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COUNTY COUNCIL OF TALBOT COUNTY, MARYLAND

Council Meeting

April 11, 2023; 6:00 p.m.

Council Chambers, Easton, Maryland

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Chuck F. Callahan

Pete Leshner

Keasha N. Haythe

Lynn L. Mielke

Dave Stepp

Reported by

Diane Houlihan

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1 TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

2

3 MR. CALLAHAN: Hello, everybody. If

4 everybody would please stand so we can do the

5 opening prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance of

6 the Flag.

7 (Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance.)

8 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Thank you,

9 Mr. Leshner. Appreciate that. Okay.

10 Starting off tonight on the agenda. We

11 have April 11th before us. Are there any

12 additions, deletions, or corrections to the

13 agenda, Council? Okay. Hearing none, the

14 chair moves that the agenda be accepted as

15 unanimous consent. Okay.

16 Next on the agenda is the minutes of

17 March 26th. We've had them before us. Are

18 there any additions, deletions, or corrections

19 to the minutes, Council? Okay. Seeing none,

20 hearing none, the chair moves that the minutes

21 be accepted as unanimous consent.

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1 Next is the disbursements of April 4th and

2 April 11th. Council has had a chance to review

3 the disbursements. Are there any additions,

4 deletions, or corrections to the disbursements?

5 Okay. Hearing none, the chair moves that the

6 disbursements be accepted as unanimous consent.

7 Okay.

8 So tonight, special night for Talbot Day.

9 We got a proclamation for April 25th. Madam

10 Secretary, could you please read the

11 proclamation into the record.

12 SECRETARY: Proclamation, April 25, 2023,

13 Talbot Day.

14 Whereas, Talbot County, Maryland, is a

15 county with over 600 expansive miles of

16 beautiful shoreline and is rooted in rich

17 history, culture, and tradition.

18 And whereas, Talbot County is comprised of

19 the five municipalities of Easton, Oxford,

20 Queen Anne, St. Michael's, and Trappe, along

21 with numerous unincorporated towns and

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1 villages, including Bar Neck, Bellevue, Bozman,

2 Bruceville, Claiborne, Copperville, Cordova,

3 Fairbank, Ivytown, Longwoods, McDaniel,

4 Neavitt, Newcomb, Royal Oak, Sherwood, Skipton,

5 Tilghman, Tunis Mills, Unionville,

6 Williamsburg, Wittman, and Wye Mills.

7 And whereas, Talbot County citizens are

8 fortunate for the many years of peace and

9 prosperity given to us by God Almighty.

10 And whereas, on April 19, 1983, the County

11 Council of Talbot County unanimously approved a

12 proclamation declaring April 25th to be the

13 official birthday of Talbot County and urge its

14 citizens to recognize and commemorate this day

15 in an appropriate manner.

16 And whereas, the County Council is

17 desirous of recognizing and commemorating the

18 county's official birthday on August 25, 2023,

19 (sic.) to be a Talbot Day, dedicated toward all

20 God's people of Talbot County.

21 And whereas, to enshrine unity to the

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1 fabric of our community, we give thanks for all

2 God's blessings he has bestowed upon our

3 community and to celebrate the county's beauty,

4 history, culture, and tradition, we, the County

5 Council, the Talbot County Council encourage

6 our community leaders, our school community,

7 our arts community, our faith community, our

8 historical community, our business community,

9 and all Talbot County citizens to recognize and

10 commemorate the county's birthday on April 25,

11 2023, in a manner they deem appropriate.

12 Given under our hands in the great seal of

13 Talbot County, Maryland, this 11th day of April

14 in the year of our Lord 2023.

15 MR. CALLAHAN: Thank you, Madam Secretary.

16 Okay.

17 Is there a motion and second to approve

18 the proclamation as presented?

19 MR. STEPP: I'll make a motion.

20 MS. HAYTHE: Second.

21 MS. MIELKE: Second.

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1 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. We have a motion and  
 2 second. Madam Secretary, could you call the  
 3 vote.  
 4 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.  
 5 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.  
 6 SECRETARY: Mr. Stepp.  
 7 MR. STEPP: Aye.  
 8 SECRETARY: Mr. Leshner.  
 9 MR. LESHNER: Aye.  
 10 SECRETARY: Ms. Mielke.  
 11 MS. MIELKE: Aye.  
 12 SECRETARY: Ms. Haythe.  
 13 MS. HAYTHE: Aye.  
 14 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. So I'm going to  
 15 leave it up to you, Mr. Stepp.  
 16 MR. STEPP: Thank you, Mr. President  
 17 Callahan.  
 18 MR. CALLAHAN: -- for you. Appreciate you  
 19 doing this.  
 20 MR. STEPP: It is. So this is fulfilling  
 21 a promise I made at the end of a County Council

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1 meeting two times ago about introducing this  
 2 Talbot Day.  
 3 We've, just as a community, as a State,  
 4 nation, world, we've just been through a lot  
 5 here these last few years. And just looking  
 6 for an opportunity to follow through on a  
 7 promise of this 1983 proclamation where they  
 8 deemed April 25th to be the birthday of Talbot  
 9 County. So just a date to bring unity to  
 10 Talbot County, we move forward with this  
 11 proclamation.  
 12 And we'll follow through with probably  
 13 going to be a resolution to make this a  
 14 permanent day of celebration and just a day of  
 15 recognizing all the blessings that have been  
 16 bestowed upon us.  
 17 So I'd like to thank Council for their  
 18 support, and open it up to any others for  
 19 comment.  
 20 MS. HAYTHE: You're starting with me?  
 21 MR. CALLAHAN: I'm starting with you.

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1 MS. HAYTHE: Okay. No. I just echo what  
 2 Mr. Stepp said. I think this is a start to  
 3 bringing Talbot County together for a day,  
 4 similar to Oxford Day, and really celebrating  
 5 Talbot County. So I look forward to it  
 6 becoming something huge throughout Talbot  
 7 County.  
 8 MR. CALLAHAN: Yeah.  
 9 MS. MIELKE: It's a start toward being  
 10 more celebratory about our founding and birth.  
 11 MR. CALLAHAN: Yeah, yeah.  
 12 Mr. Leshner.  
 13 MR. LESHNER: Maryland, too, has recognized  
 14 its birthday as Maryland Day every year,  
 15 enshrined that. Seems appropriate for us to  
 16 follow suit.  
 17 MR. CALLAHAN: Yup. And I would agree.  
 18 You've done a good job to bring this to our  
 19 attention, and I think it's long overdue and we  
 20 should have been doing this, that's for sure,  
 21 because we do have a special county and special

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1 people.  
 2 So you want to go ahead and present it.  
 3 MR. STEPP: Absolutely. So typically we  
 4 have some folks who have, when initiated a  
 5 proclamation, would be coming up here and  
 6 speaking to us.  
 7 But in lieu of that, being that we were  
 8 the ones introducing it, I'd like to invite  
 9 everyone who is in attendance tonight to come  
 10 on up and be a part of accepting this  
 11 proclamation.  
 12 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay.  
 13 MR. STEPP: So please, everyone come on  
 14 up.  
 15 MR. CALLAHAN: Please come on up. Yup.  
 16 Don't rush up here now. Yup, yup, yup.  
 17 MS. MORRIS: Get close. Thank you.  
 18 MR. CALLAHAN: Thank you. Okay.  
 19 Let's get the next one. So get Madam  
 20 Secretary straight here. Okay. The next one,  
 21 proclamation, on the agenda is the Maryland

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| Page 10  | Page 12   |
| <p>1 Flood Awareness Month.</p> <p>2 So Madam Secretary, could you go ahead and</p> <p>3 read that, put that in the record for us, too,</p> <p>4 please.</p> <p>5 SECRETARY: Maryland Flood Awareness</p> <p>6 Month, April 2023. Know, Plan, act.</p> <p>7 Whereas, since 1970, there has been an</p> <p>8 increase in Atlantic hurricane activity, with</p> <p>9 the 2020 hurricane season having more named</p> <p>10 storms than any other hurricane season in</p> <p>11 recorded history.</p> <p>12 And whereas, the number of intense storms</p> <p>13 and rising waters is predicted to increase,</p> <p>14 particularly in low lying areas along the</p> <p>15 Chesapeake Bay and Maryland's waterways.</p> <p>16 And whereas, weather in the mid-Atlantic</p> <p>17 region and along the Chesapeake Bay requires</p> <p>18 Talbot County residents and visitors to take</p> <p>19 extra precautions to ensure being safe at home</p> <p>20 during severe weather or while traveling.</p> <p>21 And whereas, each year, floods in Maryland</p>   | <p>1 appropriate programs, outreach, and activities.</p> <p>2 Given under our hands in the great seal of</p> <p>3 Talbot County this 11th day of April in the</p> <p>4 year of our Lord 2023.</p> <p>5 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Thank you, Madam</p> <p>6 Secretary.</p> <p>7 Is there a motion?</p> <p>8 MR. LESHEN: I will move for the</p> <p>9 proclamation.</p> <p>10 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay.</p> <p>11 MR. STEPP: Second.</p> <p>12 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. We got a motion and</p> <p>13 second. Madam Secretary, could you call the</p> <p>14 vote please.</p> <p>15 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.</p> <p>16 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.</p> <p>17 SECRETARY: Mr. Stepp.</p> <p>18 MR. STEPP: Aye.</p> <p>19 SECRETARY: Mr. Leshen.</p> <p>20 MR. LESHEN: Aye.</p> <p>21 SECRETARY: Ms. Mielke.</p>  |
| Page 11  | Page 13   |
| <p>1 kill more Maryland residents and destroy more</p> <p>2 property than any other natural hazards, and</p> <p>3 residents in flood prone areas should insure</p> <p>4 their property in the event they experience</p> <p>5 flooding in and around their home or business.</p> <p>6 And whereas, flooding from rainfall,</p> <p>7 tropical storms, winter ice melt, and tidal</p> <p>8 flooding can impact Talbot County, with</p> <p>9 residents and visitors even experiencing</p> <p>10 nuisance flooding on blue sky days in many low</p> <p>11 lying areas that require precautions to be</p> <p>12 taken, especially when traveling.</p> <p>13 And whereas, in order for Talbot County</p> <p>14 residents to remain vigilant and resilient,</p> <p>15 they're encouraged to always be up to date on</p> <p>16 weather forecasts, know the risk, make a plan,</p> <p>17 and be ready to act on the plan.</p> <p>18 Now, therefore, we, the County Council of</p> <p>19 Talbot County, do hereby recognize April 2023</p> <p>20 as Flood Awareness Month in Maryland and</p> <p>21 encourage communities to observe this week with</p> | <p>1 MS. MIELKE: Aye.</p> <p>2 SECRETARY: Ms. Haythe.</p> <p>3 MS. HAYTHE: Aye.</p> <p>4 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. All right. How you</p> <p>5 doing, guys? How you doing?</p> <p>6 MR. YELTON: Council, thank you. Thank</p> <p>7 you for your support of Flood Awareness Month.</p> <p>8 MR. CALLAHAN: Absolutely.</p> <p>9 MR. YELTON: My name is Bryce Yelton. I'm</p> <p>10 a planner two with the Talbot County Department</p> <p>11 of Planning and Zoning. I manage the</p> <p>12 development projects and review building</p> <p>13 permits within the regulated flood zones in</p> <p>14 Talbot County in compliance with our floodplain</p> <p>15 ordinance.</p> <p>16 This review allows us to stay in</p> <p>17 compliance with the National Flood Insurance</p> <p>18 Program. And I also manage our Community</p> <p>19 Rating System Program. This allows us to</p> <p>20 provide a discount to our residents with flood</p> <p>21 insurance within the unincorporated areas of</p> |

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1 Talbot County.  
 2 April is Flood Awareness Month. And  
 3 Talbot County is joining the statewide effort  
 4 to educate residents about flood risk and flood  
 5 insurance. Flooding is the most common and  
 6 costly natural hazard in the United States.  
 7 And anywhere it can rain, it can flood. We  
 8 urge that residents not be caught off guard and  
 9 to plan now for potential flooding.  
 10 One of the most important steps residents  
 11 can take to prepare today is to obtain flood  
 12 insurance. Flood insurance, whether it's  
 13 through the National Flood Insurance Program or  
 14 private carrier, allows individuals,  
 15 businesses, and communities to quickly and  
 16 sufficiently recover after a flood.  
 17 Most homeowners and renters insurance  
 18 policies do not cover damages caused by  
 19 flooding. Just one inch of water in a home can  
 20 cause up to \$25,000 in damages, according to  
 21 the Federal Emergency Management Agency, or

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1 FEMA.  
 2 Flood insurance can mean the difference  
 3 between recovering and being financially  
 4 devastated.  
 5 Talbot County participates in the National  
 6 Flood Insurance Program, or the NFIP, which  
 7 means all of our residents are eligible for  
 8 flood insurance, even if they don't live in a  
 9 high risk flood zone.  
 10 Flood insurance policies take a minimum of  
 11 30 days to go into effect. And as such, it is  
 12 important to plan ahead and consider coverage  
 13 options well in advance of a disaster. Contact  
 14 an insurance agent or visit floodsmart.gov for  
 15 further details.  
 16 Thank you, again, Council. And then I  
 17 would like to at least say a little bit about  
 18 what we've been doing recently within the  
 19 Department of Planning and Zoning about our CRS  
 20 program.  
 21 MR. CALLAHAN: Sure.

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1 MR. YELTON: Our office has really stepped  
 2 up in our involvement with our Community Rating  
 3 Service, or the CRS program.  
 4 I personally have recently received my  
 5 certified floodplain manager certification.  
 6 And this allows us to gain points within that  
 7 CRS program and potentially increase our rating  
 8 within that program.  
 9 We're committed to at least increasing our  
 10 CRS rating from a level seven to a level six in  
 11 the next two years. And this would increase  
 12 the already 15 percent discount on flood  
 13 insurance premiums to an additional five  
 14 percent, which would be a total of 20 percent  
 15 discount, to all of those that have premiums  
 16 for flood insurance within the NFIP within the  
 17 unincorporated areas of Talbot County.  
 18 I also urge our county residents that are  
 19 unsure of their flood risk to reach out to our  
 20 office with any questions they might have. The  
 21 county also has pamphlets and can assist those

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1 with floodplain questions at our office at 215  
 2 Bay Street. And if any members of the  
 3 community would like to stop by during our  
 4 normal business hours, I'd love to speak with  
 5 them if they have any questions.  
 6 MR. CALLAHAN: That sounds great.  
 7 Brennan.  
 8 MR. TARLETON: Good evening, Council.  
 9 MR. CALLAHAN: Yup. Good evening.  
 10 MR. TARLETON: Brennan Tarleton, planning  
 11 officer for the Department of Planning and  
 12 Zoning.  
 13 I just wanted to again recognize Bryce  
 14 Yelton and congratulate him on receiving his  
 15 CRM certification for us. That's certainly a  
 16 great achievement, and it's great to have  
 17 somebody in our office certified within that  
 18 program so that we can continue our  
 19 participation and continue to provide those  
 20 incentives for the community themselves.  
 21 And I'd also like to echo a lot of the

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1 points Bryce made about the awareness factor as  
 2 far as flood risks and flood management go with  
 3 respect to gaining insurance, but also the  
 4 continued partnership that we have with  
 5 Emergency Services and their staff and the  
 6 assistance that they provide the community as a  
 7 whole is a direct impact on how we can help  
 8 others to become more aware of those situations  
 9 and understand who they need to contact, who  
 10 they need to get in touch with when situations  
 11 like that happen.  
 12 As we continue to see an increase in sea  
 13 level rise and severity of storms, it's very  
 14 important and imperative that that  
 15 collaborative effort between us and the  
 16 Emergency Services Department continues  
 17 throughout to ensure that Talbot County is  
 18 offered the best technical assistance and  
 19 physical assistance in situations like that.  
 20 MR. CALLAHAN: I agree, I agree.  
 21 Council.

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1 MS. HAYTHE: My turn? Okay. I just want  
 2 to thank you guys for certainly doing the work  
 3 of making our community aware of the resources.  
 4 And again, congratulations on your  
 5 certification because that certainly adds value  
 6 to the department and the work that you do. So  
 7 thank you, both of you.  
 8 MS. MIELKE: Thank you for the notice to  
 9 the community about resources, and you need to  
 10 address these issues.  
 11 MR. CALLAHAN: Mr. Leshner.  
 12 MR. LESHER: Well, I think that our  
 13 community is becoming more aware of tidal  
 14 flooding hazards in a number of our communities  
 15 and seeing instances of nuisance flooding that  
 16 portend worse when the storm surge comes.  
 17 So we've got work to do on a number of  
 18 fronts here.  
 19 MR. STEPP: Just to you both, thank you  
 20 for bringing this to our attention. It's  
 21 certainly something that we all as residents

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1 need to be aware of. Thank you for all your  
 2 behind-the-scenes work.  
 3 I'd also like to take the opportunity. So  
 4 Geneva and Brian are here sitting in the back.  
 5 Specifically, Geneva, I'd like to thank  
 6 you for sending out your e-mails that you do to  
 7 let residents know.  
 8 The reverse 911 service, I think it would  
 9 be an opportune time here to bring that up. So  
 10 if you haven't signed up for that, it's  
 11 wonderful. Comes right to your phone. Text  
 12 message, phone call that tells you when there's  
 13 an event locally to your area.  
 14 So thank you for the work you both are  
 15 doing as well, as well as your team. So thank  
 16 you all.  
 17 MR. CALLAHAN: Yup. We really appreciate  
 18 you getting certified. That's for sure. So it  
 19 makes a big difference.  
 20 So you want to come on down.  
 21 MR. STAMP: Perfect. Thank you.

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1 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Next on the agenda  
 2 is Sexual Harassment Month.  
 3 MR. LESHER: Assault.  
 4 MR. CALLAHAN: Assault. I'm sorry.  
 5 Sexual Assault Awareness for this month. Madam  
 6 Secretary, would you mind reading this into the  
 7 record, please.  
 8 SECRETARY: Sexual Assault Awareness  
 9 Month, April 2023.  
 10 Whereas, sexual violence is widespread and  
 11 impacts everyone, including families, homes,  
 12 schools, and workplaces.  
 13 And whereas, Sexual Assault Awareness  
 14 Month aims to raise public awareness about  
 15 sexual violence and to educate communities  
 16 about how to prevent it.  
 17 And whereas, rape, sexual assault, and  
 18 sexual harassment harm our community and carry  
 19 a tremendous emotional and financial cost,  
 20 leading to long-term physical and psychological  
 21 health problems, including chronic pain,

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1 anxiety, post-traumatic stress disorder, and  
 2 sexually transmitted diseases.  
 3 And whereas, nationwide, 81 percent of  
 4 women and 43 percent of men report having  
 5 experienced some form of sexual harassment  
 6 and/or assault in their lifetime.  
 7 And whereas, the theme of this year's  
 8 Sexual Assault Awareness Month campaign focuses  
 9 on equity and respect, calling on all  
 10 individuals, communities, organizations, and  
 11 institutions to understand disparities and to  
 12 change the systems in order to improve equity  
 13 and respect within communities.  
 14 And whereas, in the United States,  
 15 29 percent of black women report having been  
 16 raped in their lifetime, 35 percent of Hispanic  
 17 women report being the recipient of unwanted  
 18 sexual contact in their lifetime, 33 percent of  
 19 adults with intellectual disabilities have  
 20 experienced sexual violence, and 47 percent of  
 21 all transgender people report having been

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1 sexually assaulted in their lifetime.  
 2 And whereas, working together to educate,  
 3 speak out, and prevent sexual assault in our  
 4 communities is the best gift we can give to  
 5 survivors and our children. And prevention is  
 6 possible when everyone gets involved.  
 7 And whereas, Talbot County supports the  
 8 professionals who work to identify and prevent  
 9 sexual violence and is dedicated to providing  
 10 services and alternative avenues for survivors  
 11 to seek proper care and treatment.  
 12 And whereas, Sexual Assault Awareness  
 13 Month and every day of the year is an  
 14 opportunity to stand with survivors to  
 15 celebrate progress in combating sexual assault  
 16 crimes and to recommit to reducing sexual  
 17 violence in Talbot County.  
 18 Now, therefore, we, the County Council of  
 19 Talbot County, do hereby recognize April as  
 20 Sexual Assault Awareness Month in Talbot County  
 21 and call this observance to the attention of

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1 all our citizens.  
 2 Given under our hands in the great seal of  
 3 Talbot County this 11th day of April in the  
 4 year of our Lord 2023.  
 5 MR. CALLAHAN: Thank you, Madam Secretary.  
 6 Is there a motion?  
 7 MR. LESHER: So moved.  
 8 MS. HAYTHE: Second.  
 9 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. We got a motion and  
 10 second. Madam Secretary, could you call the  
 11 vote, please.  
 12 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.  
 13 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.  
 14 SECRETARY: Mr. Stepp.  
 15 MR. STEPP: Aye.  
 16 SECRETARY: Mr. Leshner.  
 17 MR. LESHER: Aye.  
 18 SECRETARY: Ms. Mielke.  
 19 MS. MIELKE: Aye.  
 20 SECRETARY: Ms. Haythe.  
 21 MS. HAYTHE: Aye.

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1 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Good evening.  
 2 MS. THEEKE: Thank you. Good evening.  
 3 MR. CALLAHAN: We've got some guests  
 4 tonight. Would you like to tell us who you  
 5 guys are?  
 6 MS. THEEKE: Sure. My name is Katie  
 7 Theeke, and I'm vice president of marketing and  
 8 communications at For All Seasons.  
 9 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay.  
 10 MS. AHLSTROM: And I am Susan Ahlstrom. I  
 11 am the TAMAR coordinator at For All Seasons.  
 12 And TAMAR stands for trauma, addiction, mental  
 13 health, and recovery.  
 14 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay.  
 15 MS. THEEKE: And for anyone here who  
 16 doesn't know about the work of For All Seasons,  
 17 For All Seasons is your community behavioral  
 18 health and rape crisis center. And we offer  
 19 therapy, psychiatry, advocacy, victim services,  
 20 and education and outreach in the community.  
 21 And we are one of 17 rape crisis centers across

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| <p>1 the State of Maryland. We serve the mid shore<br/>                 2 community. So we serve nearly 200,000<br/>                 3 residents.<br/>                 4 And our rape crisis advocates do a lot of<br/>                 5 work behind the scenes. We, unfortunately, do<br/>                 6 have a lot of survivors that come to see us.<br/>                 7 They visit people in the hospital in the middle<br/>                 8 of the night. We have 24-hour crisis hotlines.<br/>                 9 They go to court appointments and they go to<br/>                 10 the police station and they accompany<br/>                 11 survivors. So the work they do is really<br/>                 12 critical.<br/>                 13 And we appreciate the opportunity just to<br/>                 14 bring it to the public because it's not<br/>                 15 something we really love to talk about, but I<br/>                 16 think it's safe to say that everyone in this<br/>                 17 room on some level has probably been affected<br/>                 18 by sexual assault, sexual harassment, sexual<br/>                 19 violence, abuse, abuse as a child. And it<br/>                 20 might not be you, but it might be someone you<br/>                 21 know. It might be a sister or a friend or</p> | <p>1 We also have the statewide resources on<br/>                 2 our website. So if it's somebody who is not<br/>                 3 local, they can find those there. So thank<br/>                 4 you.<br/>                 5 MR. CALLAHAN: Great.<br/>                 6 MS. AHLSTROM: I would also add about<br/>                 7 TAMAR.<br/>                 8 MR. CALLAHAN: Yeah.<br/>                 9 MS. AHLSTROM: As the TAMAR coordinator, I<br/>                 10 work with our local detention centers. And the<br/>                 11 majority, if not all, of the women in the<br/>                 12 detention centers that I work with have<br/>                 13 experienced some form of sexual abuse.<br/>                 14 And so it's really important that we are<br/>                 15 here today. And we're really grateful. So<br/>                 16 thank you for giving us this opportunity to be<br/>                 17 here.<br/>                 18 MR. CALLAHAN: Thank you for being here.<br/>                 19 Mr. Stepp.<br/>                 20 MR. STEPP: No. I'll just echo that<br/>                 21 thanks one more time. Thank you for all the</p>  |
| Page 27   | Page 29  |
| <p>1 cousin or another family member. And so we<br/>                 2 think that it's really important to talk about<br/>                 3 because in the absence of talking about it,<br/>                 4 what are we saying to the people who have been<br/>                 5 victims of this crime.<br/>                 6 MR. CALLAHAN: Right.<br/>                 7 MS. THEEKE: So we are pleased to bring<br/>                 8 this today. And we just want to give a few<br/>                 9 tips.<br/>                 10 If you are somebody who gets approached by<br/>                 11 someone who shares their story with you, listen<br/>                 12 to them, believe them, let them know it's not<br/>                 13 their fault, and let them know about the<br/>                 14 resources that are in the community.<br/>                 15 For All Seasons, the best way to reach us<br/>                 16 is through forallseasoninc.org.<br/>                 17 We do have 24-hour crisis hotlines. Our<br/>                 18 English hotline is 410-820-5600. And our<br/>                 19 Spanish speaking crisis hotline is<br/>                 20 410-829-6143. But reach out to folks who are<br/>                 21 struggling and connect them with the resources.</p>   | <p>1 work that you do for victims. Thanks to those<br/>                 2 who are working in tandem and alongside you in<br/>                 3 our local law enforcement for the prevention<br/>                 4 piece and our county law enforcement with their<br/>                 5 piece, our first responders, folks who need to<br/>                 6 see the firsthand aftermath of such events.<br/>                 7 And I'd like to thank everyone for what they do<br/>                 8 towards bringing this down to zero. Thank you.<br/>                 9 MR. LESHAR: Thank you for the work you're<br/>                 10 doing, both to identify and to prevent this<br/>                 11 form of violence. And do let us know what we<br/>                 12 can do in the community to support your good<br/>                 13 work in the community.<br/>                 14 MR. CALLAHAN: Thank you.<br/>                 15 MS. MIELKE: Thank you for being here.<br/>                 16 I've been around enough to remember when you<br/>                 17 first opened the doors of For All Seasons in a<br/>                 18 little office across the parking lot of the law<br/>                 19 firm where I worked. And to see the progress<br/>                 20 the organization has made over the years has<br/>                 21 just been phenomenal.</p> |



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1 And so it's with great pleasure that I  
 2 would support this and all the work that you do  
 3 in protecting victims and helping them  
 4 recuperate. Thank you.

5 MS. HAYTHE: So I echo everything that's  
 6 been said. The work that you do at For All  
 7 Seasons is amazing. Coming before us this  
 8 evening to share resources and make sure that  
 9 we are making the citizens of Talbot County  
 10 aware of what you have to offer and how they  
 11 can get the necessary help that they need if  
 12 they are a victim of such assault, we greatly  
 13 appreciate it.

14 And best of luck on your expansion, which  
 15 is a good thing because you're growing. So  
 16 that's always good.

17 But you have an awesome CEO there with  
 18 Beth Anne and all of you ladies and everyone  
 19 that works there are awesome and a value to our  
 20 community.

21 MS. AHLSTROM: So if I can add one more

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1 note regarding the expansion.

2 We have just been granted a grant from the  
 3 governor for addressing human trafficking. And  
 4 we will be implementing a human trafficking  
 5 navigator position and helping to implement  
 6 protocol and procedures to address and prevent  
 7 human trafficking and covering the five  
 8 counties in the mid shore area. And we are  
 9 very honored and excited to be involved in that  
 10 work.

11 So again, I thank For All Seasons in  
 12 stepping up to be present and help in this  
 13 regard.

14 MS. THEEKE: And I would like to add we're  
 15 already doing a lot of that human trafficking  
 16 work. We're actually seeing several human  
 17 trafficking victims as we speak right now. It  
 18 does happen in our community. So this goes  
 19 through the Rape Crisis Center, but you will be  
 20 seeing more information come out in the public  
 21 and more awareness for everyone about what we

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1 can do to identify trafficking victims and help  
 2 report it.

3 MR. CALLAHAN: Thanks so much for helping  
 4 Talbot County and being there. That's a big  
 5 deal, 24/7, you being there. So we can't thank  
 6 you enough.

7 So Ms. Haythe, you want to? Yup. Come on  
 8 up if you'd like. Thank you. Okay.

9 Next, if, Ray, you want to come on up, you  
 10 and Mike. Okay.

11 Next on the agenda is a presentation of  
 12 revised priority list of Maryland Department of  
 13 Transportation. And Mr. Clarke, you're going  
 14 to bring us up to speed on --

15 MR. CLARKE: Sure thing.

16 MR. CALLAHAN: -- what we need.

17 MR. CLARKE: Yeah. I think at our last  
 18 meeting, we talked with you about the priority  
 19 list to State Highways.

20 And pretty much our number one priority  
 21 was basically Maryland Route 322 and US 50

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1 intersections north.

2 And ultimately, I think, you know, I can  
 3 go through the list again if you like for the  
 4 public.

5 I did talk to the towns after we had met  
 6 about two weeks ago. And I did get information  
 7 from each of the towns other than Queen Anne's.  
 8 I'm still reaching out to Queen Anne's to find  
 9 out what priority listings they would like to  
 10 have added.

11 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay.

12 MR. CLARKE: So that's something I'm  
 13 working on.

14 We did receive information from the Town  
 15 of Easton. I would say our priorities number  
 16 5A, B, and C, which are basically intersection  
 17 improvements, and I think they were also  
 18 identifying some intersection improvements at  
 19 US Route 50, 328, Goldsborough Street, as well  
 20 as Dover Street and Route 331 and US 50, and  
 21 then US Route 50 and Chapel intersection

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1 improvements. They also identified that in  
 2 their listings of projects as well.  
 3 My recommendation would be to continue to  
 4 have both sets of projects for the county as  
 5 well as the town. But yeah. Other than that,  
 6 any questions you all might have on the  
 7 listing?  
 8 MR. CALLAHAN: Mike.  
 9 MR. MERTAUGH: Yeah. What Ray said. I  
 10 think there's a certain logic, even though some  
 11 of them are a little redundant.  
 12 MR. CALLAHAN: Sure.  
 13 MR. MERTAUGH: Keep saying it. So it  
 14 might be a worthwhile effort just to go ahead  
 15 and keep them both.  
 16 MR. CALLAHAN: Mr. Leshner.  
 17 MR. LESHER: I want to thank you for  
 18 responding and for reaching out to the towns  
 19 and using this opportunity to both for that  
 20 communication between the county and the  
 21 municipalities and to lend our combined voice

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1 in advocating for these issues to the State. I  
 2 think that that speaks well for our community  
 3 and our local government's ability to work  
 4 together in communities' priorities to the  
 5 State.  
 6 MR. STEPP: Perfect example of how local  
 7 government should work upwards and hear the  
 8 direct concerns from the towns, the counties,  
 9 everything. So thank you both.  
 10 MR. CLARKE: I mean what we will do is  
 11 I'll be trying to reach out to Mr. Stark with  
 12 the Town of Queen Anne's to try and find out  
 13 what projects they have.  
 14 At the same time, just one other comment I  
 15 would make is like for the Town of Trappe, they  
 16 don't have anything at this point in time  
 17 listed. We may want to note that, you know,  
 18 that SHA, even though they don't have a project  
 19 list, they should reach out to them at some  
 20 point in the future so this is not like a  
 21 one-and-done kind of concept. Hopefully they

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1 can make that communication with them.  
 2 And I also recommend doing the same for  
 3 the Town of Queen Anne's if we don't have  
 4 anything from them as well.  
 5 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay.  
 6 MS. MIELKE: I concur about the value of  
 7 working with municipalities and how important  
 8 it is for all of us, the county and the towns,  
 9 to be on the same page on many, many issues.  
 10 So thank you for the work and keep it up.  
 11 MS. HAYTHE: I think we all will agree and  
 12 concur with the same kudos to you, Ray and  
 13 Mike, for certainly reaching out to the towns  
 14 because I think as a Council, that's exactly,  
 15 you know, that's what we said we wanted to  
 16 happen when we were elected and sitting here.  
 17 So that coordination and that communication, us  
 18 working with them side by side and not top down  
 19 approach.  
 20 So thank you for that.  
 21 MR. CLARKE: And we'll continue that.

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1 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Being that's said,  
 2 Madam Secretary, is there a motion?  
 3 MR. LESHER: I'll move to approve.  
 4 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Is there a second?  
 5 MS. HAYTHE: Second.  
 6 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. We got a motion and  
 7 second. Could you call the vote, please.  
 8 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.  
 9 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.  
 10 SECRETARY: Mr. Stepp.  
 11 MR. STEPP: Aye.  
 12 SECRETARY: Mr. Leshner.  
 13 MR. LESHER: Aye.  
 14 SECRETARY: Ms. Mielke.  
 15 MS. MIELKE: Aye.  
 16 SECRETARY: Ms. Haythe.  
 17 MS. HAYTHE: Aye.  
 18 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. That's great.  
 19 MR. CLARKE: Thank you.  
 20 MR. MERTAUGH: Thank you.  
 21 MR. CALLAHAN: Thank you, guys. Okay.

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1 Next on the agenda is introduction of a  
 2 numbered resolution. Madam Secretary, could  
 3 you go ahead and read that into the record,  
 4 please.  
 5 SECRETARY: A resolution to amend the 911  
 6 fee for Talbot County, Maryland, by increasing  
 7 the fee from 75 cents per month to \$1.50 per  
 8 month.  
 9 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. You want to come on  
 10 up?  
 11 Mr. Thomas, you want to go ahead and get  
 12 us started on that while he's coming up.  
 13 MR. THOMAS: Sure. So the State law  
 14 authorizes counties to impose a 911 fee, an  
 15 amount to cover the county's projected  
 16 operational costs for its 911 system for the  
 17 upcoming fiscal year. And it can increase if  
 18 the revenues from the current year aren't  
 19 sufficient to meet the operating costs.  
 20 This fee has been raised, has been in  
 21 place and raised several times. It was most

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1 recently set at 75 cent per month in 2004. So  
 2 it's now necessary to --  
 3 MR. CALLAHAN: Sure.  
 4 MR. THOMAS: -- to bump that up to \$1.50 a  
 5 month as proposed in the resolution.  
 6 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Thank you.  
 7 Brian, you want to tell the public a  
 8 little bit about this?  
 9 MR. LeCATES: Sure. Good evening,  
 10 Council. Brian LeCates, director of Talbot  
 11 County Emergency Services.  
 12 So this would be a fee increase to on  
 13 every telephone bill. So whether it's wireless  
 14 or landline, there's a fee attached to cover  
 15 911 services in the State of Maryland.  
 16 Part of that fee, 50 cents, goes to the  
 17 State, and the other portion comes to Talbot  
 18 County or whatever county the phone is  
 19 registered to. So that fee offsets some of the  
 20 costs to the 911 centers.  
 21 As Mr. Thomas said, we haven't had a fee

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1 increase since 2004. So some 19 years we've  
 2 gone without a fee increase. It's, looking  
 3 through the records, it's time that we should  
 4 probably bring that up to better cover the  
 5 costs of what it takes to run a 911 center  
 6 these days.  
 7 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Any questions? Yup.  
 8 Go ahead.  
 9 MR. LESHAR: Mr. LeCates, when we were  
 10 going over this in budget work sessions, I  
 11 understand that while this fee will be going  
 12 up, it still is not sufficient to cover the  
 13 costs of 911. There still is general  
 14 government fees, general government revenues  
 15 from income tax, from property tax that will be  
 16 paying for this service. This will simply  
 17 increase the direct offset that we get from  
 18 this phone tax. I guess it goes to land lines  
 19 as well as cell phone.  
 20 MR. LeCATES: Yes, sir. That is correct.  
 21 I think we -- forgive me, I don't have the

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1 exact numbers in front of me, but I think it  
 2 was around 30 percent right now is covered in  
 3 911 fees.  
 4 By raising it, it would bring it to  
 5 somewhere around 40 to 45 percent that would be  
 6 coming from fees. The rest of it would be  
 7 coming from general county dollars to offset  
 8 the costs of 911.  
 9 MR. LESHAR: Thank you.  
 10 MR. CALLAHAN: Any other questions? Okay.  
 11 Is there a raise our hands to introduce?  
 12 MR. LESHAR: So by Council.  
 13 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Madam Secretary,  
 14 could you go ahead and announce the number and  
 15 the public hearing and the time.  
 16 SECRETARY: This will be known as  
 17 Resolution 341, and the public hearing will be  
 18 held on Tuesday, April 25th, at 6:30 p.m.  
 19 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Great.  
 20 MR. LeCATES: And if I could, while I'm  
 21 here, could I just take the time to mention

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1 that it is National Telecommunicators Week. So  
 2 that is what is commonly referred to as  
 3 Dispatchers Week, but the official name is  
 4 National Telecommunicators Week, from the 9th  
 5 to the 15th. So we're currently celebrating  
 6 all of our dispatch folks that do a great job  
 7 for us every day in the 911 Center.  
 8 So our law enforcement partners and other  
 9 agencies have been recognizing them throughout  
 10 the week with different food and goodies, but I  
 11 did want to take the time to at least say that  
 12 while I was here.  
 13 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Thanks a lot.  
 14 MS. MIELKE: Thank you.  
 15 MR. LeCATES: Thank you.  
 16 MR. CALLAHAN: Appreciate all you do.  
 17 MR. LeCATES: Thank you.  
 18 MR. CALLAHAN: Yup. Next on the agenda,  
 19 Madam Secretary, you want to go ahead and read  
 20 the next one.  
 21 SECRETARY: A resolution concerning the

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1 proposed annexation by the Town of Easton,  
 2 Maryland, the town, of certain real property  
 3 located on the north side of Port Street at  
 4 Easton Point, consisting of 4.743 acres of land  
 5 and 0.156 areas of land, more or less,  
 6 collectively the properties. Finding that the  
 7 properties' proposed rezoning from Talbot  
 8 County's limited industrial, LI, zoning to the  
 9 town's mixed use waterfront, MXW, zoning upon  
 10 their annexation will result in substantially  
 11 different uses or substantially higher density,  
 12 exceeding 50 percent, than could be granted for  
 13 proposed development under the county's LI  
 14 zoning and waiving the five-year hold in  
 15 accordance with section 4-416 of the Local  
 16 Government Article of the Annotated Code of  
 17 Maryland.  
 18 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Thank you, Madam  
 19 Secretary.  
 20 Mr. Thomas, you want to go ahead and bring  
 21 us up to speed on that one, too.

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1 MR. THOMAS: Sure. The Town of Easton has  
 2 introduced legislation to annex certain real  
 3 property at Easton Point. The property is  
 4 currently, it's in the county, it's currently  
 5 zoned limited industrial under the county's  
 6 zoning.  
 7 And the town, upon its annexation, wants  
 8 to zone it mixed use waterfront, which would  
 9 result in substantially different uses or  
 10 higher density than could be granted under the  
 11 county zoning.  
 12 So section 4-416 of the Local Government  
 13 Article requires the county to grant a waiver  
 14 from the five-year zoning hold in order for  
 15 them to apply that zoning classification if the  
 16 property is annexed.  
 17 MR. CALLAHAN: Great. Good, good. Is  
 18 there anybody here from the town that wants to  
 19 come up and speak about that? Okay.  
 20 So raise our hands do we want to introduce  
 21 this?

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1 MR. LESHER: So by Council.  
 2 MR. CALLAHAN: Madam Secretary, would you  
 3 like to go ahead and give us a number and tell  
 4 us a time and date.  
 5 SECRETARY: This will be known as  
 6 Resolution 342, and the public hearing will be  
 7 on Tuesday, May 9th, at 6:30 p.m.  
 8 MR. CALLAHAN: I appreciate that. Okay.  
 9 All right.  
 10 Pretty much on time. The next is a public  
 11 hearing. Okay. Madam Secretary, could you go  
 12 ahead and read for the record the Resolution  
 13 338, please.  
 14 SECRETARY: Resolution Number 338, a  
 15 resolution to amend the Talbot County  
 16 comprehensive water and sewer plan for  
 17 consistency with discharge permit number  
 18 19DT3460 issued by the Maryland Department of  
 19 the Environment on October 27, 2022, and to  
 20 require that any future expansion of the new  
 21 Lakeside wastewater treatment plant shall

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|--|--|
| Page 46  | Page 48  |
| <p>1 require an amendment to the comprehensive water</p> <p>2 and sewer plan.</p> <p>3 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Thank you, Madam</p> <p>4 Secretary.</p> <p>5 Mr. Thomas.</p> <p>6 MR. THOMAS: Yes. So this resolution was</p> <p>7 requested by Council Member Mielke.</p> <p>8 This would make the comprehensive water</p> <p>9 and sewer plan consistent with the discharge</p> <p>10 permit that MDE issued in October for the new</p> <p>11 Lakeside wastewater treatment plant and also</p> <p>12 require an amendment to the plan for any future</p> <p>13 expansion of that.</p> <p>14 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. All right. Okay.</p> <p>15 MR. LESHER: Do you want to bring up</p> <p>16 Mr. Clarke?</p> <p>17 MR. CALLAHAN: Huh?</p> <p>18 MR. LESHER: Do you want to bring up</p> <p>19 Mr. Clarke?</p> <p>20 MR. CALLAHAN: Yup, yup.</p> <p>21 MR. CLARKE: I just want to give you a</p>                                    | <p>1 come up and speak? Yes, yup. Come on up.</p> <p>2 MR. ANDERSON: Mr. Callahan,</p> <p>3 Mr. President, Members of Council, my name is</p> <p>4 William Anderson. I live at 21715 Heavenly</p> <p>5 Haven Road in Sherwood, and I serve on your</p> <p>6 Public Works Advisory Board as chairman.</p> <p>7 The Public Works Advisory Board had before</p> <p>8 it Resolution 338 at its last meeting. And as</p> <p>9 Mr. Clarke will report to you I believe in due</p> <p>10 course, the three of us present voted in favor</p> <p>11 of recommending that the Council adopt</p> <p>12 Resolution 338.</p> <p>13 I wanted to make you aware, however, that</p> <p>14 at the time of the vote, we were not informed</p> <p>15 of the current non-compliant status of the</p> <p>16 construction that is ongoing at Lakeside. We</p> <p>17 were not aware of the additional violations by</p> <p>18 the town's existing wastewater treatment plant</p> <p>19 at Lakeside. Or since the additional homes in</p> <p>20 Lakeside have been connected, as construction</p> <p>21 has progressed, there have been additional</p> |
| Page 47  | Page 49  |
| <p>1 heads up.</p> <p>2 MR. CALLAHAN: Yup.</p> <p>3 MR. CLARKE: At the April 5th Planning</p> <p>4 Commission meeting, they decided to table</p> <p>5 Resolution 338. And ultimately, they'll be</p> <p>6 looking to take that up at their May 3rd</p> <p>7 meeting for I guess review and consistency with</p> <p>8 the comp plan.</p> <p>9 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay.</p> <p>10 MR. CLARKE: I just want to let the</p> <p>11 Council know. So after the public or ask the</p> <p>12 Council to keep the public hearing open until</p> <p>13 the Planning Commission has had an opportunity</p> <p>14 to review.</p> <p>15 MR. CALLAHAN: Sure, sure. Okay.</p> <p>16 MS. MIELKE: Thank you.</p> <p>17 MR. CALLAHAN: So we're going to keep it</p> <p>18 open.</p> <p>19 So it is a public hearing. So at this</p> <p>20 time, I'm going to go ahead and open it up. So</p> <p>21 on this side over here, would anybody like to</p> | <p>1 violations of the wastewater treatment permit</p> <p>2 at the existing plant. We did not know that at</p> <p>3 the time.</p> <p>4 Had we known that, I'm not sure that the</p> <p>5 vote would have come out the same way. I</p> <p>6 wanted to make you aware of those violations.</p> <p>7 They were brought to light in a comment</p> <p>8 that was filed by the Choptank Riverkeeper with</p> <p>9 the Planning Commission last week. And that's</p> <p>10 the first we learned of it.</p> <p>11 Thank you.</p> <p>12 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Thank you.</p> <p>13 Anybody else on this side that would like</p> <p>14 to speak? Yup. Come on up.</p> <p>15 MR. SULLIVAN: My name is Mike Sullivan.</p> <p>16 I am a recent commissioner for the Town of</p> <p>17 Trappe. But I have lived in Trappe for 20</p> <p>18 years. And when I first moved there, this</p> <p>19 whole Lakeside thing was just getting started.</p> <p>20 And we looked at it and we listened to all the</p> <p>21 plans and everything else. And we voted to do</p>  |

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|--|---|
| Page 50  | Page 52   |
| <p>1 it.</p> <p>2 And then basically the housing market</p> <p>3 collapsed. So nothing happened for all these</p> <p>4 years.</p> <p>5 And now we're finally getting back on</p> <p>6 track it seems, and my question is very simple.</p> <p>7 Why do you think you need to do this</p> <p>8 resolution? I mean what preempted this to come</p> <p>9 about?</p> <p>10 I understood what the gentleman said about</p> <p>11 we're not doing enough with our wastewater</p> <p>12 treatment. That's easy enough to find out. We</p> <p>13 have figures. We have engineers that test our</p> <p>14 water systems daily. If there's a problem, it</p> <p>15 should have been addressed before it got to</p> <p>16 this point. Why let a problem like that or a</p> <p>17 wastewater treatment hold up an entire</p> <p>18 development?</p> <p>19 I mean they're not even close to being</p> <p>20 finished with their wastewater treatment plant.</p> <p>21 They're in the process of just getting started</p> | <p>1 MS. MORRIS: Not for this.</p> <p>2 MR. CALLAHAN: No, we didn't.</p> <p>3 MS. MORRIS: Just for public comment.</p> <p>4 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. No problem.</p> <p>5 Anybody else over on this side? Okay.</p> <p>6 Shift over to this side. Anybody like to</p> <p>7 come up and talk about 338? Yeah, come on up.</p> <p>8 MR. ALSPACH: Good evening, Council</p> <p>9 Members. Nice to see you.</p> <p>10 MR. CALLAHAN: Nice to see you.</p> <p>11 MR. ALSPACH: Tom Alspach speaking for</p> <p>12 Talbot Preservation Alliance.</p> <p>13 Let me say first that we commend</p> <p>14 Ms. Mielke for putting this resolution up for</p> <p>15 discussion. It raises some important points.</p> <p>16 And the most important point and first</p> <p>17 point I would like to make is that it is not</p> <p>18 intended to be a roadblock. What this</p> <p>19 resolution tries to do is exactly what a number</p> <p>20 of your predecessors said should happen back in</p> <p>21 the fall when the MDE permit was issued, and</p>  |
| Page 51  | Page 53   |
| <p>1 really. We haven't even finalized the final</p> <p>2 plans for it. They're just getting some</p> <p>3 preliminary things done.</p> <p>4 So I just don't see what the sense is of</p> <p>5 putting a major roadblock in that's just going</p> <p>6 to inhibit anything that we can do in a</p> <p>7 positive way.</p> <p>8 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. All right. Thank</p> <p>9 you.</p> <p>10 MR. SULLIVAN: If anybody can give me that</p> <p>11 simple answer, I'd love --</p> <p>12 MR. CALLAHAN: Well, this is sort of your</p> <p>13 time to express your concerns. It's really not</p> <p>14 our time to address that. That's all.</p> <p>15 And anything that you feel like you want</p> <p>16 to write down and submit to us, then we can</p> <p>17 answer you. Okay. I appreciate it.</p> <p>18 MR. SULLIVAN: Thank you for your time.</p> <p>19 MS. MIELKE: Thank you.</p> <p>20 MR. CALLAHAN: Hey, Jess. Do we have a</p> <p>21 sign-up sheet?</p>  | <p>1 MDE did not afford the developer the full</p> <p>2 540,000-gallon per day allotment that they</p> <p>3 sought. As you know, they only gave them a</p> <p>4 portion of that, 100,000 gallons per day. And</p> <p>5 the purpose of that was so that there could be</p> <p>6 ongoing review over time as this massive</p> <p>7 project plays out. And from the Council's</p> <p>8 point of view, as it affects county residents</p> <p>9 who live adjacent to the property or live on</p> <p>10 Trappe Creek or if anyone in the county will be</p> <p>11 affected by this development.</p> <p>12 So what this resolution attempts to do is</p> <p>13 to have a continuing opportunity for the county</p> <p>14 each time a requested initial additional</p> <p>15 expansion is brought to bear for an additional</p> <p>16 100,000 gallons per day, to look again at how</p> <p>17 the project has been working out in reality and</p> <p>18 what effect it may be having on county</p> <p>19 residents.</p> <p>20 And that's all it is. It's not an attempt</p> <p>21 to reverse what's been granted or delay it or</p> |

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1 block it or anything of that nature. It's to  
 2 provide this County Council with the oversight  
 3 that they should have when a project of this  
 4 magnitude is in play that is going to have this  
 5 tremendous effect, not just on Trappe, but on  
 6 all your constituents in the county.  
 7 Now, I'm glad the record is going to stay  
 8 open because I think there are a few small  
 9 tweaks that could be done to 338 to enhance its  
 10 effectiveness without, again without,  
 11 prejudicing the developer.  
 12 For example, the number of units that can  
 13 be connected to the existing Trappe plant has  
 14 been the biggest issue in connection with this  
 15 project from the beginning, largely because of  
 16 the problems with the existing plant.  
 17 There is not enough clarity in either 281,  
 18 the existing resolution, or for that matter in  
 19 338 as to how many units actually can be  
 20 connected to the existing plant and for how  
 21 long.

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1 Indeed, 281 implies that it can be  
 2 connected until the thing is completely built  
 3 out and only at that point will they be  
 4 required to redirect their flow to the new  
 5 plant if required to do so by the Town of  
 6 Trappe. That should be -- that's inconsistent  
 7 with what MDE intended and what this Council I  
 8 believe understood.  
 9 There's some other aspects of this that I  
 10 think are significant. And I won't take your  
 11 time because I know my time is very limited,  
 12 but I would appreciate the opportunity to  
 13 present a couple of very small suggestions in  
 14 writing for your consideration and ask that  
 15 they might be considered before you close the  
 16 record. And I understood from the comments at  
 17 the outset, the record is going to stay open  
 18 now until the Planning Commission.  
 19 MR. CALLAHAN: Yes, sir.  
 20 MR. ALSPACH: But overall, again, my  
 21 primary point is that this resolution should

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1 not be viewed as a means of blocking this  
 2 project. It's a means of having this Council  
 3 have continuing oversight over the next 30  
 4 years, as is what they project, as the project  
 5 plays out when there's a project that clearly  
 6 is going to affect your constituents in Talbot  
 7 County well beyond the boundaries of the Town  
 8 of Trappe. I think it's important for the  
 9 county to reserve the right to look how things  
 10 are going as the project progresses along so  
 11 there can be remediation along the way if  
 12 necessary. That's what the resolution is  
 13 trying to do.  
 14 MR. CALLAHAN: Thank you.  
 15 MR. ALSPACH: Thank you very much.  
 16 MR. CALLAHAN: Appreciate it. Yup. Okay.  
 17 Yup.  
 18 MR. THACKER: Good evening, Council.  
 19 MR. CALLAHAN: Good evening.  
 20 MR. THACKER: My name is John Thacker and  
 21 I live about three miles from the Lakeside

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1 development, sort of between the towns of  
 2 Oxford and Trappe.  
 3 I've actually visited the Lakeside  
 4 development and toured the new homes, and they  
 5 are very handsome homes and it will be a nice  
 6 addition to the development, to the community  
 7 of Trappe.  
 8 But I have to agree with everything that  
 9 was just said by the prior gentleman, that this  
 10 is going to be a long-term build-out of this  
 11 project. It's going to have significant  
 12 effects, not only on the environment and the  
 13 water, but also on the schools, on emergency  
 14 response resources, on health care resources,  
 15 everything.  
 16 And as this project unfolds, it's  
 17 imperative that the county be at the table as  
 18 far as reviewing the development, the effects  
 19 it's having on the community and the county and  
 20 all the citizens of the county. And make sure  
 21 that as it is rolling out, that whatever

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1 provisions are appropriate to either control or  
 2 enhance the safety, both environmental safety,  
 3 as well as community safety, become part of the  
 4 approvals.  
 5 So again, not intending at all to put up  
 6 roadblocks, but just want the county to have a  
 7 seat at the table over the next 30 years when  
 8 this project rolls out.  
 9 Thank you.  
 10 MR. CALLAHAN: Great. Thank you. Okay.  
 11 Yup.  
 12 MR. GIRARD: Mr. President, Members of  
 13 Council, my name is Alan Girard, 114 South  
 14 Washington Street representing the Chesapeake  
 15 Bay Foundation today.  
 16 We absolutely support this resolution in  
 17 concept. As the other speakers have said,  
 18 gives the county important oversight over this  
 19 30-year-plus project.  
 20 You know, the resolution itself does  
 21 connect Council's ability to amend the

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1 comprehensive water and sewer plan with the  
 2 State discharge permit. We believe there is  
 3 opportunity to improve the language in that  
 4 area to be specific about the number of  
 5 gallons, the number of homes that would trigger  
 6 such an opportunity for Council to provide that  
 7 oversight through amendment to the plan. So  
 8 possible modifications I would urge you to  
 9 consider during the public hearing process.  
 10 But in concept, the idea of oversight for  
 11 such a large consequential project for this  
 12 county is spot on and something that the  
 13 Council should pursue.  
 14 We have heard, as you have, a lot of  
 15 concern from residents, our members in  
 16 particular, saying that such oversight is  
 17 important.  
 18 In fact, that urging of our members urged  
 19 us to write the former Council no less than  
 20 three times about this idea of periodic,  
 21 incremental review of the project. On

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1 February 20th, we requested, of 2020, we  
 2 requested Council to require sewer service area  
 3 reclassification for each phase of development.  
 4 On January 21st of 2020, we wrote Council  
 5 asking Council to update the sewer plan to  
 6 include only the first five phases of  
 7 development and consider additional updates for  
 8 each new phase based on currently available  
 9 information.  
 10 And then wrote Council again on  
 11 February 4, 2022, requesting that Council  
 12 provide for the orderly expansion and extension  
 13 of sewerage and other systems, as required by  
 14 State statute.  
 15 So that periodic, incremental review is  
 16 certainly something our members want, certainly  
 17 something that you have heard from a number of  
 18 speakers tonight and others.  
 19 So we urge for you to look at 338 with  
 20 potential amendments in mind to ensure that the  
 21 oversight that you are seeking with the

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1 resolution, you succeed at delivering with some  
 2 precise language that I'll help you to do that.  
 3 Thank you.  
 4 MR. CALLAHAN: Thank you.  
 5 Anybody else on Alan's side would like to  
 6 speak? Yup.  
 7 MR. SHOWALTER: Mr. President, Members of  
 8 Council, Ryan Showalter on behalf of Trappe  
 9 East Holdings Business Trust. A couple of  
 10 brief comments.  
 11 The first is I want to be very clear. I  
 12 think we've been clear on the record repeatedly  
 13 before. But it was suggested that there's  
 14 confusion about how many units can connect to  
 15 the existing town plant under Resolution 281  
 16 and the capacity agreement that exists between  
 17 the Lakeside developer and the Town of Trappe.  
 18 That is 120 units. I think the  
 19 agreement's been clear. It's been repeatedly  
 20 said in this room.  
 21 And that initial connection, the flows



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| Page 62   | Page 64   |
| <p>1 from those units is necessary to start, to</p> <p>2 commission and start the operation of the</p> <p>3 treatment plant. So the new Lakeside ENR</p> <p>4 treatment plant is under construction. We</p> <p>5 anticipate construction will be completed</p> <p>6 approximately this time next year.</p> <p>7 There's no confusion about when the flow</p> <p>8 to the existing town treatment plant will stop</p> <p>9 because it will stop as soon as the new</p> <p>10 treatment is available to receive it. It needs</p> <p>11 to receive those flows to start the biological</p> <p>12 process to begin operating.</p> <p>13 So just so that there's no confusion for</p> <p>14 anyone, the town plant will receive flow from</p> <p>15 the existing homes for approximately 12 more</p> <p>16 months. As soon as the new plant is ready to</p> <p>17 receive that, the pump station will redirect</p> <p>18 100 percent of that flow to the new plant so it</p> <p>19 can be commissioned and operate.</p> <p>20 The second point is if you look at the</p> <p>21 history of Talbot County's use of the</p> | <p>1 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Thank you. Anybody</p> <p>2 else?</p> <p>3 Moving over here. Okay. Anybody over</p> <p>4 here? Okay. All right.</p> <p>5 So what we're going to do, we're going to</p> <p>6 go ahead and we're going to leave it open.</p> <p>7 Okay. I'm sorry?</p> <p>8 MS. MORRIS: Do you want to set a date to</p> <p>9 leave the record open until?</p> <p>10 MR. CALLAHAN: It's going to take a few</p> <p>11 weeks.</p> <p>12 SPEAKER: Next meeting?</p> <p>13 MR. CALLAHAN: Next meeting, that's fine.</p> <p>14 SECRETARY: Next meeting?</p> <p>15 MR. CALLAHAN: Yeah.</p> <p>16 SECRETARY: The 25th?</p> <p>17 MR. CALLAHAN: Is that what you want to</p> <p>18 do?</p> <p>19 MR. LESHER: Well, that will --</p> <p>20 MS. MIELKE: The Planning Commission has</p> <p>21 to.</p>   |
| Page 63   | Page 65   |
| <p>1 comprehensive water and sewer plan, it clearly</p> <p>2 has been used in this county as a growth</p> <p>3 management tool and a roadblock. And if Talbot</p> <p>4 County had a water and sewer plan that was</p> <p>5 administered as an infrastructure planning</p> <p>6 tool, like other counties, and you had routine</p> <p>7 amendments, those amendments related to</p> <p>8 infrastructure and were granted with diligence</p> <p>9 and speed, this concept might be something</p> <p>10 that's worth talking about.</p> <p>11 If you look at the history of Resolution</p> <p>12 281, those discussions started and then were</p> <p>13 concluded with a reconsideration over the</p> <p>14 period of three years.</p> <p>15 If the county wants a seat at the table</p> <p>16 and that seat at the table will take three-plus</p> <p>17 years for the county to deliberate and discuss</p> <p>18 and potentially act on or deny, it absolutely</p> <p>19 is a roadblock and an impediment. And for that</p> <p>20 reason, it's not something that we can support.</p> <p>21 Thank you.</p>            | <p>1 MR. LESHER: Yeah.</p> <p>2 SECRETARY: The Planning Commission meets</p> <p>3 on May 3rd.</p> <p>4 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay.</p> <p>5 MS. MIELKE: So the first meeting in May.</p> <p>6 MR. CALLAHAN: Yeah.</p> <p>7 SECRETARY: May 9th.</p> <p>8 MR. CALLAHAN: Right. That would be</p> <p>9 great.</p> <p>10 Did everybody hear that? Okay. Did you</p> <p>11 hear it? You did. Okay. May 9th. Yeah.</p> <p>12 Okay, okay. We're set on that.</p> <p>13 Okay. Madam Secretary, could you go ahead</p> <p>14 and read the Resolution 339 into the record.</p> <p>15 SECRETARY: Resolution Number 339, a</p> <p>16 resolution to amend the Talbot County</p> <p>17 comprehensive water and sewer plan to</p> <p>18 reclassify and remap certain real properties in</p> <p>19 and around the villages of Bar Neck and</p> <p>20 Fairbank from unprogrammed to S-1, immediate</p> <p>21 priority status, for sewer service from the</p> |

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| Page 66   | Page 68   |
| <p>1 Region V, Tilghman, wastewater system.</p> <p>2 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Thank you. Come on</p> <p>3 up, Ray. Yup.</p> <p>4 MR. CLARKE: I think based upon this</p> <p>5 Council, we're going to ask you to do the same</p> <p>6 thing.</p> <p>7 During the Planning Commission meeting,</p> <p>8 this was tabled until their May 3rd meeting.</p> <p>9 Unfortunately, when we scheduled the Public</p> <p>10 Works Advisory Board on May 9th, we got out of</p> <p>11 synch. And ultimately, I think the Council</p> <p>12 introduced Resolution 339 on May 14th (sic.).</p> <p>13 So the Public Works Advisory Board was unable</p> <p>14 to hear that, since we have their meeting on</p> <p>15 May 9th.</p> <p>16 So to put us back in synch, the Planning</p> <p>17 Commission, again, tabled this.</p> <p>18 And so we're working now to have this</p> <p>19 reviewed by the Public Works Advisory Board at</p> <p>20 their May 20th meeting. And then we'll be able</p> <p>21 to report the decision of the Public Works</p> | <p>1 else to add.</p> <p>2 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. So we'll open it.</p> <p>3 So on this side, does anybody want to come on</p> <p>4 up and talk about 339, Resolution 339? Okay.</p> <p>5 I'll switch over to this side. Anybody</p> <p>6 would like to come over, come on up and talk</p> <p>7 about 339? Okay.</p> <p>8 So just like Mr. Clarke said, we'll go</p> <p>9 ahead and keep that record open. And we're</p> <p>10 going to keep it open to May.</p> <p>11 SECRETARY: May 9th.</p> <p>12 MR. CALLAHAN: May 9th, yup. Okay, okay.</p> <p>13 All right.</p> <p>14 Now, Madam Secretary, we're on our last</p> <p>15 resolution, which will be 340. If you can go</p> <p>16 ahead and read that into the record, that would</p> <p>17 be great.</p> <p>18 SECRETARY: Resolution Number 340, a</p> <p>19 resolution to formally accept the offer from</p> <p>20 Trippes Creek, LLC to dedicate Jennings Road to</p> <p>21 public use as a public county road. Said road</p>  |
| Page 67   | Page 69   |
| <p>1 Advisory Board to the Planning Commission.</p> <p>2 And then we'd ask to do the same thing, to</p> <p>3 keep the record open.</p> <p>4 MR. CALLAHAN: Keep it open.</p> <p>5 MR. CLARKE: Until May 9th, until after</p> <p>6 the Planning Commission meeting.</p> <p>7 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. But then they're not</p> <p>8 meeting until the end of the month.</p> <p>9 MR. CLARKE: The Public Works Advisory</p> <p>10 Board is meeting actually May 20th, but then</p> <p>11 the Planning Commission doesn't meet until</p> <p>12 May 3rd. So we're --</p> <p>13 MR. CALLAHAN: April.</p> <p>14 MR. CLARKE: I'm sorry. April. I</p> <p>15 apologize. That's what I was (inaudible).</p> <p>16 MR. CALLAHAN: I thought you meant April.</p> <p>17 I wasn't sure.</p> <p>18 MR. CLARKE: Yes, April.</p> <p>19 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. That's good.</p> <p>20 Mr. Thomas, did you want to say anything?</p> <p>21 MR. THOMAS: No. I don't have anything</p>  | <p>1 being more particularly shown and designated as</p> <p>2 Jennings Road, 50-foot public right of way on a</p> <p>3 plat entitled lot line abandonment and final</p> <p>4 subdivision plat and FCP 2001-08 Schwaninger</p> <p>5 Farm at Cooke's Hope in the first election</p> <p>6 district, Talbot County, Maryland, tax map 42,</p> <p>7 grid 16 and 22, parcels 7, 21, 215. Dated</p> <p>8 April 22, 2002, revised through September 5,</p> <p>9 2006, and recorded among the plat records of</p> <p>10 Talbot County, Maryland, in liber M.A.S. number</p> <p>11 82, page 42, and to accept fee simple title to</p> <p>12 the same for no consideration.</p> <p>13 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay, Madam Secretary.</p> <p>14 Once again, we're going to go ahead and</p> <p>15 open it to the public.</p> <p>16 MR. CLARKE: (Inaudible.)</p> <p>17 MR. CALLAHAN: Yeah, come on up, Ray.</p> <p>18 Yup.</p> <p>19 MR. CLARKE: Again, that is a road that</p> <p>20 was constructed probably about 15 years ago.</p> <p>21 The county did take over maintenance. So this</p> |

| Page 70   | Page 72  |
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| <p>1 is basically officially taking it over, with<br/>2 the County Council.<br/>3 MR. CALLAHAN: Got you.<br/>4 MR. CLARKE: Accepting this.<br/>5 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. That sounds great.<br/>6 Okay.<br/>7 Would anybody like to come up? Yeah, come<br/>8 up, Zach.<br/>9 MR. SMITH: Good evening, Council. Zach<br/>10 Smith on behalf of Trippes Creek, LLC, the<br/>11 developer of the Schwaninger Farm subdivision<br/>12 and just here to speak in favor of Resolution<br/>13 340.<br/>14 The road was always intended to be a<br/>15 public road. It was built as a public road.<br/>16 As Ray indicated, the county has taken it over<br/>17 for maintenance. All consistent with the<br/>18 approval.<br/>19 There is a condition on the plat, the<br/>20 approved plat for the project, that says the<br/>21 road right of way hereon shown as Jennings Road</p>              | <p>1 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Thank you.<br/>2 Anybody else? Okay.<br/>3 At this time, is there a motion?<br/>4 MR. LESHHER: You want to close it?<br/>5 MR. CALLAHAN: Yeah. We want to close the<br/>6 public hearing on this?<br/>7 MR. LESHHER: Well, with that, I will move<br/>8 Resolution 340 to the vote.<br/>9 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay.<br/>10 MS. HAYTHE: Second.<br/>11 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. We got a motion and<br/>12 second to move 340 to vote. Madam Secretary,<br/>13 could you call the vote.<br/>14 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.<br/>15 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.<br/>16 SECRETARY: Mr. Stepp.<br/>17 MR. STEPP: Aye.<br/>18 SECRETARY: Mr. Leshher.<br/>19 MR. LESHHER: Aye.<br/>20 SECRETARY: Ms. Mielke.<br/>21 MS. MIELKE: Aye.</p>   |
| Page 71   | Page 73  |
| <p>1 shall be deeded to Talbot County. And we're<br/>2 simply trying to comply with that requirement.<br/>3 It's really a housekeeping item, just to<br/>4 avoid any title confusion down the road.<br/>5 But for those reasons, we would support<br/>6 and ask the Council to support the acceptance<br/>7 of the road.<br/>8 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay.<br/>9 MR. SMITH: Thank you.<br/>10 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Anybody on my left<br/>11 here? Okay.<br/>12 Anybody here on my right? Yeah. Come on<br/>13 up.<br/>14 MR. SHOWALTER: Members of Council, Ryan<br/>15 Showalter. I reside at 28890 Jennings Road.<br/>16 And I was going to point out the plat note<br/>17 that Mr. Smith already read to you.<br/>18 So it's been maintained by the county as<br/>19 long as I've lived there. It has far more lots<br/>20 than a private road.<br/>21 Urge you to accept it. Thank you.</p> | <p>1 SECRETARY: Ms. Haythe.<br/>2 MS. HAYTHE: Aye.<br/>3 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. All right. Madam<br/>4 Secretary, next on the list is reading of a<br/>5 bill, 1528.<br/>6 SECRETARY: Bill Number 1528, a bill to<br/>7 amend Chapter 190 of the Talbot County Code,<br/>8 zoning, subdivision, and land development,<br/>9 sections 190-15, critical area overlay;<br/>10 190-25.2, table of land uses; 190-31, marine<br/>11 uses; 190-33, accessory uses; 190-50,<br/>12 nonconforming structures; 190-58.2, minor<br/>13 variances; and 190-78, terms defined, regarding<br/>14 erosion control measure, piers, and riparian<br/>15 structures.<br/>16 MR. CALLAHAN: Go ahead, Brennan.<br/>17 MR. TARLETON: Good evening, Council. For<br/>18 the record, Brennan Tarleton, planning officer<br/>19 with the Department of Planning and Zoning.<br/>20 Before you for Bill 1528, this is an<br/>21 amendment that's actually been in the works for</p> |

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1 several years now within the department as well  
 2 as the applicant and several other concerned  
 3 citizens or parties that have been privy to the  
 4 regulations currently.

5 In working with the applicant, staff has  
 6 had several internal meetings regarding some of  
 7 the language in the proposed changes that have  
 8 included some of the additional changes that we  
 9 would also like to see for clerical matters  
 10 within the sections within piers and riparian  
 11 structures.

12 The applicant first submitted the official  
 13 text amendment application to our department in  
 14 June of 2022. It was later heard and  
 15 considered by the Planning Commission in their  
 16 July of 2022 meeting. There was considerable  
 17 discussion in that meeting, and the Planning  
 18 Commission did request additional amendments  
 19 and edits to the language that was included.

20 From there, the applicant was given  
 21 direction to make some of those amendments and

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1 return to the Planning Commission for  
 2 additional consideration.

3 They made those amendments, staff reviewed  
 4 the amendments and considered them to be  
 5 relatively in line and consistent with what the  
 6 Planning Commission had requested.

7 And that application was then forwarded  
 8 back to the Planning Commission for  
 9 consideration in their December of 2022  
 10 meeting, and then further forwarded for  
 11 consideration to their January of 2023 meeting  
 12 for several minor housekeeping items and  
 13 changes in verbiage and language to be  
 14 completed before actually voting on the  
 15 application.

16 And in that January of 2023 meeting, they  
 17 provided a positive recommendation via a  
 18 five-zero vote for you all for a favorable  
 19 approval of the amended language included  
 20 within this bill.

21 If you'd like, I know it does cover quite

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1 a few sections of the code, if you'd like, I  
 2 can give you a brief overview of some of the  
 3 major changes and highlight those within the  
 4 text, given the fact that it is very long.

5 Also, I believe the applicant's here to  
 6 represent several of those changes as well. So  
 7 if there's more in-depth questions later on in  
 8 the discussion, I'd be happy to come back up  
 9 and answer or clarify any of those as well.

10 So just to begin, some of the major  
 11 changes and highlights to these are the  
 12 suggestion of permitting the allowance for the  
 13 addition of shoreline control measures and  
 14 structures above the mean high water line. So  
 15 that would be additional permitted disturbance  
 16 and structures within the critical area  
 17 development buffer to combat shoreline erosion  
 18 measures.

19 This language would have to be referred to  
 20 the critical area for their review and  
 21 consideration of that because it would be

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1 permanent disturbance in the critical area  
 2 buffer. So that's one of the major highlighted  
 3 changes within the critical area section of the  
 4 code as you see it.

5 Next, moving on to the pier requirements,  
 6 there's permittance by special exception to  
 7 allow for two residential piers to exist on a  
 8 property, with additional stipulations being  
 9 that the property would need to be in excess of  
 10 48 acres in size. That would only be permitted  
 11 by special exception.

12 And that section also includes additional  
 13 criteria for consideration from the Board of  
 14 Appeals as to allow them to make additional  
 15 findings or facts of finding as to why the  
 16 request for two piers would be made and why it  
 17 would be necessary in the instance for the  
 18 applicant.

19 Moving on from there, another major change  
 20 that was included within the provision here was  
 21 moving the private piers within our code from

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1 an accessory structure. As many of you  
 2 probably are aware, private piers are only  
 3 permitted as an accessory structure to say a  
 4 residential dwelling or a community pier.  
 5 In this instance, the applicant is  
 6 proposing to remove private residential piers  
 7 from an accessory use to a principal permitted  
 8 use on a property, which would allow a pier to  
 9 be constructed on a vacant lot subject to  
 10 additional conditions.  
 11 Some of the additional conditions that  
 12 they provided within that would be the fact  
 13 that the lot would need to comply with lot size  
 14 and width requirements within the zoning  
 15 district or that that lot is a legal  
 16 nonconforming lot of record established today  
 17 that could, at the very least, accommodate a  
 18 minimum of a 1,000 square foot dwelling unit.  
 19 Further on, there's quite a bit of  
 20 language included in here regarding the  
 21 reconstruction and reconfiguration of piers

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1 that are considered to be nonconforming,  
 2 whether this is to length requirements,  
 3 impedance in a side yard setback, a lateral  
 4 line setback, and a harbor line setback.  
 5 The language in here provides flexibility  
 6 for an applicant to reconfigure a pier in a  
 7 manner or relocate a pier in a manner that  
 8 would still be nonconforming to today's  
 9 regulations, provided they meet additional  
 10 standards, whether it be the lessening of a  
 11 nonconforming status in one sense or another.  
 12 Or if they were to propose a reconstruction  
 13 that would encroach into a side yard property  
 14 line or a lateral line setback, it requires a  
 15 property owner to record an agreement between  
 16 the neighboring property owner saying that  
 17 they're basically signing off and consenting to  
 18 that encroachment into their lateral line  
 19 setback or their side yard property line  
 20 setback for the proposed relocation or  
 21 reconstruction of that pier.

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1 In the past sense for nonconforming piers  
 2 in the county, you would be allowed to replace  
 3 an existing nonconforming pier in-kind, which  
 4 means it would need to be in the same  
 5 dimensions, the some configuration, and the  
 6 same location.  
 7 This affords the ability and flexibility  
 8 for an applicant to reconfigure that pier in a  
 9 less nonconforming sense if it can't  
 10 essentially comply with the full extent of the  
 11 bulk requirements that we do have. So it would  
 12 afford an individual that has a unique lot  
 13 shape or a unique area or body of water to  
 14 reconfigure that pier and still retain useable  
 15 area that without completely alleviating all  
 16 nonconformities, if that's not, in fact,  
 17 possible in those instances.  
 18 The limitations that we currently have in  
 19 our code for finger piers related and  
 20 associated with piers is that they can only be  
 21 50 percent of a slip length for a boat.

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1 The proposed language here includes the  
 2 allowance for a finger pier to extend the  
 3 entire slip length of a boat. And in no case  
 4 would that be able to exceed 40 feet. So 40  
 5 feet would be the maximum for the proposed slip  
 6 length of the boat, so whichever lesser of the  
 7 two would be in those instances.  
 8 The clarification and addition of square  
 9 footage associated with finger piers, platform  
 10 area, and catwalks associated with boatlifts.  
 11 Currently in the code, that's permitted to be  
 12 up 120 square feet.  
 13 The proposed language would increase that  
 14 to 240 square feet in this instance. And that  
 15 would allow for those finger pier areas  
 16 associated with a boatlift to be longer than  
 17 that 50 percent in some instances and allow for  
 18 additional flexibility for an applicant's  
 19 configuration of platform area and finger piers  
 20 associated with those boatlifts.  
 21 I touched a bit on the modifications and

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1 allowances for modifications to the  
 2 nonconforming. There's also the allowance of  
 3 increasing the nonconformity in those  
 4 nonconforming piers up to 15 percent. And that  
 5 would be subject to a minor variance approval  
 6 by the planning director.

7 The flexibility in the nonconforming  
 8 structures section doesn't provide a lot of  
 9 leeway or allowance for reconfiguration for  
 10 nonconforming piers. So providing this  
 11 language is similar to what we have for  
 12 expansions of other minor nonconforming  
 13 structures and nonconforming uses that we have  
 14 and deal with on a landward basis for similar  
 15 structures.

16 The other caveat to that is that the  
 17 proposed expansion or proposed additional  
 18 increase of nonconformity would then have to be  
 19 reviewed and approved by MDE obviously for the  
 20 applicant's proposed configuration.

21 Bear with me. I'm just trying to make

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1 sure I don't miss any --

2 MR. CALLAHAN: No problem. Take your  
 3 time.

4 MR. TARLETON: Another inclusion here  
 5 would be the permittance to allow for  
 6 additional improvements, whether it be finger  
 7 piers, catwalks, boatlifts, platform area, in  
 8 excess of the 150-foot maximum pier length that  
 9 we currently have in place.

10 Today, we have several, I would say many,  
 11 nonconforming piers within the county that were  
 12 just constructed before we actually had the  
 13 150-foot limitation put in place. Many of  
 14 those piers were constructed because or  
 15 configured in a way to exceed that 150-foot  
 16 limitation because of the tidal water issues  
 17 and being able to get to a depth suitable to  
 18 have a boatlift.

19 So we've had several applicants with  
 20 issues where they have an existing  
 21 nonconforming pier that does not include a

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1 boatlift and they have not been able to include  
 2 the improvements associated with a boatlift, be  
 3 it a platform area or a finger pier, past that  
 4 150-foot length where they would get that water  
 5 depth to be able to actually utilize that  
 6 boatlift in the past.

7 This language would afford them the  
 8 ability to add those improvements onto an  
 9 existing nonconforming pier in those instances.

10 And then the last portion that I would  
 11 note here is that there's additional language  
 12 in the terms defined section that clarifies  
 13 some language for boathouses and platform area  
 14 language that excludes the main portion of the  
 15 pier out of your platform calculations. In  
 16 other words, if you have a six-foot width pier  
 17 and a platform area on the end of it, that  
 18 platform area would not count the six-foot  
 19 section of the pier that extends through it.

20 Those are really the main points of  
 21 discussion here.

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1 Again, I'd be happy to go over all of them  
 2 more in depth for you if you have more  
 3 questions. I know it's a lot of information,  
 4 but obviously I'll be here to answer any of  
 5 those if the applicant would like to come up  
 6 and present additional information.

7 MR. CALLAHAN: Sure. Okay. All right.

8 So we're going to go ahead and open it up  
 9 to the public hearing. Like to come on up?  
 10 Yup.

11 MR. SHOWALTER: President Callahan,  
 12 Members of the Council, Ryan Showalter again.  
 13 100 North West Street, Easton, Maryland.

14 To my right is Christopher Moore with  
 15 Weems Brothers Construction.

16 I think Mr. Tarleton did a fantastic job  
 17 of summarizing the principal changes in the  
 18 amendments.

19 And I think it's fair to say that this  
 20 truly has been going on for years. This  
 21 process started when we had a land owner on the

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1 upper portions of the Tred Avon River who had a  
 2 bank slump or bank failure, but it was not  
 3 caused by undercutting of wave action or  
 4 erosion at the base of the slope.  
 5 So their slope, they have a high bank, and  
 6 it was slumping from the top. The bottom was  
 7 stable. And we were stuck in a position where  
 8 MDE basically said we'll permit you to install  
 9 a shoreline protection, but we weren't losing  
 10 shoreline.  
 11 And the Critical Area Commission said  
 12 well, we won't let you put a structure in the  
 13 buffer, even though what was needed is a  
 14 structure to stabilize the top of the bank, not  
 15 the base of the bank.  
 16 We spent probably six months working  
 17 through that. And ultimately, it took having  
 18 regulators visit the site and observe the  
 19 conditions, leave, and then be called back  
 20 three months later and see that literally four  
 21 feet of the yard that they observed a couple of

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1 months earlier was now 18 or 12 inches lower  
 2 than that was when they walked on it previously  
 3 and to say you know what, we need to do  
 4 something.  
 5 So we ultimately found a regulatory  
 6 solution that was the right solution. It  
 7 solved the problem. But the county code really  
 8 didn't have a way to address it.  
 9 So this, that generated discussions with  
 10 Mary Kay about a need to have a text amendment  
 11 to address shoreline stabilization.  
 12 Conversations about how we would  
 13 accomplish that identified that the county  
 14 planning staff had a number of pier-related  
 15 text amendments that they sort of kept on a  
 16 notepad and intended to address at some point  
 17 when text amendments started.  
 18 And the process sort of continued to  
 19 evolve through Mary Kay's tenure, through  
 20 Miguel's tenure, into Brennan's tenure. And  
 21 ultimately, it culminated in what's before you,

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1 which is a comprehensive set of  
 2 applicant-driven and staff-driven text  
 3 amendments that Critical Areas Commission has  
 4 looked at and commented on, the county Planning  
 5 Commission has ultimately recommended approval  
 6 of, and we're before you this evening.  
 7 A number of these amendments are really  
 8 intended to have the Talbot County regulations  
 9 align with MDE's regulations. So finger piers,  
 10 for example, MDE permits finger piers the  
 11 length of a slip. Talbot County currently  
 12 limits them to 50 percent of the length of a  
 13 slip. And if you're trying to get lines on the  
 14 bow of a boat or maintain your boat on a finger  
 15 pier that is tapered and only goes halfway the  
 16 length of the slip, you understand that it's  
 17 not very safe or functional.  
 18 So some of these amendments are really  
 19 just intended to cause the county taxpayers to  
 20 have the same rights as anyone else in the  
 21 State enjoys.

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1 Mr. Tarleton noted at the end of his  
 2 comments the amendment that would allow people  
 3 who have piers that exceed 150 feet in length  
 4 to put a boatlift on their pier. And what he  
 5 described is entirely correct. I just want to  
 6 make sure that we don't leave anyone with a  
 7 misimpression.  
 8 That does not allow someone to construct a  
 9 longer pier. If you have a 140-foot pier, you  
 10 could build 150 feet. You could add ten more  
 11 feet to your pier and you could put a lift on  
 12 it.  
 13 If you have a 200-foot pier and it doesn't  
 14 allow you to extend that pier, but it does  
 15 allow you to hang a boatlift on the side of the  
 16 pier beyond 150 feet from the shoreline. And  
 17 so you're allowed to utilize the full length of  
 18 it, but you couldn't orient your lift on the  
 19 end of the pier so that your pier functionally  
 20 became longer. Couldn't make it more  
 21 nonconforming, but you could use the

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1 nonconforming portion of it.  
 2 Another material change that drove these  
 3 amendments is we're seeing an increasing  
 4 awareness and guidance from MDE to minimize  
 5 impacts to submerged aquatic vegetation. And  
 6 the main problems with SAV and piers arise from  
 7 shading, number one. And the second is from  
 8 crop wash. When you put a boat in and out of  
 9 gear, that water flow disturbs the bed, stirs  
 10 up sediment, can even blow plants out of the  
 11 sediment or cloud them and shade them.  
 12 And so what MDE likes to see, where  
 13 possible, is slips or lifts occur in deeper  
 14 water where it's deeper than sunlight  
 15 penetrates. So the shallow waters where you  
 16 find SAVs, once you get beyond a certain depth,  
 17 you have less vegetation and, therefore, less  
 18 impact associated with slips.  
 19 Where you have folks in the county that  
 20 have nonconforming piers today, for example,  
 21 they may have 300 feet, 300 square feet of

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1 platform area. They're only allowed 200 square  
 2 feet. MDE would be happy to see that platform  
 3 area relocated over deeper water or see slips  
 4 reconfigured into deeper water to minimize the  
 5 impact on that submerged vegetation.  
 6 Under the current rules, a property owner  
 7 has the option of reducing the environmental  
 8 footprint and conforming with MDE's wishes and  
 9 building a new pier that complies entirely with  
 10 the code or replacing it in-kind. You don't  
 11 have the ability to keep essentially what you  
 12 have, but modify it to be more environmentally  
 13 sensitive. So that's another major driver for  
 14 those amendments.  
 15 And I think with that, I'll pause and see  
 16 if there are specific questions.  
 17 MR. LESHER: I did have some specific  
 18 questions, but you've addressed them. Thank  
 19 you.  
 20 MR. SHOWALTER: Great.  
 21 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. We're good? Okay.

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1 Okay. Thank you, guys. Appreciate it.  
 2 Anybody else would like to speak on 1528?  
 3 All right.  
 4 At this time, Madam Secretary, do we want  
 5 to close the public hearing?  
 6 SECRETARY: We can.  
 7 MR. CALLAHAN: I can. Okay. Want to open  
 8 for discussion? You good? Okay.  
 9 Yeah. Go ahead.  
 10 MR. LESHER: I do want to thank the  
 11 Planning Office for bringing this to a  
 12 conclusion and for all your work on this. I'm  
 13 certainly aware of a great variety of different  
 14 pier configurations and nonconformities in  
 15 various places around the county and dealing  
 16 with these complexities. It's nice to get some  
 17 clarity about a way forward with these.  
 18 And I just want to thank you for the clear  
 19 guidance on this.  
 20 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Good. Okay. So we  
 21 will be scheduled to vote on this April 28th.

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1 MS. MORRIS: I'm sorry. 25th. That was  
 2 my error.  
 3 MR. CALLAHAN: No problem. I make them  
 4 all the time.  
 5 So we'll be voting on that April 25th.  
 6 Okay.  
 7 Next up, Mr. Stamp is up with county  
 8 manager report.  
 9 MR. STAMP: Good evening, Council.  
 10 MR. CALLAHAN: They don't like you. They  
 11 all left.  
 12 MR. STAMP: I don't take it personally.  
 13 Thank you, Council. Under county manager  
 14 report this evening, board and committee  
 15 vacancies.  
 16 Requesting the appointment of Mr. Terry  
 17 Satchell from the University of Maryland  
 18 Medical System Shore Regional Health to the  
 19 Commission on Aging.  
 20 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay.  
 21 MR. LESHER: I'll move the appointment.



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1 MS. MIELKE: Second.  
 2 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. We got a motion and  
 3 second to put Mr. Satchell on the Aging  
 4 Committee.  
 5 MR. STAMP: Commission on Aging, yes.  
 6 MR. CALLAHAN: Yup.  
 7 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.  
 8 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.  
 9 SECRETARY: Mr. Stepp.  
 10 MR. STEPP: Aye.  
 11 SECRETARY: Mr. Leshner.  
 12 MR. LESHNER: Aye.  
 13 SECRETARY: Ms. Mielke.  
 14 MS. MIELKE: Aye.  
 15 SECRETARY: Ms. Haythe.  
 16 MS. HAYTHE: Aye.  
 17 MR. STAMP: And just an announcement,  
 18 again. The county has a number of vacancies  
 19 available on other boards and committees. If  
 20 you are interest in serving, please contact the  
 21 county manager's office at 410-770-8010 or

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1 visit our website at <https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/HosFCmZPZ8CGvEkhOE76j?domain=talbotcountymd.gov>.  
 2 Vacancies exist on the following: The  
 3 Adult Public Guardianship Review Board,  
 4 Agricultural Resolution Board, Animal Control  
 5 Board, Board of Appeals, the Board of  
 6 Electrical Examiners, Commission on Aging,  
 7 Historic Preservation Commission, Public Works  
 8 Advisory Board, Talbot County Local Drug and  
 9 Alcohol Abuse Council, and the Talbot County  
 10 Property Tax Assessment and Appeals Board.  
 11 So I wanted to just share that with the  
 12 public in case we have anyone that wants to  
 13 volunteer.  
 14 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Thank you.  
 15 MR. STAMP: The next item I have is a  
 16 request from the Department of Economic  
 17 Development and Tourism. Ask Cassandra  
 18 Vanhooser to come up, the director.  
 19 They're interested in filing an  
 20 application for the Maryland Heritage Area  
 21 Authority capital grant for the Frederick

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1 Douglass audio driving tour.  
 2 And she'll provide detail and be able to  
 3 answer questions.  
 4 MS. VANHOOSER: Good evening, Council. So  
 5 this is a simple letter of support for an MHA  
 6 grant.  
 7 And actually, in the preliminary  
 8 assessment with the Stories of the Chesapeake  
 9 Heritage Area, I got 100 on my grant  
 10 application, which has never happened to me  
 11 before. So I was very pleased with that.  
 12 This is to take our current driving tours,  
 13 which are featured in this brochure and on our  
 14 website, and make an audio driving tour out of  
 15 that.  
 16 Kenneth Morris, who is the  
 17 great-great-great-grandson of Frederick  
 18 Douglass, has agreed to voice this for us.  
 19 This will be a on-demand service for guides.  
 20 We don't have very many guides who are doing  
 21 the Frederick Douglass tours here, and we think

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1 this will really enrich the experience.  
 2 And just to tell you how important it is,  
 3 I had a lady in today with this brochure. She  
 4 and her husband had done all four driving tours  
 5 today. And I said well, interesting that you  
 6 should come in today because I'm going to  
 7 Council tonight to ask for a letter of support.  
 8 And she said oh, it would have been amazing to  
 9 hear his voice and hear Frederick Douglass's  
 10 words being spoken as we drove through the  
 11 countryside here. She commented on the  
 12 cultural landscapes here and how special they  
 13 are and how different they are from other  
 14 places. So I think it will be a great asset  
 15 for us.  
 16 This is a \$50,000 grant request and you  
 17 can match this. It has to be matched at 100  
 18 percent. You can match it with any combination  
 19 of in-kind or cash. We have a small amount of  
 20 cash in the budget for projects like this, but  
 21 I believe we'll be able to match it with

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|---|---|
| <p>1 Kenneth Morris's generous contribution of his<br/>2 time, which counts toward a match.<br/>3 So that's my request.<br/>4 MR. CALLAHAN: That's great. Okay. With<br/>5 that said, is there a motion?<br/>6 MR. LESHAR: Mr. Callahan, I will say I<br/>7 will vote on this here, knowing that I will<br/>8 have to recuse myself on the State body, the<br/>9 MHA, where I sit. But I think I'm safe. Given<br/>10 that, I think I'm safe offering the motion to<br/>11 offer the letter of support.<br/>12 MS. HAYTHE: Second.<br/>13 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. We got a motion and<br/>14 second. Madam Secretary, could you call the<br/>15 vote.<br/>16 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.<br/>17 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.<br/>18 SECRETARY: Mr. Stepp.<br/>19 MR. STEPP: Aye.<br/>20 SECRETARY: Mr. Leshar.<br/>21 MR. LESHAR: Aye.</p>   | <p>1 recommend its passage.<br/>2 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay.<br/>3 MR. LESHAR: I'll move for approval.<br/>4 MS. HAYTHE: Second.<br/>5 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. We got a motion and<br/>6 second for approval. Madam Secretary, could<br/>7 you call the vote.<br/>8 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.<br/>9 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.<br/>10 SECRETARY: Mr. Stepp.<br/>11 MR. STEPP: Aye.<br/>12 SECRETARY: Mr. Leshar.<br/>13 MR. LESHAR: Aye.<br/>14 SECRETARY: Ms. Mielke.<br/>15 MS. MIELKE: Aye.<br/>16 SECRETARY: Ms. Haythe.<br/>17 MS. HAYTHE: Aye.<br/>18 MR. STAMP: And finally, I do have one<br/>19 more item. And that is asking Council to<br/>20 declare Tuesday, April 18, 2023, as a special<br/>21 legislative day. This is for the purpose of</p>               |
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| <p>1 SECRETARY: Ms. Mielke.<br/>2 MS. MIELKE: Aye.<br/>3 SECRETARY: Ms. Haythe.<br/>4 MS. HAYTHE: Aye.<br/>5 MS. VANHOOSER: Thank you so much.<br/>6 MR. CALLAHAN: Thank you. Good job.<br/>7 MR. STAMP: Thank you, Cassandra.<br/>8 And finally, Council, we're asking<br/>9 Council's approval of a memorandum of<br/>10 understanding that you have in your packet<br/>11 between Caroline County, Kent County, and<br/>12 Talbot County and Delmarva Community Services<br/>13 for the regional transit service.<br/>14 Again, as you read in your packet, I'm<br/>15 requesting Council approval for a second<br/>16 addendum to the memorandum of understanding<br/>17 between Caroline, Kent, and Talbot County and<br/>18 Delmarva Community Services for regional public<br/>19 transit services.<br/>20 The agreement has been reviewed by legal<br/>21 counsel for each of the bodies, and they do</p> | <p>1 introducing the FY24 annual budget ordinance.<br/>2 And if approved, the meeting will begin at<br/>3 six p.m.<br/>4 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay.<br/>5 MR. LESHAR: I'll move for the special<br/>6 legislative day, even though I won't actually<br/>7 be here.<br/>8 MS. MIELKE: I might not be here, either.<br/>9 MS. HAYTHE: Second.<br/>10 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. We got a motion and<br/>11 second for a special legislation on April 18th.<br/>12 Madam Secretary, could you call the vote.<br/>13 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.<br/>14 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.<br/>15 SECRETARY: Mr. Stepp.<br/>16 MR. STEPP: Aye.<br/>17 SECRETARY: Mr. Leshar.<br/>18 MR. LESHAR: Aye.<br/>19 SECRETARY: Ms. Mielke.<br/>20 MS. MIELKE: Aye.<br/>21 SECRETARY: Ms. Haythe.</p> |

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1 MS. HAYTHE: Aye.  
 2 MR. STAMP: Council, that completes your  
 3 county manager report for this week. Thank you  
 4 very much.  
 5 MR. CALLAHAN: Yup. Thank you. Good job.  
 6 Okay.  
 7 So up next is public comment. He's  
 8 smiling, he's smiling. He's got something for  
 9 us. Nothing? Okay.  
 10 Hey, Jess, do we have a list out there?  
 11 MS. MORRIS: No, we do not.  
 12 MR. CALLAHAN: We didn't. Okay. Anybody  
 13 here?  
 14 How are you, Ms. Rose, tonight? Good.  
 15 How you doing? Nice seeing you.  
 16 MS. ROSE: Thank you.  
 17 MR. CALLAHAN: Ms. Carol got something  
 18 back there? We're good. All right. Are we  
 19 good back here? All right, then. We'll go  
 20 ahead and close the public comment.  
 21 And next up is Council comment. You want

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1 to start us off, Mr. Stepp.  
 2 MR. STEPP: Sure. Just in typical format  
 3 here, just like to tell you what Council has  
 4 been up to since our last meeting.  
 5 A lot of budget stuff. So, again, a big  
 6 huge thank you to our team sitting here in  
 7 front of us as well as our finance team and our  
 8 departments who have worked with Council here  
 9 over the last actually at this point almost  
 10 what.  
 11 MR. CALLAHAN: A couple months.  
 12 MR. STEPP: Yeah. For getting this FY24  
 13 budget. So sincere thank you to all for all  
 14 that's going into that. We hope to make the  
 15 county proud.  
 16 As far as just some out and about in the  
 17 community last. The day after our last  
 18 meeting, we took our Vietnam proclamation over  
 19 to the VFW and met with the folks over there.  
 20 Quite a moving, quite a moving presentation.  
 21 It's good to hear a lot from the vets and very


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1 touching stories for sure.  
 2 And then we had a very productive meeting  
 3 with the Town of Easton over the Easton Point  
 4 project that they're proposing. So a lot of  
 5 great things to come in regards to that project  
 6 as that moves forward.  
 7 So that's all I have today.  
 8 And looking forward to celebrating Talbot  
 9 Day. So thanks to Council lastly for passing  
 10 that. I think we'll see some great things out  
 11 of our community as that proliferates here.  
 12 So thank you, all.  
 13 MR. CALLAHAN: Thank you.  
 14 Mr. Leshner.  
 15 MR. LESHNER: Mr. Callahan, I've said  
 16 plenty. I have nothing further.  
 17 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay.  
 18 MS. MIELKE: I just wanted to -- David  
 19 spoke for me about the veterans, Vietnam vets  
 20 memorial. And it was indeed touching to hear  
 21 those veterans and their tales and how 50 years

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1 later, how they're still affected by that war.  
 2 And I was proud to be able to give them that  
 3 proclamation. I think that they were pleased,  
 4 too.  
 5 MR. STEPP: Lynn, could you mention the  
 6 pinning, just what they did there, too, the  
 7 pinning event that they had?  
 8 MS. MIELKE: Oh, yes, yes.  
 9 And they offered to pin, give little pins  
 10 to all the veterans. And it was quite a group.  
 11 And as you said, the tales and the stories  
 12 were just heart wrenching and touching,  
 13 interesting. Thank you.  
 14 MS. HAYTHE: Nothing from me.  
 15 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. I just, like  
 16 Mr. Stepp said, just appreciate everything you  
 17 do for us. I know we're coming down to the end  
 18 of the budget, and you guys have done a great  
 19 job. So we really appreciate it.  
 20 And we appreciate our man down here, Greg,  
 21 too. You're protecting us. Thanks a lot.

1 And I really appreciate the public being  
 2 out here and you guys from Trappe being here,  
 3 you know. We do the best we can to support  
 4 you, and we appreciate everything you do for  
 5 us. Okay. We really do.  
 6 So being that's said, Mr. Leshner.  
 7 MR. LESHNER: The County Council's next  
 8 meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 18th,  
 9 beginning at six o'clock p.m., which has been  
 10 declared a special legislative day. The  
 11 Council will be convening in open session at  
 12 5:15 p.m. and then adjourning into closed  
 13 session to discuss real estate, legal, and  
 14 personnel matters, as listed on the statement  
 15 for closing that meeting.  
 16 Therefore, is there a motion to adjourn  
 17 this meeting and reconvene as noted?  
 18 MS. HAYTHE: So moved.  
 19 MR. STEPP: Second.  
 20 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. We got a motion and  
 21 second. Madam Secretary.

1 STATE OF MARYLAND  
 2 I, Diane Houlihan, a Notary Public in and  
 3 for the State of Maryland, County of Baltimore City,  
 4 do hereby certify that the within named, Talbot  
 5 County Council Audio, personally appeared before me  
 6 at the time and place herein set according to law,  
 7 was interrogated by counsel.  
 8  
 9 I further certify that the examination was  
 10 recorded stenographically by me and then transcribed  
 11 from my stenographic notes to the within printed  
 12 matter by means of computer-assisted transcription  
 13 in a true and accurate manner.  
 14  
 15 I further certify that the stipulations  
 16 contained herein were entered into by counsel in my  
 17 presence.  
 18  
 19 I further certify that I am not of counsel  
 20 to any of the parties, not an employee of counsel,  
 21 nor related to any of the parties, nor in any way  
 interested in the outcome of this action.  
 AS WITNESS my hand Notarial Seal this 19th  
 day of April, 2023, in Easton, MD.  
  
 Diane Houlihan  
 Notary Public  
 My commission expires September 16, 2025

1 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.  
 2 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.  
 3 SECRETARY: Mr. Stepp.  
 4 MR. STEPP: Aye.  
 5 SECRETARY: Mr. Leshner.  
 6 MR. LESHNER: Aye.  
 7 SECRETARY: Ms. Mielke.  
 8 MS. MIELKE: Aye.  
 9 SECRETARY: Ms. Haythe.  
 10 MS. HAYTHE: Aye.  
 11 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Good night,  
 12 everybody. Thank you.  
 13 MR. STEPP: Thank you, all.  
 14 (Meeting concluded at: 7:40 p.m.)  
 15  
 16  
 17  
 18  
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 20  
 21

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|--|--|--|---|
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