. LESHER: Aye.</p> <p>10 MS. VANHOOSER: Thank you so much.</p> <p>11 MR. PACK: Thank you.</p> <p>12 MR. HOLLIS: Council, we're requesting</p> <p>13 your approval to send a letter of support to</p> <p>14 the Maryland Community for Life Talbot's grant</p> <p>15 application to the Maryland Department of Aging</p> <p>16 in the amount of \$54,796. That would be to</p> <p>17 hire a part-time driver to support</p> <p>18 transportation costs and the salary of a</p> <p>19 volunteer coordinator.</p> <p>20 And no county funds are required.</p> <p>21 MR. DIVILIO: I make a motion that we</p>

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1 support it.

2 MR. CALLAHAN: Second it.

3 MR. PACK: Motion made by Mr. Divilio,

4 seconded by Mr. Callahan. This is a grant

5 application to Maryland Department of Aging for

6 Maryland Community of Life. I'm sorry.

7 MR. CALLAHAN: And I'm on that committee,

8 too. And they reached out to me today and was

9 asking for Council's support.

10 MR. PACK: All right. Any further comment

11 or discussion?

12 Hearing none, Madam Secretary, please call

13 your roll.

14 SECRETARY: Mr. Pack.

15 MR. PACK: Aye.

16 SECRETARY: Mr. Divilio.

17 MR. DIVILIO: Aye.

18 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.

19 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.

20 SECRETARY: Ms. Price.

21 MS. PRICE: Aye.

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1 SECRETARY: Mr. Leshner.

2 MR. LESHNER: Aye.

3 MR. HOLLIS: Council, the last item is a

4 request for your support to send a letter on

5 behalf of the Neighborhood Service Center for

6 their grant application to the National

7 Community Care Corps. It's in the amount of

8 \$250,000 to provide non-medical assistance to

9 seniors and caregivers in Talbot County.

10 And if approved, the grant funds will be

11 used to recruit and train 60 volunteers to

12 provide home repair services, light cleaning,

13 and home services and transportation and

14 companion services.

15 MR. PACK: Excellent. The chair would

16 entertain a motion.

17 MS. PRICE: So moved.

18 MR. CALLAHAN: Second it.

19 MR. PACK: Again, jumped over the

20 representative for NSC. Motion made by

21 Ms. Price, seconded by Mr. Callahan. Any

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1 further discussion, comment? Okay.

2 Hearing none, Madam Secretary, please call

3 the roll.

4 SECRETARY: Mr. Pack.

5 MR. PACK: Aye.

6 SECRETARY: Mr. Divilio.

7 MR. DIVILIO: Aye.

8 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.

9 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.

10 SECRETARY: Ms. Price.

11 MS. PRICE: Aye.

12 SECRETARY: Mr. Leshner.

13 MR. LESHNER: Aye.

14 MR. HOLLIS: Thank you.

15 MR. PACK: Okay. Are there any public

16 comments that came in via e-mail?

17 MS. MORRIS: No comments received.

18 MR. PACK: No public comment received.

19 So we're going to jump onto now Council

20 comment. Mr. Leshner.

21 MR. LESHNER: I have nothing further.

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1 MR. PACK: Nothing by Mr. Leshner.

2 Ms. Price.

3 MS. PRICE: Nothing further.

4 MR. PACK: Nothing from you.

5 Moving over to my right, Mr. Divilio,

6 anything from you?

7 MR. DIVILIO: No.

8 MR. PACK: Mr. Callahan, anything from

9 you?

10 MR. CALLAHAN: Just one quick thing. I

11 just really appreciate staff, Andy's staff, and

12 Dr. Wadley and everybody. Every day there's a

13 meeting, conference calls, and you guys are in

14 the trenches. And I'm sure Council really

15 appreciates it. And you're doing some great

16 work. Thank you.

17 MR. PACK: Yes. I certainly would echo

18 that as well.

19 I have just a couple of things. First, on

20 the high note, April is National County

21 Government Month. So happy National Government

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1 Month to the Council here and Mr. Hollis and
 2 your staff. I don't know who makes that
 3 designation, but I got an e-mail that it was --
 4 MR. DIVILIO: Hallmark.
 5 MR. PACK: -- National County Government
 6 Month.
 7 MS. PRICE: Do they make a card for that?
 8 MR. DIVILIO: Would you want to receive
 9 it?
 10 MR. PACK: Just wanted to pass that along
 11 to you as well.
 12 On a bit of a sad note, there was the
 13 passing of Marie Wroten. She was a former
 14 Councilman down in St. Michaels, commissioner
 15 down there. She passed away over the weekend.
 16 She was also a member of the jail ministry
 17 here in Talbot County. I worked with Marie in
 18 that capacity for a number of years.
 19 Did send my condolences down to the
 20 St. Michael's Commissioner and her passing.
 21 And Jean Weisman responded back. They had

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1 nothing but good thoughts and good comments to
 2 say about Marie. So I just wanted to make that
 3 condolences to her family and to the
 4 Commissioners of St. Michael's in her passing.
 5 I also want to send out congratulations to
 6 our own Connie Connelly. She was a recipient
 7 of nine awards in the 2020 Delaware Press
 8 Association contest for stories published in
 9 The Star Democrat for 2009. Connie took home
 10 three first place awards, four second place
 11 awards, and two third place awards in seven
 12 writing categories. So I just want to say
 13 congratulations to Connie for that distinct
 14 honor. She's a great correspondent here for
 15 us. So congratulations to her on those awards.
 16 So that's it for me, but I will, again,
 17 want to echo what Mr. Callahan said. Hats off
 18 to county staff. I know this is a big
 19 adjustment, putting all this together. Jessica
 20 and Susan and Andy, working all this out for
 21 us.

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1 We're trying to be safe, we're trying to
 2 maintain our distance, and we're trying to let
 3 the public know that we're respecting the
 4 six feet social distancing as we try to
 5 maintain the county business.
 6 And also what is happening down at the
 7 EOC, those Mondays and Wednesdays and Friday
 8 meetings as well as those business meetings on
 9 Tuesdays and Fridays. Very well attended on
 10 those business meetings. So always look
 11 forward to hearing back from the business
 12 community as well.
 13 We have a little ways to go here. And
 14 it's not easy, it's not pretty. But I do
 15 believe if we continue working together and can
 16 continue staying focused on the objective of
 17 keeping people safe as we move along, we're
 18 going to come out of this the better as a
 19 community.
 20 The County Council's next meeting will be
 21 held on Tuesday, May the 5th, beginning at

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1 two p.m. here in the Wye Oak Room.
 2 The Council will be convening in open
 3 session at 1:30 and immediately adjourning into
 4 closed session to discuss real estate, legal,
 5 personnel matters as listed on the statement
 6 for closing that meeting.
 7 Then on Tuesday, May the 5th, the Council
 8 will be holding two remote public hearings on
 9 Bill 1445, which is an act to establish the
 10 2020-2021 annual budget and appropriations
 11 ordinance.
 12 That first public hearing will be held at
 13 two p.m. The second public hearing will be
 14 held at five p.m.
 15 Council will be here in the Wye Oak Room.
 16 It's not open to the public.
 17 We did give out the mailing address for
 18 that, and I'll give it again. Due to the
 19 ongoing State of Emergency in response to the
 20 COVID-19, the public is not able to attend
 21 either of those public hearings. The public is

1 encouraged, again, to submit comments on Bill
2 1445 to publiccomment@talbotcountymd.gov.
3 Please have those in by Monday, May the 4th.

4 The budget can also be found online at
5 www.talbotcountymaryland, or MD, .gov.

6 If you have any questions you can always
7 call the county manager's office at
8 (410)770-8010. Okay.

9 Therefore, if there's no further business
10 before Council, I've reached the end of the
11 agenda.

12 Anything from you, Madam Secretary?

13 Okay. Thank you very much, Council.

14 We're adjourned.

15 (Meeting concluded at: 8:14 p.m.)

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1 STATE OF MARYLAND
2 I, Diane Houlihan, a Notary Public in and
for the State of Maryland, County of Anne Arundel,
3 do hereby certify that the within named, Talbot
County Council Audio, personally appeared before me
4 at the time and place herein set according to law,
was interrogated by counsel.

5
6 I further certify that the examination was
recorded stenographically by me and then transcribed
7 from my stenographic notes to the within printed
matter by means of computer-assisted transcription
in a true and accurate manner.

8
9 I further certify that the stipulations
contained herein were entered into by counsel in my
presence.

10
11 I further certify that I am not of counsel
to any of the parties, not an employee of counsel,
nor related to any of the parties, nor in any way
12 interested in the outcome of this action.

13 AS WITNESS my hand Notorial Seal this 4th
day of May, 2020, at Easton, MD.

14
15



16
17 Diane Houlihan
Notary Public

18
19
20 My commission expires September 16, 2021
21

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