



For Immediate Release

Easton, MD – March 9, 2022

Contact: Clay B. Stamp

County Manager

cbstamp@talbotcountymd.gov

410-770-8010

Talbot County Council Meeting Highlights, Tuesday, March 8, 2022

These highlights only reflect the business items covered from the Council's approved agenda. To view the complete County Council meeting, please visit: Talbot County Meeting Videos - Talbot County, Maryland (www.talbotcountymd.gov).

PROCLAMATIONS:

I. PROCLAMATION - DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AWARENESS MONTH – MARCH 2022- Jonathon Rondeau, President & CEO, and Deena Kilmon, Director of Engagement, The Arc Central Chesapeake Region

Jonathan Rondeau presented an update on The Arc Central Chesapeake Region, founded in 1961 by a group of parents of children with intellectual and developmental disabilities who envisioned a fulfilling life for their children, including having meaningful jobs in the community, friendships and social and spiritual opportunities. The organization currently serves 75 individuals. Rondeau reported that this past July the organization purchased property on Port Street in Easton to develop Port Street Commons, a 25,000-square-foot building that will include a community hub for children and adults with disabilities to get resources, information, referral, and other programs, as well as behavioral health program space. The project will also include affordable housing for families that may or may not be connected to The Arc. Four units will be two-bedroom units and four will be three-bedroom units. The Arc anticipates breaking ground on that project in the spring of 2023, taking 10 months to build the project. It is hoped the project will add 35 full-time jobs.

The total cost of the project is about \$7 million. The Arc has raised \$1.3 million towards that goal in the last two and a half months. The Council unanimously approved a proclamation in recognition of March 2022 as National Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month and encouraged all citizens to recognize the valuable contributions made by individuals with developmental disabilities who are a vital part of every community and encourage them to join the movement by The Arc and other organizations to raise awareness of, and support of individuals with, developmental disabilities in our County.

PROCLAMATION – ENDOMETRIOSIS AWARENESS MONTH – MARCH 2022 - Shannon Hannawald, founder of the Endo Warriors of the Eastern Shore and an ambassador for the Endometriosis Association

Shannon Hannawald is raising awareness about endometriosis having suffered from the disease herself for years. Governor Hogan issued a proclamation last week - the first time in Maryland history that a governor has issued a proclamation recognizing endometriosis. Endometriosis is a disease affecting at least 1 in 10 women of reproductive age, whereby the endometrium, a type of tissue that normally grows in the uterus, also grows outside the uterus. Many of the estimated 200 million women worldwide who have endometriosis live with debilitating, chronic pain and fatigue, on average experiencing a delay of up to 10 years between the first symptoms and diagnosis. She shared that there is a need for further research and increased funding for research of endometriosis which would hopefully lead to earlier detection, the discovery of the cause of the disease, a reliable, less invasive, and less costly way to diagnose the disease, more effective ways to manage symptoms, and a cure. The Council unanimously approved the proclamation designating March 2022 as Endometriosis Awareness Month and urged all citizens to help increase awareness of endometriosis and the importance of diagnosing the disease which to date has no known cure.

“Thank you, Council for allowing me this opportunity to put this on the agenda. It is something that hits very close to home for me. And I've seen it a lot in the community. I was shocked when I was in a group of seven people and two of them had suffered from the disease. This is one of those diseases that are extremely painful – you may not see what a person is going through both physically and mentally,” stated Council member Frank Divilio.

II. PRESENTATION by Delmarva Community Transit (DCT) - FY2023 Annual Transportation Plan – Santo Grande, President & CEO, Delmarva Community Services, Inc.; Keith Adkins, Transit Manager, Delmarva Community Transit; and Andrea Waters, Transportation Grants Specialist, Delmarva Community Transit

Santo Grande and Keith Adkins presented a request for approval of the FY 23 Annual Transportation Plan which projects operating costs of \$1,326,000 and capital project costs of \$246,454. Grande said that this is a 10% increase in operating for FY 23 compared to FY 22 budget. DCT serves Caroline, Kent and Talbot counties with public transportation services. There were several factors that DCT considered in the FY 23 budget, such as increases in fuel wages, to be more competitive in the job market and ways to enhance services. The Council unanimously approved the FY 23 Annual Transportation plan.

“We can't thank you enough for what you do for Talbot County. We are proud of you and looking to your model to be a potential model for other counties,” states Council President Chuck Callahan.

III. INTRODUCTION OF NUMBERED RESOLUTIONS:

Ray Clarke, County Engineer, presented several resolutions for Council's consideration:

A. A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE TALBOT COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE WATER AND SEWER PLAN FOR THE PURPOSE OF ADDING OR MODIFYING THE TALBOT COUNTY CAPITAL PROJECT FOR FISCAL YEARS 2023 AND 2024 TO ADD A NEW CAPITAL PROJECT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$8.6 MILLION FOR THE PURPOSE OF REPLACING THE TOWN OF EASTON'S GLEBE WATER TREATMENT PLANT WITH UPGRADED TECHNOLOGY

Resolution No. 315 was introduced by all Council members. A public hearing will be held on Tuesday, April 12, 2022, at 6:30 p.m.

B. A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE TALBOT COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE WATER AND SEWER PLAN FOR THE PURPOSE OF ADDING OR MODIFYING THE TALBOT COUNTY CAPITAL PROJECTS FOR FISCAL YEARS 2023 AND 2024 TO ADD A NEW CAPITAL PROJECT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$800,000 FOR FORCE MAIN PRESSURE SENSORS AND VACUUM SENSORS FOR THE REGION I – UNIONVILLE, TUNIS MILLS, AND COPPERVILLE, REGION II – ROYAL OAK, NEWCOMB, AND BELLEVUE AND REGION II - MARTINGHAM SEWER SERVICE AREAS

Resolution No. 316 was introduced by all Council members. A public hearing will be held on Tuesday, April 12, 2022, at 6:30 p.m.

C. A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE TALBOT COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE WATER AND SEWER PLAN FOR THE PURPOSE OF ADDING OR MODIFYING THE TALBOT COUNTY CAPITAL PROJECT FOR FISCAL YEARS 2023 AND 2024 TO ADD A NEW CAPITAL PROJECT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$360,000 FOR A NEW EMERGENCY GENERATOR FOR THE REGION II – MARTINGHAM SEWER SERVICE AREA AND MARTINGHAM WATER SYSTEM

Resolution No. 317 was introduced by all Council members. A public hearing will be held on Tuesday, April 12, 2022, at 6:30 p.m.

D. A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE TALBOT COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE WATER AND SEWER PLAN FOR THE PURPOSE OF ADDING OR MODIFYING THE TALBOT COUNTY CAPITAL PROJECT FOR FISCAL YEARS 2023 AND 2024 TO ADD A NEW CAPITAL PROJECT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2.190 MILLION TO ELIMINATE SEPTIC SYSTEMS IN THE VILLAGES OF BAR NECK AND FAIRBANK BY EXTENDING SEWER SERVICE FROM THE REGION V (TILGHMAN) WASTEWATER SYSTEM

Resolution No. 318 was introduced by all Council members. A public hearing will be held on Tuesday, April 12, 2022, at 6:30 p.m.

E. A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE TALBOT COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE WATER AND SEWER PLAN FOR THE PURPOSE OF ADDING OR MODIFYING THE TALBOT COUNTY CAPITAL PROJECTS FOR FISCAL YEARS 2023 AND 2024 TO ADD A NEW CAPITAL PROJECT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$43,688,300 FOR THE REGION V (TILGHMAN) WASTEWATER SYSTEM ENHANCED NUTRIENT REMOVAL (ENR) UPGRADES AND ELIMINATING SEPTIC SYSTEMS IN AND AROUND THE VILLAGES OF SHERWOOD, WITTMAN, MCDANIEL, AND CLAIBORNE BY EXTENDING SEWER FROM THE REGION V (TILGHMAN) WASTEWATER SYSTEM

Resolution No. 319 was introduced by all Council members. A public hearing will be held on Tuesday, April 12, 2022, at 6:30 p.m.

F. RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE TALBOT COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE WATER AND SEWER PLAN TO ADD OR MODIFY THE TALBOT COUNTY CAPITAL PROJECT FOR FISCAL YEARS 2023 AND 2024 TO ADD A NEW CAPITAL PROJECT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$800,000 FOR INDIVIDUAL GRINDER PUMPS IN THE REGION I (UNIONVILLE, TUNIS MILLS, COPPERVILLE) SEWER SERVICE AREA

Resolution No. 320 was introduced by all Council members. A public hearing will be held on Tuesday, April 12, 2022, at 6:30 p.m.

G. A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE TALBOT COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE WATER AND SEWER PLAN FOR THE PURPOSE OF ADDING OR MODIFYING THE TALBOT COUNTY CAPITAL PROJECT FOR FISCAL YEARS 2023 AND 2024 FOR THE PURPOSE OF ADDING A NEW CAPITAL PROJECT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1.5 MILLION FOR SEWER COLLECTION SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS FOR THE REGION V (TILGHMAN) SANITARY DISTRICT

Resolution No. 321 was introduced by all Council members. A public hearing will be held on Tuesday, April 12, 2022, at 6:30 p.m.

H. A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE TALBOT COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE WATER AND SEWER PLAN FOR THE PURPOSE OF RECLASSIFYING AND REMAPPING CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY LOCATED ON UNIONVILLE ROAD, EASTON, MARYLAND, SHOWN ON TAX MAP 24, AS PARCEL 129, FROM UNPROGRAMMED TO "S-1" IMMEDIATE PRIORITY STATUS (Kemp)

Council Vice President asked staff to correct the location to Unionville Road, not Miles River Road.

Resolution No. 322 was introduced by all Council members. A public hearing will be held on Tuesday, April 12, 2022, at 6:30 p.m.

I. A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE TALBOT COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE WATER AND SEWER PLAN FOR THE PURPOSE OF RECLASSIFYING AND REMAPPING CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY LOCATED ON ST. MICHAELS ROAD (MARYLAND ROUTE 33), EASTON, MARYLAND AND SHOWN ON TAX MAP 33 AS PARCELS 38 AND 105 FROM UNPROGRAMMED TO “S-1” IMMEDIATE PRIORITY STATUS (Kirkham Station)

Resolution No. 323 was introduced by Mr. Callahan, Mr. Divilio, Mr. Pack and Ms. Price. A public hearing will be held on Tuesday, April 12, 2022, at 6:30 p.m.

J. A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE TALBOT COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE WATER AND SEWER PLAN FOR THE PURPOSE OF RECLASSIFYING AND REMAPPING CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 26491 ROYAL OAK ROAD (MARYLAND ROUTE 329), ROYAL OAK, MARYLAND AND SHOWN ON TAX MAP 41 AS PARCEL 156 AND CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY LOCATED ON ROYAL OAK ROAD (MARYLAND ROUTE 329), ROYAL OAK, MARYLAND AND SHOWN ON TAX MAP 41 AS PARCEL 233, LOT 1 FROM UNPROGRAMMED TO “S-1” IMMEDIATE PRIORITY STATUS (Stevenson/McEachern)

Resolution No. 324 was introduced by Mr. Callahan, Mr. Divilio, Mr. Pack and Ms. Price. A public hearing will be held on Tuesday, April 12, 2020, at 6:30 p.m.

K. A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE TALBOT COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE WATER AND SEWER PLAN FOR THE PURPOSE OF RECLASSIFYING AND REMAPPING CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 26383 ROYAL OAK ROAD (MARYLAND ROUTE 329), EASTON, MARYLAND AND SHOWN ON TAX MAP 41 AS PARCEL 214 FROM UNPROGRAMMED TO “S-1” IMMEDIATE PRIORITY STATUS (Stockhausen)

Resolution No. 325 was introduced by Mr. Callahan, Mr. Divilio, Mr. Pack, and Ms. Price. A public hearing will be held on Tuesday, April 12, 2020, at 6:30 p.m.

L.A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE TALBOT COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE WATER AND SEWER PLAN TO AUTHORIZE TALBOT COUNTY, MARYLAND’S ACQUISITION OF THE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT SERVING THE PRESERVE AT WYE MILLS WITH THE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT BEING LOCATED AT RUSTLING OAKS DRIVE, WYE MILLS, MARYLAND 21679, DESCRIBED AS TAX MAP 01, PARCEL 98

Resolution No. 326 was introduced by all Council members. A public hearing will be held on Tuesday, April 12, 2020, at 6:30 p.m.

“It is good for us to be stepping up to the plate and saving a community. I really appreciate all your hard work on this Ray. The Preserve at Wye Mills Property Owners Association came to us in 2018, so it's taken a while to get there, but that's what we're here for – to help these communities,” commented Council President Chuck Callahan.

M. A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE TALBOT COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE WATER AND SEWER PLAN FOR THE PURPOSES OF PROVIDING THAT START-UP WASTEWATER TREATMENT FOR PHASE 1, SECTION 1 OF THE LAKESIDE PROJECT AND ITS TREATED EFFLUENT SHALL AT LEAST MEET ENHANCED NUTRIENT REMOVAL STANDARDS AND FURTHER PROVIDING THAT CONNECTION TO THE EXISTING TRAPPE WASTEWATER SYSTEM IS CONDITIONED IN PART UPON THE EXISTING SYSTEM NOT HAVING ANY OUTSTANDING MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS, CONSENT ORDERS, OR VIOLATIONS

County Attorney Patrick Thomas shared that Council member Price requested this resolution. Council member Price said that this resolution requires that wherever the wastewater from Phase One, Section One of the Lakeside Project is treated it would have to be treated to ENR standards while allowing the developer more flexibility in treating the effluent.

Resolution No. 327 was introduced by Council member Price. A public hearing will be held on Tuesday, April 12, at 6:30 p.m.

N. A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE TALBOT COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE WATER AND SEWER PLAN TO REVISE CHAPTER THREE – AMENDMENT PROCEDURES

Patrick Thomas explained the resolution was requested by Council member Price. Council member Price stated that if approved, the resolution gives the County more flexibility for processing amendments initiated by the County to the Comprehensive Water and Sewer Plan throughout the year rather than quarterly.

Resolution No. 328 was introduced by Council. A public hearing will be held on Tuesday, April 12, at 6:30 p.m.

Resolutions No. 315 – 328 will be sent to the Planning Commission and Public Works Advisory Board for their review and recommendation.

O. A RESOLUTION TO ADOPT A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON THE PROCESSING OF APPLICATIONS FOR LARGE-SCALE SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEMS BEYOND THE SPECIAL EXCEPTION STAGE FOR A PERIOD OF FIVE (5) MONTHS PENDING CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF SUCH LEGISLATION AS THE COUNTY COUNCIL MAY CONSIDER ADVISABLE TO PROMOTE PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY, AND WELFARE

Planning Director Miguel Salinas reported that the legislation resulted from the work session that the Council had with the Planning Commission to talk about the County's current solar regulations. In particular, the Council had expressed concerns about large-scale solar energy system projects and their impact on prime agricultural lands in Talbot County. This moratorium would allow the Planning Commission and the public to take a look at the county's current regulations to see if there are ways to offset those impacts. The Planning Commission felt that five months was appropriate for the moratorium. This resolution would place a five-month moratorium on any permits that would be issued after special exceptions because of mitigation.

Chip Councell, Chairman of the Talbot County Planning Commission, explained mitigation requirements for large-scale solar projects in the county ordinance. For every acre that's in the solar field, the developer is required to set aside an equal number of acres through a reservation of development rights. "We came up with an idea for an offset where a solar developer would pay a fee to Talbot County that would be used to match land preservation efforts in the county through the Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation (MALPF) program. The moratorium would allow you time to revise the current mitigation process."

Resolution No. 329 was introduced by the Council. A public hearing will be held on Tuesday, April 12, at 6:30 p.m.

IV. Eligible for Vote:

- I. **Resolution No. 308, A RESOLUTION TO RESCIND ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION NO. 281, A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE TALBOT COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE WATER AND SEWER PLAN (THE "PLAN") TO RECLASSIFY AND REMAP PORTIONS OF CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY LOCATED IN THE TOWN OF TRAPPE, MARYLAND, ASSOCIATED WITH THE LAKESIDE PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT (THE "LAKESIDE PROJECT") (FORMERLY KNOWN AS "TRAPPE EAST"), FURTHER DESCRIBED AS TAX MAP 54, PARCEL 304; TAX MAP 55, PARCELS 14, 15, 17, 19, 44, 65, 83, AND 85; AND, TAX MAP 59, PARCEL 4, THE TOTAL AREA CONSISTING OF EIGHT HUNDRED SIXTY-FIVE ACRES, MORE OR LESS (THE "PROPERTY"), FROM "S-2" AND "W-2" (AREAS WHERE IMPROVEMENTS OR EXTENSIONS TO EXISTING, OR CONSTRUCTION OF NEW COMMUNITY, MULTI-USE, OR SHARED SANITARY FACILITIES ARE PROGRAMMED FOR PROGRESS WITHIN THREE TO FIVE YEARS) TO "S-1" AND "W-1" (AREAS SERVED OR TO BE SERVED BY COMMUNITY, MULTI-USE, OR SHARED SANITARY FACILITIES WHICH ARE EXISTING, UNDER CONSTRUCTION, OR HAVE IMMEDIATE PRIORITY STATUS); TO AMEND THE PLAN TO ADD CERTAIN WATER AND SEWER CAPITAL PROJECTS RELATED TO THE LAKESIDE PROJECT AND**

EXISTING SYSTEMS FOR THE FISCAL YEARS 2020 THROUGH 2030;
AND, TO AMEND THE PLAN TO UPDATE THE NARRATIVE
DESCRIPTION IN THE PLAN RELATIVE TO THE LAKESIDE PROJECT
AND EXISTING SYSTEMS, as amended, WITHOUT PREJUDICE

Miguel Salinas reported that the Planning Commission provided a formal opinion on Resolution No. 308 and recommended Resolution No. 308 be withdrawn in light of the introduction of Amendment No. 1 to Resolution No. 313 which the Planning Commission believes is a good compromise for all parties involved.

Mr. Lesher, the sole sponsor of Resolution No. 308 withdrew his sponsorship.

II. **Resolution No. 313, A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE TALBOT COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE WATER AND SEWER PLAN REGARDING THE CONNECTION OF PHASE 1, SECTION 1 OF THE LAKESIDE PROJECT TO THE EXISTING TRAPPE WASTEWATER SYSTEM and Amendment**

Miguel Salinas, County Planner, and Chip Councell, Chairman of the Talbot County Planning Commission, explained the analysis the Planning Commission uses to evaluate whether proposed amendments are consistent with the County's Comprehensive Plan based on seven standards of the Comprehensive Plan. On January 5th, the Planning Commission found that Resolution No. 313 as introduced was inconsistent with the Comprehensive Plan by a vote of 3-2. On March 2nd, the Planning Commission found that Amendment No. 1 is consistent with the Comprehensive Plan by a vote of 4-1.

Ray Clarke explained that Resolution 313 would have to go to the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) for review and approval as Resolution 281 has already been approved by MDE. The Town of Trappe and the Developer are currently working with MDE in seeking permits – both the final discharge permit and the permit to construct the wastewater treatment plant. Council President Chuck Callahan reported that the Town of Trappe has received a permit to connect Lakeside to the existing wastewater treatment plant in Trappe. He suggested a compromise would be to withdraw Resolution 313 and have Resolution 327 go to the Planning Commission for review for consistency with the Comprehensive Plan.

Council Vice President Lesher stated, "This last summer I've heard from constituents. They have asked us to do something about it. They have concerns about the health of La Trappe Creek. as well as broader concerns. We owe it to our constituents to vote on Resolution 313 as people want improvements to the water quality in Trappe." Lesher made a motion to approve Amendment 1 to Resolution 313, Price seconded the motion. Council Vice President Lesher and Council member Price voted in favor of

Amendment 1. Council members Divilio, Callahan and Pack voted against Amendment 1. Therefore, the Amendment did not pass.

As a result of the Planning Commission's finding that Resolution No. 313 as introduced is inconsistent with the Comprehensive Plan, Council members Leshner and Price withdrew their sponsorship. Council member Callahan had previously announced his willingness to withdraw his sponsorship at the Council meeting held on February 22, 2022. Council member Divilio made a motion to direct the County Planning and Zoning staff and the Office of Law to draft a letter to MDE asking them to help Trappe improve their wastewater treatment plant. Council member Pack seconded the motion. The Council voted unanimously to have a letter drafted for Council approval at the next meeting on March 22, 2022.

V. Discussion of Pending General Assembly Legislation

HB 1476 and SB 997 - Correctional Officers' Retirement System – Talbot County

Council Member Corey Pack stated, "It just makes sense that we add our correction officers under the Correctional Officers' Retirement System. They are taking more inmates in every day. If you go look at the current roster right now over at the Detention Center, you will see the large number of federal inmates that we are holding and the number of state inmates pending sentencing. I hope that we do get it passed in the legislature. I think it's about time that we treat our law enforcement officers and our correctional officers with the dignity that they deserve."

Council member Leshner made a motion to send a letter to the Rules Committee in support of the bill. The motion was seconded by Council member Price and unanimously approved by Council.

HB1262 - Talbot County – Speed Monitoring Systems – Intersection of Maryland Route 333 (Oxford Road) and Bonfield Avenue

Council member Leshner made a motion to write a letter of support. The motion was seconded by Ms. Price and approved by Mr. Callahan, Mr. Divilio, Mr. Leshner and Ms. Price. Mr. Pack abstained.

SB726 & HB1187 – Transportation - Highway User Revenues – Revenue and Distribution

Council Member Price reported that this bill deals with restoring highway user revenues for local roads, stating that the highway user revenues were partially restored to 3.2% but not 15%. She further noted this has been a legislative priority of Maryland Association of Counties for several years.

Council member Price stated, “I have been talking about this for probably about 12 years now. In 2008 when there was a big recession, the state cut the county user revenues by 9%. We used to receive a 70/30 split – 70% to the state and 30% of the locals, of which the counties received 15%. It was cut down to one and a half percent about 12 years ago. This has been MACo’s number one initiative almost every year. Sometimes we wrapped it into infrastructure, but we felt like with all of the infrastructure money that was coming down that this was the year to go for getting full restoration. We have been partially restored to 3.2%. But again, nowhere near the 15% that we used to receive. I am asking for the county to support the testimony I’m going to give on behalf of all the counties.

Council Vice President Leshar added, “We pay fuel taxes and those fuel taxes are supposed to pay for roads. The state decided to keep most of those funds and not share them with municipalities or counties so they stopped paying for local roads. This will restore that allocation that had existed previously.”

Council member Price made a motion to write a letter of support. The motion was seconded by Council member Leshar and unanimously approved by Council.

HB 1448 –District Court - Concurrent Civil Jurisdiction - Violation of Ordinances – County Attorney Patrick Thomas explained that the bill is in response to the recent Court of Appeals opinion in which the Court of Appeals stated that local boards of appeal are not authorized to adjudicate civil infractions and noted, “So what this bill would do is give concurrent jurisdiction to the district court and to the governing body of the county to have the Board of Appeals hear these types of violations.”

Council member Pack commented, “When you have a citizen who violates a local ordinance, zoning in this particular case, why wouldn't that local ordinance be addressed by the local appeals board? You know, whether or not the amount of the fine or the assessment there as appropriate.”

Council member Price made a motion to write a letter of support. The motion was seconded by Council member Leshar and unanimously approved by Council.

I. County Manager’s Report:

- **Request from Trustees of Third Haven Friends Meeting for a Letter in Support of a Grant Application to Preservation Maryland Heritage Fund** – The Council voted unanimously to approve sending a letter of support for the Trustees of Third Haven Friends Meeting’s grant application to Preservation Maryland in the amount of \$10,000. No County funds are required. If approved, grant funds will be used to restore the 1684 Meeting House.

- **Update from Hog Neck Golf Course on Irrigation Project** – Rich Setter provided a written update to Council on the irrigation project and noted the project is scheduled for completion at the end of May. Council President Chuck Callahan commented, “I just want to say what a blessing it is to have such a top-rate golf course here in Talbot County. This course is a welcoming beacon as you enter Easton and is being recognized by many for being one of the outstanding courses in our region.”
- **Request from Department of Public Works to Award *Bid No. 17-08, Open-Ended Engineering Services Agreement*** - Recommendation to Award Architectural and Engineering Services for Talbot County North EMS Station – Schematic Design – Council unanimously approved awarding schematic design for the Talbot County North EMS Station to Davis Bowen and Friedel in the amount of \$28,800.
 “I’m proud of the Council and proud of EMS. To Brian and all his staff over there with 911, this is huge for them. The last couple of years has been very tough on them. So this gives them a little bit of flexibility of knowing what’s going on in the future and knowing that they have a Council that’s going to support them in assisting the citizens and providing better response time. That’s what it’s all about. I’m really happy for the citizens that are going to get this type of service,” stated Council President Chuck Callahan.
- **Request from Department of Parks and Recreation to Extend the Current Contract for *Bid No. 17-16, Grass Cutting Services – Parks, Ball Fields and Landings – Talbot County, Maryland***
 Council voted unanimously to approve a contract extension with Riverside Lawn Service in the sum of \$41,999 for the 2022 season.
- **Request from Department of Parks and Recreation to Extend the Current Contract for *Bid No. 17-17, Portable Sanitary Chemical Toilet service – Talbot County, Maryland***
 Council voted unanimously to approve a contract extension with Pierson Comfort Group, LLC in the sum of \$19,044.50 for the 2022 season.
- **Request from Roads Department to Utilize FY22 Funding to Piggyback on a Contract with Somerset County for Tar and Chip Services for County Roads**
 Council voted unanimously to approve piggybacking on a contract with Somerset County with American Paving Fabrics, Inc. to assist with tar and chipping. The project cost is approximately \$125,000 - \$175,000 and will allow approximately 12-17 miles of roadway to be completed.

- **Announcement of Regional Agricultural Scrap Tire Collection Event hosted by Mid-Shore Regional Landfill II in Caroline County – March 21-25, 2022 and March 28-April 1, 2022**
Ray Clarke reported that this event is sponsored by Maryland Environmental Service for ag tires to be disposed of at the Mid-Shore Regional Landfill in Caroline County. He recommended people to bring the tires the first week due to it being first to come/first served.
- **Talbot County Planning and Zoning Department has gone live with “Open Gov” for online permitting effective March 7, 2022.** For further information please visit the County’s website (www.talbotcountymd.gov) or Planning & Zoning Office at 410-770-8030.

The meeting adjourned at 8:58 p.m. The next Council meeting will be held in person on March 22 at 6:00 p.m. in the Bradley Meeting Room.

Captions:



#1: Pictured left to right are Council Vice President Pete Lesh with Jonathon Rondeau, President & CEO, and Deena Kilmon, Director of Engagement, of The Arc Central

Chesapeake Region, receiving a proclamation from the County for National Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month.



#2: Pictured left to right are Council member Frank Divilio with Shannon Hannawald, founder of the Endo Warriors of the Eastern Shore and an ambassador for the Endometriosis Association, receiving a proclamation from the County for Endometriosis Awareness Month.