



Talbot County, Maryland



Easton, Maryland

MINUTES

December 4, 2012

Present – President Dirck K. Bartlett, Vice President Corey W. Pack, Thomas G. Duncan, R. Andrew Hollis, Laura E. Price, County Manager John C. Craig, and County Attorney Michael Pullen.

- I. Agenda – Mr. Bartlett requested and received Council’s unanimous consent for approval of the Agenda of Tuesday, December 4, 2012.
- II. Minutes – Mr. Bartlett requested and received Council’s unanimous consent for approval of the Minutes of Tuesday, November 27, 2012.
- III. Disbursements – Mr. Bartlett requested and received Council’s unanimous consent for approval of the Disbursements of December 4, 2012.
- IV. Update by Talbot County Commission on the Aging – Susan Welch, Chairperson, Talbot County Commission on the Aging – Ms. Welch briefed the Council on activities of the Talbot County Commission on the Aging during the past year. She stated that in February 2012 the Commission requested and received approval from the Council to conduct its business under organized Bylaws to help ensure the Commission, as a County committee, complies with all applicable laws as other County committees under the purview of the County Council. Ms. Welch noted several Commission sponsored events for senior citizens during the past year, including a film presentation of “An Age of Justice: Confronting Elder Abuse in America” in March and June, and the Senior Celebration of Life Luncheon in September; representatives of various agencies, including law enforcement and Elder Law were available after the film presentation to discuss the many facets of elder abuse. Ms. Welch stated that the luncheon serves as a means of saying “thank you” to seniors for their service, generosity, and kindness; each year several individuals are honored who have been instrumental in impacting the lives of other individuals. Ms. Welch outlined informational resources the Commission offers to seniors, including its newsletter, available online on the websites of the Talbot County Senior Center, Upper Shore Aging and Talbot County Government, and the yearly Resource Guide, published free of charge by *The Star Democrat* and distributed at various locations throughout the County; both publications offer seniors informational resources pertinent to the lives of senior citizens. Ms. Welch stated that the Commission also made donations to the Talbot Senior Center for its transportation services fund and the “Be a Santa to Seniors” Fund. Mr. Duncan requested that the Commission consider expansion of its educational programs to the areas of Trappe, Cordova, and Tilghman. Mr. Pack asked that Ms. Welch contact Finance Director Angela Lane regarding the Homestead Tax Credit Application deadline and bringing its awareness to the seniors of Talbot County through the Commission on the Aging. Council members commended Ms. Welch and the Commission for their efforts in serving the senior citizen population of Talbot County.
- V. Presentation of Awards –
 - *Maryland Office of Tourism 2012 Cultural Heritage Award* – Frederick Douglass Honor Society
 - *Maryland Tourism Council 2012 Marketing Award for Best New Event and Best Printed Promotional Material* – Talbot County’s Black & White Ball for Restaurant Week – Debbi Dodson, Director, Talbot County Office of Tourism and Tim Young, Eclectic Graphics

Prior to presentation of the awards, Talbot County Tourism Director Debbi Dodson gave a brief outline of the awards presented by the Maryland Tourism Council at the 2012 Maryland Tourism & Travel Summit in November; the winners were selected by a jury of panelists from the hospitality industry. Ms. Dodson stated that the Frederick Douglass Honor Society had been awarded the Maryland Office of Tourism Development's annual Cultural Heritage Award for their efforts, initiatives and projects related to "Bringing Douglass Home" and for the Society's support of "The Hill" project; recipients for the Award are selected for their outstanding investments and contributions in stewardship and development of Maryland's cultural heritage tourism product and engagement in regional and statewide tourism initiatives. She stated that Eclectic Graphics and owner Tim Young had been selected to receive the Maryland Tourism Council Award for Best Printed Promotional Material for its various print publications promoting Talbot's Black & White Ball, the story of Truman Capote's Party of the Century; the event was held in partnership with Eventful Giving during Talbot County Restaurant Week in 2012 for the purpose of raising funds to assist various local food banks. The award for Best New Event was presented to the Talbot County Office of Tourism for their partnership with Eventful Giving for their innovative marketing ideas for Talbot's Black & White Ball.

- VI. Presentation by Eastern Shore Land Conservancy – Rob Etgen, Executive Director, Eastern Shore Land Conservancy; Brad Rogers, Community Projects Manager, Eastern Shore Land Conservancy – Mr. Etgen briefed the Council on the mission of his organization, a regional land conservancy organization, and stated that since 1990, Eastern Shore Land Conservancy (ESLC) has preserved approximately 53,000 acres. He then briefed the Council on recently completed or proposed projects in Easton, St. Michaels, and Cambridge as part of ESLC's Center for Towns initiative. Mr. Etgen then outlined the organization's proposal for the purchase, rehabilitation and use of the 18,000 sq. ft. building in downtown Easton known as the McCord Building. He stated that proposed plans call for use of the building by several non-profit conservation groups as a regional co-location center in order to enhance partnership and collaboration opportunities for all the groups; negotiations remain on-going with several tenants; space will also be available for use by the general public. Mr. Rogers presented cost estimates for the purchase and rehabilitation of the building and outlined several sources of funding, both anticipated and received; ESLC has until April 15, 2013 to raise the estimated \$5.5 million necessary for the purchase, cleaning and renovation costs of the building. Mr. Etgen then requested Council's consideration for a letter in support of ESLC's request to the Governor that he include \$1 million in his FY 2014 Capital Funding Budget for the Eastern Shore Conservation Center.

- VII. Introduction of Administrative Resolution and Public Hearing:

Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development Grant Application for Neighborhood Conservation Initiative Funding by Housing Commission of Talbot – Don Bibb, Executive Director, Housing Commission of Talbot – The Clerk read an administrative resolution into the record for *Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development Grant Application for Neighborhood Conservation Initiative Funding by Housing Commission of Talbot*. Mr. Bibb stated that his organization is requesting grant funding for the purpose of acquiring the vacant rental property located in the Port Street corridor between Washington and West Streets, demolishing same, and constructing a new building at that location. He stated that several other housing structures in the same area will be rehabilitated; construction of housing structures will also take place on various vacant lots in the vicinity. He stated that the goal of the construction and rehabilitation projects is to provide better housing for residents to improve the fabric of the neighborhood and impact the neighborhood in a positive manner. Council discussion ensued with Mr. Bibb. The public was afforded an opportunity to comment on the proposed Administrative Resolution. Upon motion by Mr. Hollis, seconded by Mr. Pack, the Council approved the Administrative Resolution by voting 5 – 0 as follows:

Mr. Bartlett– Aye
Mr. Hollis – Aye
Mr. Pack– Aye
Ms. Price – Aye
Mr. Duncan - Aye

Mr. Bartlett presented the Administrative Resolution to Mr. Bibb who accepted on behalf of the Housing Commission of Talbot.

VIII. Public Hearings:

Bill No. 1229, A BILL TO ADOPT A TIER CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM PURSUANT TO REQUIREMENTS ESTABLISHED IN *THE SUSTAINABLE GROWTH AND AGRICULTURAL PRESERVATION ACT OF 2012* (SB 236) ENACTED BY THE MARYLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND TO IMPLEMENT POLICIES OF THE TALBOT COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AND TO ADOPT A MAP TO CLASSIFY LAND IN THE COUNTY INTO ONE OF SEVEN TIER CLASSIFICATIONS THAT ESTABLISH THE TYPE OF SUBDIVISION AND THE KIND OF WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEM PLANNED FOR EACH SUBDIVISION TYPE was brought forward for public hearing. Prior to the public hearing, Planning Officer Sandy Coyman stated that SB 236 requires jurisdictions to develop a four-tiered land use classification system to identify areas planned for growth and development and to determine whether those areas will be served by public sewerage systems or on-site wastewater treatment systems. Mr. Coyman also stated that if additional circumstances exist which require sub-tiers, jurisdictions are permitted to establish same; he then outlined each of the four Tiers and sub-tiers within Tiers II and III. Council discussion with Mr. Coyman ensued. The public was then afforded an opportunity to comment on the legislation. The public hearing on Bill No. 1229 was continued to Tuesday, December 11, 2012 at 6:30 p.m. in the Bradley Meeting Room, South Wing, Talbot County Courthouse, 11 North Washington Street, Easton, Maryland 21601. Bill No. 1229 is also eligible for vote on Tuesday, December 11, 2012.

Bill No. 1230, A BILL TO AUTHORIZE A CAPITAL PROJECT TO PURCHASE LAND IDENTIFIED ON TAX MAP 34, PARCEL 36, CONSISTING OF APPROXIMATELY 41.431 ACRES OF LAND, MORE OR LESS, LOCATED ON THE NORTH SIDE OF ST. MICHAELS ROAD APPROXIMATELY ONE MILE FROM THE EASTON BYPASS was brought forward for public hearing. Prior to the public hearing, County Attorney Mike Pullen stated that the proposed legislation is capital enabling legislation to authorize the purchase of approximately 41 acres of land on St. Michaels Road behind Carroll's Market. He stated that the purpose of the acquisition of the land is as a replacement for Program Open Space (POS) land adjacent to the Talbot County Community Center which has been offered to Shore Health System for the relocation of the Memorial Hospital at Easton; replacement of the POS land at the Community Center is required under Program Open Space guidelines. The public was afforded an opportunity to comment on the legislation. Upon motion by Mr. Pack, Bill No. 1230, was brought to third reader; there was no objection. Mr. Pack then requested that a full reading of the legislation be waived; there was no objection. Upon motion by Mr. Pack, seconded by Ms. Price, Bill No. 1230 was brought forward for vote. The Council approved Bill No. 1230 by voting 5 – 0 as follows:

Mr. Bartlett – Aye
Mr. Hollis – Aye
Mr. Pack - Aye
Ms. Price – Aye
Mr. Duncan – Aye

IX. Update by Kenley Timms, Talbot County Liquor Inspector – Mr. Timms briefed the Council on the duties and enforcement efforts of the Talbot County Liquor Inspector as well as educational initiatives, including TIPs (Training for Intervention Procedures) classes. He stated that to date, 1037 individuals have passed classes which provides training on the rules and regulations for serving alcohol in Talbot County. Council discussed the various aspects of Mr. Timms’ duties. Mr. Timms will continue to update the Council on a regular or as-needed basis.

X. County Manger’s Report:

A. Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development Emergency Shelter Grant - Requested Council approval for the Neighborhood Service Center, on behalf of Talbot County, to apply for an Emergency Shelter Grant from the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development in the amount of \$40,000; said funding to be used, in large part, for a rental allowance program to provide short-term rental assistance to families who are homeless or otherwise need emergency housing; no County funding is required. Upon motion by Mr. Pack, seconded by Mr. Hollis, the Council approved submittal of the application by voting 5 – 0 as follows:

Mr. Bartlett – Aye
Mr. Hollis – Aye
Mr. Pack – Aye
Ms. Price – Aye
Mr. Duncan - Aye

XI. Council Comments:

Mr. Duncan – No comments.

Ms. Price - No comments.

Mr. Hollis - No comments.

Mr. Pack - No comments.

Mr. Bartlett – No comments.

XII. Upon motion by Mr. Pack, seconded by Mr. Hollis, the Council voted to adjourn Executive Session for discussion of legal, personnel and real estate matters; to reconvene in a Work Session with the Board of Education at 5:30 p.m.; and to reconvene in Executive Session at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 11, 2012 for discussion of legal, personnel, and real estate matters, and for the regularly scheduled meeting at 6:00 p.m., by voting 5 – 0 as follows:

Mr. Bartlett– Aye
Mr. Hollis - Aye
Mr. Pack– Aye
Ms. Price – Aye
Mr. Duncan – Aye

The meeting adjourned at 3:25 p.m.

The transcript of the December 4, 2012 County Council meeting is available for review in the Office of the County Manager during regular office hours.

XIII. On Tuesday, December 4, 2012, an Executive Session of the Talbot County Council convened at 12:35 p.m. in the County Council Conference Room and the Bradley Meeting Room. Upon motion by Mr. Hollis, seconded by Ms. Price, the Council met in Executive Session by voting 5-0 as follows:

- Mr. Bartlett – Aye
- Mr. Duncan – Aye
- Mr. Hollis – Aye
- Mr. Pack – Aye
- Ms. Price – Aye

In accordance with State Article § 10-508 (a)(1)(i)(3)(4)(7) the purpose of the Executive Session was for personnel matters for an update on the Director of Parks and Recreation vacancy, to discuss appointments to various County boards and committees and to discuss the Tourism Director vacancy; for real estate matters to discuss possible disposal of County owned property and to discuss possible acquisition of property for a public purpose; and for a legal/real estate matter for legal advice to discuss relocation of Memorial Hospital at Easton to County owned property and the timetable for same. The Executive Session recessed at 1:30 p.m., reconvened at 3:35 p.m., recessed at 5:30 p.m., reconvened at 6:50 p.m. and ended at 7:05 p.m.

XIV. Work Session: Talbot County Board of Education - The County Council held a work session with representatives of the Talbot County Board of Education at 5:30 p.m. in the Bradley Meeting Room. The purpose of the work session was to initiate budget priority discussions with the Board of Education prior to the upcoming budget session, for an update on the establishment of an Early Childhood Council as proposed by the Maryland State Board of Education, to receive an update on the Board of Education’s recent Legislative Audit, and for the status of a proposal for the location of a YMCA facility on the St. Michaels School Campus. Council discussion ensued with the representatives as each topic was brought forward. The Board of Education will continue to update the Council on a regular or as-needed basis.

CASH STATEMENT 12/4/2012

BALANCE 11/27/2012	\$18,352,453.01
UHC CLAIMS 11/20&11/27/2012	(103,915.69)
BOARD OF EDUCATION 11/2012	(2,860,960.00)
STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS PPE 10/30/2012	(5,876.62)
INTEGRA 12/2012	(14,458.24)
MLGIP INTEREST ON ACCT 10/2012	1,884.92
LOCAL INCOME TAX 11/2012	7,517,266.59
DEPOSITS	868,789.47
CHECKS	(1,058,929.96)
BALANCE 12/04/2012	<u>\$22,696,253.48</u>

AIRPORT ACCOUNTS

AIP-RUNWAY 4-22 EXTENSION ANALYSIS	--
AIP-34	15,304.15
AIP-35	34,785.23

AIP36	26,879.74
AIP37	301.19
AIP38	13,656.26

AIRPORT ACCOUNTS TOTAL BALANCE **\$90,926.57**

INVESTMENTS – CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT

<u>CERTIFICATE DATE</u>	<u>MATURITY DATE</u>	<u>RATE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
12/20/2011	12/20/12	0.37%	3,000,000.00

PNC-MLGIP INVESTMENTS TOTAL 0.14% 18,000,000.00

TOTAL INVESTED **\$21,000,000.00**

PETTY CASH BALANCE **\$8,320.00**

GRAND TOTAL ALL FUNDS **\$43,795,500.05**