May 28, 2019

The County Commissioners of Queen Anne’s County met this date pursuant to its last adjournment and there were present:

James J. Moran  
Jack N. Wilson, Jr.  
Stephen Wilson  
Philip L. Dumenil  
Christopher M. Corchiarino

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 5:15 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION:

Pursuant to Section 10-503(c) of the State Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, the County Commissioners went into closed session for the purpose of conducting an administrative function meeting; “The County Commissioners held a Closed Session on a motion of Commissioner J. Wilson, seconded by Commissioner Dumenil, at 5:15 p.m. in the Office of the County Commissioners, The Liberty Building, 107 N. Liberty Street, Centreville, Maryland.” The Board adjourned in Closed Session at 5:30 p.m. Those in attendance were Mr. Todd Mohn, County Administrator; Ms. Margie Houck, Executive Assistant; and Ms. Lynda Thomas, Deputy Executive Assistant.

The Board discussed Boards/Commissions.

In open session:

On a motion made by Commissioner Moran, seconded by Commissioner S. Wilson, the Board unanimously agreed to appoint John Leone, Terry Morris and Mary Ann Skilling to a three-year term on the Bicycle & Pedestrian Committee to begin immediately and end February 28, 2022.

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On a motion made by Commissioner Moran, seconded by Commissioner Dumenil, the Board unanimously agreed to appoint John Leone to a three-year term, on the Board of Building Appeals to begin July 1, 2019 and end June 30, 2022.

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On a motion made by Commissioner Corchiarino, seconded by Commissioner S. Wilson, the Board unanimously agreed to appoint Robert Udoff to a five-year term on the Housing Authority Board to begin July 1, 2019 and end June 30, 2024.

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MINUTES:

On a motion made by Commissioner S. Wilson, seconded by Commissioner J. Wilson, Commissioner Dumenil abstained, the Board agreed to approve the Agenda for the current meeting and the minutes of May 21, 2019 and closed session minutes of May 21, 2019.

PRESS AND PUBLIC COMMENTS:

The following persons spoke to the Commissioners on subjects of interest to them:

1. Sveinn Storm
2. Jack Broderick
3. Clara Bramble

WEEKLY CORRESPONDENCE AND PRESENTATION OF DOCUMENTS FOR SIGNATURE:

May 28, 2019
The Board reviewed various correspondence with Mr. Todd Mohn, County Administrator.

**2019 QAC MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN:**

Mr. Scott A. Haas, Department of Emergency Services Director, submitted to the Board for their review and approval, 2019 Queen Anne’s Court Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan.

On May 21, 2019, the Queen Anne’s County Department of Emergency Services and S&S Planning & Design LLC presented the final draft of the 2019 Queen Anne’s County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan to the County Commissioners. The plan draft has been approved by the Maryland Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) meeting all current requirements. To be compliant with the standards established in 44 CFR. Part 201, as authorized by the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 we are seeking the County Commissioners adoption of Resolution 19-04. Following the County adoption of the plan the Department of Emergency Services will be meeting with each County Municipality to ensure they adopt and understand the plan, which will make us fully compliant with all FEMA requirements for the next five years.

On a motion made by Commissioner Dumenil, seconded by Commissioner J. Wilson, the Board unanimously agreed to sign the 2019 QAC Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan. As part of the motion, Commissioners Chris, Dumenil, Moran J. Wilson and S. Wilson made comments on this topic.

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**QAC – BEACH TO BRIDGE PLAN LETTER:**

The Board reviewed a letter addressed to Secretary Pete Rahn in regards to Queen Anne’s County Beach to Bridge Plan.

Our staff met with various MDOT officials on May 16 to further discuss and vet additional initiatives to reduce and eliminate backups on our secondary roads during Sunday afternoons. As a follow-up to this meeting, we hereby formally request that SHA take immediate action to limit and/or eliminate the left turn movement onto MD 18 at Queenstown. Our local Volunteer Fire Service would like to continue using this crossover for emergencies access only. We look forward to working with your staff to establish acceptable restrictions at this location so
we can keep our secondary road system open for local traffic and emergency services during peak traffic times.

On a motion made by Commissioner J. Wilson, seconded by Commissioner Dumenil, the Board unanimously agreed to sign the Beach to Bridge Plan letter to MDOT Secretary Rahn. As part of the motion, Commissioner Moran made comments on this topic.

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MOU FOR FUNDING ASSISTANCE WITH A BROADBAND FEASIBILITY STUDY:

Mr. Todd R. Mohn, County Administrator and Mr. Jonathan R. Seeman, Budget, Finance and IT Director submitted to the Board for their review and approval, Broadband Advisory Committee (BAC) MOU for Funding Assistance with a Broadband Feasibility Study.

At the February 26th meeting, the Board approved the recommendation of the Broadband Advisory Committee to request funding assistance for the development of a strategic plan for local Broadband service expansion.

The State Office of Rural Broadband has selected our Broadband Feasibility Study project for funding assistance. The MOU provides the terms for this grant for an amount up to $60,000 which is a 50-50 cost share arrangement.

Matching funds for this study are available in the IT-Fiber Infrastructure Capital project. The County Attorney has reviewed and approved the attached MOU for execution.

On a motion made by Commissioner Dumenil, seconded by Commissioner S. Wilson, the Board unanimously agreed to execute the MOU for $60,000 with the State Department of Housing and Community Development for the procurement of a Broadband Feasibility Study.

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FY19 DEPARTMENT OF PARKS VEHICLE REPLACEMENT:

May 28, 2019
Mr. Mike Watson, Chief of Operations, Department of Parks & Recreation submitted to the Board for their review and approval, FY 2019 Department of Parks Vehicle Replacement.

The Department of Parks is requesting to purchase a 2019 Dodge 3500 4X4 pickup, from Fred Frederick Dodge, Easton, MD. for $29,917. This vehicle purchases are part of the systematic replacement of Park Fleet Vehicles. We will be replacing a 1994 Ford F250 Pickup truck, which has been removed from service, do to blown motor and high mileage.

On a motion made by Commissioner S. Wilson, seconded by Commissioner Corchiarino, the Board unanimously agreed to authorize the Department of Parks & Recreation to purchase a 2019 Dodge 3500 4X4 pickup, from Fred Frederick Dodge, Easton, MD, for $29,917. Funding to come from the Department of Parks & Recreations FY 2019 Capital Equipment Budget.

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JACKIE CARTER, YOUNG PEOPLE WHO CARE AWARD:

Ms. Pennie Gill presented the “Jackie Carter Young People Who Care Award” on behalf of Queen Anne’s County Council for Children and Youth and Community Partnership for Children and Families to Mr. Nicolas Viardo and McLain Mogel.

CHARACTER COUNTS! FAYE LISTER TEEN OF CHARACTER SCHOLARSHIP:

Ms. Chris Perkins, Centreville Rotary presented Character Counts! “Faye Lister Teen of Character Scholarship” to this year winner Madison Darrah.

CHARACTER COUNTS! PROCLAMATION:

The Board presented Ms. Kelly Huber, Character Counts Coach Specialist the following Proclamation, written by Mrs. Karey Anne Coppage, Mrs. Jennifer Elborn, and Mrs. Jody Simmons second grade character counts class at Centreville Elementary School:

WHEREAS, Queen Anne’s County was declared a Character Counts! Community; and

WHEREAS, Centreville Elementary School has been declared a Character Counts! School; and

May 28, 2019
WHEREAS, all citizens and especially the students in Centreville Elementary School, have been called upon to embrace the “Six Pillars of Character” and incorporate them into their daily activities and to model these traits of good character; and

WHEREAS, all citizens and especially the students in Centreville Elementary School have embraced the value of Fairness in their daily lives by playing with the right rules, let all people play, and treat others equally; and

WHEREAS, all citizens and especially the students in Centreville Elementary School will demonstrate fairness at home by not fighting with our brothers and sisters, and our parents will take care of us and treat us fairly; and

WHEREAS, all citizens and especially the students in Centreville Elementary School will demonstrate fairness at school by sharing school supplies, being respectful to all adults in charge, and by giving the same rules and the same consequences; and

WHEREAS, all citizens and especially the students in Centreville Elementary School will demonstrate fairness in the community by not taking stuff from stores, being patient and polite to others, and by taking care of our parks;

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF QUEEN ANNE’S COUNTY, and Mrs. Coppage’s Second Grade Class from Centreville Elementary School, do hereby designate the Character Counts! Pillar of the Month for June 2019 as “Fairness”.

Ms. Karey Anne Coppage’s second-grade class performed for the Board.

Ms. Kelly Huber highlighted the following:

Quite a year for Character Counts!
- Had the Appreciation Dinner - over 100 people there to celebrate our coaches and mentors.
  - Ended with 106 coaches in the school - covered 143 of the 163 classes.
  - Gearing up for next year - always looking for coaches

PUBLIC HEARING:

The County Commissioners of Queen Anne’s County, Maryland held a public hearing at 6:00 p.m. in the County Commissioner’s Meeting Room in the Liberty Building, 107 N Liberty Street, Centreville, Maryland 21617 to receive public comments on County Ordinance 19-06.

Patrick Thompson, Esquire, County Attorney conducted the hearing on behalf of the County and noted all legal requirements had been met.

COUNTY ORDINANCE NO. 19-06

May 28, 2019
A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT CONCERNING Holding Periods for Impounded Animals Under the Age of Three Months;

FOR THE PURPOSE of eliminating the holding period under the Queen Anne’s County Animal Control Ordinance (Chapter 9 of the Code of Public Local Laws) for animals under the age of three (3) months.

BY AMENDING Section 9-23 B.(1) the Code of Public Local Laws of Queen Anne’s County.

SECTION I

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF QUEEN ANNE’S COUNTY, MARYLAND that Section 9-23 B. (1) of the Code of Public Local Laws be and is hereby AMENDED to read as follows:

§9-23. Impoundment, redemption and seizure.

B. Impoundment.

(1) Subject to Subsection B(2) of this section, an impounded domestic animal shall be kept for not fewer than seven days, unless an owner or custodian redeems the impounded domestic animal, pursuant to §9-23D of this chapter, within seven days. The holding period does not apply to animals under the age of three (3) months.

...  

SECTION II

BE IT FURTHER ENACTED that this Ordinance shall take effect on the forty-sixth (46th) day following its enactment.

No public testimony was given.

PUBLIC HEARING:
The County Commissioners of Queen Anne’s County, Maryland held a public hearing at 6:05 p.m. in the County Commissioner’s Meeting Room in the Liberty Building, 107 N Liberty Street, Centreville, Maryland 21617 to receive public comments on County Ordinance 19-07.

Patrick Thompson, Esquire, County Attorney conducted the hearing on behalf of the County and noted all legal requirements had been met.

COUNTY ORDINANCE NO. 19-07

A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT CONCERNING a Citizen Sponsored Text Amendment to Revise References to the 2002 Queen Anne’s County Comprehensive Plan in Chapter 18:1 of the Code of Public Local Laws of Queen Anne’s County;

FOR THE PURPOSE of revising the reference to the 2002 Queen Anne’s County Comprehensive Plan contained in Section 18:1-4-A.(1) of the Code of Public Local Laws of Queen Anne’s County.


SECTION I

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF QUEEN ANNE’S COUNTY, MARYLAND that Section 18:1-4.A.(1) of the Code of Public Local Laws of Queen Anne’s County be and is hereby AMENDED to read as follows:


A. Purpose.

(1) The purpose of this Chapter 18:1 is to implement the 2010 Queen Anne’s County Comprehensive Plan and subsequent additions and promote the health, safety and general welfare of the present and future inhabitants in the County by:

. . .

SECTION II

BE IT FURTHER ENACTED that this Ordinance shall take effect on the forty-sixth (46th) day following its enactment.
No public testimony was given.

**LEGISLATIVE SESSION:**

Commissioner J. Wilson introduced County Ordinance 19-10:

A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning the Repeal and Re-Adoption with amendments of the Local Public Laws of Queen Anne's County, Chapter 14, CHESAPEAKE BAY CRITICAL AREA ACT, Official Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Overlay Map Number 56.

FOR THE PURPOSE OF amending part of Parcel 221, Lot 7 located on said Official Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Overlay Map 56 to redesignate 2.122 acres from Limited Development Area (LDA) to Intensely Developed Area (IDA).

**SECTION I**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND, that the Local Public Laws of Queen Anne's County, Chapter 14, CHESAPEAKE BAY CRITICAL AREA ACT, Official Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Overlay Map Number 56 is hereby repealed and Overlay Map Number 56 be and is hereby amended and adopted with the revisions set forth herein and depicted on Exhibit A, attached hereto, subject to the conditions contained in the approval letter from the State of Maryland Critical Area Commission attached hereto as Exhibit B.

**SECTION II**

BE IT FURTHER ENACTED that this Act will take effect on the forty-sixth day following its passage.

Commissioner J. Wilson introduced County Ordinance 19-11:

AN EMERGENCY BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT CONCERNING the Establishment of a Tax Credit Against County Property Tax on Certain Real Property Owned by Volunteer Fire Department Members.

FOR THE PURPOSE of establishing a tax credit against County property tax on certain real property owned by Volunteer Fire Department Members in Queen Anne’s County, establishing eligibility requirements for such tax credits and the amount,
BY ENACTING a new Section 5-10.7 of the Code of Public Local Laws of Queen Anne’s County, Maryland.

SECTION I

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF QUEEN ANNE’S COUNTY, MARYLAND that a new Section 5-10.7 be and is hereby ADOPTED to read as follows:

§5-10.7 Property Tax Credit For Real Property Owned by Certain Volunteer Fire Department members.

A. Definitions. In this section, the following terms have the meanings indicated;
   (1) “Dwelling” has the meaning set forth in Section 9-105 of the Tax-Property Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland.

B. Creation. In accordance with Section 9-260 of the Tax Property Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, there is a Queen Anne’s County property tax credit against the tax on real property that qualifies under this Section.

C. Eligibility. A Queen Anne’s County volunteer fire department member is eligible for a tax credit under this Section if the volunteer fire department member:
   (1) Is a member of one of the nine independent volunteer fire companies described in Chapter 21 of this Code.
   (2) Has maintained active service status as determined by the Queen Anne’s County Fire and EMS Commission for at least three (3) consecutive calendar years accounting from January 1, 2016.
   (3) Amount of Credit.
      (1) Subject to the conditions in this Section, the tax credit may be granted in an amount of up to $2,500 per dwelling, but not to exceed the amount of the tax on the property;
(2) The eligible volunteer fire department member shall receive:
   a. In tax years beginning July 1, 2019 and July 1, 2020, the tax credit not to exceed $1,500.00.
   b. In tax years beginning July 1, 2021 and July 1, 2022, the tax credit not to exceed $2,000.00.
   c. In tax years beginning July 1, 2023 and beyond, the tax credit not to exceed $2,500.00.

(4) Termination of Credit. The tax credit created by this Section shall terminate and the volunteer fire department member will not be eligible if any of the following occurs:
   (1) The volunteer fire department member has failed to maintain active service status in the preceding calendar year. In the event the volunteer fire department member shall fail to maintain active service status for two consecutive years, the volunteer fire department member shall be ineligible to receive the tax credit until such time as the volunteer fire department member re-qualifies under Subsection C. of this Section, or
   (2) The volunteer fire department member no longer resides in or owns the dwelling for which the credit was granted.

(5) Application and Annual Verification. On or before the date that is set by the Queen Anne’s County Fire and EMS Commission, an individual seeking a credit under this Section must submit to the Fire and EMS Commission:
   (1) An application in the form that the Fire and EMS Commission requires; and
   (2) During each subsequent year, the verification that the Fire and EMS
Commission requires to show that the individual and the property remain qualified for the credit.

The Fire and EMS Commission shall annually submit to the Queen Anne’s County Department of Budget, Finance and Information Technology a list of the individuals and properties eligible to receive tax credit under this Section for the following tax year by June 1 of the preceding tax year to allow the Department of Budget, Finance and Information Technology to provide such tax credit on the tax bills rendered to the eligible individuals, except that, for the tax year beginning July 1, 2019, such list shall be submitted by June 15, 2019.

SECTION II

BE IT FURTHER ENACTED that this Ordinance shall be deemed an emergency bill affecting the health, welfare and safety of the citizens of Queen Anne’s County and shall be effective immediately upon its adoption.

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS & RECREATION UPDATE:

Mr. Steven Chandlee, Parks and Recreation Director, presented to the Board for their review, Department of Parks & Recreation Update.

Department completed FY20 Budget submission

- Capital Projects (sample)
  - Athletic Field Work
  - Court Work
  - Trail Maintenance
- Capital Equipment
- Operating Budgets for:
  - Parks
  - Recreation
  - Public Landing and Marinas
  - Golf course
  - Airport

PRESS AND PUBLIC COMMENTS:

No persons spoke to the Commissioners on subjects of interest to them.

ADOPTION OF THE FY2020 OPERATING & CAPITAL BUDGETS:

May 28, 2019
On a motion made by Commissioner J. Wilson, seconded by Commissioner S. Wilson, the Board unanimously agreed to approve the FY2020 Operating and Capital Budgets. As part of the motion, Commissioner Dumenil made comments on this topic.

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**COMMISSIONER’S ROUNDTABLE:**

Commissioner S. Wilson discussed the following:

Traffic is a state issue

Commissioner Dumenil discussed the following:

Wants to draft a letter to the state to reduce the speed limit at the Kent Narrows, from Oyster Cove to past the Kent Narrows Bridge

Commissioner Corchiarino discussed the following:

Congratulations the Grads & parents

Commissioner Moran discussed the following:

- Asked Jon Seeman forward letter to outside grant agencies
- Asked Todd Mohn to:
  - look into the 404 Solar array personal property tax,
  - Would like someone to take Ariel shots of traffic back ups
  - No parking signs around the Kent Narrows are complete
  - Turf fields – make sure project is ready to begin and completed by start of school
  - Remove Styrofoam and Single Use Plastic from County Offices
  - Update on YMCA

There being no further business, they adjourned at 7:40 p.m. to meet again on Tuesday, June 11, 2019.