

Regular Meeting of County Commissioners
Wednesday April 14, 2021

The regularly scheduled meeting of the County Commissioners was convened virtually at 9:04 a.m. with the following persons in attendance:

Reuben B. Collins II, Esq., President, County Commissioner
Bobby Rucci, Vice President, County Commissioner
Gilbert O. Bowling, III, County Commissioner
Thomasina O. Coates, M.S., County Commissioner
Amanda M. Stewart, M.Ed., County Commissioner
Mark Belton, County Administrator
Wesley Adams, County Attorney
Carol A. DeSoto, Clerk to the Commissioners

Call to Order/Pledge

Commissioner Collins called the meeting to order, and Commissioner Bowling led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

A roll call was taken. All Commissioners were present.

Comments

There were no comments.

Fiscal Year 2022 Budget Work Session: Review of Proposed County Administrator's General Budget

Ms. Jenifer Ellin, Director, Mr. Jacob Dyer, Chief of Budget, and Ms. TaTanya Bowman, Senior Budget Analyst, Department of Fiscal and Administrative Services, reviewed the proposed balanced Fiscal Year 2022 General Fund Operating Budget of four hundred and forty-nine million five hundred and twelve thousand eight hundred dollars (\$449,512,800.00). The review included a summary on revenues and expenditures by division, and highlights of proposed changes to expenditures.

Fiscal Year 2022 Budget Work Session: Governmental Capital Improvement Project Review

Ms. Jenifer Ellin, Director, Mr. Jacob Dyer, Chief of Budget, and Ms. TaTanya Bowman, Senior Budget Analyst, Department of Fiscal and Administrative Services, provided a review of the Fiscal Year 2022-Fiscal Year 2026 proposed Capital Improvement Project (CIP) Budget.

Fiscal Year 2022 Budget Work Session: Enterprise Fund Recap

Ms. Jenifer Ellin, Director, Mr. Jacob Dyer, Chief of Budget, and Ms. TaTanya Bowman, Senior Budget Analyst, Department of Fiscal and Administrative Services, reviewed the Enterprise Fund Summary Document, which provides a snapshot review of each enterprise fund's total proposed Fiscal Year 2022 Budget revenue and expenditures and proposed changes.

Commissioners' New Business

There was no new business discussed.

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Closed Session

At 9:54 a.m. Commissioner Coates made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Bowling and passed, with all Commissioners present, voting in favor to move into Close Session where all or a portion of this session may be closed pursuant to Section 3-305(b)(7)(8) of the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland to review two (2) agreement and to discuss one (1) potential litigation issue. Also, to address items pertaining to the Administrative function of the County Commissioners in their executive role. The reason for going into closed is to keep negotiations and strategies confidential.

Summary Closed Session Items

At 9:58 a.m. the Commissioners went into virtual closed session.

3-305(b)(7)(8) Legal: Update on Potential Litigation

Present: Commissioners Collins, Rucci, Bowling, Coates, and Stewart, Mark Belton, Wes Adams, Carol DeSoto, Jessica Andritz, and James Sandy.

**At 9:59 a.m. Commissioner Bowling recused himself from this discussion related to the proposal.*

Mr. Wes Adams, County Attorney, reviewed a proposal with the Commissioners related to settling this issue.

The Commissioners directed Mr. Adams to come back with additional information.

3-305(b)(7) Legal: Agreement

Present: Commissioners Collins, Rucci, Bowling, Coates, and Stewart, Mark Belton, Wes Adams, and Carol DeSoto.

**At 10:10 a.m. Commissioner Bowling returned to close session.*

Mr. Wes Adams, County Attorney, reviewed a proposed non-disclosure agreement with the Commissioners.

A motion was made by Commissioner Rucci, seconded by Commissioner Stewart and passed with all Commissioners present, voting in favor to sign the non-disclosure agreement.

3-305(b)(7) Legal: Agreement

Present: Commissioners Collins, Rucci, Bowling, Coates, and Stewart, Mark Belton, Wes Adams, Carol DeSoto, and Elizabeth Theobalds.

Ms. Elizabeth Theobalds, Deputy County Attorney, reviewed an amendment to an agreement.

The Commissioners reached a consensus on this agreement. Official action on this agreement will take place in open session on April 20, 2021.

Administrative

Present: Commissioners Collins, Rucci, Bowling, Coates, and Stewart, Mark Belton, Wes Adams, Carol DeSoto, and Jenifer Ellin.

Mr. Belton reviewed three (3) procedural topics with the Commissioners.

At 11:15 a.m., a motion was made by Commissioner Coates, seconded by Commissioner Bowling and passed, with all Commissioners present, voting in favor to end this Closed Session and adjourn.



Carol A. DeSoto, Clerk to the Commissioners



Reuben B. Collins, II, Esq., President

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FORM OF STATEMENT FOR CLOSING A MEETING

Location: Virtual-MS Teams

Date: April 14, 2021

Time: 9:54 a.m.

Motion By: Commissioner Coates

Seconded By: Commissioner Bowling

Vote to Close Session:

	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Reuben B. Collins, II, Esq.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gilbert O. Bowling, III.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Thomasina O. Coates, M.S.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Amanda Stewart, M.Ed.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bobby Rucci	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

STATUTORY AUTHORITY TO CLOSE SESSION

General Provisions Article §3-305(b):

(1) To discuss:

(i) The appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom it has jurisdiction; or

(ii) Any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals.

(2) To protect the privacy or reputation of individuals with respect to a matter that is not related to public business.

(3) To consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related thereto.

(4) To consider a preliminary matter that concerns the proposal for a business or industrial organization to locate, expand, or remain in the State.

(5) To consider the investment of public funds.

(6) To consider the marketing of public securities.

(7) To consult with counsel to obtain legal advice on a legal matter.

(8) To consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending or potential litigation.

(9) To conduct collective bargaining negotiations or consider matters that relate to the negotiations.

(10) To discuss public security, if the public body determines that public discussions would constitute a risk to the public or public security, including:

(i) the deployment of fire and police services and staff; and

(ii) the development and implementation of emergency plans.

FORM OF STATEMENT FOR CLOSING A MEETING

Appendix C C-2

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(11) [] To prepare, administer or grade a scholastic, licensing, or qualifying examination.

(12) [] To conduct or discuss an investigative proceeding on actual or possible criminal conduct.

(13) [] To comply with a specific constitutional, statutory, or judicially imposed requirement that prevents public disclosures about a particular proceeding or matter.

(14) [] Before a contract is awarded or bids are opened, discuss a matter directly related to a negotiation strategy or the contents of a bid or proposal, if public discussion or disclosure would adversely impact the ability of the public body to participate in the competitive bidding or proposal process.

TOPICS TO BE DISCUSSED:

3-305 (b)(7) Legal: One Agreements

REASON FOR CLOSING: To keep legal negotiations confidential.

3-305 (b)(7)(8) Legal Advice: Potential Litigation

REASON FOR CLOSING: To keep legal negotiations confidential.



Reuben B. Collins, II, Esq., President