



TALBOT COUNTY, MARYLAND

County Council

MINUTES

October 13, 2020

Present – President Corey W. Pack, Frank Divilio, Pete Leshner, Laura Price, and Acting County Attorney Anthony Kupersmith. Vice President Chuck F. Callahan and County Manager R. Andrew Hollis were absent.

- I. Agenda – Mr. Pack requested and received Council’s unanimous support for approval of the Agenda of Tuesday, October 13, 2020.
- II. Minutes – Mr. Pack requested and received Council’s unanimous consent for approval of the Minutes of Tuesday, July 28, 2020 and Tuesday, August 11, 2020.
- III. Disbursements – Mr. Pack requested and received Council’s unanimous consent for approval of the Disbursements of Tuesday, September 29, 2020, Tuesday, October 6, 2020 and Tuesday, October 13, 2020.
- IV. Proclamation: Economic Development Week – October 19 – 23, 2020 – Prior to presentation of the proclamation, Cassandra Vanhooser, Director, Department of Economic Development and Tourism, and Reza Jafari, Vice-Chair, Talbot County Economic Development Commission, briefed the Council on the recognition of Economic Development Week in Maryland, October 19 through October 23rd. Ms. Vanhooser stated that the COVID-19 pandemic has shown just how important economic stability is to communities when businesses are disrupted, supply chains are broken and jobs are lost. She expressed her appreciation to the Council for their continued support and commitment to the Talbot County business community and requested that Council continue their support during recovery from the pandemic. She stated that this year, instead of touring various businesses during Economic Development Week, various social media platforms will be used to highlight business successes in the county and the importance of economic stability. Mr. Jafari concurred with Ms. Vanhooser’s comments and stated that, in his opinion, economic development does not prosper without proper rules and regulations in place and a commitment from both the private and public sectors for the betterment of the community. Council commended Ms. Vanhooser and Mr. Jafari for their efforts on behalf of the citizens of Talbot County. The Clerk read a proclamation into the record in recognition of Economic Development Week. The proclamation spoke of the importance of economic stability to communities and of those who partner with various entities and work to create, retain, and expand job opportunities in communities throughout Talbot County and the state of Maryland in order to create a stable tax base. Upon motion by Mr. Leshner, seconded by Mr. Divilio, the Council approved the Proclamation by voting 4 – 0 as follows:

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

Mr. Divilio presented the Proclamation to Ms. Vanhooser and Mr. Jafari who accepted on behalf of the Talbot County Economic Development Commission

The Council meeting briefly recessed due to audio technical difficulties and reconvened at 6:26 p.m.

- V. Update on COVID-19 and Mental Health Resources Available – Beth Anne Langrell, Chief Executive Officer, For All Seasons, Inc.; Kathryn Dilley, LCSW-C, Executive Director, Mid-Shore Behavioral Health, Inc. – Ms. Langrell briefed the Council on the drastic increase in individuals who are struggling with mental health issues and/or who have relapsed into addictions behaviors since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic. She stated that, as a community, we need to truly stop and listen to someone’s response when we ask how they are doing, and those who need professional help by guiding those individuals to the resources they need. Ms. Langrell briefed the Council on this year’s campaign, “Be a Light”, which works with mental health providers, EMS, fire departments and law enforcement to check in on those who are having mental health difficulties as one way we can be a light to one another. She stated For All Seasons, Inc. is utilizing Facebook and distribution of cups to local restaurants as a way to get the message out for the “Ask...Listen...and Share” campaign; the objective is to raise \$25,000 to support same day crisis appointments for individuals who may be struggling. She stated that the *No Matter What... You Matter....* campaign also acknowledges that families are also struggling as they try to manage working themselves, sometimes from home, while trying to manage their children who are doing virtual learning from home. Council discussion ensued with Ms. Langrell who stated that For All Seasons, Inc. has seen 650 new patients since March 1, 2020. Anyone wishing to donate can go to the For All Seasons Facebook page or their website at www.forallseasonsinc.org.
- VI. Proclamation: No Matter What.... You Matter – Suicide Prevention Month – October 2020 – The Clerk read a proclamation into the record which spoke of the prevalence of suicide as one of the leading causes of death, particularly among young people, and the efforts by public and private organizations to reduce the number of suicides through the provision of adequate and accessible behavioral health services. Upon motion by Mr. Leshner, seconded by Mr. Divilio, the Council approved the proclamation by voting 4 – 0 as follows:

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

Mr. Leshner presented the Proclamation to Ms. Langrell who accepted on behalf of her organization.

Ms. Dilley briefed the Council on the impacts of COVID-19 to the Talbot County community and its impacts to the mental health provider network in Talbot County. She stated that, in addition to For All Seasons, Inc., other mental health providers have seen a dramatic and rapid increase in demand for behavioral health services throughout the Mid-Shore region. She stated that CDC statistics indicate that approximately 25% of “transitional age youth” (young adults) have contemplated suicide at some point during the COVID-19 pandemic and that those statistics are very concerning. She stated that her organization is also seeing that some individuals in recovery are again using drugs and alcohol as a result of the stress and anxiety created by isolation during the pandemic; overdose deaths have also increased in Maryland. Ms. Dilley commented on the stress faced by the behavioral health workforce and the agencies they serve during COVID-19 but that due to the extension of state of emergency at both the federal and State levels, the majority of services offered by Mid-Shore Behavioral Health, Inc. will be continued through telehealth through January 2021, which will be, in her opinion, extremely beneficial to all parties as a means for delivery of services. Council discussion ensued with Ms. Dilley and Ms. Langrell regarding various matters related to the provision of behavioral health services in the Mid-Shore region during the pandemic. Ms. Langrell and Ms. Dilley will continue to update the Council on a regular or as-needed basis.

- VII. Update by Talbot Humane – Patty Crankshaw-Quimby, Executive Director, Talbot Humane – Ms. Crankshaw-Quimby provided statistics for Talbot Humane for FY2020 with regard to the number of animals received at the Shelter, reunited with their owners, adopted into homes or foster care, and Animal Control’s response to complaints. She stated that there was a 10% decrease in animals taken in at the Shelter, the lowest number in 21 years. She stated that Talbot Humane has reinstated inspection of facilities after a brief hiatus due to COVID-19 and will be launching a bite prevention campaign in 2021 after having noted a substantial increase in bite cases since the pandemic began due to the fact that more people, particularly children, are home during the day. She provided information on the increased need for items from the pet pantry, including to non-county residents who are indigent and/or elderly, and requests from individuals for assistance with acute medical care needs. Ms. Crankshaw-Quimby briefed the Council on the continued success of the spay/neuter program, the microchipping program, resumption of the pet loss support group and student internships. Council discussion ensued with Ms. Crankshaw-Quimby as various matters were brought forward. Talbot Humane will continue to update the Council on a regular or as-needed basis.
- VIII. Presentation of Design of Community Center Auditorium Expansion – Preston Peper, Director, Talbot County Department of Parks and Recreation – Mr. Peper presented a schematic of a proposed gymnasium expansion to the Talbot County Community Center as provided by Davis, Bowen & Friedel. He briefed the Council on the size of the proposed gymnasium (75,000 sq. ft.), features to be included in the gymnasium addition as well the ingress and egress from the current facility. He stated that the design as drafted impacts the current parking area as minimally as possible. Mr. Peper requested Council consideration to move forward with the next step in the process by having an architect draft formal plans to determine the anticipated cost for a gymnasium expansion. Council discussion ensued with Mr. Peper regarding the physical structure, anticipated additional use of the facility by the community and subsequent revenue which would be generated by the expansion. Upon motion by Mr. Divilio, seconded by Mr. Leshner, the Council approved moving forward with the design phase of the project by voting 4 – 0 as follows:
- Mr. Pack – Aye
Mr. Divilio – Aye
Ms. Price – Aye
Mr. Leshner - Aye
- IX. Update on Easton Airport – Micah Risher, Manager, Easton Airport – Mr. Risher utilized a PowerPoint presentation to brief the Council on expenditures of monies in the sum of a \$1.617 million AIP Grant awarded to Easton Airport on September 1, 2020. He provided information on the following projects at Easton Airport: (1) the proposal for Easton Airport Aviation Consultant - recommendation anticipated to be made in December; (2) Phase 1 of the Obstruction Removal Program – anticipated to be completed by December; (3) the Taxiway B Pavement Maintenance Project; and (4) the installation of an airfield duct bank by Easton Utilities between the Easton Utilities Power Plant No. 2 and Mistletoe Hall Business Park which will necessitate the closure of Runway 4/22 for eight days in January 2021. Mr. Risher also briefed the Council on the status of business at Easton Airport, stating that revenue remains strong despite the pandemic due to the diversity of businesses at the Airport and the non-aeronautical tenants, both of which provide stability. He stated that his office will be submitting receipts for expenses eligible for reimbursement through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES), from which Easton Airport received \$157,000; stated that new business agreement revenue, business aviation, and flight training have increased; and Sugar Buns Café is now open Thursday through Sunday. Mr. Risher stated that the number of flights at Easton Airport for the timeframe January 2020 – August 2020 decreased by 21.5 % from the same timeframe in 2019; jet fuel sales increased 12.3% for the same timeframe due to an increase in chartered jet flights, and AvGas sales decreased 19.1% due to the cancellation of the 2020 Navy flight training program at the Airport. Council discussion ensued with Mr. Risher regarding the

various matters brought forward. Mr. Risher will continue to update the Council on a regular or as-needed basis.

- X. Update on National Flood Insurance Program’s Community Rating System – Greg Allis, Zoning and Floodplain Coordinator; Mary Kay Verdery, Acting Planning Officer – Mr. Allis briefed the Council on the National Flood Insurance Program’s Community Rating System which was instituted to recognize and encourage community floodplain management; communities which exceed the levels set by the program not only see the risk of flooding to their communities decrease, homeowners and businesses pay lower flood insurance premiums in flood prone areas. He stated that beginning in October 2014, the unincorporated areas of the county were assigned a Community Rating System (CRS) Class 8 rating and given a 10% or 5% discount on their flood insurance premiums, depending upon whether or not the property was located in a special flood hazard area. Mr. Allis stated that as of October 1, 2020, the non-incorporated areas of the county are now rated as CRS Class 7, resulting in additional discounts for those obtaining or renewing flood insurance policies on or after October 1, 2020. Ms. Verdery presented a plaque received by the Office of Planning and Zoning from the Federal Emergency Management Agency noting that Talbot County was now in Class 7. She stated that receiving the distinction is an honor for Talbot County since only seven percent of the communities in the National Flood Insurance Program participate in the CRS Program and that, in her opinion, it took hard work and dedication to get to the current level in the Program and requires hard work on an annual basis; reassessment and reevaluation take place every five or six years. Ms. Verdery stated that beginning in 2013, and utilizing federal and State grant funding, staff worked with various federal, State and county agencies to create an enhanced resiliency program, adopted a local floodplain management ordinance and FIRMS (Flood Insurance Rate Maps), and developed interactive maps detailing flood risk for properties, land elevation, and road closures, all of which provided an opportunity for the County to obtain additional points in the rating system. Council congratulated Ms. Verdery and her staff on their hard work to benefit Talbot County citizens and for receiving recognition from FEMA.

XI. Public Hearing:

Mr. Pack stated that the public hearing scheduled for Bill No. 1464, A BILL TO AMEND CHAPTER 172 OF THE TALBOT COUNTY CODE (TAXATION) TO AUTHORIZE THE CREATION OF SPECIAL TAXING DISTRICTS IN TALBOT COUNTY FOR THE PURPOSE OF INSTALLING, MAINTAINING, AND OPERATING STREET LIGHTING ALONG COUNTY ROADS AND WHEN SUCH IMPROVEMENTS ARE APPROVED BY THE MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION, ALONG STATE HIGHWAYS WITHIN TALBOT COUNTY, was being suspended due to technical issues with the meeting audio. The public hearing will be rescheduled for Tuesday, October 27, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. in the Bradley Meeting Room, South Wing, Talbot County Courthouse, 11 North Washington Street, Easton, Maryland 21601.

- XII. Public Comments: Mr. Pack stated that public comments were being suspended due to meeting audio technical issues.

XIII. Introduction of Legislation:

Prior to introduction of A BILL TO ADOPT THE *CORDOVA VILLAGE MASTER PLAN (DECEMBER 2019)* IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE *2016 TALBOT COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN* AND THE PROVISIONS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT ARTICLE § 10-324 AND LAND USE ARTICLE § 1-405 *ET SEQ.*, ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND, Miguel Salinas, Assistant Planning Officer, briefed the Council on the timeline for development of the Cordova Village Master Plan. He stated that the 2016 Talbot County Comprehensive Plan calls for the development of master plans in the village planning areas. He stated that that the process for development of the Cordova Village Master Plan began in July 2019

when the County partnered with consultant, Rummell, Klepper & Kahl (RK&K) to collect data, assess existing conditions in the village of Cordova, and held meetings with the residents of Cordova in various formats. Mr. Salinas stated that a draft master plan, along with a vision statement, was then presented to the residents of Cordova in November of 2019 for feedback and additional recommendations, after which County staff worked with the consultant on a draft which included recommendations in the following areas: land use; community character, and infrastructure, circulation, and safety. Mr. Salinas stated the Council held a work session with the Planning Commission on the draft plan in mid-January 2020 and the matter was scheduled for Planning Commission consideration at a later date; however, due to the COVID-19 shutdown, the matter was postponed until summer 2020 when the Planning Commission held public hearings on the draft master plan and in August unanimously voted to recommend that Council approve the master plan. Mr. Pack emphasized that the matter was only scheduled for introduction at this time – no vote would be taken; a public hearing will be scheduled if introduced and the public will have an opportunity to provide input at that time and to submit written comment. Council discussion ensued with Mr. Salinas. The legislation was read into the record by the Clerk and brought forward for introduction. The resolution was introduced by Mr. Divilio, Mr. Leshner, Mr. Pack, and Ms. Price as Bill No. 1465. A public hearing was scheduled for Tuesday, November 10, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. in the Bradley Meeting Room, South Wing, Talbot County Courthouse, 11 North Washington Street, Easton, Maryland 21601. The draft Cordova Village Master Plan is available on the County’s website and on www.Nextstep190.com.

XIV. Introduction of Numbered Resolution:

A RESOLUTION TO FORMALLY ABANDON AND AUTHORIZE CONVEYANCE OF A CERTAIN PORTION OF KATES POINT ROAD IN TRAPPE, MARYLAND, SAID PORTION OF ROADWAY CONSISTING OF 0.4 MILES, MORE OR LESS, LOCATED ASTRIDE TWO PARCELS OF LAND HELD IN COMMON OWNERSHIP WITH ADDRESSES AT 31373 KATES POINT ROAD AND 31450 KATES POINT ROAD, TRAPPE, MARYLAND 21673, FURTHER DESCRIBED AS TAX MAP 60, PARCELS 10 AND 12 (COLLECTIVELY, THE "PROPERTY"); TO ESTABLISH CERTAIN CONDITIONS PRECEDENT TO SUCH ABANDONMENT AND CONVEYANCE, INCLUDING A SURVEY OF THE AREA TO BE ABANDONED AND REVISION PLAT AT THE OWNER'S EXPENSE; AND, TO AUTHORIZE CONVEYANCE OF THE COUNTY'S INTEREST IN SUCH ABANDONED PORTION OF THE ROADWAY BY QUITCLAIM DEED FOR NO MONETARY CONSIDERATION TO THE UNDERLYING FEE SIMPLE OWNER OF THE PROPERTY was read into the record by the Clerk and brought forward for introduction. Prior to introduction, Acting County Attorney, Anthony Kupersmith, stated that the purpose of the proposed legislation is to abandon a portion of Kates Point Road, a County owned and maintained road. He stated that the subject road comes to a dead-end at a farm comprised of several parcels and that the road runs through one parcel and dead-ends at the next parcel with no through traffic. He stated that the owner has experienced situations involving trespassing and poaching. Mr. Kupersmith outlined the process which must be completed by the property owner when requesting that the County abandon a portion of any roadway. Council discussion ensued with Ryan Showalter, attorney for the property owner requesting the roadway abandonment, and Mr. Kupersmith. The resolution was introduced by Mr. Divilio, Mr. Leshner, Mr. Pack and Ms. Price as Resolution No. 296. A public hearing was scheduled for Tuesday, November 10, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. in the Bradley Meeting Room, South Wing, Talbot County Courthouse, 11 North Washington Street, Easton, Maryland 21601.

XV. County Manager’s Report:

- A. Talbot County Commission on the Aging - Requested Council approval for the appointment of Arthur “Art” Cecil, Susan Roecker, Shantel Matthews, and Veda Gibson to three-year terms on the Talbot County Commission on the Aging; said terms will expire on April 1, 2023. Upon

motion by Mr. Divilio, seconded by Mr. Leshner, the Council approved the appointments by voting 4 – 0 as follows:

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

- B. Talbot County Ethics Commission - Requested Council approval for the appointment of G.A. “Gugy” Irving, III, Esquire and Sharon Harrington to three-year terms on the Talbot County Ethics Commission; said terms will expire on July 1, 2023. Upon motion by Mr. Divilio, seconded by Mr. Leshner, the Council approved the appointments by voting 4 – 0 as follows:

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

- C. Request from Department of Public Works – Requested Council approval of the County Engineer’s recommendation to award the contract for installation, repairs and sealing of the wet well at Royal Oak Pump Station #2 to Breakwater, Inc. in the sum of \$24,950.00. Upon motion by Mr. Divilio, seconded by Mr. Leshner, the Council approved the award by voting 4 – 0 as follows:

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

- D. Request from Department of Public Works – Requested Council approval of the County Engineer’s recommendation for a sole source purchase of two replacement pumps and pump system for the Royal Oak Pump Station #2 from Hills Electric in the sum of \$13,636.80. County Engineer, Ray Clarke, stated that Hills Electric currently has the replacement pumps in stock which are the same kind as currently in place. Upon motion by Mr. Divilio, seconded by Mr. Leshner, the Council approved the sole source purchase by voting 4 – 0 as follows:

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

- E. Request from Department of Public Works – Requested Council approval of the County Engineer’s recommendation to award engineering services for design of the stormwater management system and parking lot improvements at Brookletts Place – The Talbot County Senior Center, to Lane Engineering, LLC in the sum of \$18,880.00 under the County’s Open-ended Engineering Services Agreement (Bid No. 17-08). Upon motion by Mr. Divilio, seconded by Mr. Leshner, the Council approved the award by voting 4 – 0 as follows:

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

- F. Request from Department of Public Works – Requested Council approval of the County Engineer’s recommendation to award engineering services for work related to the widening of Glebe Road associated with the Mistletoe Hall Industrial Park to Davis, Bowen and Friedel, Inc. in the sum of \$103,445.00 under the County’s Open-ended Engineering Services Agreement (Bid No. 17-08). Council discussion ensued with County Engineer, Ray Clarke who stated that the County had received a grant from Rural Maryland Council in the sum of \$426,000 for road improvements on Goldsborough Neck Road from its intersection with Villa Road to Glebe Road. Upon motion by Mr. Leshner, seconded by Mr. Divilio, the Council approved the award by voting 4 – 0 as follows:

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

- G. Request from Chesapeake Curling Club – Requested Council’s consideration of a request from the Chesapeake Curling Club for a 50% reduction in the rink rental rate for the 2020-2021 season due to the impact of COVID-19 and the Club’s inability to use the rink. Prior to Council discussion, Mr. Leshner stated that since his daughter is a curler he was recusing himself. Council discussion ensued with Preston Peper, Director, Department of Parks and Recreation who stated that, in his opinion, a fee reduction for the Curling Club would not be fair to other users who are paying full rental fees. Mr. Divilio, Mr. Pack and Ms. Price concurred with the Parks and Recreation Director’s recommendation to not grant a fee reduction; Mr. Leshner abstained.

- H. Request from Department of Parks and Recreation – Requested Council approval of Parks and Recreation Director, Preston Peper’s request to commission the current Landings Officer as a Special Police Officer. Mr. Peper outlined the reason for the request and stated that the commission would provide the Landings Officer with the same police powers as law enforcement on properties managed by the Department of Parks and Recreation only; the individual would not have any policing powers beyond those properties. Council discussion ensued Mr. Peper. The Council approved the request by voting 4 – 0 as follows:

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

- I. Request from American Legion Post #77 (Blake-Blakeston) – Requested Council approval to forward a letter in support of American Legion Post #77’s grant application to the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development for a Community Legacy Grant. If approved, the funding will be used to renovate and expand the current facility; no County funding is required. The Council approved forwarding a letter in support of the grant application by voting 4 – 0 as follows:

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

- J. Talbot County Volunteer Fire Service Longevity Program - Mr. Stamp stated that the Council has approved 2020 as an “active year” for participants in the Talbot County Volunteer Fire Service Longevity Program based on the participants’ 2019 activities in the volunteer fire service. He stated that due to COVID-19, many of the fundraising activities were unable to be held or scheduled, and by crediting the program participants for 2020, the participants are “made whole” in the longevity retirement program for the volunteer fire service. Mr. Stamp expressed his gratitude for the dedication of those individuals who serve county citizens in the volunteer fire service.
- K. Medivac Station Closures – Mr. Stamp stated that Governor Hogan, in response to the Council’s letter requesting that the Trooper Six medivac station in Easton remain open, recently announced that he was reversing the decision to close the Easton station. Mr. Stamp stated that Trooper Six is a vital resource in or region for transporting critically ill and severely injured patients to other facilities.
- L. Request from NAACP – Jessica Morris, Assistant County Manager, requested Council direction regarding an email Council had received from Richard Potter, President, Talbot Chapter NAACP, requesting a meeting between community leaders and the full Council on Tuesday, October 20, 2020. At Council’s request, Ms. Morris read the letter into the record and Council discussion ensued. At Council’s request, the matter will be scheduled for the Tuesday, October 27, 2020 Council agenda.

XVI. Council Comments:

Ms. Price – No comments.

Mr. Leshner – Mr. Leshner stated that there has been a disturbing increase in theft and vandalism in the community and he condemns it in the strongest terms. He stated that, in his opinion, the breakdown of law and order is not broadly representative of our community and it does not reflect our community’s values. He stated that, in his opinion, common decency and respect are the antidotes to this poison in our society and that decency and respect must be extended to protect the individual freedoms enshrined in our First Amendment, the freedom of speech, including political speech, which is manifested in many ways, including the display of political signs on private property. He stated that whoever has been committing theft and vandalism of political signs must stop or be brought to justice – this theft and vandalism, in his opinion, undermines our American values and the American way of life. Following Mr. Leshner’s comments, Mr. Pack stated that he concurred with Mr. Leshner’s comments and that he had received a call from Chief Smith in St. Michaels regarding the matter. He stated that individuals have a right to put a sign up on their property for whomever they wish to support, and other individuals should not be going on the property and tampering with the signs.

Mr. Divilio - Mr. Divilio stated that he had spoken with Jeri Cook, Election Director, Talbot County Board of Elections, this morning and that she had provided him with the 11 most frequently asked questions that her office is currently receiving. He stated

that although this election is different in some areas, Talbot County is handling absentee ballots the same way, but just calling them a different name. He stated that, along with frequently asked questions, Ms. Cook stated that the deadline to request a mail-in ballot is October 20, 2020 and it must be in the Election Office by that date, not simply postmarked; voters can look on the State Board of Elections website, elections.Maryland.gov to determine if their absentee ballot has been sent out. He stated that it was very important that voters sign and date the back of the envelope to ensure the ballot will be accepted and return the ballot in the envelope with the purple stripe on the front and the oath on the back. He stated that Ms. Cook advised that if the voter had requested that their ballot be delivered by web delivery, the voter should check their SPAM folder to make sure it did not go there. He stated that if a voter requested a mail-in ballot, they can only vote a provisional ballot if they attempt to vote in person, a longer process at the voting center; the provisional canvas will be held on November 12, 2020. Mr. Divilio states that due to the pandemic, there will only be four voting centers: Easton Volunteer Fire Department, Easton High School, St. Michaels High School, and the Tilghman Volunteer Fire Company and that early voting will be held from Monday, October 26, 2020 through Monday, November 2, 2020 from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. each day, including the weekend at the Easton Volunteer Fire Department bingo hall; drop boxes are located at 215 Bay Street and at the Easton Volunteer Fire Department on Aurora Drive. He stated that once canvassing begins, individuals will be able to see if their ballot was accepted and he reminded everyone that it will take a few days for staff to update the information following each canvass – ballots will be rejected if the oath is not signed and it is not postmarked on or before November 3, 2020. Mr. Divilio concluded his comments by stating that Ms. Cook had advised that although individuals will not be able to view the canvassing in person, they will be able to do so on www.youtube.com. Following Mr. Divilio's comments, Mr. Pack stated that he had also spoken with Ms. Cook earlier in the day and she had emphasized that individuals should make sure that if they are sending their ballot in, to sign, date, and print their name on the back.

Mr. Pack – No comments.

- XVII. Upon motion by Mr. Leshner, seconded by Mr. Divilio, the Council meeting was adjourned.
- XVIII. The Council will reconvene on Tuesday, October 27, 2020 at 4:30 p.m. in Open Session and immediately adjourn into Closed Session for discussion of legal, personnel and real estate matters as listed on the statement for closing the meeting, and for the regularly scheduled meeting at 6:00 p.m. The Council will meet with representatives of the Maryland Department of Transportation regarding the Annual Consolidated Transportation Plan on Tuesday, October 20, 2020 at 3:00 p.m. At the Department of Transportation's request, this year's meeting will be a virtual meeting; information on accessing the virtual meeting will be posted on the County's website on Friday, October 16, 2020.

The meeting adjourned at 8:56 p.m.

The transcript of the October 13, 2020 County Council meeting is available for review in the Office of the Talbot County Manager during regular office hours.

- XIX. Summary of Closed Session held on October 13, 2020:

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

Time of closed session: 4:35 p.m. to 5:50 p.m.

Place of closed session: Talbot County Free Library Meeting Room, 100 West Dover St.
Easton

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: Divilio, Leshner, Pack, Price

Members opposed: None

Abstaining: None

Absent: Callahan

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	Persons present	Action taken
Discuss personnel matter regarding Health Officer	GP § 3-305 (b) (1)	Corey Pack, Laura Price, Frank Divilio, Pete Leshner, Clay Stamp, Anthony Kupersmith, Jessica Morris	Council established internal interview committee
Discuss personnel matter in Planning and Zoning	GP § 3-305 (b) (1)	Corey Pack, Laura Price, Frank Divilio, Pete Leshner, Clay Stamp, Anthony Kupersmith, Jessica Morris	No action
Discuss personnel matter regarding Talbot Family Network	GP § 3-305 (b) (1)	Corey Pack, Laura Price, Frank Divilio, Pete Leshner, Clay Stamp, Anthony Kupersmith, Jessica Morris, Kim Ferullo	No action
Discuss appointments to various County boards and committees	GP § 3-305 (b) (1)	Corey Pack, Laura Price, Frank Divilio, Pete Leshner, Clay Stamp, Anthony Kupersmith, Jessica Morris, Kim Ferullo	No action
For legal advice regarding Maryland Department of Aging – Capital Grant for St. Michaels Senior Center	GP § 3-305 (b) (7)	Corey Pack, Laura Price, Frank Divilio, Pete Leshner, Clay Stamp, Anthony Kupersmith, Jessica Morris	No action

For legal advice on litigation involving Angel Enterprises and outside counsel retainer agreement	GP § 3-305 (b) (7) and (8)	Corey Pack, Laura Price, Frank Divilio, Pete Leshner, Clay Stamp, Anthony Kupersmith, Jessica Morris	Staff to consult with outside legal counsel on next steps
For legal advice on potential litigation involving incident at food pantry distribution	GP § 3-305 (b) (7) and (8)	Corey Pack, Laura Price, Frank Divilio, Pete Leshner, Clay Stamp, Anthony Kupersmith, Jessica Morris, Kim Ferullo, Skip Cornbrooks, Esq.	Council concurred with recommendation of legal counsel
For legal advice regarding interpretation of Chapter 182: Volunteer Emergency Services Longevity Award Program	GP § 3-305 (b) (7)	Corey Pack, Laura Price, Frank Divilio, Pete Leshner, Clay Stamp, Anthony Kupersmith, Jessica Morris	No action

CASH STATEMENT 09/29/2020

BALANCE 9/22/2020	49,083,458.35
CIGNA CLAIMS PAID THRU 9/21/2020	(117,877.77)
ELECTION BOARD PPE 8/11, 8/18, 8/25 & 9/1/2020	(22,250.57)
SEPTEMBER 2020 ENTERPRISE LEASE PAYMENT	(8,960.68)
DEPOSITS	1,425,515.75
CHECKS	(342,060.24)
VOIDED CHECK(S) #342810	9,082.60
BALANCE 9/29/2020	<u>50,026,907.44</u>

INVESTMENTS - CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT

<u>Certificate Date</u>	<u>Maturity Date</u>	<u>Yield</u>	<u>Amount</u>
PNC-MLGIP INVESTMENTS TOTAL		0.12%	20,500,000.00
1880 BANK			10,145,698.21
TOTAL INVESTED			<u>30,645,698.21</u>
PETTY CASH			<u>12,275.00</u>
BALANCE			

GRAND TOTAL ALL FUNDS

80,684,880.65

CASH STATEMENT 10/06/2020

BALANCE 9/29/2020	50,026,907.44
TOTAL ADP PAYROLL PPE 9/18/2020	(626,645.11)
TOTAL ADP PAYROLL PPE 9/30/2020	(14,887.73)
PENSION DED PPE 9/18/2020	(38,541.22)
CIGNA CLAIMS PAID THRU 9/28/2020	(87,619.73)
ADDITIONAL 457 CDSE FEE/EMPOWER	(8,742.32)
MD STATE RETIREMENT/1ST QTR ADMIN FEE	(10,525.93)
USDA/RD QTRLY BOND PYMT #92-03	(9,478.60)
WELLS FARGO EQUIP LEASE PYMT	(128.00)
BOARD OF EDUCATION 9/2020	(3,635,367.00)
RETURNED CHECK #47126330	(165.00)
DEPOSITS	3,044,084.92
CHECKS	(1,491,605.57)
VOIDED CHECK(S) #344954	540.80
BALANCE 10/06/2020	<u>47,147,826.95</u>

INVESTMENTS - CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT

<u>Certificate Date</u>	<u>Maturity Date</u>	<u>Yield</u>	<u>Amount</u>
PNC-MLGIP INVESTMENTS TOTAL		0.11%	20,500,000.00
1880 BANK			10,145,698.21

TOTAL INVESTED **30,645,698.21**

PETTY CASH BALANCE **12,275.00**

GRAND TOTAL ALL FUNDS **77,805,800.16**

CASH STATEMENT 10/13/2020

BALANCE 10/6/2020	47,147,826.95
AGRICULTURAL TRANSFER TAX PAYMENTS SEPTEMBER 2020	(1,400.00)
CIGNA CLAIMS PAID THRU 10/2/2020	(139,761.32)
OCTOBER 2020 RETIREEE HEALTH INS PLAN #727	(31,514.56)
SDAT/LOCAL COST SHARING FY2021	(75,044.00)

STATE REPORT 9/2020	(608,062.65)
RETURNED E-CHECK	(126.62)

DEPOSITS	1,450,470.94
CHECKS	(1,301,916.54)
VOIDED CHECK(S) #342621, #345151	69,263.00

BALANCE 10/06/2020	<u>46,509,735.20</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		0.11%	20,500,000.00
1880 BANK			10,145,698.21

TOTAL INVESTED	<u>30,645,698.21</u>
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PETTY CASH	<u>12,275.00</u>
BALANCE	

<u>GRAND TOTAL ALL FUNDS</u>	<u>77,167,708.41</u>
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