



# Talbot County, Maryland



Easton, Maryland

MINUTES

April 23, 2013

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

- I. Agenda – Mr. Pack requested and received Council’s unanimous consent for approval of the Agenda of Tuesday, April 16, 2013.
- II. Disbursements – Mr. Pack requested and received Council’s unanimous consent for approval of the Disbursements of April 23, 2013.
- III. Presentation of Long-Term Economic Development Strategic Plan for Talbot County and its Incorporated Municipalities – Anirban Basu, Chairman & CEO, Sage Policy Group, Inc.; Paige Bethke, Director, Talbot County Office of Economic Development – Mr. Basu stated that his firm had been hired by the Talbot County Office of Economic Development to develop an Economic Development Strategic Plan (the “Plan”) for Talbot County, its towns, and 22 villages. He stated that the Plan had been developed from information gathered from SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats) sessions with various stakeholders in the County. He stated that the purpose for development of an economic development strategic plan is to help guide the future management, prioritization and allocation of resources for the development of infrastructure to support a viable tax base for both the County and the Towns. Mr. Basu presented various statistical information related to the population of Talbot County used to formulate the Plan and its recommendations, including demographic information on age, income, education, number of households, average weekly wage, number of business establishments, and employment statistics by various sectors; statistical information related to the downturned economy of the past several years and its effects on Talbot County was also presented. Mr. Basu then reviewed an outline of the recommendations for the County and the Towns which are intended to balance the County’s desire to preserve its historic and rural character, leverage current County demographics, and promote attraction of the types of businesses to a particular locale which are best suited for that location, while at the same time increasing the overall tax base of the County. Paige Bethke, Director of the Talbot County Office of Economic Development stated that Sage Policy Group will be meeting with the individual towns to review the Plan. Once meetings with the towns have occurred and the Council has had an opportunity to review the Plan in further detail, Sage Policy Group will present an update to the Council. Council discussion with Mr. Basu ensued. Once finalized, the Plan will be scheduled for consideration of approval by the Council. The Council thanked Mr. Basu, Ms. Bethke and the Economic Development Commission for their work on the project.
- IV. Update by Talbot Humane – Patty Crankshaw-Quimby, Executive Director, Talbot Humane – Ms. Crankshaw-Quimby provided the following information for the first 9 months of Fiscal Year 2012-2013: 978 animals have been accepted at Talbot Humane, of which 364 were dogs, 542 were cats, and 72 were various small mammals. She stated that the numbers are approximately equal to the same time period last year; of the animals at the shelter, animals taken in, 708 have been adopted or sent to approved 501c3 rescue facilities; 82 have been reunited with their owners, and 200 have been placed in foster care. She stated that Animal Control responded to 591 new complaints, 80% of which were for stray animal or cruelty complaints. She stated that the Animal Control Officers recently received training on the use of a sedation gun and equine cruelty investigation. Ms. Crankshaw-Quimby stated that Talbot Humane continues to have an adoption rate higher than the national average with Talbot Humane showing a 37%

adoption rate for dogs and a 5% rate for cats. She stated that in an effort to return more pets to their owners, Talbot Humane has reduced the price of micro-chipping to \$10.00 and will provide pet identification tags for \$1.00 during the month of April. She stated that Talbot Humane continues to receive community support from various businesses and organizations, including the recent Dancing with the Dogs event which raised \$20,000; upcoming events include the Dog Walk/Dog Show at Oxford Day on April 27, 2013 and the *UNLEASHED* “Couch to 5K” Event in St. Michaels on May 4, 2013. Council members commended Ms. Crankshaw-Quimby for her work at Talbot Humane. Talbot Humane will continue to update the Council on a regular or as-needed basis.

- V. Council Consideration of Proposal to Enter Into a Long-Term Lease of 9475 Jet Lane, Easton Airport, Easton, Maryland - Mr. Pullen provided an overview of the terms of the proposed lease between Talbot County, Maryland and Trident Aircraft Maintenance, Inc. for a hangar located at 9475 Jet Lane at Easton Airport. Mr. Pullen stated that it is staff’s recommendation that Council approve the lease. Council discussion ensued. Upon motion by Mr. Hollis, seconded by Ms. Price, the Council approved the lease as presented by voting 5 – 0 as follows:

Mr. Pack - Aye  
Mr. Hollis – Aye  
Ms. Price – Aye  
Mr. Duncan – Aye  
Mr. Bartlett – Aye (via absentee ballot)

- VI. County Manger’s Report:

- A. Talbot County Public Works Advisory Board - Requested Council approval for the reappointment of John Wolfe to a four-year term on the Talbot County Public Works Advisory Board as a representative of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Election District; said term will expire on May 1, 2017. Upon motion by Mr. Duncan, seconded by Ms. Price, the Council approved the reappointment by voting 4 – 0 as follows:

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

- B. Bid No. 13-07, DESIGN-BUILD OF FORCE MAIN OUTSIDE THE VILLAGE OF ROYAL OAK, MARYLAND – Requested Council approval of the County Engineer’s recommendation to conditionally award the Base Bid (\$146,293) – extension of a force main down Thorneton Road in Royal Oak; Add Alternate 1 (\$71,546) – extension of force main down Chance Farm Road in Royal Oak; and Add Alternate 2 (\$48,781) – extension of force main down Edge Creek Road in Royal Oak for Bid No. 13-07 to the low bidder, Bridges Site and Utilities, in the total sum of \$266,620.00, pending approval by the Maryland Department of the Environment; funding for the project will come from the Bay Restoration Fund for Septic System Upgrades. Council discussion with County Engineer Ray Clarke ensued. Upon motion by Ms. Price, seconded by Mr. Hollis, the Council approved the conditional award by voting 4 – 0 as follows:

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

Mr. Hollis expressed appreciation to Mr. Clarke for obtaining grant funding for the project and for moving the project forward quickly. Staff of the Talbot County Department of Public Works will continue to meet with residents of Thorneton, Chance Farm, and Edge Creek Roads to determine their interest in connecting to the new force mains.

- C. Confirmatory Deed for County-Owned Property on Oxford Road – Requested Council approval to place a Confirmatory Deed on an 86-acre parcel of land recently acquired by the County from The Conservation Fund. Mr. Craig stated that the Deed will place restrictions on the property which are favorable to DNR Program Open Space. He stated that the parcel may not be converted to any other use without prior written approval by the Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources and the Secretary of the Office of Planning. Any conversion of the land must be replaced with land of at least equal area or Program Open Space (POS) value. County Attorney Michael Pullen stated that the request for a Confirmatory Deed was made by DNR because the property was transferred to the County with an existing restrictive covenant which limits the property’s use for passive recreational activities. He stated that should the County wish to convert the property to another use at some point in the future, the property would need to be appraised to a value at least equal to or greater than the POS restricted parcel for which it is being exchanged; the Confirmatory Deed would serve to inflate the appraisal to what it would be if there were no restrictive covenants on the property; however, the Deed does not affect the restrictive covenants. Council discussion ensued. Upon motion by Mr. Hollis, seconded by Mr. Duncan, the Council approved the wording of the Confirmatory Deed as proposed by voting 5 – 0 as follows:

Mr. Pack – Aye  
Mr. Hollis – Aye  
Ms. Price – Aye  
Mr. Duncan – Aye  
Mr. Bartlett – Aye (via absentee ballot)

- D. Declaration of Restrictive Covenants - Requested Council’s approval to enter into a Declaration of Restrictive Covenants agreement for 1.029 acres adjacent to the Talbot County Community Center; the acreage is a portion of the property currently owned by Talbot County but which will be conveyed to Shore Health System for the construction of the new regional medical center. Mr. Craig stated that Shore Health System has conveyed the subject parcel to the adjoining property owner in exchange for easement and rights-of-way necessary for infrastructure other than water and sewer related to the regional medical center. The Declaration of Restrictive Covenants will place restrictions on the 1.029 acre parcel which are consistent with the previously executed Development Rights and Responsibilities Agreement between Talbot County, the Town of Easton and Shore Health System for the regional medical center property. Upon motion by Ms. Price, seconded by Mr. Hollis, the Council approved the Declaration of Restrictive Covenants by voting 4 – 0 as follows:

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

VII. Council Comments:

Mr. Hollis – No comments.

Ms. Price - No comments.

Mr. Duncan – No comments.

Mr. Pack - No comments.

VIII. Upon motion by Mr. Duncan, seconded by Ms. Price, the Council voted to adjourn to Executive Session for discussion of legal, personnel and real estate matters and to reconvene on Tuesday May 7, 2013 at 12:30 p.m. in Executive Session for discussion of legal, personnel, and real estate matters, and at 1:30 p.m. for the regularly scheduled legislative session followed by public hearings on the FY 2014 Budget at 2:00 p.m. in the Bradley Meeting Room and at 7:00 p.m. in the Easton High School Cafeteria by voting 4 – 0 as follows:

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

The transcript of the April 23, 2013 County Council meeting is available for review in the Office of the County Manager during regular office hours.

IX. On Tuesday, April 23, 2013, an Executive Session of the Talbot County Council convened at 5:10 p.m. in the County Council Conference Room. Upon motion by Mr. Hollis, seconded by Ms. Price, the Council met in Executive Session by voting 4-0 as follows:

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

In accordance with State Article § 10-508 (a)(1)(i)(4)(7) the purpose of the Executive Session was for personnel matters to discuss appointments to various County boards and committees; and for a legal/real estate matter for legal advice concerning relocation of Memorial Hospital at Easton to County owned property. The Executive Session ended at 5:55 p.m.

**CASH STATEMENT 4/23/2013**

<b>BALANCE 4/16/2013</b>	\$18,358,808.87
RETURNED CHECKS	(157.50)
DEPOSITS	368,724.84
CHECKS	(537,573.06)

<b>BALANCE 4/23/2013</b>			<b><u>\$18,189,803.15</u></b>
<b><u>AIRPORT ACCOUNTS</u></b>			
AIP-RUNWAY 4-22 EXTENSION ANALYSIS			--
AIP-34			43,476.34
AIP-35			36,284.23
AIP36			19,272.58
AIP37			311.62
AIP38			3,257.70
<b>AIRPORT ACCOUNTS TOTAL BALANCE</b>			<b><u>\$102,602.47</u></b>
<b>INVESTMENTS – CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT</b>			
<b><u>CERTIFICATE DATE</u></b>	<b><u>MATURITY DATE</u></b>	<b><u>RATE</u></b>	<b><u>AMOUNT</u></b>
PNC-MLGIP INVESTMENTS TOTAL		0.10%	18,000,000.00
<b>TOTAL INVESTED</b>			<b><u>\$18,000,000.00</u></b>
<b>PETTY CASH BALANCE</b>			<b><u>\$8,320.00</u></b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL ALL FUNDS</b>			<b><u>\$36,300,725.62</u></b>