

July 23, 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 (absent)  
Christopher M. Corchiarino

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m.

**CLOSED SESSION:**

Pursuant to State Government Law Section 3-305(b), (7) to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice on a legal matter; "The County Commissioners held a Closed Session on a motion of Commissioner J. Wilson, seconded by Commissioner Corchiarino, at 4:30 a.m. in the Office of the County Commissioners, The Liberty Building, 107 N. Liberty Street, Centreville, Maryland." The Board adjourned in Closed Session at 5:00 p.m. Those in attendance were Mr. Todd Mohn, County Administrator; Ms. Margie Houck, Executive Assistant; Patrick Thompson, Esquire, County Attorney; Mr. Lance Richardson, States Attorney; Mr. Rob Penny, Chief of Staff and Mr. Mike Cogan, Assistant State's Attorney.

The Board reviewed an ongoing legal matter.

**ADMINISTRATIVE FUNCTION:**

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 Corchiarino, at 5:00 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 5:05 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.

**CLOSED SESSION:**

Pursuant to State Government Law Section 3-305(b) (1) to discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom this public body has jurisdiction; or any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals; “The County Commissioners held a Closed Session on a motion of Commissioner J. Wilson, seconded by Commissioner Corchiarino, at 5:05 in the Office of the County Commissioners, The Liberty Building, 107 N. Liberty Street, Centreville, Maryland.” The Board adjourned in Closed Session at 5:35 p.m. Those in attendance were Mr. Todd Mohn, County Administrator; Ms. Margie Houck, Executive Assistant; and Patrick Thompson, Esquire, County Attorney.

Reviewed an ongoing personnel matter.

**IN OPEN SESSION:**

On a motion made by Commissioner S. Wilson, seconded by Commissioner Corchiarino, the Board unanimously to appoint Edward Clower to the Agricultural Preservation Advisory Board for a five-year term ending June 30, 2024.

Commissioners	Yes	No
Moran	x	
J Wilson	x	
S Wilson	x	
Dumenil - absent		
Corchiarino	x	

On a motion made by Commissioner Moran, seconded by Commissioner S. Wilson, the Board unanimously agreed to appoint Phil Starkey to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board to fill the remaining term of Jean Waagbo which ends on December 31, 2021.

Commissioners	Yes	No
Moran	x	
J Wilson	x	
S Wilson	x	
Dumenil - absent		
Corchiarino	x	

**MINUTES:**

On a motion made by Commissioner J. Wilson, seconded by Commissioner S. Wilson, the Board unanimously agreed to approve the Agenda for the current meeting and the Minutes of July 9, 2019.

**PRESS AND PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

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

**BAY BRIDGE WORK:**

Commissioner Moran noted that he was very upset with the Maryland Transportation Authority announcement today, that they did not inform the Commissioners or Eastern Shore Delegation that it will begin a \$27 million deck rehabilitation on the west bound span of the Bay Bridge this fall. As part of the two-year project, the right lane of the span will close from October to April during fall 2019/spring 2020 and fall 2020/spring 2021 which will increase traffic.

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS – ADMINISTRATIVE/ENGINEERING:**

Mr. Alan Quimby, Director of the Department of Public Works; Mr. Steve Cohoon, Public Facilities Planner; met with the Board.

**TRAFFIC COUNTER DATA FROM RECENT SUNDAYS COMPARISON OF TRAFFIC VOLUMES FOR MEMORIAL DAY 2019 & 2019 CHANGE IN VOLUME AT US 301 & MD 313 GALENA ROAD:**

Mr. Cohoon presented to the Board for their review, Traffic Counter Data from Recent Sundays Comparison of Traffic Volumes for Memorial Day 2019 & 2019 Change in Volume at US 301 and MD 313 Galena Road.

The County started the local traffic counting program in January of 2018. With 18 months of data staff is able to start to identify trends and compare 2018 data with 2019 data.

Traffic Counter Data from Recent Sundays

The Board reviewed summaries for the 5 Sundays in June and July counting westbound traffic at US 50 and MD 8. Each data sheet represents the travel pattern (speed, volume and time) for Westbound (WB) at US 50 at MD 8 over a 24-hour period for Sundays. To read the data: traffic speed is across the top, hour of day is the left column and the number in each box is traffic volume per hour in the designated speed range. The total volume by hour is in the far right column and the bottom right corner represents volume for the day.

Date	Total Daily WB Volume	Hours of Congestion	Highest Volume / Hour
June 9 <sup>th</sup>	52,450	Noon – 9 pm	4,155 trips / 2-3 pm

June 16 <sup>th</sup>	58,497	Noon – 9 pm	4,344 trips / noon-1 pm
June 23 <sup>rd</sup>	59,497	Noon – 8 pm	4,145 trips / 6-7 pm
June 30 <sup>th</sup>	52,153	No Significant delay	3,860 trips / 1-2 pm
July 7 <sup>th</sup>	61,083	10 am – 9 pm	4,278 trips / 11 am - - noon

In general, some of the trends we have observed include:

- When volumes hit approximately 4,000 vph travel speeds drop significantly. (approximately 1,333 trips per lane per hour)
- If traffic volume of approximately 4,000 vph occurs for 2 consecutive hours, travel speeds slow significantly, congestion builds and it takes hours to recover.
- With volumes of 55,000 WB trips and greater, we will experience congestion on MD 18 as drivers attempt to avoid congestion on US 50/301.
- As few as 200 trips per hour can make a difference in the flow of traffic. If flows remain around 3,800 trips per hour, the traffic flows can maintain regular speeds. However, when we hit 4,000 trips per hour we see delays begin to build.
- Any accident or incident on days with volumes over 3,500 trips per hour will create delays that will take significant time to return to normal travel speeds.
- Generally, 52,000 - 53,000 WB trips with no accidents seems to be the threshold for traffic to begin to slow at the bridge and congestion begins to build.

Daily WB volumes of approximately 52,000 can be accommodated if volumes are spaced out over time and remain below 4,000 vph. Please compare the June 9 and June 30 data sheets. On June 9 the daily volume was 52,450 trips with the hourly volumes from noon - 5pm averaging around 4,000 trips per hour which generated congestion and significant delay. On June 30 with 52,153 trips the volumes were more evenly spaced throughout the day with the peak volume at 3,860 trips in a single hour with no significant delay.

#### Comparison of Traffic Volumes for Memorial Day 2018 & 2019

The Board reviewed a comparison of Memorial Day 2018 and 2019. The data compares the traffic volumes from the Thursday before Memorial Day to the Tuesday after the holiday.

In comparison between 2018 and 2019 we find:

- Generally, volumes were higher at most counters every day in 2019.
- Memorial Day, Monday in 2019 displayed higher volumes at 8 of the 9 counters with volumes at those counters 3-12% higher than 2018.
- The northbound counter on US 301 at Del Rhodes showed higher volumes in 2018 than 2019 for 5 of the 6 days. Staff is looking for more information to determine if there was a specific reason that created this discrepancy (such as paving or roadwork).
- The counter at US 301 & Galena Road (MD 313) showed higher volumes on all 6 days in both directions. The 2019 volumes ranged from 3-26% higher than 2018.
- The westbound traffic counter at US 50 and MD 8 experienced increases from 2-10% between 2018 and 2019.

## Change in Volume at US 301 and MD 313 Galena Road

The County has a traffic Counter at the intersection of US 301 and Galena Road (MD 313) which is about 7.5 miles from the MD/Delaware line. This counter was placed at this intersection to track the volumes traveling into Maryland on 301 from Delaware.

The Middletown bypass opened January 2019 and we did not see an immediate increase in volume in January. However, over the last 5 months we have tracked the increase. In 2019, the months of April and May averaged about 11,000 - 12,000 vehicles per day on the four lanes. That is approximately 2,500 more cars per day than 2018. At that counter the additional 2,500 cars are approximately a 25% increase. With a 25% increase in volume on the northern portions of 301, it is noticeable change.

Overall, 12,000 trips per day is not a lot of vehicles for a four-lane highway. As a comparison in May volumes at Carniichael Road and US 50 averaged about 44,000 vehicles per day and US 301 at Del Rhodes Ave averaged 29,000 vehicles per day.

It is also important to note, the percent increase is specific to the counter location and the volume. An increase of 2,500 cars at the US 301 and Del Rhodes counter would equate to an 8-9% change due to the average volume of approximately 29,000 trips per day.

## **HISTORIC CHRIST CHURCH / SUBCOMMITTEE DISCHARGE RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Mr. Dave MacGlashan, Department of Public Works submitted to the Board for their review and approve the subcommittee discharge recommendations.

On Friday, July 5, a County Commissioner appointed subcommittee conducted interviews with each of the five respondents to the Request for Proposal (RFP) for the discharge of Historic Christ Church.

1. Children's Center for the Learning Arts/Shine Like Stars
2. Third Wave — Diana Kuhn
3. Jeanne Noble
4. Nicholas & Nicole Neboshynsky
5. Friends of Historic Christ Church

After careful deliberations and discussion and in adhering to the historical preservation easement on the property. The subcommittees recommendation is that the property known as Historic Christ Church be awarded to The Friends of Historic Christ Church. Though many excellent proposals were received and with full acknowledgement of the worthiness of the Children's Center for the Learning Arts/Shine Like Stars, Friends of Historic Christ Church

mission most closely aligns with that of the County's in regards to the historical preservation of the church and the requirements of the conservation easement currently in place.

With the property transfer, the following conditions are also recommendations made by the subcommittee:

1. Shine Like Stars Pre-School shall be given a one-year extension. The lease will begin on July 1, 2019 and will end on June 30, 2020. The extension of the lease will allow for a stream of revenue for Friends of Historic Christ Church, while it pursues grants and fundraising opportunities. Any future extensions of this lease will be the subject of negotiations between Friends of Historic Christ Church and Children's Center for the Learning Arts/Shine Like Stars.

2. In the event Friends of Historic Christ Church and Children's Center for the Learning Arts/Shine Like Stars do not enter into a lease extension past June 30, 2020, the County may consider relocation assistance for Shine Like Stars in 2020

3. If for any reason Friends of Historic Christ Church cannot maintain the property, the property ownership will revert back to the County at no cost.

4. Alcoholics Anonymous shall be allowed to continue to meet in the church's parish hall as long as they wish to do so. The next step will be to advertise in a local paper for three successive weeks giving the terms and the compensation to be received. At the conclusion of the advertisement period, the County may commence with the formal transfer of the property to a selected respondent.

On a motion made by Commissioner Corchiarino, seconded by Commissioner S. Wilson, the Board unanimously agreed that the property known as Historic Christ Church be awarded to The Friends of Historic Christ Church with conditions as follows:

- 1.) Shine Like Stars Pre-School shall be given a one-year extension. The lease will begin on July 1, 2019 and will end on June 30, 2020. The extension of the lease will allow for a stream of revenue for Friends of Historic Christ Church, while it pursues grants and fundraising opportunities. Any future extensions of this lease will be the subject of negotiations between Friends of Historic Christ Church and Children's Center for the Learning Arts/Shine Like Stars.
- 2.) If for any reason Friends of Historic Christ Church cannot maintain the property, the County will have first right of refusal to recapture the property at no cost.
- 3.) Alcoholics Anonymous shall be allowed to continue to meet in the church's parish hall as long as they wish to do so.

The Friends of Historic Christ Church were given two (2) weeks to accept the award and conditions. Following acceptance, the transfer will be advertised in a local paper for three successive weeks giving the terms and the compensation to be received. At the conclusion of the

advertisement period, the County may commence with the formal transfer of the property. As part of the motion, Commissioners Moran and Corchiarino made comments on this topic.

Commissioners	Yes	No
Moran	x	
J Wilson	x	
S Wilson	x	
Dumenil - absent		
Corchiarino	x	

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

The County Commissioners of Queen Anne’s County held a public hearing at 6:05 p.m. on Tuesday, July 23, 2019, in the Commissioner’s meeting room located in the Liberty Building, 107 North Liberty Street, Centreville, Maryland 21617. The purpose of the hearing was to consider amending the Queen Anne’s County 2011 Comprehensive Water and Sewerage Plan. The following proposal was considered:

WATER AND SEWERAGE ALLOCATION POLICY (Appendix I) - Proposal is to make the currently required 10% deposit on the cost of the sewer and/or water allocation non-refundable

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

The following persons gave public testimony:

1. Joseph Stevens, Esquire

The record will remain open for two weeks.

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

The County Commissioners of Queen Anne’s County, Maryland held a public hearing at 6:15 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 19-12.

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

COUNTY ORDINANCE NO. 19-12

A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT CONCERNING County Transfer Tax;

FOR THE PURPOSE of clarifying that County transfer tax on a sale to a first-time Maryland homebuyer may be paid in accordance with an express agreement; and generally dealing with the Queen Anne's County Transfer Tax;

BY AMENDING Section 5-11 D. 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 Section 5-11 D. of the Code of Public Local Laws be and is hereby AMENDED to read as follows:

§5-11. Definitions; rate; exemptions.

...

D. Exemptions. The County transfer tax does not apply to any instrument of writing exempt from the state transfer tax, including exemptions under §§ 13-203, 13-207, and 13-404 of the Tax-Property Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, provided, however, that the entire amount of County transfer tax shall be paid by the Seller of improved, residential real property that is sold to a first-time Maryland home buyer who will occupy the property as a principal residence, unless there is an express agreement between the parties to the agreement that the County transfer tax will not be paid entirely by the Seller pursuant to §14-104(c) of the Real Property Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland.

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

The following persons gave public testimony:

Wick Dudley – In favor

**OPEN MEETINGS ACT:**

Patrick Thompson, Esquire, County Attorney reviewed with the Board, the letter from the State of Maryland Open Meetings Compliance Board 13 Official Opinions of the Compliance Board 39 (2019) Talbot County Council.

**WEEKLY CORRESPONDENCE AND PRESENTATION OF DOCUMENTS FOR SIGNATURE:**

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

**LETTER RE: DEDICATING A PORTION OF RT 404 TO DANIEL LISTER:**

On a motion made by Commissioner J. Wilson, seconded by Commissioner S. Wilson, the Board unanimously agreed to sign the letter to MDOT/Maryland Transportation Commission Liaison, Mr. Ian Beam, to dedicate a portion of MD Rt 404, between Downes Station Road and Saathoff Road in the Memory of the late Daniel Lister, Assistant Fire Chief for the Queen Anne – Hillsboro Volunteer Fire Company. As part of the motion, Commissioners Moran and J. Wilson made comments on this topic.

Commissioners	Yes	No
Moran	x	
J Wilson	x	
S Wilson	x	
Dumenil - absent		
Corchiarino	x	

**FY 2020 EMS TRANSPORT UNIT:**

Mr. Scott A. Haas, Department of Emergency Services Director, submitted to the Board for their review and approval, FY2020 EMS Transport Unit.

The Department of Emergency Services, Emergency Medical Services Division, requests the purchase of a replacement Paramedic ambulance. The request is for (1) 2019 Ford F-550 4x4 Ultra Medic Ambulance. The approved capital project amount of \$310,125 has been verified by the finance department and is available as of this date.

Staff from the Department of Emergency Services solicited and reviewed current bids from jurisdictions and is recommending to piggyback off of the Houston-Galveston Area Council. The bids were reviewed by DES staff and with slight modifications will meet the needs of Queen Anne’s County DES emergency vehicle requests.

Following the Queen Anne’s County Procurement Policy, the Department of Emergency Services recommended piggybacking off the Houston-Galveston Area Council bids and awarding the contract to Atlantic Emergency Solutions for a total capital project price of \$270,245.

On a motion made by Commissioner S. Wilson, seconded by Commissioner J. Wilson, the Board unanimously agreed to piggyback off the Houston-Galveston Area Council and authorize the Director of the Department of Emergency Services to execute a contract with

Atlantic Emergency Solutions for \$270,245 for the ambulance purchase. As part of the motion, Commissioners Moran, J. Wilson and S. Wilson made comments on this topic.

Commissioners	Yes	No
Moran	x	
J Wilson	x	
S Wilson	x	
Dumenil - absent		
Corchiarino	x	

**FY 2020 DEPARTMENT OF PARKS & RECREATION CAPITAL EQUIPMENT PURCHASE:**

Mr. Stephen Chandlee, Department of Parks and Recreation Director, submitted to the Board for their review and approval, FY 2020 Department of Parks and Recreation Capital Equipment Purchase.

The Department of Parks and Recreation is requesting to purchase one (1) used 2018 Massey Ferguson MF6713L Tractor (\$67,500) and a 2019 RHINO 2150 15’ Rotary Cutter (\$12,500) from Binkley and Hurst LP for the purchase price of \$76,000. This total amount includes a \$4,000 Trade In for our 1985 MF699 Tractor with Loader (3036 hours of use).

This tractor and rotary cutter will be used for the maintenance of our large area mowing and other projects. This unit comes with a warranty until May 2020 and currently has 184 hours of usage. Adequate funding is available in our FY2020 Capital Budget.

On a motion made by Commissioner S. Wilson, seconded by Commissioner J. Wilson, the Board unanimously agreed to authorize the Department of Parks and Recreation to purchase one (1) used 2018 Massey Ferguson MF6713L Tractor (\$67,500) and a 2019 RHINO 2150 15’ Rotary Cutter (\$12,500) from Binkley and Hurst LP for the purchase price of \$76,000. This total amount includes a \$4,000 Trade In for our 1985 MF699 Tractor with Loader. As part of the motion, Commissioner S. Wilson made comments on this topic.

Commissioners	Yes	No
Moran	x	
J Wilson	x	
S Wilson	x	
Dumenil - absent		
Corchiarino	x	

**BROADBAND PILOT PROJECTS:**

Ms. Megan DelGaudio, IT Manager/GIS Specialist II and the Broadband Advisory Committee (BAC), submitted to the Board for their review and approval, Broadband Pilot Projects.

County staff and the BAC responded to a Request for Information (RFI) issued by the State's Office of Rural Broadband regarding grants of 50% of project cost or up to \$100,000 for areas of proposed broadband expansion with a current provider funded through the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD). County staff and a BAC representative presented the RFI and response to the Commissioners on April 9, 2019, where it was approved to move forward to see if the State would approve grant funding.

Two projects summarized in the response to the State are referred as Colby/Willow Branch located centrally in the north eastern part of the County and the Bulle Rock/Grove Creek just northwest of Centreville. Following is a brief summary of the costs associated (as well as the cost per household) with each project based on figures provided from Atlantic Broadband (ABB) who is the primary current wired broadband provider in Queen Anne's County. ABB is also contributing to the cost of these projects and is committed to the continued maintenance, repair, and support of the added locations.

Colby/Willow Branch - Total project cost - \$1.712M  
250 potential homes served  
ABB contribution – Capital expenses - not to exceed \$900K  
Total cost to County - not to exceed \$812K - \$100K (State contribution) = \$712K  
\$2,848 County contribution/household if all were to connect

Grove Creek/Bulle Rock - Total project cost - \$397K  
31 potential homes served  
ABB Contribution - Capital expenses - not to exceed \$157K  
Total cost to County - not to exceed \$240K - \$100K (State contribution) = \$140K  
\$4,516 County contribution/household if all were to connect

There is tremendous benefit to having a service provider take ownership of the network. Continued maintenance, repair, major repairs due to weather related events, upgrades and customer service will be provided by Atlantic Broadband so this is a onetime County subsidy for each project. Users in these areas -will have the means to connect to a network for:

- Educational purposes (research, testing, training, job search, and use of Chrome Books provided from school, etc)
- Healthcare platforms (online doctor visits, issuance of claims, plan review, etc.)
- Farming (ability to remotely adjust farm feedlines, temperature, evaluate water levels and be alerted when something is not working).
- Citizens who are able can work remotely (could be impacts on decreased traffic or increase of small businesses)

Regarding funds for the Bulle Rock project, please consider the use of County IT Fiber capital budget funds that can be reimbursed once the solar personal property taxes are collected. It is anticipated that about \$500K in solar personal taxes will be collected in FY20. Also, please cautiously consider that a special assessment tax to areas where broadband expansion is targeted could be imposed, though a special assessment would require approval from the General Assembly.

No action was taken.

**LETTER OF SUPPORT “QUEEN ANNE’S COUNTY BROADBAND ENGINEERING STUDIES”:**

On a motion made by Commissioner J. Wilson, seconded by Commissioner S Wilson, the Board unanimously agreed to sign the Letter of Support for “Queen Anne’s County Broadband Engineering Studies. As part of the motion, Commissioner J. Wilson made comments on this topic.

Commissioners	Yes	No
Moran	x	
J Wilson	x	
S Wilson	x	
Dumenil - absent		
Corchiarino	x	

**UPPER SHORE REGIONAL COUNCIL - FY2020 CONTRIBUTION:**

Ms. Susan O’Neill, Upper Shore Regional Council Executive Director, submitted to the Board for their review and approval, FY2020 Contribution.

The Upper Shore Regional Council (USRC) is grateful for your continued support as we move forward into the fiscal year of 2020.

During FY2019, USRC was delighted to assist in supporting Queen Anne’s County initiatives of a regional technology school, an updated tourism video, and marketing of Main Street Communities.

In FY2020, the USRC will continue to create opportunities to enhance business development and retention in the Upper Shore Region and embark on priority projects, enhancing the quality of life for the Upper Shore residents.

The Board reviewed the invoice for Queen Anne’s County’s contribution to the USRC’s operating budget for FY2020 in the amount of \$12,000.

On a motion made by Commissioner Corchiarino, seconded by Commissioner J. Wilson, the Board unanimously agreed to pay \$12,000 for the County’s contribution to the Upper Shore Regional Council for FY2020. As part of the motion, Commissioner J. Wilson made comments on this topic.

Commissioners	Yes	No
Moran	x	
J Wilson	x	
S Wilson	x	
Dumenil - absent		
Corchiarino	x	

**PROPERTY LIENS:**

Ms. Vivian Swinson, III, Zoning Administrator, submitted to the Board for their review and approval, Property Liens.

- Map 5C, Grid 17, Parcel 134, 213 Fourth Street, Crumpton (\$350.00)
- Map 30, Grid 15, Parcel 56, 1118 Price Station Road, Price (\$280.00)
- Map 70, Grid 00, Parcel 105, 365 Wicomico Road, Stevensville (\$220.00)
- Map 56, Grid 00, Parcel 405, 800 Bayside Drive, Stevensville (\$250.00)
- Map 58D, Grid 24, Parcel 120, 3809 Main Street, Grasonville (\$220.00)
- Map 58E, Grid 04, Parcel 568, 938 Chester River Drive, Grasonville (\$220.00)
- Map 28, Grid 07, Parcel 190, 112 Conquest Road, Centreville (\$360.00)
- Map 59A, Grid 9, Parcel 164, 6303 Main Street, Queenstown (\$220.00)
- Map 60, Grid 13, Parcel 16, 114 Wye Knot Court, Queenstown (\$250.00)

An independent contractor hired by the Zoning Office to cut grass at the above referenced addresses after the property owner ignored repeated attempts by the Zoning Inspector to get the site to comply with Queen Anne’s County Code Chapter 19 Article II § 19-2 L. (2) which states: A person may not allow any vegetation to grow higher than 12 inches on any lot or parcel that is: (a) Less than three acres in size; and (b) located in an approved or recorded residential subdivision or any part of which is within 200 feet of a neighboring residence.

On a motion made by Commissioner S. Wilson, seconded by Commissioner Moran, the Board unanimously agreed to approve the Resolutions to place a lien on each of the properties listed in the County Zoning Administrator’s memorandum dated July 23, 2019 for nuisance violations. As part of the motion, Commissioner Corchiarino made comments on this topic.

Commissioners	Yes	No	
Moran	x		
J Wilson	x		

S Wilson	x		
Dumenil - absent			
Corchiarino	x		

**PROPERTY TAX CREDIT FOR DISABLED OR FALLEN EMERGENCY WORKERS:**

Mr. Jonathan Seeman, Budget & Finance & IT Director, submitted to the Board for their review and approval, Property Tax Credit for Disabled or Fallen Emergency Workers.

The following application for the Property Tax Credit for Dwelling owned by a Disabled Emergency Worker, which has been reviewed by the County Attorney Patrick Thompson, is recommended for approval for Mark J. Carr.

The amount of the credit is 100% of the County tax for the tax year 2019-2020. The estimated amount of the credit is \$2,593.82.

On a motion made by Commissioner Corchiarino, seconded by Commissioner S. Wilson, the Board unanimously agreed to grant the 100% County Tax Credit for the tax year 2019-2020 in the estimated amount of \$2,593.82 for Mark J. Carr.

Commissioners	Yes	No
Moran	x	
J Wilson	x	
S Wilson	x	
Dumenil - absent		
Corchiarino	x	

The following application for the Property Tax Credit for Dwelling owned by a Disabled Emergency Worker, which has been reviewed by the County Attorney Patrick Thompson, is recommended for approval for Todd L. Powers.

The amount of the credit is 100% of the County tax for the tax year 2019-2020. The estimated amount of the credit is \$3,131.72.

On a motion made by Commissioner S. Wilson, seconded by Commissioner J. Wilson, the Board unanimously agreed to grant the 100% County Tax Credit for the tax year 2019-2020 in the estimated amount of \$3,131.72 for Todd L. Powers. As part of the motion, Commissioner Wilson made comments on this topic.

Commissioners	Yes	No
Moran	x	
J Wilson	x	
S Wilson	x	



On a motion made by Commissioner J. Wilson, seconded by Commissioner Corchiarino, the Board unanimously agreed to sign the support letter.

Commissioners	Yes	No
Moran	x	
J Wilson	x	
S Wilson	x	
Dumenil - absent		
Corchiarino	x	

**HAVEN MINISTRIES PROGRAMS UPDATE:**

Ms. Krista Pettit, Haven Ministries Executive Director, presented the following to the Board for their review.

Haven Ministries’ Programs

- Resource Center
- Homeless Shelter
- Food Pantries
- Thrift Store
- Warehouse with Job Training
- Street Outreach Program
- Upcoming program: Housing Assistance Program

Haven Ministries’ Funding

Ms. Pettit thanked the Commissioners for their support through County Grants.

**MASTER GARDENER PRESENTATION:**

Ms. Rachel Rhodes, Master Gardener Coordinator and Horticulture Educator, presented the following to the Board for their review.

Background:

- The first Master Gardener program was started in Washington State in 1972. Forty-six states now have Master Gardener programs with over 15,000 people participating nationwide.
- The Maryland Master Gardener Program was started in 1978 as a means of extending the horticultural and pest management expertise of University of Maryland Extension to the general public. Today, this popular program can be found in 17 Maryland counties, Baltimore City, and two Maryland prisons.

- Queen Anne’s County program began in 1998 with 20 trainees. In 2005, Talbot County started a program, reducing our number of active Master Gardeners from 120 to about 75. These dedicated volunteers contribute more than 3,000 volunteer hours annually.
- Volunteer service value to Queen Anne’s County: \$90,000

Maryland’s Master Gardener Vision:

A healthier world through Environmental Stewardship

Maryland’s Master Gardener Mission:

To educate Maryland residents about safe, effective and sustainable horticultural practices that build healthy gardens, landscapes, and communities

University of Maryland Extension - Bay-Wise:

- It comprises a comprehensive set of environmental topics that affect the quality and quantity of water here in Maryland.
- Most of these topics relate to landscape management, however, a few, like hydrology, wells & septic systems, hazardous household products and water conservation, address household issues.
- Like many of our programs this service is free and open to the public.
- Along with our Bay-Wise Program, the Master Gardeners maintain with Centreville Library Raingarden.
- The rain garden at the public library in Centreville was developed and constructed through the collaborative efforts of several agencies and individuals of varying disciplines.
- In the spring of 2007, the Queen Anne’s County Department of Public Works was awarded a grant from Maryland Department of Natural Resources for the design and construction of a rain garden to improve water quality and reduce stormwater runoff at the Queen Anne’s County Library in Centreville, Maryland.

University of Maryland Extension – Plant Clinic:

- Each month our booth focuses on current horticultural topics/issues
- Annually, Master Gardeners educate over 250 county residents about safe effective horticultural practices

University of Maryland Extension – Grow It, Eat It:

- Launched in 2009 to teach Marylanders how to grow food in home, community, and school gardens.
- Over the past 10 years, Master Gardeners (MGs) have taught hundreds of classes, developed demonstration gardens, and helped thousands of individuals and groups start their own food gardens.
- The Queen Anne’s County Program has four Grow It Eat It Gardens in which we teach classes and donate food to local food banks.
  - Galilee Community Garden (Chester, MD)

- Sudlersville Elementary School Garden (Sudlersville, MD)
- Washington College Campus Garden (Chestertown, MD)
- Kent County Middle School Garden (Chestertown, MD)

University of Maryland Extension – Pollinators:

- Education around integrated pest management (IPM), pollinators and natural enemies

Master Gardener Training

The Master Gardener training program is a rigorous 40+ hour course is designed to give you basic information in preparation for volunteering as a Master Gardener Volunteer representative of the University of Maryland Extension.

Topics include:

- Ecology
- Botany
- Soils
- Propagation
- Plant Diseases
- Insect pests and control measures
- This program emphasizes community involvement and outreach as well as environmental stewardship.

**PRESS AND PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

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

1. Mr. Jack Broderick

**COMMISSIONER’S ROUNDTABLE:**

Commissioner J. Wilson discussed the following:

Reminder – Godfrey’s Peach festival, August 3, 12-4 pm  
 Gave an overview of Project Brighter Future since HB 513 failed, to give high school students a chance at learning a trade in high school

Commissioner S. Wilson discussed the following:

Gave overview of the increase in emergency calls  
 Migrant food distribution

Commissioner Corchiarino discussed the following:

Kent Island Fire Department Carnival  
 Comptroller visit

Commissioner Moran discussed the following:  
Overview of Wheatland's project in Queenstown

There being no further business, they adjourned at 7:30 p.m. to meet again on Tuesday, August 13, 2019.

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EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

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PRESIDENT