

**COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CAROLINE COUNTY**  
109 Market Street, Room 106, Denton, Maryland

**WORK SESSION**  
**March 22, 2022**

Present: President, Larry C. Porter; President, Daniel J. Franklin; Vice President, Wilbur Levensgood; Commissioner; Jeremy Goldman, County Administrator; and Kaleigh Leager; Executive Assistant

**Debbie Bowden, Director of Economic Development – Economic Symposium Briefing:** Ms. Bowden stated that 2 years ago, Mid-Shore Regional Council (MSRC) received a grant that provided funding to the three counties for outreach. Ms. Bowden expressed her interest in doing an event where we bring businesses together to learn about their issues and hear from subject matter experts. Ms. Bowden mentioned there is an upcoming event on June 2<sup>nd</sup> from 9am-12pm here in Denton. She mentioned that there will be an agreement on the next consent agenda for an agreement with the space owner of the event to be signed.

**Stewart Barroll, County Attorney – Legislative Bill #2022-002 – Planning Commission Membership:** Commissioner Franklin made a motion to go into a public hearing. Commissioner Levensgood seconded. All three Commissioners voted to enter the public hearing. Mr. Barroll stated that this bill was first read and introduced on 3/15/22 and the public hearing was advertised in Star Democrat. Mr. Barroll read the summary of the bill, “AN Act to repeal and reenact with amendments Chapter 175 of the Code of Public Local Laws of Caroline County, Maryland; FOR the purpose of revising the Zoning chapter to reduce the membership of the Planning Commission from seven to five members. BY repealing and replacing Chapter 175-163 and Chapter 175-166 of the Code of Public Local Laws of Caroline County, Maryland.” Mr. Barroll stated that the third reading and possible enactment is scheduled for April 12, 2022. No comment was received for this public hearing. Commissioner Levensgood made a motion to end the public hearing. Commissioner Franklin seconded. All three Commissioners voted to end the public hearing.

**Jeremy Goldman, County Administrator – Chesapeake College Board of Trustees Letter of Support:** Mr. Goldman asked the Commissioners for their permission to send a letter of support to the Governor and the Secretary of Appointments for Mr. Milton Nagel to be reappointed to the Chesapeake College Board of Trustees, representing Caroline County. The Commissioners agreed to sending the letter. Mr. Goldman mentioned that he received an email from Partners in Care Maryland, INC. requesting a 1-time stipend for \$1,330.00 to assist with costs of their services. Commissioner Porter requested a representative from their organization to come and explain their information and their ask in better detail. Commissioner Franklin and Levensgood concurred with this request.

**Bonnie Johnson, Caroline County Humane Society – Cat Management – MOU**

**Amendment Discussion:** Ms. Johnson requested that the Commissioner amend the current MOU to allow less influx of animals into the shelter, specifically cats and kittens. Ms. Johnson stated that those animals should be spayed or neutered, ear clipped, and then released back into the community. In addition to the amendment to the current MOU, the Humane Society is requesting an increase of around \$20,000 in addition to the current budget request. Commissioner Franklin stated that if every slot was filled for spay/neuter a month, it would cost around \$63,000 for 1 year. Ms. Johnson stated the Humane Society is going to fundraise in addition to any monies they receive from the County for this initiative as well as their other yearly fundraising goals. Commissioner Franklin stated that this is a large upfront cost but believes that it will be a cost saving measure for the future as it will reduce and control the feral cat population in the County. Commissioner Porter requested the exact figures of what this program will cost.

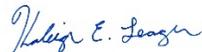
**Daniel Fox, Director of Finance – Capital and Operating Budget Workshop:** Mr. Fox presented the Capital and Operating budgets to the County Commissioners for them to work through. The FY23 Capital Budget estimated revenue is \$3,300,000.00 with \$6,879,987.00 in requests. This is a \$3,579,987 difference between revenue and requests. The Operating Budget estimated revenue is \$59,882,007.00 with \$61,230,686.00 in requests. This is a \$1,348,680.00 difference between revenue and requests. The Commissioners are tasked with balancing the budget and must chose what requests to fund in both budgets.

The Commissioners went through the entire Capital Budget with preliminary allocations and completed around 75% of the Operating Budget with preliminary allocations. Another workshop was scheduled for 3/29/22 specifically to finish the remainder of the Operating Budget worksheet. Commissioner Porter requested that the Capital Budget worksheet be amended to project priority requests only during the April 5<sup>th</sup> workshop so they may go in line by line with the updated information. The Commissioners also requested that representatives from Upper Shore Aging (USA) and Delmarva Community Transit (DCT) attend the April 5<sup>th</sup> meeting to answer questions regarding their budget requests.

Mr. Fox and Mr. Goldman stated that after multiple conversations with the Department of Legislative Services (DLS) and the Board of Education (BOE), the Maintenance of Effort (MOE) cost should be at a maximum of \$16,500,000 versus the original projected cost of \$17,000,000.00; this frees up around \$500,000 in the Operating Budget.

**Commissioners Open Discussion:** There was no discussion.

With no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 12:40 p.m.



Kaleigh Leager  
Executive Assistant to The County Commissioners