

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CAROLINE COUNTY
Health and Public Services (HAPS) Building
403 S. 7th Street, Room 111
Denton, MD 21629

Minutes
May 2, 2023

Present: President J. Travis Breeding; Vice President Larry C. Porter, Commissioner N. Franklin Bartz, III.

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM.

Commissioners Meeting Convenes, Invocation by Pastor Ray Parsons – Park Lane Church of God - Federalsburg

Commissioner Breeding read the following reporting out statement, “On April 25th, the County Commissioners held a closed session under Section (1) General Provisions Art. 3-305(b), to conduct performance evaluations of certain employees in addition to discuss operational processes. Commissioners Breeding, Porter, and Bartz were in attendance in addition to County Administrator, Jeremy Goldman, County Attorney, Stewart Barroll, Director of Planning & Codes, Katheleen Freeman, Assistant Director of Planning, Leslie Grunden, Assistant Director of Codes, Crystal Dadds, Developmental Review Coordinator, Matt Kaczynski, Paralegal, Mary Berneski, and Executive Assistant, Kaleigh Leager. The Commissioners directed Ms. Freeman and staff to begin the required steps to make the requested changes to the current processes.”

Public Comment: No public comment.

Caroline County Public Schools (CCPS) - Staff Appreciation Week Proclamation – (Sponsored by Commissioner Breeding) - Dr. Derek Simmons, Superintendent of Schools:

Commissioner Breeding read the proclamation, proclaiming that the week of May 1-5 is Caroline County Public Schools Staff Appreciation Week. Dr. Simmons thanked the Commissioners for their continued support and then thanked the staff of CCPS for their hard work.

Caroline County Department of Emergency Services - Advanced Life Support Day Proclamation – (Sponsored by Commissioner Bartz) - Mark Sheridan, Director of Emergency Services:

Commissioner Bartz read the proclamation, proclaiming June 1st as Advanced Life Support (ALS) Day in Caroline County. Mr. Bobby Schoonover discussed the history of the ALS Committee and thanked the Commissioners for their continued support of the Department of Emergency Services.

Comprehensive Water and Sewer Plan - Proposed Amendment Discussion - Leslie Grunden, Assistant Director of Codes:

Ms. Grunden stated that the Town of Ridgely has requested this amendment to the Comprehensive Water and Sewer Plan (CWSP) to add proposed improvements to the Town’s water system. The Town has applied for funding to Maryland

Department of Environment (MDE) and the projects must be included in the CWSP to be eligible for funding. Per Ms. Grunden, currently, the Town is operating at a deficit (with future allocations) with their existing water tower. Currently, the Town is at 80% capacity and MDE suggests that once 80% capacity is reached, an additional structure is needed. Commissioner Porter made a motion to proceed with scheduling a public hearing. Commissioner Bartz seconded the motion. All three Commissioner voted unanimously to schedule a public hearing for the requested amendment.

Consent Agenda: All three Commissioner voted unanimously to approve the consent agenda.

- Minutes – March 28, 2023, April 4, 2023 & April 4, 2023, Public Hearing – Open & Closed
- [Town of Henderson – Letter of Support for Community Development Block Grant \(CDBG\) Application – Street Improvements](#)
- Joint Use Agreement – North Carolina Clergy Association, Inc. – National Day of Prayer Event
- [Second Addendum to Memorandum of Understanding \(MOU\) – Caroline County Commissioners, Kent County Commissioners, Talbot County Council and Delmarva Community Services, Inc. – Regional Public Transit Services](#)

Action Item: The Commissioners discussed the specifics of the proposed PILOT. All three Commissioner voted unanimously to approve the action item.

- Solar Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) Agreement & Resolution #2023-03 - The Commissioners of Caroline County, Maryland Approving a Payment In Lieu Of Taxes (“PILOT”) Agreement for Cherrywood Solar

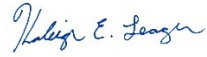
County Administrators Report – Jeremy Goldman: Mr. Goldman stated that the County is still having issues with Verizon for our 9-1-1 Center. Mr. Goldman closed by informing the Commissioners that he will be off Thursday and Friday.

County Commissioners Open Discussion: Commissioner Porter stated that he spoke to Ridgley Town Commissioner Casey. Per Commissioner Casey, there has been a continued lack of communication from Mr. Thielke and members related to the Food Processing facility. Mr. Goldman stated the project managers are looking at hiring a contractor to study the water and wastewater needs of the project. Commissioner Breeding stated that River Road is need of repair to address the multiple potholes. Mr. White, Director of Public Works, stated that the County is waiting for the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE). Commissioner Breeding asked Ms. Leager about an update on the proposed memorandum of understanding with Compass Hospice. Ms. Leager stated that she received an email from Ms. Guerieri stating that Compass is waiting to hear back from Arcadia Nursing Home to get approval from their funders/investors. Commissioner Breeding asked about the status of the landfill. The Commissioners requested that financial documents be reviewed from the Maryland Environmental Service for the project. In addition, that an independent environmental study be conducted of the landfill, and a detailed list of roads to be paved, maintained, and monitored be provided by MES.

Public Comment: There was no public comment.

There being no further discussion the meeting adjourned at 10:53 a.m.

Closed Session: Section (12) General Provisions Art . 3-305(b): “To discuss an investigative proceeding on actual or possible criminal conduct.” The Closed Session convened at 10:55 a.m. and adjourned at 12:22 p.m.



Kaleigh Leager
Executive Assistant to the County Commissioners