



TALBOT COUNTY, MARYLAND

County Council

MINUTES

June 13, 2023

Present – President Chuck Callahan, Vice President Pete Leshner, Keasha Haythe, Lynn L. Mielke, Dave Stepp, County Manager Clay Stamp, and County Attorney Patrick Thomas.

- I. Agenda – The Agenda of Tuesday, June 13, 2023 was brought forward for approval. Ms. Haythe requested Council’s consideration to amend the agenda to remove *A BILL TO AUTHORIZE CONSTRUCTION OF A TALBOT COUNTY VISITORS CENTER* in *Item IX, Introduction of Legislation* and to bring the matter back at the June 27th Council meeting with a title which is more reflective of the project; and to remove the *Recommendation to Award for Bid No. 22-19 for Resolution No. 235* from the County Manager’s Report. Upon motion by Ms. Mielke, seconded by Mr. Leshner, the Council approved the Agenda, as amended, by voting 5 – 0 as follows:

Mr. Callahan – Aye
Mr. Stepp – Aye
Mr. Leshner - Aye
Ms. Mielke – Aye
Ms. Haythe – Aye

- II. Minutes – Mr. Callahan requested and received unanimous consent for approval of the Minutes of Tuesday, May 9, 2023.

- III. Disbursements – Mr. Callahan requested and received unanimous consent for approval of the Disbursements of Tuesday, May 30, 2023, Tuesday, June 6, 2023 and Tuesday, June 13, 2023.

- IV. Proclamation: 340th Anniversary of the Oxford-Bellevue Ferry – The Clerk read a proclamation into the record in recognition of the Oxford-Bellevue Ferry, believed to be the nation’s oldest privately operated ferry service. The ferry, first propelled by sculling and currently powered by diesel, has been transporting people and cargo between Oxford and Bellevue, Maryland for almost three and a half centuries; its current owners, Capts. Judy and Tom Bixler, have owned and operated the ferry, a Talbot County institution, since 2002. Council members expressed their appreciation to the Bixlers for all they do to keep the ferry going. Upon motion by Mr. Stepp, seconded by Mr. Leshner, the Council approved the proclamation by voting 5– 0 as follows:

Mr. Callahan – Aye
Mr. Stepp – Aye
Mr. Leshner - Aye
Ms. Mielke – Aye
Ms. Haythe – Aye

Ms. Mielke presented the Proclamation to Capt. Judy Bixler who accepted on behalf of herself and Capt. Tom Bixler who was unable to be in attendance.

- V. Request from Talbot County Public Schools for FY23 Categorical Budget Transfers – Sarah Jones, CPA, Chief Financial Officer, Talbot County Public Schools – Ms. Jones stated that the Board of Education met on Thursday, June 8, 2023 and is requesting several Categorical Budget Transfers for FY23. She briefed the Council on the requests as follows: to transfer \$2,754 in restricted State grant revenue to the Board’s Unrestricted budget to accommodate a change in the State’s procedure

of forwarding funds; and to amend the FY23 budget in the amount of \$830,000 by transferring funds from the Instructional Salaries category to the following categories: (1) \$40,000 to Administration for anticipated overages in legal, copier, and consulting costs; (2) \$180,000 to Textbooks and Instructional Materials to prepay certain software subscriptions originally in the Board's FY24 budget; (3) \$100,000 to Other Instructional Costs to prepay certain software costs originally included in the Board's FY24 budget and to purchase replacements for Learning Management System software and new Data Warehousing software to assist in capturing the metrics needed to better assess and report on the performance of Talbot County Public Schools; (4) \$400,000 to Transportation, including \$269,000 to prepay bus lease payments originally included in the Board's FY24 budget and \$131,000 to cover projected overages for fuel and repair costs; and (5) \$110,000 to Operation of Plant for the purchase of three (3) vehicles to replace 2008, 2009, and 2012 vehicles used by maintenance staff which are beyond their useful life. Council discussion ensued with Ms. Jones as each item was brought forward. Ms. Jones stated that the purpose of the transfers is to cover additional costs the Board of Education would like to obligate in FY23, and to assist in balancing the Board's FY24 budget; no additional County funds are required. Upon motion by Mr. Leshner, seconded by Mr. Stepp, the Council approved the request by voting 4 – 0 - 1 as follows:

Mr. Callahan – Aye
Mr. Stepp – Aye
Mr. Leshner - Aye
Ms. Mielke – Abstain
Ms. Haythe - Aye

VI. Introduction of Administrative Resolutions:

An ADMINISTRATIVE RESOLUTION TO PROVIDE THAT LEGISLATIVE SESSIONS OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF TALBOT COUNTY, MARYLAND SHALL START AT 5:00 P.M. was read into the record by the Clerk. Council discussion ensued regarding the benefits of moving the meeting time and the period of time for doing so. Ms. Haythe asked that the record reflect that although the administrative resolution does not state so, the time change is intended to be for the summer only; the meeting time will be moved back to 6:00 p.m. in the fall. Upon motion by Mr. Stepp, seconded by Ms. Haythe, the Council approved the administrative resolution by voting 4 – 1 as follows:

Mr. Callahan – Aye
Mr. Stepp – Aye
Mr. Leshner - Aye
Ms. Mielke – Nay
Ms. Haythe – Aye

An ADMINISTRATIVE RESOLUTION ADOPTING A SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY FOR TALBOT COUNTY, MARYLAND was read into the record by the Clerk. County Manager, Clay Stamp stated that the adoption of a social media policy is part of a communications initiative designed to improve public communications and to enhance government transparency to the public. He stated that the initiative will include issuance of press releases on a regular basis, updating the County's website presence, and coordinating and expanding the County's social media presence under the leadership of Talbot County Communications Manager, Sarah Kilmon. Ms. Kilmon stated that use of social media is a valuable tool to provide effective and efficient communication from the County to citizens and from citizens to the County. She then outlined the objectives of using social media to communicate with citizens as follows: (1) to increase communication with

citizens by building awareness of issues; (2) to provide communication outlets during a time of crisis; (3) to provide a source of feedback for citizens to communicate with the County and to engage with each other in civil discourse; and to provide increased accessibility for underserved populations. Ms. Kilmon utilized a PowerPoint presentation to outline the means by which the County currently disseminates information to citizens including through press releases, in the “News and Updates” section of the County website, and through local news outlets, including *The Star Democrat*. Ms. Kilmon stated that 16 of the 23 counties in Maryland have at least one social media account for their government and related departments; the State of Maryland alone maintains 89 social media accounts. She outlined various phases for rollout of the County’s social media sites which initially will include Facebook and LinkedIn; subsequent rollouts may include text and email alerts and E-newsletters; branding guidelines will be established so that citizens can easily recognize notices from Talbot County. Council discussion ensued with Ms. Kilmon as various facets of the presentation were brought forward. Upon motion by Mr. Stepp, seconded by Ms. Mielke, the Council approved the administrative resolution by voting 5 – 0 as follows:

Mr. Callahan – Aye
Mr. Stepp – Aye
Mr. Leshner – Aye
Ms. Mielke – Aye
Ms. Haythe - Aye

VII. Introduction of Numbered Resolutions:

A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE TALBOT COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE WATER AND SEWER PLAN TO RECLASSIFY AND REMAP CERTAIN REAL PROPERTIES LOCATED AT 24679 YACHT CLUB ROAD AND 24781 YACHT CLUB ROAD, ST. MICHAELS, MARYLAND, SHOWN ON TAX MAP 23 AS PARCEL 98, LOT 1, AND LOT 60, RESPECTIVELY, FROM UNPROGRAMMED TO “S-1” IMMEDIATE PRIORITY STATUS was read into the record by the Clerk and brought forward for introduction. Prior to introduction, County Engineer, Ray Clarke, stated that the County had received an application from the owner of the properties to reclassify the two properties outlined in the resolution. He stated that the County had extended sewer to Yacht Club Road several years ago so infrastructure is already in place. Mr. Leshner stated that the properties have been placed in an easement and therefore are not able to be subdivided. If introduced, the resolution will be forwarded to the Public Works Advisory Board and Planning Commission for review and recommendation. The resolution was introduced by Mr. Callahan, Ms. Haythe, Mr. Leshner, Ms. Mielke, and Mr. Stepp as Resolution No. 343. A public hearing was scheduled for Tuesday, July 11, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. in the Bradley Meeting Room, South Wing, Talbot County Courthouse, 11 North Washington Street, Easton, Maryland 21601.

A RESOLUTION TO ADOPT A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON THE PROCESSING, REVIEW, AND APPROVAL OF APPLICATIONS, SITE PLANS, PERMITS, AND OTHER AUTHORIZATIONS FOR THE LOCATION, CONSTRUCTION, AND/OR OPERATION OF BUSINESSES ENGAGED IN GROWING, PROCESSING, AND/OR SELLING CANNABIS FOR A PERIOD OF NINE (9) MONTHS TO ALLOW THE COUNTY SUFFICIENT TIME TO ENACT REASONABLE, THOUGHTFUL, AND LAWFUL ZONING REQUIREMENTS AND OTHER REGULATIONS PERTAINING THERETO AS DEEMED NECESSARY TO PROTECT THE PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY, AND WELFARE was read into the record by the Clerk and brought forward for introduction. Prior to introduction, County Attorney, Patrick Thomas, stated that the resolution had been drafted at the request of Ms. Mielke. He stated that the Maryland Cannabis Reform Act (SB516/HB556) which becomes effective July 1, 2023, provides in part, local jurisdictions the authority to impose zoning and other regulations related to adult use recreational cannabis. He stated that Talbot County does not currently have regulations relating to

adult non-medical use cannabis; the resolution before Council for a temporary moratorium would give the County time to consider and enact regulations to comply with the new State laws; several other municipalities in Talbot County, have or are in the process of, enacting moratoriums. Council discussion ensued. The legislation was introduced by Mr. Callahan, Ms. Haythe, Ms. Mielke, and Mr. Stepp as Resolution No. 344. A public hearing was scheduled for Tuesday, July 11, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. in the Bradley Meeting Room, South Wing, Talbot County Courthouse, 11 North Washington Street, Easton, Maryland 21601.

VIII. Introduction of Legislation:

Mr. Leshar noted for the record that Item No. 1 under Introduction of Legislation had been previously removed from the agenda.

The FY 2023-2024 Capital Enabling legislation was brought forward for introduction. Each of the bills is a capital bill and is included in the FY24 Budget adopted by the Council in May 2023. As outlined in Section 213 of the Talbot County Charter, each capital project is required to have its own enabling legislation. County Manager, Clay Stamp, outlined the process by which the legislation, if approved, becomes effective.

A BILL TO AMEND BILL NOS. 1393, 1452, AND 1480, TO AMEND THE APPROPRIATION FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE FREDERICK DOUGLASS PARK ON THE TUCKAHOE LOCATED AT 13213 LEWISTOWN ROAD, QUEEN ANNE, MARYLAND was introduced by Mr. Callahan, Ms. Haythe, Mr. Leshar, Ms. Mielke, and Mr. Stepp as Bill No. 1531. A public hearing was scheduled for Tuesday, July 11, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. in the Bradley Meeting Room, South Wing, Talbot County Courthouse, 11 North Washington Street, Easton, Maryland 21601.

A BILL TO AMEND BILL NO. 1516 FOR THE PURPOSE OF AMENDING THE APPROPRIATION FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO AND EXPANSION OF THE ST. MICHAELS BRANCH OF THE TALBOT COUNTY FREE LIBRARY was introduced by Mr. Callahan, Ms. Haythe, Mr. Leshar, Ms. Mielke, and Mr. Stepp as Bill No. 1532. A public hearing was scheduled for Tuesday, July 11, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. in the Bradley Meeting Room, South Wing, Talbot County Courthouse, 11 North Washington Street, Easton, Maryland 21601.

A BILL TO AUTHORIZE IMPROVEMENTS TO THE TALBOT COUNTY DETENTION CENTER was introduced by Mr. Callahan, Ms. Haythe, Mr. Leshar, Ms. Mielke, and Mr. Stepp as Bill No. 1533. A public hearing was scheduled for Tuesday, July 11, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. in the Bradley Meeting Room, South Wing, Talbot County Courthouse, 11 North Washington Street, Easton, Maryland 21601.

A BILL TO AMEND BILL NOS. 1424 AND 1486 FOR THE PURPOSE OF AMENDING THE APPROPRIATION TO PURCHASE IMPROVED OR UNIMPROVED REAL PROPERTY FOR FUTURE COUNTY PURPOSES was introduced by Mr. Callahan, Ms. Haythe, Mr. Leshar, Ms. Mielke, and Mr. Stepp as Bill No. 1534. A public hearing was scheduled for Tuesday, July 11, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. in the Bradley Meeting Room, South Wing, Talbot County Courthouse, 11 North Washington Street, Easton, Maryland 21601.

A BILL TO AMEND BILL NO. 1488 FOR THE PURPOSE OF AMENDING THE APPROPRIATION FOR THE UPGRADE OR REPLACEMENT OF THE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT AT THE PRESERVE AT WYE MILLS was introduced by Mr. Callahan, Ms. Haythe, Mr. Leshar, Ms. Mielke, and Mr. Stepp as Bill No. 1535. A public hearing was

scheduled for Tuesday, July 11, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. in the Bradley Meeting Room, South Wing, Talbot County Courthouse, 11 North Washington Street, Easton, Maryland 21601.

A BILL TO AMEND BILL NO. 1187 FOR THE PURPOSE OF AUTHORIZING THE APPROPRIATION FOR EXTENSION OF WATER AND SEWER LINES TO THE PROPOSED UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND SHORE REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER HOSPITAL SITE LOCATED BETWEEN LONGWOODS ROAD (MARYLAND RT. 662) AND U.S. ROUTE 50 IN EASTON, MARYLAND was introduced by Mr. Callahan, Ms. Haythe, Mr. Leshner, Ms. Mielke, and Mr. Stepp as Bill No. 1536. A public hearing was scheduled for Tuesday, July 11, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. in the Bradley Meeting Room, South Wing, Talbot County Courthouse, 11 North Washington Street, Easton, Maryland 21601.

A BILL TO AMEND BILL NOS. 1484 AND 1509 FOR THE PURPOSE OF AMENDING THE APPROPRIATION FOR A CAPITAL PROJECT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES STATIONS was introduced by Mr. Callahan, Ms. Haythe, Mr. Leshner, Ms. Mielke, and Mr. Stepp as Bill No. 1537. A public hearing was scheduled for Tuesday, July 11, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. in the Bradley Meeting Room, South Wing, Talbot County Courthouse, 11 North Washington Street, Easton, Maryland 21601.

A BILL TO AUTHORIZE IMPROVEMENTS TO AND EXPANSION OF THE CHAPEL DISTRICT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL was introduced by Mr. Callahan and Mr. Stepp as Bill No. 1538. A public hearing was scheduled for Tuesday, July 11, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. in the Bradley Meeting Room, South Wing, Talbot County Courthouse, 11 North Washington Street, Easton, Maryland 21601.

A BILL TO AUTHORIZE THE CONSTRUCTION OF AND IMPROVEMENTS TO A DRIVING RANGE COMPLEX AT THE TALBOT COUNTY HOG NECK GOLF COURSE was introduced by Mr. Callahan, Ms. Haythe, Mr. Leshner, Ms. Mielke, and Mr. Stepp as Bill No. 1539. A public hearing was scheduled for Tuesday, July 11, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. in the Bradley Meeting Room, South Wing, Talbot County Courthouse, 11 North Washington Street, Easton, Maryland 21601.

A BILL TO AMEND BILL NO. 1460 FOR THE PURPOSE OF AMENDING THE APPROPRIATION FOR A GYMNASIUM ADDITION TO THE TALBOT COUNTY COMMUNITY CENTER was introduced by Mr. Callahan, Ms. Haythe, Mr. Leshner, Ms. Mielke, and Mr. Stepp as Bill No. 1540. A public hearing was scheduled for Tuesday, July 11, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. in the Bradley Meeting Room, South Wing, Talbot County Courthouse, 11 North Washington Street, Easton, Maryland 21601.

A BILL TO AMEND BILL NO. 1506 FOR THE PURPOSE OF AUTHORIZING THE APPROPRIATION FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO COUNTY ROADS was introduced by Mr. Callahan, Ms. Haythe, Mr. Leshner, Ms. Mielke, and Mr. Stepp as Bill No. 1541. A public hearing was scheduled for Tuesday, July 11, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. in the Bradley Meeting Room, South Wing, Talbot County Courthouse, 11 North Washington Street, Easton, Maryland 21601.

A BILL TO AMEND BILL NO. 1505 FOR THE PURPOSE OF AUTHORIZING THE APPROPRIATION FOR REPLACEMENT OF THE 911 DIVISION COMPUTER AIDED DISPATCH (CAD) SYSTEM was introduced by Mr. Callahan, Ms. Haythe, Mr. Leshner, Ms. Mielke, and Mr. Stepp as Bill No. 1542. A public hearing was scheduled for Tuesday, July 11, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. in the Bradley Meeting Room, South Wing, Talbot County Courthouse, 11 North Washington Street, Easton, Maryland 21601.

A BILL TO AUTHORIZE REPLACEMENT OF THE ROOF AT THE WHITE MARSH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL was introduced by Mr. Callahan, Ms. Haythe, Mr. Leshner, Ms. Mielke, and Mr. Stepp as Bill No. 1543. A public hearing was scheduled for Tuesday, July 11, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. in the Bradley Meeting Room, South Wing, Talbot County Courthouse, 11 North Washington Street, Easton, Maryland 21601.

A BILL TO AMEND CHAPTER 190 OF THE TALBOT COUNTY CODE (ZONING, SUBDIVISION AND LAND DEVELOPMENT), §§ 190-25.2 (TABLE OF LAND USES), 190-29 (COMMERCIAL USES), 190-29.7 (INN), AND 190-78 (TERMS DEFINED) REGARDING HISTORIC INNS was read into the record by the Clerk and brought forward for introduction. Prior to introduction, County Attorney, Patrick Thomas, stated that the legislation was requested by Mr. Leshner; if approved, the amendment would permit inns located within historic structures in the County's conservation districts to operate by special exception. Mr. Thomas stated that the Council initially considered the amendment in June 2022 at the request of Brendan Mullaney on behalf of Rolles Range Partners, LLC; the matter was subsequently considered and recommended for approval by the Planning Commission in September 2022. The legislation was introduced by Mr. Callahan, Ms. Haythe, Mr. Leshner, Ms. Mielke, and Mr. Stepp as Bill No. 1544. A public hearing was scheduled for Tuesday, July 11, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. in the Bradley Meeting Room, South Wing, Talbot County Courthouse, 11 North Washington Street, Easton, Maryland 21601.

IX. Eligible for Vote:

Bill No. 1530, A BILL TO ADDRESS REMAINING COMMENTS AND CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL IMPOSED BY THE MARYLAND CRITICAL AREA COMMISSION (THE "COMMISSION") FOR BILL NO. 1525, A BILL TO AMEND CHAPTER 190 OF THE TALBOT COUNTY CODE (ZONING, SUBDIVISION AND LAND DEVELOPMENT) REGARDING THE EXPANSION OF STRUCTURES UTILIZED FOR NONCONFORMING USES, SUBJECT TO CERTAIN CONDITIONS, was read into the record and brought forward for vote and Council discussion ensued. Upon motion by Mr. Stepp, seconded by Ms. Haythe, the Council approved Bill No 1530 by voting 5 – 0 as follows:

Mr. Callahan – Aye
Mr. Stepp – Aye
Mr. Leshner – Aye
Ms. Mielke – Aye
Ms. Haythe – Aye

Bill No. 1530 becomes effective as provide for in the legislation.

X. County Manager's Report:

A. Talbot County Airport Board – Requested Council approval for the reappointment of Rudy Strickland to a four-year term on the Talbot County Airport Board; said term will expire on June 1, 2027. Upon motion by Mr. Stepp, seconded by Mr. Leshner, the Council approved the reappointment by voting 5 – 0 as follows:

Mr. Callahan – Aye
Mr. Stepp – Aye
Mr. Leshner - Aye
Ms. Mielke – Aye
Ms. Haythe - Aye

- B. Talbot County Commission on the Aging – Requested Council approval for the appointment of Carrie Ottey to a three-year term on the Talbot County Commission on the Aging as a representative of the Talbot County Health Department; said term will expire on April 1, 2026. Upon motion by Ms. Haythe, seconded by Mr. Stepp, the Council approved the appointment by voting 5 – 0 as follows:

Mr. Callahan – Aye
Mr. Stepp – Aye
Mr. Leshner - Aye
Ms. Mielke – Aye
Ms. Haythe - Aye

- C. Talbot County Economic Development Commission – Requested Council approval for the reappointments of Edward “Ted” Bautz and Ken Kozel to three-year terms on the Talbot County Economic Development Commission; said terms will expire on June 30, 2026. Upon motion by Mr. Stepp, seconded by Ms. Haythe, the Council approved the reappointments by voting 5 – 0 as follows:

Mr. Callahan – Aye
Mr. Stepp – Aye
Mr. Leshner - Aye
Ms. Mielke – Aye
Ms. Haythe - Aye

- D. Talbot County Golf Board – Requested Council approval for the reappointment of Benny Mangor to a three-year term on the Talbot County Golf Board; said term will expire on June 1, 2026. Upon motion by Ms. Mielke, seconded by Ms. Haythe, the Council approved the reappointment by voting 5 – 0 as follows:

Mr. Callahan, - Aye
Mr. Stepp – Aye
Mr. Leshner - Aye
Ms. Mielke – Aye
Ms. Haythe - Aye

- E. Talbot County Parks and Recreation Advisory Board – Requested Council approval of the Town of Oxford’s request for the appointment of Tim Kearns to the Talbot County Parks and Recreation Advisory Board to complete the unexpired term of his wife, Kim Kearns; said term will expire on July 1, 2025. ; requested Council approval for the reappointment of David Adams to a four-year term as an at-large representative; said term will expire on July 1, 2027. Upon motion by Mr. Stepp, seconded by Ms. Mielke, the Council approved the appointments and the by voting 5 – 0 as follows:

Mr. Callahan – Aye
Mr. Stepp – Aye
Mr. Leshner - Aye
Ms. Mielke – Aye
Ms. Haythe - Aye

- F. Talbot County Public Works Advisory Board – Requested Council approval for the reappointment of Daniel “Dan” Billingsley to a four-year term on the Talbot County Public Works Advisory Board as a representative of the 4th Election District; said term will expire on May 1, 2027. Upon motion by Mr. Leshner, seconded by Ms. Haythe, the Council approved the reappointment by voting 5 – 0 as follows:

Mr. Callahan – Aye
Mr. Stepp – Aye
Mr. Leshner - Aye
Ms. Mielke – Aye
Ms. Haythe – Aye

- G. BID NO. 22-15, TALBOT COUNTY COMMUNITY CENTER GYMNASIUM ADDITION – 10028 OCEAN GATEWAY, EASTON – TALBOT COUNTY, MARYLAND (Change Order No. 1) – Requested Council approval to award Change Order No. 1 for Bid No. 22-15 to contractor, Willow Construction, in the sum of \$89,099.46 for an additional door to the gymnasium addition at the Talbot County Community Center. Preston Peper, Director, Department of Parks and Recreation, stated that the Change Order is required by State Fire Marshal Life Safety Code regulations; the additional door required adding approximately 115 sq. ft. of space to the facility. Council discussion ensued with Mr. Peper. Upon motion by Ms. Haythe, seconded by Mr. Stepp, the Council approved the Change Order by voting 5 – 0 as follows:

Mr. Callahan – Aye
Mr. Stepp – Aye
Mr. Leshner - Aye
Ms. Mielke – Aye
Ms. Haythe – Aye

- H. Request from Department of Parks and Recreation – Requested Council approval of the recommendation of the Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation to extend the contract with ATC Corp (contractor building the pickleball courts) in the sum of \$109,880.00 for construction of a concrete walking path around the perimeter of the playable area and at the entrances to the courts. Preston Peper, Director, Department of Parks and Recreation, stated that the inclusion of the periphery work is still within budget for the project (\$500,000) which is fully reimbursable through a State grant. Upon motion by Ms. Haythe, seconded by Mr. Stepp, the Council approved extension of the contract with ATC Corp by voting 5 – 0 as follows:

Mr. Callahan – Aye
Mr. Stepp – Aye
Mr. Leshner - Aye
Ms. Mielke – Aye
Ms. Haythe – Aye

- I. Request from Department of Emergency Services – Requested Council approval to have the County partner with the Talbot Paramedic Foundation for the purchase of 36 Life Pak CR2 Semi-automatic Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) from Rescue One at a cost of \$56,736; said purchase will be made utilizing Maryland State Contract pricing to replace aging AEDs at public accessible sites; Talbot County will pay one-third of the cost, one-third will be paid from the purchasing site and one-third will be paid by the Talbot Paramedic Foundation. Upon motion by Mr. Stepp, seconded by Ms. Haythe, the Council approved the purchase by voting 5 – 0 as follows:

Mr. Callahan – Aye
Mr. Stepp – Aye
Mr. Leshner - Aye
Ms. Mielke – Aye
Ms. Haythe – Aye

- J. Request from Hog Neck Golf Course – Requested Council approval to utilize FY24 funds to enter into a four-year lease agreement with Capital Golf Cars in the sum of \$442,400 for 70 golf carts beginning in May 2024. Rich Setter, Head Golf Professional/General Manager, Hog Neck Golf Course, stated that three bids were received, of which Capital Golf Cars was the lowest bidder; they are also the current provider. Upon motion by Ms. Mielke, seconded by Ms. Haythe, the Council approved entering into a lease agreement as outlined by voting 5 – 0 as follows:

Mr. Callahan – Aye
Mr. Stepp – Aye
Mr. Leshner - Aye
Ms. Mielke – Aye
Ms. Haythe – Aye

- K. Request for Letter of Support – Requested Council approval for a letter in support of the Bellevue Passage Museum’s application for a Maryland Historical Trust African American Heritage Preservation Program Grant in the sum of \$250,000; if approved, the funding will be used toward completion of part of the capital project for the Bellevue Passage annex to tell the story and contributions of the town and citizens of Bellevue, Maryland, one of the oldest African American maritime communities on Maryland’s Eastern Shore; no County funds are required. Upon motion by Mr. Leshner, seconded by Ms. Mielke, the Council approved the request by voting 5 – 0 as follows:

Mr. Callahan – Aye
Mr. Stepp – Aye
Mr. Leshner - Aye
Ms. Mielke – Aye
Ms. Haythe – Aye

- XI. Public Comments: Members of the public were afforded an opportunity to comment on matters of interest to them.

- XII. Council Comments:

Ms. Haythe - Ms. Haythe encouraged everyone to keep the Dyer and Larrimore families in prayer, and to keep Mr. Stepp in prayer as well because this meeting was hard for him to get through. She stated that she would be attending the Juneteenth event scheduled for

this Saturday, June 10th. Ms. Haythe concluded her comments by stating that it was great to be back from vacation.

Ms. Mielke– Ms. Mielke recognized the Rural Life Museum of Trappe, stating that she had attended the Museum for the first time last Saturday when they sponsored a Friends and Visitors Day, which, in her opinion, was lovely. She stated that the Museum paints a great history of the area with their motto “building our future by preserving our past,” and in her opinion, it is important to particularly recognize the threat of deruralization Trappe faces by the Lakeside development.

Mr. Leshler - Mr. Leshler congratulated the Class of 2023 of Chesapeake College, Easton High School, and St. Michaels High School, stating that he had attended all three of the commencements. He stated that these students are our future, and from what he saw and heard at the commencement exercises, our future is, in his opinion, in good hands. Mr. Leshler expressed his appreciation to the Talbot County 911 Center for providing coverage to Caroline County during a multi-day phone outage. He stated that it was an extra burden on our staff and it took logistical expertise to ensure that the calls were handled efficiently to make sure that emergency responders were dispatched in a timely fashion and to the correct locations. He again expressed his appreciation to Talbot County’s Emergency Services personnel for being able to assist our neighbors in Caroline County.

Mr. Stepp – Mr. Stepp expressed his appreciation to Ms. Haythe for, in his opinion, the wonderful prayer she offered at the start of the meeting. He expressed his appreciation to the entire community for their prayers for the Dyer and Larrimore families and to the first responders, both in uniform and not in uniform – it means the world.

Mr. Callahan - Mr. Callahan stated that this is a sad moment in life and, in his opinion, there is nothing worse than having young gentlemen hurt or pass away, it shocks the community; hopefully, we can all realize how fragile life is and to spend time with our loved ones. He echoed Mr. Stepp’s comments regarding Talbot County’s first responders, stating that, in his opinion, we have some of the finest first responders anywhere. He stated that he and Mr. Stamp know the feeling, having been in the fire company for 40 and 50 years, respectively, and it takes special people to care for the victims, the families, and the community – and we have good people who do that. He stated that, in his opinion, we have a good system here and we are blessed to have it. Mr. Callahan concluded his comments by stating that all we can do is to pray for the families and be supportive as a community – that’s what it is all about. He asked that Mr. Stamp make sure that our emergency services team is aware of how appreciative the community is that while people are home asleep, they are out there saving lives.

Upon motion by Ms. Haythe, seconded by Ms. Mielke, the Council voted to adjourn and to reconvene on Tuesday, June 27, 2023 at 3:30 p.m. in Open Session and immediately adjourn into Closed Session for discussion of legal, personnel, and real estate matters; and for the regularly scheduled meeting at 5:00 p.m. in the Bradley Meeting Room by voting 5 - 0 as follows:

Mr. Callahan - Aye
Mr. Stepp - Aye
Mr. Leshner - Aye
Ms. Mielke – Aye
Ms. Haythe - Aye

The meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

The transcript of the June 13, 2023 County Council meeting is available for review in the Office of the Talbot County Manager during regular office hours.

- XIII. Meeting with Elected Officials from Easton, Oxford, Queen Anne, St. Michaels and Trappe – The Council met with elected officials from the municipalities on Tuesday, June 6, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. at the Easton Branch of the Talbot County Free Library. The following individuals were in attendance: Tracey Gordy, Senior Regional Planner, Maryland Department of Planning – Planning Coordination; David Dahlstrom, Regional Planner, Maryland Department of Planning – Planning Coordination; Megan Cook, Mayor, Town of Easton; Maureen Curry and David Montgomery, Members, Easton Town Council; Don Richardson, Easton Town Manager; Miguel Selinas, Director of Planning and Zoning, Town of Easton; Sharon Van Emburgh, Attorney, Town of Easton; Rick Van Emburgh, Town Engineer, Town of Easton; Tom Costigan, Commissioner, Town of Oxford; Cheryl Lewis, Town Manager, Town of Oxford; Phil Starkey, Mayor, Town of Queen Anne; Steve Ball, Planning Officer, Town of St. Michaels; Brian Schmidt, Vice President, Trappe Town Council; Rose Potter and Michael Sullivan, Members, Trappe Town Council; Edgar Harrison and Robert Quidas, Members, Town of Trappe Planning Commission; Chuck Callahan, President, Talbot County Council; Pete Leshner, Vice President, Talbot County Council; Keasha Haythe (via Zoom), Lynn Mielke, Dave Stepp, Members, Talbot County Council; Clay Stamp, County Manager; Jessica Morris, Assistant County Manager; Patrick Thomas, Talbot County Attorney; Rebecca Quay, Assistant County Attorney; Brennan Tarleton, Talbot County Planning Officer and Cassandra Vanhooser, Director, Talbot County Department of Economic Development and Tourism. The following items were brought forward: (1) Adequate Public Facilities Ordinances (APFOs) - Ms. Gordy and Mr. Dahlstrom briefed the group on APFOs which are a tool used to manage growth and development in order to ensure that adequate facilities are in place for roads, water, sewer, school, emergency services, etc. prior to growth and development taking place. Ms. Gordy emphasized that APFOs are not anti-growth tools, but are a management tool for phasing in growth and development and that they are used in conjunction with other planning documents such as comprehensive plans, growth areas, regulatory ordinances, subdivision regulations, water and sewer, etc. She stated that municipalities are supposed to map out future areas for annexation. She stated that an APFO must be specific to an identified need and that when adopted, the standards set must all be for the public's good, citing the example of an APFO for schools which is based on the State rated capacity formula; if the County were to pass an APFO for schools, it would trigger a response from municipalities; (2) Cannabis – Ms. Mielke stated that the Town of St. Michaels and the Town of Oxford, have both enacted moratoriums on the use of recreational cannabis. Cheryl Lewis stated that State law does not permit jurisdictions to “not allow” the sale and use of adult recreational cannabis, but does provide an opportunity for individual jurisdictions to enact zoning regulations to determine where establishments can be placed; she stated that the Town of Oxford's moratorium is for a period of nine (9) months. County Attorney, Patrick Thomas advised that the Town of St. Michaels has enacted a one (1) year moratorium and the Town of Trappe is scheduled to introduce legislation for a moratorium on Wednesday, June 7, 2023. Mayor Cook stated that the Town of Easton does not have a moratorium at the present time and that the matter is defined in current zoning ordinances. Mayor Cook briefed the group on the status of the Town of Easton's project at Easton Point, stating that

the Town had received a \$50,000 grant for design work at the location; the annexation of the former Southern States property has been completed and that the Town would like to continue to discuss the County owned property at 925 Port Street. She stated that housing on “The Hill” in Easton is now ready for two new families and that ARC Central Chesapeake Region held a groundbreaking ceremony earlier today on a 9-unit apartment building; 2 of the apartments will be reserved for individuals with disabilities; (3) Cheryl Lewis briefed the group on recent projects for the Town of Oxford. She stated that the shoreline project for the Oxford Strand is scheduled to begin in the fall of 2023; the water improvement project has been completed and the Town’s Comprehensive Plan update is in process. She stated that the Mews Building is open and the Scottish Highland Creamery is now an occupant of the building and is open for business every day. She stated the Town will be hosting an open house on Saturday, June 10th at 11:30 a.m. for the Oxford 2100 Envisioning Project, a scenario developed by students at the University of Maryland to show how the impacts of climate change are anticipated to affect the town by the year 2100; (4) Mayor Starkey stated that citizens of the Town of Queen Anne had met with Sheriff Joe Gamble, representatives of the Maryland State Police, and the Sheriff of Queen Anne’s County to discuss several recent shootings in Queen Anne; it was determined that landlords will be notified about any issues at their property locations and that Sheriff Gamble will build a database of occurrences and their locations. Mayor Starkey stated that the chain link fence at the Town park will be removed and replaced with a split-rail fence; (5) Mr. Ball stated that the Town of St. Michaels is in the process of developing legislation regarding zoning text amendments and regulating franchises. He stated that the Town had received several grants to study sea level rise in the town with a focus on 2050 to 2075; he stated that by becoming a sustainable community, the Town will qualify for more grants; (6) Brian Schmidt stated that Trappe is in the process of having its wastewater treatment plant lagoons cleaned out; to date, 101 permits for the Lakeside development had been issued and 67 houses are occupied; the Town is waiting on news of federal grants for the upgrade of the wastewater treatment plant; the Commissioners will be introducing a six-month moratorium on dispensaries for, and growers of, recreational cannabis at their meeting on Wednesday, June 7th; and the Rural Life Museum has reopened. Discussion ensued as various matters were brought forward. The meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 3, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. in the Talbot County Free Library – Easton Branch.

XIV. Summary of Closed Session Held on June 13, 2023:

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

Time of closed session: 4:35 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Place of closed session: County Council Office
Purpose of the closed session: To consider various matters as set forth in the statement for closing the meeting

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

Names of members voting aye: Callahan, Leshner, Haythe, Mielke, Stepp
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 would discourage individuals from volunteering to serve	Chuck Callahan, Pete Leshner, Keasha Haythe Lynn Mielke, Dave Stepp, Clay Stamp, Patrick Thomas, Jessica Morris	No action
To discuss personnel matter involving legal services contract	GP § 3-305(b)(1)(i)	Discussion involves specific individual	Chuck Callahan, Pete Leshner, Keasha Haythe Lynn Mielke, Dave Stepp, Clay Stamp, Jessica Morris	Council concurred with revised contract
To discuss personnel matter involving Code Enforcement	GP § 3-305(b)(1)(i)	Discussion involves specific individual	Chuck Callahan, Pete Leshner, Keasha Haythe Lynn Mielke, Dave Stepp, Clay Stamp, Patrick Thomas, Jessica Morris	No action
For legal update on litigation involving Talbot Integrity Project v Talbot County	GP § 3-305(b)(7)(8)	Attorney-client privilege regarding status of litigation	Chuck Callahan, Pete Leshner, Keasha Haythe Lynn Mielke, Dave Stepp, Clay Stamp, Patrick Thomas, Jessica Morris	No action
To consult with County Attorney for legal advice on legal matter	GP § 3-305(b)(7)	Attorney-client privilege regarding legal advice	Chuck Callahan, Pete Leshner, Keasha Haythe Lynn Mielke, Dave Stepp, Clay Stamp, Patrick Thomas, Jessica Morris	No action
For legal advice on Administrative Charging Committee	GP § 3-305(b)(7)	Attorney-client privilege regarding legal advice	Chuck Callahan, Pete Leshner, Keasha Haythe Lynn Mielke, Dave Stepp, Clay Stamp, Patrick Thomas, Jessica Morris	No action

To consult with County Attorney regarding letter received from Maryland Department of the Environment	GP § 3-305(b)(7)	Attorney-client privilege regarding legal advice	Chuck Callahan, Pete Leshner, Keasha Haythe Lynn Mielke, Dave Stepp, Clay Stamp, Patrick Thomas, Jessica Morris, Ray Clarke	No action
To discuss a real estate matter regarding acquisition of a property for a public purpose in St. Michaels	GP § 3-305(b)(3)	To protect the County’s bargaining position regarding the potential acquisition of a specific parcel of real property for a public purpose	Chuck Callahan, Pete Leshner, Keasha Haythe Lynn Mielke, Dave Stepp, Clay Stamp, Patrick Thomas, Jessica Morris, Preston Peper	Council declined offer of property
To discuss a real estate matter regarding acquisition of a property for a public purpose in Easton	GP § 3-305(b)(3)	To protect the County’s bargaining position regarding the potential acquisition of a specific parcel of real property for a public purpose	Chuck Callahan, Pete Leshner, Keasha Haythe Lynn Mielke, Dave Stepp, Clay Stamp, Patrick Thomas, Jessica Morris, Preston Peper	Council concurred with recommendation

CASH STATEMENT 05/30/2023

BALANCE 5/23/2023	86,931,935.13
TOTAL ADP PAYROLL PPE 5/12 & 5/31/2023	(785,084.87)
PENSION DED PPE 5/12/2023	(46,318.01)
DEFERRED COMP DED PPE 5/12/2023	(20,528.62)
DEFERRED COMP DED PPE 5/12/2023	(8,215.56)
PENSION DED PPE 5/31/2023	(981.29)
DEFERRED COMP DED PPE 5/31/2023	(490.50)
CIGNA CLAIMS PAID THRU 5/22/2023	(67,779.99)

COMMUNITY CENTER SALE & USE DUE 5/20/2023	(177.47)
GOLF COURSE SALES & USE DUE 5/20/2023	(1,997.40)
ROADS SALES & USE DUE 5/20/2023	(3,223.04)
RETURNED CHECK(S) #112, 4007	(175.00)
DEPOSITS	1,352,809.09
CHECKS	(275,856.63)
ACH DISBURSEMENT(S)	(475,785.22)
WIRE TRANSFERS	0.00
VOIDED CHECK(S) #	0.00
VOIDED ACH #	0.00
BALANCE 05/30/2023	<u>86,598,130.62</u>

INVESTMENTS - CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT

<u>Certificate Date</u>	<u>Maturity Date</u>	<u>Yield</u>	<u>Amount</u>
PNC-MLGIP INVESTMENTS TOTAL		5.00%	20,912,137.11
BAYVANGUARD BANK			10,280,856.05
TOTAL INVESTED			<u>31,192,993.16</u>
PETTY CASH BALANCE			<u>18,105.00</u>
<u>GRAND TOTAL ALL FUNDS</u>			<u>117,809,228.78</u>

CASH STATEMENT 06/06/2023

BALANCE 5/30/2023	86,598,130.62
CIGNA CLAIMS PAID THRU 5/30/2023	(123,380.84)
ENTERPRISE LEASE PYMT 5/2023	(16,257.66)

WELLS FARGO GOLF EQUIPMENT LEASE PYMT 5/2023	(128.00)
DEPOSITS	8,721,175.50
CHECKS	(354,662.16)
ACH DISBURSEMENT(S)	(439,796.73)
WIRE TRANSFERS	(687,555.73)
VOIDED CHECK(S) #	0.00
VOIDED ACH #	0.00
BALANCE 06/06/2023	<u>93,697,525.00</u>

INVESTMENTS - CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT

<u>Certificate Date</u>	<u>Maturity Date</u>	<u>Yield</u>	<u>Amount</u>
PNC-MLGIP INVESTMENTS TOTAL		5.02%	20,912,137.11
BAYVANGUARD BANK			10,280,856.05
TOTAL INVESTED			<u>31,192,993.16</u>
PETTY CASH BALANCE			<u>18,105.00</u>
<u>GRAND TOTAL ALL FUNDS</u>			<u>124,908,623.16</u>

CASH STATEMENT 06/13/2023

BALANCE 6/06/2023	93,697,525.00
TOTAL ADP PAYROLL PPE 5/26/2023	(779,410.34)
PENSION DED PPE 5/26/2023	(46,333.13)
DEFERRED COMP DED PPE 5/26/2023	(20,312.67)
DEFERRED COMP PPE 5/26/2023 PLAN 401(A)	(8,260.44)
USDA/RD MTHLY BOND PYMT #97-08	(1,304.00)

CIGNA CLAIMS PAID THRU 6/5/2023	(128,381.60)
DEPOSITS	792,786.11
CHECKS	(707,564.71)
ACH DISBURSEMENT(S)	(535,408.05)
WIRE TRANSFERS	(1,475,612.96)
VOIDED CHECK(S) #	0.00
VOIDED WIRE # 561178	(679,507.54)
BALANCE 06/13/2023	<u>90,108,215.67</u>

INVESTMENTS - CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT

<u>Certificate Date</u>	<u>Maturity Date</u>	<u>Yield</u>	<u>Amount</u>
PNC-MLGIP INVESTMENTS TOTAL		5.04%	20,912,137.11
BAYVANGUARD BANK			10,285,504.58
TOTAL INVESTED			<u>31,197,641.69</u>
PETTY CASH BALANCE			<u>18,105.00</u>
<u>GRAND TOTAL ALL FUNDS</u>			<u>121,323,962.36</u>