



TALBOT COUNTY, MARYLAND

County Council

MINUTES

February 8, 2022

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

- I. Agenda – Mr. Callahan requested and received unanimous consent for approval of the Agenda of Tuesday, February 8, 2022.
- II. Minutes – Mr. Callahan requested and received unanimous consent for approval of the Minutes of Tuesday, January 11, 2022.
- II. Disbursements – Mr. Callahan requested and received unanimous consent for approval of the Disbursements of Tuesday, February 1, 2022 and Tuesday, February 8, 2022.
- III. Update from Neighborhood Service Center, Inc. on Ridgeway Shelter – Marilyn Neal, Executive Director, Neighborhood Service Center – Ms. Neal utilized a PowerPoint presentation to brief the Council on the Neighborhood Service Center’s plans to repurpose Ridgeway Shelter located at 120 Aurora Street in Easton into affordable housing for a large family and outlined reasons for the change in use. She stated that the Shelter, which opened in 1991, and prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, housed, fed and provided three beds for women and three beds for men providing case management services to approximately 30 to 45 adult men and women each year, with the purpose of moving homeless individuals to more permanent and transitional housing. Several years ago, Ridgeway Shelter transitioned into a low-barrier shelter that no longer requires criminal background checks or drug test screenings for admission. The drawbacks of a low-barrier shelter have included an increase in resident-on-resident violence, onsite drug and alcohol abuse activity, the need for a police presence to resolve resident disputes, and housing individuals with current outstanding arrest warrants. Ridgeway has experienced gaps in resident safety concerns, consistent staffing for inclement weather and holidays, onsite security, and lack of certified on-site support to address resident needs (an influx of customers that need a wide range of health and substance abuse services). Ms. Neal outlined other ways the Neighborhood Service Center addresses homelessness prevention, through the recently renovated congregate living space at 36 S. West Street, known as “Webb’s Hope,” the three household residence at 6 South Street; the units at 104A, 104B and 117 Port Street which are currently being renovated; the services provided to 600 individuals for rental assistance, utility assistance and other housing-related homelessness provided by ERAP (Emergency Rental Assistance Program) funding; assistance provided through ERAP 2 funding to approximately 400 households so they residents would not be evicted; and the Homeless Solutions Program which provides services various services including rapid rehousing and emergency hotel placement to prevent individuals or families from becoming homeless. Ms. Neal reiterated that the mission and goals of the Neighborhood Service Center remain the same, to prevent homelessness and to help individuals and families become self-sufficient. Ms. Neal noted that Talbot Interfaith Shelter is set to expand its homeless shelter services which will benefit the community. She outlined the need for continued funding to the Neighborhood Service Center after the closure of the Ridgeway Shelter as a shelter and provided a breakdown of sources of funding received, services provided, and funds spent. Council discussion ensued with Ms. Neal as the presentation moved forward. The Neighborhood Service Center will continue to update the Council on a regular or as-needed basis.

- IV. Update on Emergency Rental Assistance Program – Mary Kay Verdery, Grants Administrator – Ms. Verdery updated the Council on the expenditure of grant funding in the sum of \$2,439,498 received from the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) in May 2021 for the Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP). She stated that the funds cover rental assistance and utility assistance as well as other service-related costs and program administration costs. She stated that the County partnered with the Neighborhood Service Center on the ERAP program which is responsible for screening of applicants to determine eligibility, issuing the funds and providing reporting information to the County; to date, \$1.65 million, or 68% of the budget for the program has been distributed to 600 beneficiaries. Ms. Verdery commended the Neighborhood Service Center for their work administering the program. She stated that the County will be requesting a budget modification to reallocate some of the utility and other housing-related funding to the rental category in order to continue to provide that assistance. Ms. Verdery stated that in December 2021, Talbot County was notified of the award of a second round of grant funding (ERAP2) in the sum of \$1,678,514 to continue to ensure housing stability and/or utility cutoff due to the impacts of COVID-19; the grant will begin upon expiration of ERAP1 in September 2022 and will end in September 2025, or once all the funds have been used. She stated that citizens who are interested in submitting an application may do so by logging onto the Neighborhood Service Center website: www.nsctalbotmd.org, www.talbotcovid19.org, or www.rentrelief.maryland.gov for more information in English or Spanish. Ms. Verdery expressed her appreciation for the opportunity to support those citizens negatively impacted by COVID-19. Council members expressed their appreciation to Ms. Verdery and Ms. Neal for their assistance to Talbot County citizens.
- V. Update by Department of Economic Development and Tourism – Cassandra Vanhooser, Director, Department of Economic Development and Tourism – Ms. Vanhooser utilized a PowerPoint presentation to update the Council on federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES) grant funding distributed to small businesses in Talbot County for the period June 2020 through December 2021 totaling \$3.27 million, half of which was distributed in 2021. She provided information on other State grant funding distributed to restaurants, lodging establishments, non-profits, on-line sales/teleworking, as well as emergency grants totaling \$160,000 to nine (9) businesses in Talbot County affected by recent flooding. Ms. Vanhooser also briefed the Council on the County's Incentive Fund investment with Aphena Pharma of Easton, which recently completed a \$7 million expansion, creating a 27-acre pharmaceutical manufacturing campus and hiring an additional 156 employees. The renovation was completed with the assistance of a \$300,000 grant from the State and a 10% match (\$15,000 from Talbot County and \$15,000 from the Town of Easton). Ms. Vanhooser named several organizations with whom the Talbot County Department of Economic Development had partnered to assist small businesses in the county, and provided statistical information on businesses assisted by the Small Business Development Center based out of Salisbury University, including counseling of clients, training events, jobs supported, financing and value of financing. Ms. Vanhooser also provided an overview of the Eastern Shore Business Sentiment Survey, conducted in June 2021 and December 2021. She stated that overall, in the June Survey, businesses expressed a positive outlook for the next 12 months, with the outlook moderating slightly in December 2021. Respondents to the Survey, 43% of whom were from Talbot County, stated that COVID-19 created new problems and exacerbated existing ones, including the labor shortage, inflation, and supply chain issues. She expressed her appreciation to the businesses in Talbot County which participated in the Survey. Ms. Vanhooser concluded her update by outlining the ways by which the Department of Economic Development and Tourism continues to reach out to the businesses in, and visitors to, Talbot County. Council discussion ensued with Ms. Vanhooser. Ms. Vanhooser will continue to update the Council on a regular or as-needed basis.

VI. Public Hearing:

Bill No. 1496, A BILL TO REPEAL AND REENACT CHAPTER 102, “PARKS AND RECREATION,” TALBOT COUNTY CODE AND TO ENACT A NEW CHAPTER 76 ENTITLED “GOLF BOARD,” was read into the record by the Clerk and brought forward for public hearing. Prior to the public hearing, County Attorney, Patrick Thomas, stated that the Council held a work session on the proposed changes in the fall of 2021, and those changes have been incorporated into the legislation now before the Council. He stated that the legislation provides clarification of the regulations in §102-5 and provides for a new chapter for the Golf Board to avoid any confusion of its regulations with those for Parks and Recreation. Members of the public were afforded an opportunity to comment on the legislation. At Mr. Divilio’s request, and no objection of the Council, written comments on Bill No. 1496 will be accepted until Tuesday, February 22, 2022. Council discussion ensued. Bill No. 1496 is eligible for vote on Tuesday, February 22, 2022.

VII. Discussion of Pending General Assembly Legislation: *SB288, Talbot County – Board of Education – Election of Officers*, sponsored by Senator Adelaide Eckardt at the request of the Talbot County Board of Education, was brought forward for discussion. Ms. Price stated the purpose of the legislation is to permit the Talbot County Board of Education to alter the timing of its annual election of officers from January to December. Council discussion ensued. Upon motion by Ms. Price, seconded by Mr. Divilio, the Council approved forwarding a letter in support of SB288 by voting 5 - 0 as follows:

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

HB633, Education – Accountability and Implementation Board – Membership, was brought forward for discussion; if approved, the legislation would alter the membership and qualifications of members of the Kirwan Commission Accountability and Implementation Board in order to provide geographic diversity on the Board. Ms. Price stated that initially, membership of the Board called for appointment of only seven (7) members by the Governor, with membership from one of the larger jurisdictions and the more rural jurisdictions not included. HB633 calls for the membership to increase from seven (7) to eleven (11) members which will include a member from the Eastern Shore, the Western Shore, Southern Maryland, as well as the remaining large jurisdiction that did not previously have representation. Ms. Price urged her colleagues to support the legislation. Upon motion by Mr. Divilio, seconded by Ms. Price, the Council approved forwarding a letter in support of HB633 by voting 5 – 0 as follows:

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

VIII. County Manager’s Report:

A. Talbot County Short Term Rental Review Board – Requested Council approval for the appointment of Michele La Rocca to the Talbot County Short Term Rental Review Board as the attorney representative; requested the appointment of Keith Watts to a three-year term on the Talbot County Short Term Rental Review Board as an individual having knowledge or interest relevant to the Board’s functions; said terms will expire January 1,

2023 and January 1, 2025, respectively. Upon motion by Mr. Divilio, seconded by Mr. Pack, the Council approved the appointments by voting 5 – 0 as follows:

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

- B. Talbot County Board of Appeals - Requested Council approval for the reappointment of Louis Dorsey, Jr. to a three-year term on the Talbot County Board of Appeals as a regular member; requested Council approval for the appointment of Jeffrey Adelman to a three-year term as a regular member; and requested Council approval for the appointment of Patrick Forrest to a three-year term as an alternate member; said terms will expire on February 11, 2025. Upon motion by Mr. Pack, seconded by Mr. Divilio, the Council approved the reappointment and appointments by voting 5 – 0 as follows:

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

- C. Talbot County Tourism Board – Requested Council approval for the appointment of Mary Kellogg to the Talbot County Tourism Board as a representative of Tilghman to complete the unexpired term of Kelley Cox; said term will expire July 1, 2023. Upon motion by Ms. Price, seconded by Mr. Leshner, the Council approved the appointment by voting 5 – 0 as follows:

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

- D. Request from Department of Parks and Recreation – Requested Council’s approval to have the Department of Parks and Recreation utilize FY22 Contingency Funds in the sum of \$22,800 for the purchase of a John Deere 2029R compact utility tractor; the County Manager has certified that the Contingency Funds are available. Mr. Stamp stated that funding for the tractor was allocated in FY21 and an order placed through a State contract; however, due to the COVID-19 pandemic and scarcity of some of the parts, the tractor was unable to be delivered prior to the conclusion of FY21. Upon motion by Ms. Price, seconded by Mr. Divilio, the Council approved the use of Contingency Funds as outlined by voting 5 – 0 as follows:

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

- E. Request from Hog Neck Golf Course – Requested Council’s approval of the recommendation of Rich Setter, General Manager/Golf Professional, Hog Neck Golf Course, for a \$100 increase in the annual membership fee, a \$5 increase in fees for weekend morning golf, and a \$5 increase in fees for weekend mid-day golf effective Spring 2022. Mr. Setter outlined reasons for the request and Council discussion ensued. Upon motion by Mr. Divilio, seconded by Mr. Pack, the Council approved the recommendation by voting 5 – 0 as follows:

Mr. Callahan – Aye

Mr. Divilio – Aye

Mr. Leshner – Aye

Ms. Price – Aye

Mr. Pack – Aye

- F. County Offices Closed – Mr. Stamp stated that County offices will be closed on Monday, February 21, 2022 in recognition of Presidents’ Day.

IX. Public Comments: There were no comments by members of the public.

X. Council Comments:

Mr. Pack - Mr. Pack encouraged individuals to continue to get tested for COVID-19 and to get vaccinated. He stated that he had gone to the State testing site, manned by the National Guard at the former Cadmus building, and was in and out in five minutes. He reiterated his previous statement to continue to get tested so we can all keep each other safe, and to get vaccinated. He stated that Dr. Maguire and her team have set up the Talbot County Vaccine Center, 102 Marlboro Avenue in Easton (former Hearthstone Gym) and can get individuals in and out in a few minutes. He stated that both the testing and the vaccinations are free; if you know your name, address, and date of birth, you are good to go. Mr. Pack concluded his comments by stating that, in his opinion, we are approaching an endemic with COVID-19; it’s going to be with us, so we need to take proper precautions by getting tested and vaccinated.

Ms. Price - Ms. Price stated that she had testified in the Maryland Senate earlier in the day on reinvesting in local transportation infrastructure legislation, a MACo initiative, and had previously testified in the House. She stated that based on the questions asked by the committee, the testimony, in her opinion, went really well although she has no idea if the legislation will pass, but in her opinion, it would be really huge if it were to pass.

Mr. Divilio - No comments.

Mr. Leshner – Mr. Leshner stated that the County has received the first tranche of \$7.2 million in American Recovery Plan Act (ARPA) COVID-19 relief funding, the use of which is very flexible. He stated that there was an enormous response from the public community survey as to how the funds should be prioritized for use - 648 responses were received. Mr. Leshner stated that the data received from the survey was compiled by BEACON (Business Economic and Community Outreach Network) at Salisbury University and is being reviewed by the staff committee of which he is a part; the survey results will be made

public and recommendations on the allocation of funds will be presented to Council at an upcoming meeting.

Mr. Callahan - Mr. Callahan stated that Council has worked really hard for the past couple of nights. He stated that last night's meeting with representatives of the Town of Trappe and members of the public went very well, in his opinion, and he expressed his appreciation to Council for doing a good job. He concurred with Mr. Stamp's comments that the county has a lot of great people who are helping members of the public with keeping their homes, nurturing their children. Mr. Callahan concluded his comments by commended Ms. Price on, in his opinion, a great article in the Sunday edition of *The Star Democrat* and stated that she is doing a good job for Talbot County as the County's Maryland Association of Counties (MACo) liaison as well as Chair of the MACo Board of Directors.

- XI. Upon motion by Mr. Divilio, seconded by Mr. Leshner the Council voted to adjourn and to reconvene on Tuesday, February 22, 2022 at 3:00 p.m. for a virtual work session with Planning and Zoning regarding a large scale solar array project; and to convene in a virtual Open Session at 4:00 p.m. and immediately adjourn into a virtual Closed Session for discussion of legal, personnel and real estate matters as listed on the statement for closing the meeting, and at 6:00 p.m. for the virtual meeting by voting 5– 0 as follows:

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

The transcript of the February 8, 2022 County Council meeting is available for review in the Office of the Talbot County Manager during regular office hours.

- XI. Meeting with Elected Officials from Easton, Oxford, Queen Anne, St. Michaels, and Trappe – The Talbot County Council held a virtual meeting with elected officials from the incorporated municipalities of Talbot County on Tuesday, February 1, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. The following individuals were in attendance: Megan Cook, President, Easton Town Council; Al Silverstein and Don Abbatiello, Members, Easton Town Council; Don Richardson, Easton Town Manager; Gordon Fronk, President, Commissioners of Oxford; James “Jimmy” Jaramillo, Commissioner, Town of Oxford; Phillip “Phil” Starkey, Mayor, Town of Queen Anne; Dawn Starkey, Town Clerk, Town of Queen Anne; Jeffrey “Jeff” Rhodes, Interim Town Clerk/Manager, Town of St. Michaels; Brian Schmidt, Commissioner, Town of Trappe; Chuck Callahan, President, Talbot County Council; Pete Leshner, Vice President, Talbot County Council; Frank Divilio, Corey Pack, Members, Talbot County Council; County Manager, Clay Stamp; Micah Risher, Manager, Easton Airport; Jack Pettit, President, Talbot County Airport Board; Cassandra Vanhooser, Director, Talbot County Department of Economic Development and Tourism; Joe Gamble, Talbot County Sheriff; and Scott Warner, Executive Director, Mid-Shore Regional Council. The following topics were brought forward: (1) Easton Volunteer Fire Department's Training Facility and the Impact to Easton Airport – Mr. Risher stated that he had attended the first site review meeting for the proposed facility located adjacent to Easton Airport and expressed his concerns regarding the proximity of the proposed facility to the Airport's Air Traffic Control Tower and Runway 4-22. He stated that when simulated house fires are being conducted at the facility, the resulting smoke will require re-routing of air traffic directly over the town of Easton rather than its current route on the western side of town. Mr. Risher stated that he had made three recommendations to the Town for relocation of the proposed facility farther from Easton Airport which

would allow smoke to dissipate. Discussion ensued with Town of Easton representatives. Mr. Pettit reiterated that the training facility at the currently proposed location will diminish safety at Easton Airport, particularly for those pilots utilizing non-instrument landings; discussion again ensued. (2) Update on Eastern Shore Economic Recovery Project - Ms. Vanhooser briefed the Council on findings from the Eastern Shore Business Sentiment Survey which was conducted in partnership with Salisbury University's Business Economic and Community Outreach Network (BEACON), several of the region's economic and workforce development professionals, and business owners. She stated that the goal of the Survey was to gather the opinions and information from the business and industry sectors as to whether they anticipate the Eastern Shore business climate to remain unchanged, improve, or worsen over the next 12 months; the Survey was conducted in June 2021 and again in December 2021. She stated that overall there was a positive outlook for the next 12 months; the Survey will be repeated every six months. She stated that the respondents did express concern about new problems created, or existing problems exacerbated by, COVID-19, including labor shortages, inflation, and supply chain issues. Ms. Vanhooser stated that information submitted by the businesses will be available on several data driven tools as a means of better understand the needs of the business community and as a gauge of the health of the economy. Ms. Vanhooser stated that the Survey grew out of the Eastern Shore Economic Recovery Project which was made possible through a \$507,000 grant from the United States Economic Development Agency (EDA); 43% of the respondents to the Survey were from Talbot County. More information on the Eastern Shore Economic Recovery Project may be found at www.recovery.delmarvaindex.org; (3) Discussion of Police Coverage in Towns and the County – Sheriff Gamble provided statistical information related to calls to his department for service in 2021, including arrests by the Talbot County Drug Task Force. He stated that 100,000 people in the nation died in 2021 from drug overdoses and that his department is seeing far more fake oxycontin pills, which in his opinion, is a precursor to more overdose deaths. Sheriff Gamble stated that his department has seen tremendous changes in the salary structure recently enacted for the Maryland State Police and as a result, Sheriff's deputies are leaving local jurisdictions to join the State Police, citing the example of a 9-year veteran of the Easton Police Department can start with the Maryland State Police at the 9-year salary level; (4) Ms. Cook briefed the group on current or future development projects in the town of Easton, including a 200 hundred unit housing development, a 120 apartment development on Elliott Road, proposed development of the Poplar Hill Farm, the development of Easton Point Park and the Rails-to-Trails project; (5) Mr. Fronk stated that the Mews building in Oxford is nearing completion and will house four new apartments as well as commercial space; occupancy of the commercial space is anticipated in spring 2022. He stated that the new wastewater treatment plant system for the Town of Oxford was completed at a cost of \$18 million; the original anticipated cost was \$11 million. He stated that drainage repairs for Morris Street have been made and the Town is waiting for the State to complete the repaving. Central Park, behind the Oxford Community Center now has picnic tables, benches, and corn hole and bocce ball games and the tennis courts have been painted so pickle ball players can also utilize the courts. Mr. Fronk briefed the group on the work of the Town's sign committee and stated that the Oxford Resiliency Committee will be indexing the information gathered and addressing issues related to same. (6) Mr. Starkey stated that the Town of Queen Anne is working on drainage issues within the town; has submitted an application for Program Open Space (POS) funding for a walking trail in the Town park and continues to receive complaints from town residents regarding drug activity; Sheriff Gamble stated that citizens should call his office to report the purported activity; (7) Mr. Rhodes stated that the Town of St. Michaels received applications from 19 states and the District of Columbia for the Town Manager position. He stated that the Town's sewer project is almost complete and that the Town will be implementing a digital water meter system in the near future. He stated that St. Michaels experienced more than 60 days of flooding in 2021 during which the town docks were flooded; he announced plans to extend Rails-to-Trails from Railway Avenue to the Perry Cabin ball fields; and stated that the police department for the Town is now fully staffed; (8) Mr. Schmidt stated that the developer of Lakeside had donated land for new signage for the Town of Trappe; parts for the new well have been received and Town representatives will be meeting with the County Council on Monday, February 7, 2022 for a work session on the Lakeside Project.

The next Municipalities Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 7, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. at the Talbot County Community Center, 10028 Ocean Gateway, Easton.

- XII. Work Session on Lakeside Project – The Talbot County Council held a virtual work session on Monday, February 7, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. on the Lakeside Project in the town of Trappe. Members of the Trappe Town Council, Lyndsey Ryan, attorney for the Town of Trappe, Ryan Showalter, attorney for the developer of the Lakeside project, Trappe East Holdings Business Trust, County Attorney, Patrick Thomas, members of the Talbot County Planning Commission, Talbot County Public Works Advisory Board and County Engineer, Ray Clarke were in attendance. Mr. Callahan stated over the last several months, members of the public have expressed concerns regarding various facets of the proposed Lakeside project and the purpose of the work session is to bring all parties to the table and to have the Town of Trappe and the attorney for the developer to help the public more clearly understand matters related to the project. Mr. Thomas provided a summary of the Comprehensive Water and Sewer Plan process, which each of the 23 counties in Maryland and Baltimore City are required by law to adopt. He stated that the Plan is not only a planning tool for the provision of adequate water supply and sewer systems throughout the county, including its municipalities, but also looks at systems planned for at least 10 years into the future. He stated that no water supply or sewer system can be installed or extended in the county, including a municipality, unless it conforms to the Plan. He then outlined the process by which the Plan can be amended through introduction of a resolution followed by review by the Public Works Advisory Board and Planning Commission; if certified by the Planning Commission that it is consistent with the current County Comprehensive Plan and approved by the Council, the resolution is forwarded to the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) for review and consideration of approval. Upon approval by MDE, the resolution then becomes part of the County's Comprehensive Water and Sewer Plan. Council discussion ensued with Mr. Thomas regarding Resolution No. 281, approved by the Council on August 11, 2020, Resolution No. 308 which proposes to rescind Resolution No. 281, and Resolution No. 313 which proposes to impose additional conditions on Phase One of the Lakeside project, and which the Planning Commission voted was not consistent with the County's Comprehensive Plan. County Engineer, Ray Clarke, provided a timeline of the history of Resolution No. 281; Lyndsey Ryan, attorney for the Town of Trappe, provided an update on the Town of Trappe's efforts to upgrade their wastewater treatment plant to Enhanced Nutrient Removal (ENR) standards and stated that the timeline for design, permitting, and construction, and start-up of the upgrade is approximately three years. Council discussion ensued with Ms. Ryan as various information was provided. Ms. Ryan then briefed the Council on matters related to the existing Town wastewater treatment plant, including capacity, discharge parameters, and permit violations. Council discussion again ensued with Ms. Ryan and members of the Trappe Town Council. Ryan Showalter, attorney for the developer of Lakeside, outlined, in his professional opinion, what Resolution No. 281 accomplished, the possible impacts of rescinding it, and provided a timeline which led to the introduction and passage of Resolution No. 281 by the Council, its approval by MDE, and its specific relationship to proposed improvements by the Town of Trappe to its wastewater treatment system and the Lakeside development. He also outlined improvements by the Town of Trappe to its water system to incorporate initial phases of the Lakeside project into its system as well as future capital improvement plans for both water and wastewater systems for the Town. Mr. Showalter stated that everything related to Lakeside was permitted by the County's 2002 Report of the Review. He stated that, in his professional opinion, rescission of Resolution No. 281 would change the specifics related to the Lakeside wastewater treatment and provided details on same. He stated that, based on MDE's approval of Resolution No. 281, the Town and the developer entered into a contract under which the Town allocated 120 equivalent dwelling units (EDUs), payment for that allocation has been made and received by the Town and construction at Lakeside has begun on the basis of the agreement. Council discussion ensued with Mr. Showalter as various points were brought forward. Council members expressed their appreciation to everyone in attendance for providing information on their role in the process. The work session concluded at 7:11 p.m.

XIII. Work Session with Sheriff Gamble, Towns, and Police Chiefs Re: Maryland HB670, Police Reform and Accountability Act of 2021 – The Talbot County Council held a virtual work session on Tuesday, February 8, 2022 at 3:00 p.m. with Talbot County Sheriff, Joe Gamble, elected officials of the county’s incorporated towns and the police chiefs of the Town of Easton, Oxford and St. Michaels to discuss the implementation of *HB670, Police Reform and Accountability Act of 2021* by July 1, 2022, including the fiscal impacts of its implementation. County Manager, Clay Stamp, stated that the legislation, which is an unfunded State mandate is not a “one size fits all” for jurisdictions across the state. The intent of the legislation is to provide citizen oversight of police, excluding those in State and federal agencies. County Attorney, Patrick Thomas, stated that County legislation will need to be enacted to establish a Police Accountability Board and Administrative Charging Committee for Talbot County. Sheriff Gamble, briefed the group on the following as related to the Police Accountability Board: establishment of membership, establishment of budget and staff, qualifications of Chairperson, and procedures for recordkeeping. He outlined the role of the Board, process for review of complaints submitted to the Board, appeal process for individuals charged with misconduct by the Board, and reporting procedures of the Board. He outlined the role and duties of the Administrative Charging Committee and Trial Board, and required training by individuals selected to serve on the Police Accountability Board. He stated that the Towns are free to establish their own Trial Board process; they are not mandated to utilize the County’s process. Discussion ensued. Sheriff Gamble will continue to update the Council as details related to the implementation of HB670 are finalized at the State level.

XIV. Summary of Closed Session Held on February 8, 2022:

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

Time of closed session: 4:15 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
 Place of closed session: Via WebEx Events
 Purpose of the closed session: To consider various matters as set forth in the statement for closing the meeting

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

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

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

Topic Description	Statutory Authority	Reason for Closed Session Discussion	Persons Present	Action Taken
To discuss appointments to various County boards and committees	GP § 3-305 (b) (1)(i)	Public discussion of specific appointees could discourage individuals from volunteering to serve on County	Chuck Callahan, Frank Divilio, Pete Leshner, Corey Pack, Laura Price, Clay Stamp, Jessica Morris, Patrick Thomas	No action

		boards and committees		
Legal advice regarding a personnel matter pertaining to a specific individual over whom the Council has jurisdiction	GP § 3-305 (b) (1)(i)	To protect the identity of the specific individual and the attorney-client privilege	Chuck Callahan, Frank Divilio, Pete Leshner, Corey Pack, Laura Price, Clay Stamp, Jessica Morris, Patrick Thomas	No action
To discuss personnel matter regarding compensation	GP § 3-305 (b) (1)(i)	Discussion involves specific individuals	Chuck Callahan, Frank Divilio, Pete Leshner, Corey Pack, Laura Price, Clay Stamp, Jessica Morris, Patrick Thomas	No action
To discuss possible acquisition of property in Easton for a public purpose	GP § 3-305(b)(3)	To protect County’s bargaining position regarding the potential acquisition of a specific parcel of real property for a public purpose	Chuck Callahan, Frank Divilio, Pete Leshner, Corey Pack, Laura Price, Clay Stamp, Jessica Morris, Patrick Thomas, Joye Nagle	Council directed staff to prepare counter-proposal for consideration
Legal advice on litigation (Petition 21-02/Preserve Talbot History, Inc.)	GP § 3-305 (b) (7)(8)	Confidential attorney-client discussion regarding status of litigation	Chuck Callahan, Frank Divilio, Pete Leshner, Corey Pack, Laura Price, Clay Stamp, Jessica Morris, Patrick Thomas	No action

CASH STATEMENT 2/01/2022

BALANCE 1/25/2022	52,430,296.37
CIGNA CLAIMS PAID THRU 1/21/2022	(118,213.47)
SEWER CHARGES FOR TALBOT CO OWNED PROPERTIES 3RD QTR	(627.75)
BRF FEE RETURN OCT-DEC 2021	(85,604.30)
USDA/RD QTRLY BOND PYMT #92-12	(16,408.00)
DEPOSIT BATCH #52944 12/14/2021	627.75
DEPOSITS	1,285,674.48

CHECKS	(648,629.20)
VOIDED CHECK(S) # 356766	726.00

BALANCE 2/01/2022	<u>52,847,841.88</u>
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INVESTMENTS - CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT

<u>Certificate Date</u>	<u>Maturity Date</u>	<u>Yield</u>	<u>Amount</u>
PNC-MLGIP INVESTMENTS TOTAL		0.06%	20,500,000.00
BAYVANGUARD BANK			10,213,058.40
TOTAL INVESTED			<u>30,713,058.40</u>
PETTY CASH BALANCE			<u>12,175.00</u>
<u>GRAND TOTAL ALL FUNDS</u>			<u>83,573,075.28</u>

CASH STATEMENT 2/08/2022

BALANCE 2/1/2022	52,847,841.88
TOTAL ADP PAYROLL PPE 1/21/2022	(685,086.27)
TOTAL ADP PAYROLL PPE 1/31/2022	(12,161.92)
PENSION DED PPE 1/21/2022	(41,849.58)
DEF COMP DED PPE 1/21 & 1/31/2022 457 & ROTH	(19,514.44)
DEF COMP PPE 1/21/2022 PLAN 401 (A)	(6,492.52)
ELECTION BOARD PPE 1/11/2022 & 1/18/2022	(19,191.69)
WELLS FARGO GOLF EQUIPMENT LEASE PYMT	(128.00)
CIGNA CLAIMS PAID THRU 1/31/2022	(97,469.18)
TALBOT CO. FREE LIBRARY/FY21-22 2/2022	(126,616.00)
TALBOT CO. HUMANE SOCIETY/FY21-22 2/2022	(34,167.00)
BOARD OF EDUCATION 2/2022	(3,658,800.00)
FEBRUARY 2022 RETIREE HEALTH PLAN #727	(31,923.84)
RETURNED PAYMENTUS PAYMENTS	(2,305.47)
STM WWTP IMP/MD WATER QUALITY	(525,592.15)
POSTAGE WIRE	(3,000.00)

DEPOSITS	3,148,696.21
CHECKS	(711,524.85)
VOIDED CHECK(S) # 356861, 356862, 356863, 356864, 356874	22,443.99

BALANCE 2/01/2022	<u>50,043,159.17</u>
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INVESTMENTS - CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT

<u>Certificate Date</u>	<u>Maturity Date</u>	<u>Yield</u>	<u>Amount</u>
PNC-MLGIP INVESTMENTS TOTAL		0.06%	20,500,000.00
BAYVANGUARD BANK			10,213,058.40
TOTAL INVESTED			<u>30,713,058.40</u>

PETTY CASH BALANCE	<u>12,175.00</u>
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<u>GRAND TOTAL ALL FUNDS</u>	<u>80,768,392.57</u>
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