

**Regular Meeting of County Commissioners**  
**Wednesday June 29, 2022 (Legislative Day)**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the County Commissioners was convened in hybrid format, virtually and in person, at 1:03 p.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 was absent  
Amanda M. Stewart, M.Ed., County Commissioner  
Deborah Hall, Deputy County Administrator  
Wes Adams, County Attorney  
Carol A. DeSoto, Clerk to the Commissioners

**Call to Order/Pledge**

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

**Roll Call**

A roll call was taken. All Commissioners were present.

**Comments**

There were no comments.

**Approval Items**

*Draft Resolution 2022-10 Permit Issuance for Adult Entertainment Establishments*

A motion was made by Commissioner Bowling, seconded by Commissioner Rucci and passed, with all Commissioners present, voting in favor to approve Resolution 2022-10 Permit Issuance for Adult Entertainment Establishments.

**Joint Meeting: Discussion on Supporting Youth in Charles County**

Charles County Board of County Commissioners; Charles County Board of Education; Charles County Health Department; Charles County Department of Social Services; The College of Southern Maryland; Charles County Public Library; Charles County Department of Recreation, Parks, and Tourism gathered for a joint meeting on how to support youth in Charles County. The discussion centered on identifying issues and needs and how to create a plan that will have a positive impact on the youth in the county. Three (3) work groups were established focused on how to work and support struggling parents; how to centralize information, support services, resources for use by agencies and partner organizations in the county; and how to offer opportunities for youth and at-risk youth. The work groups will create a plan to address these concerns and will bring their information to another joint meeting with the full group of partnering agencies in September. Dr. Maria Navarro, Superintendent, Charles County Public Schools will coordinate with these three (3) works groups.

**Closed Session**

At 12:56 p.m., Commissioner Bowling made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Rucci 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

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Annotated Code of Maryland to discuss one (1) potential litigation issues. The administrative portion of this session will be used to review/train on the new format for the govMeeting platform. The reason for going into closed is to keep negotiations, strategies, confidential.

**Summary Closed Session Items**

At 3:11 p.m. the Commissioners went into virtual closed session.

**3-305(b)(7)(8) Potential Litigation Issue**

Present: Commissioners Collins, Rucci, Bowling, Coates, Stewart, Deborah Hall, Wes Adams, Carol DeSoto, , and Deborah Carpenter

Mr. Wes Adams, County Attorney, Office of the County Attorney for Charles County and Ms. Deborah Carpenter, Director, Department of Planning and Growth Management reviewed the issues and status related to this case.

The Commissioners reached a consensus to have staff continue to handle this issue and proceed as discussed.

*\*At 4:03 p.m. Commissioner Rucci left closed session.*

At 4:07 p.m. A motion was made by Commissioner Bowling, seconded by Commissioner Stewart and passed, with Commissioners Bowling, Coates, Stewart and Collins present, voting in favor to end this closed session.

*\*Commissioner Rucci was not present for the vote.*

The Commissioners returned to open session at 6:01 p.m.

**Roll Call**

A roll call was taken. All Commissioners were present.

**Public Hearing: Bill 2022-06 Adequate Public Facilities 2022 Manual Update to Traffic Section**

The Commissioners conducted a hybrid (virtual/in person) public hearing on Bill 2022-06 Adequate Public Facilities 2022 Manual Update to Traffic Section. Mr. Jason Groth, Deputy Director, and Mr. Ben Yeckley, Planner III, Department of Planning and Growth Management, Department of Planning and Growth Management reviewed the amendments to the zoning ordinance provisions governing adequate public facilities for traffic impact study processes and ensure consistency with the Adequate Public Facilities Manual.

There were two (2) comments provided by the community.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bowling, seconded by Commissioner Coates and passed, with all Commissioners present, voting in favor to keep the record open for thirty (30) days.

A motion was made by Commissioner Rucci, seconded by Commissioner Coates and passed, with all Commissioners present, voting in favor to close the public hearing.

**Regular Meeting of County Commissioners**  
**Wednesday June 29, 2022 (Legislative Day)**

*\*Break 6:25 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.*

**Roll Call**

A roll call was taken. All Commissioners were present.

**Charles County Board of County Commissioners' Quarterly Town Hall Meeting**

The Commissioners conducted their Quarterly Town Hall Meeting in a hybrid format, virtually and in person. All Commissioners were present to address community questions, as well as Ms. Deborah Hall, Deputy County Administrator, and the following Directors and designees:

- Ms. Jenifer Ellin, Director, Department of Fiscal and Administrative Services
- Ms. Deborah Carpenter, Director, Department of Planning and Growth Management
- Mr. Bernard Cochran, Acting Director, Department of Public Works
- Ms. Michelle Lilly, Director, Department of Emergency Services
- Ms. Kelli Beavers, Director, Department of Recreation, Parks and Tourism
- Ms. Rita Wood, Chief of Housing, Department of Community Services
- Ms. Alexis Blackwell, Director, Department of Human Resources
- Mr. Kelly Robertson-Slagle, Director, Department of Economic Development
- Mr. Wes Adams, County Attorney, Office of the County Attorney
- Mr. Jason Groth, Deputy Director, Department of Planning and Growth Management
- Ms. Jennifer Harris, Chief of Media Services, Office of the County Administrator
- Ms. Renesha Miles, Chief Equity Officer, Department of Human Resources

Commissioner Collins provided a welcoming remarks. Ms. Carol DeSoto, Clerk to the Commissioners, reviewed the format for the town hall meeting. Ms. Julie Bryson, Assistant Chief of Staff, read the questions and comments submitted online. Questions were answered by the Commissioners or by the appropriate director/designee in attendance.

At 7:24 p.m., a motion was made by Commissioner Bowling, seconded by Commissioner Stewart and passed, with all Commissioners present, voting in favor to adjourn.



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Carol A. DeSoto, Clerk to the Commissioners



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Reuben B. Collins, II, Esq., President

**Regular Meeting of County Commissioners**  
**Wednesday June 29, 2022 (Legislative Day)**

**FORM OF STATEMENT FOR CLOSING A MEETING**

Location: Hybrid- In Person/Virtual- MS Teams

Date: June 29, 2022

Time: 12:56 p.m.

Motion By: Commissioner Bowling

Seconded By: Commissioner Rucci

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**

**Regular Meeting of County Commissioners**  
**Wednesday June 29, 2022 (Legislative Day)**

- (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)(8) Discuss One (1) Potential Litigation Issues**

REASON FOR CLOSING: Keep negotiations and strategies confidential.

**Administrative: Review/Train on the New govMeeting Platform**



Reuben B. Collins, II, Esq., President