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COUNTY COUNCIL OF TALBOT COUNTY, MARYLAND

Council Meeting

August 22, 2023, 5:00 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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<p>1 TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS</p> <p>2</p> <p>3 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Let's go ahead and</p> <p>4 get ready to get started. Okay. Great.</p> <p>5 Welcome tonight, everybody. We got a packed</p> <p>6 house. I'm glad you guys are here and looking</p> <p>7 forward to hearing from you.</p> <p>8 So let's start off with tonight's prayer</p> <p>9 and stand for the Pledge of Allegiance of the</p> <p>10 Flag.</p> <p>11 (Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance.)</p> <p>12 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. That was great.</p> <p>13 Okay. Like I say, welcome everybody this</p> <p>14 evening.</p> <p>15 Let's start off with the agenda. Council</p> <p>16 has had the agenda in front of them. Is there</p> <p>17 any additions, deletions, or corrections to the</p> <p>18 agenda?</p> <p>19 MS. MIELKE: Yes.</p> <p>20 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay.</p> <p>21 MS. MIELKE: A motion to -- thank you. A</p>	<p>1 MS. MIELKE: Aye.</p> <p>2 SECRETARY: Ms. Haythe.</p> <p>3 MS. HAYTHE: Aye.</p> <p>4 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Any other changes?</p> <p>5 Okay. All right.</p> <p>6 Next on the agenda is the minutes, minutes</p> <p>7 of August 8th before us. Are there any</p> <p>8 additions, deletions, or corrections to the</p> <p>9 minutes? Okay. Hearing none, the chair moves</p> <p>10 that the minutes be accepted as unanimous</p> <p>11 consent.</p> <p>12 Disbursements of August 15th and</p> <p>13 August 22nd. We've had a chance to take a look</p> <p>14 at them. Is there any additions, deletions, or</p> <p>15 corrections to the disbursements? Okay.</p> <p>16 Hearing none, the chair moves that the</p> <p>17 disbursements be accepted as unanimous consent.</p> <p>18 Okay.</p> <p>19 So first thing up tonight is a</p> <p>20 Proclamation of National Preparedness Month.</p> <p>21 You want to come on up? Yeah.</p>
Page 3	Page 5
<p>1 motion to reconsider the discussion of July, of</p> <p>2 the July 21, 2023, letter from the Maryland</p> <p>3 Department of the Environment and the request</p> <p>4 for direction on how we should proceed.</p> <p>5 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay.</p> <p>6 MR. STAMP: And I think, Council</p> <p>7 President, if she wants to inject that into,</p> <p>8 making that item number 11 and moving the</p> <p>9 county manager report to item number 12 and on</p> <p>10 down.</p> <p>11 MR. LESHER: I'll second.</p> <p>12 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. I got a motion and</p> <p>13 second to put that on the agenda. Madam</p> <p>14 Secretary, could you call the vote.</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. Leshner.</p> <p>20 MR. LESHER: Aye.</p> <p>21 SECRETARY: Ms. Mielke.</p>	<p>1 MR. LeCATES: Good evening, Council.</p> <p>2 Brian LeCates, director of Emergency Services.</p> <p>3 I'd like to introduce Geneva Schaffle. She is</p> <p>4 our division chief of Emergency Management. So</p> <p>5 this is a great opportunity to be before</p> <p>6 Council and before the community to talk about</p> <p>7 emergency preparedness.</p> <p>8 I'll turn it to over to Geneva to talk a</p> <p>9 little bit about that.</p> <p>10 MS. SCHAFFLE: Sure. Thank you for having</p> <p>11 me. I'm Geneva Schaffle.</p> <p>12 This National Preparedness Month happens</p> <p>13 every September, and we are approaching</p> <p>14 hurricane season. This week has been very</p> <p>15 active. So it's very timely. And thought it</p> <p>16 was a great time to remind our community the</p> <p>17 importance of preparedness.</p> <p>18 Our county works really hard and</p> <p>19 progressive with all of our partners across</p> <p>20 stakeholders, private, nonprofit, public to</p> <p>21 prepare all year long.</p>

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1 A couple of things that the community can
 2 do. They can visit ready.gov. It's a federal
 3 resource that has a long list of preparedness
 4 items from natural to manmade hazards. We
 5 offer Talbot alerts here, Talbot County citizen
 6 alerts. That is our reverse 911 where we can
 7 reach out to the public, notify you of weather
 8 emergencies, other emergencies that are going
 9 on. And then also, we have preparedness
 10 materials on our talbotdes.org website.
 11 I also wanted to take this time to give a
 12 plug to our Planning and Zoning folks. They
 13 work really hard all year long to keep up our
 14 community rating system here in Talbot County.
 15 And what that does for our residents is give
 16 them discount premium insurance rates on flood
 17 insurance. So this is also the time to pull
 18 out your insurance policies, know what's in
 19 your insurance policies, and make sure that you
 20 are prepared for a storm season, as we're
 21 coming to a peak here in September.

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1 MR. CALLAHAN: That's great. Council.
 2 MS. HAYTHE: I just want to thank you for
 3 coming in and making the public aware of this.
 4 It's very important, and to remind me to check
 5 my insurance as well. That's a good point.
 6 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay.
 7 MS. MIELKE: Thank you for being here and
 8 giving us this insight.
 9 MR. LESHER: We just see time and time
 10 again how you are helping the community. And
 11 with this awareness, helping the community help
 12 itself. So thank you.
 13 MR. STEPP: So Geneva and Brian, thank you
 14 guys for what you do.
 15 Geneva, I love your e-mails. They are
 16 very thorough. You let everyone know exactly
 17 what's going on.
 18 I want to highlight, too, the reverse 911.
 19 If anyone hasn't done that, please do that.
 20 Anything from weather emergency to the events
 21 we had a couple of weeks ago. You guys do a

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1 phenomenal job with keeping us informed. So
 2 keep doing what you're doing.
 3 Thank you.
 4 MS. SCHAFFLE: Can I do one more shameless
 5 plug?
 6 We also do a lot of preparedness in our
 7 side of the house, but also for the community.
 8 We are about to launch our fall community
 9 emergency response training. I have like three
 10 more spots left. You can go on our website and
 11 Facebook to find out more information. But you
 12 get seven weeks of me talking about all
 13 preparedness things as well as our local first
 14 responders help teach the course, disaster
 15 preparedness, basic medical things. So we have
 16 a couple of spots left if anyone is interested.
 17 MR. CALLAHAN: Great. Mr. Stamp.
 18 MR. STAMP: Thank you, Mr. Council
 19 President. I know what I would say is Talbot
 20 County has always been very aggressive when it
 21 comes to the issue of preparedness.

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1 We can look around the country right now
 2 and see evidence of the importance of
 3 preparedness. We can look at Hawaii, we can
 4 look at southern California.
 5 We all know that we live on the coast of
 6 the Chesapeake Bay. A bunch of our community
 7 is out in the Bay Hundred, which is out in the
 8 Chesapeake Bay. So we're very prone to
 9 flooding.
 10 I would like to just praise Geneva and
 11 Brian. But more importantly or as importantly,
 12 the community that takes it serious. And so an
 13 informed community is a strong community.
 14 So the key is to connect with Emergency
 15 Services today on a sunny day so that when the
 16 storm clouds come in, you're connected, you can
 17 get timely information, and we can respond to
 18 help. And more importantly, you can take
 19 action ahead of time to protect yourself.
 20 Thanks.
 21 MR. CALLAHAN: Thank you.

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<p>1 Madam Secretary, could you go ahead and</p> <p>2 read this into the record, please.</p> <p>3 SECRETARY: Proclamation, National</p> <p>4 Preparedness Month, September 2023.</p> <p>5 Whereas, National Preparedness Month is a</p> <p>6 nationwide coordinated effort sponsored by the</p> <p>7 Federal Emergency Management Agency, FEMA, each</p> <p>8 September to encourage Americans to prepare for</p> <p>9 emergencies in their homes, businesses, and</p> <p>10 schools.</p> <p>11 And whereas, this event aims to increase</p> <p>12 public awareness concerning the importance of</p> <p>13 preparing for emergencies and to encourage</p> <p>14 individuals to take action.</p> <p>15 And whereas, during the month of</p> <p>16 September, the Talbot County Department of</p> <p>17 Emergency Services, DES, will urge residents to</p> <p>18 take measures to help ensure they and their</p> <p>19 families are better prepared for emergencies,</p> <p>20 both natural and manmade, thereby building a</p> <p>21 more resilient community.</p>	<p>1 County officially recognizes the Talbot County</p> <p>2 Department of Emergency Services and its</p> <p>3 community partners, including the local</p> <p>4 Emergency Planning Committee, the Talbot County</p> <p>5 Department of Social Services, the Talbot</p> <p>6 County Health Department, Talbot County Public</p> <p>7 Schools, our volunteer fire departments and law</p> <p>8 enforcement agencies, as well as the many other</p> <p>9 volunteer and civic organizations that</p> <p>10 routinely offer their invaluable services to</p> <p>11 our community.</p> <p>12 Now, therefore, we, the County Council of</p> <p>13 Talbot County, do hereby proclaim</p> <p>14 September 2023 as National Preparedness Month</p> <p>15 in Talbot County and do commend this observance</p> <p>16 to all our citizens.</p> <p>17 Given under our hands in the great seal of</p> <p>18 Talbot County this 22nd day of August in the</p> <p>19 year of our Lord, 2023.</p> <p>20 MR. CALLAHAN: Thank you, Madam Secretary.</p> <p>21 Do I have a motion?</p>
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<p>1 And whereas, preparing and planning now</p> <p>2 before a disaster, is the best way to improve</p> <p>3 community resiliency.</p> <p>4 And whereas, throughout the year, the</p> <p>5 Talbot County Department of Emergency Services</p> <p>6 promotes emergency preparedness by maintaining</p> <p>7 preparedness information on the Talbot County</p> <p>8 website, by giving presentations throughout the</p> <p>9 community on the importance of preparedness, by</p> <p>10 providing printed information to groups,</p> <p>11 agencies, and citizens, by encouraging</p> <p>12 community-based training on how to be prepared</p> <p>13 and how to assist one's neighbors in</p> <p>14 emergencies, by connecting with residents and</p> <p>15 visitors electronically via social media, a</p> <p>16 smart phone app, and mass notification</p> <p>17 services, and by maintaining the Talbot County</p> <p>18 emergency operations plan and Talbot County</p> <p>19 community resilience and hazard mitigation</p> <p>20 plan.</p> <p>21 And whereas, the County Council of Talbot</p>	<p>1 MR. STEPP: So moved.</p> <p>2 MR. LESHAR: Second.</p> <p>3 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Got a motion and</p> <p>4 second. Madam Secretary, could you call the</p> <p>5 vote, please.</p> <p>6 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.</p> <p>7 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.</p> <p>8 SECRETARY: Mr. Stepp.</p> <p>9 MR. STEPP: Aye.</p> <p>10 SECRETARY: Mr. Leshar.</p> <p>11 MR. LESHAR: Aye.</p> <p>12 SECRETARY: Ms. Mielke.</p> <p>13 MS. MIELKE: Aye.</p> <p>14 SECRETARY: Ms. Haythe.</p> <p>15 MS. HAYTHE: Aye.</p> <p>16 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Come on up.</p> <p>17 Thank you. Appreciate all your hard work.</p> <p>18 MS. SCHAFFLE: Thank you.</p> <p>19 MR. LeCATES: Thank you.</p> <p>20 MS. KILMON: Ready? Good, guys. Thank</p> <p>21 you.</p>

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<p>1 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Next on the agenda</p> <p>2 here we have a presentation of is it Elgin?</p> <p>3 MRS. HAWLEY: Elgin.</p> <p>4 MR. CALLAHAN: Yes, yes. Come on up.</p> <p>5 Yup. I see you brought your Army here.</p> <p>6 MRS. HAWLEY: Yes.</p> <p>7 MR. CALLAHAN: That's good. Anybody that</p> <p>8 would like to come up, please come up.</p> <p>9 MISS HAWLEY: Hi. My name is Elgin</p> <p>10 Hawley. I'm 17 years old, a senior.</p> <p>11 And if you don't know me, at 15 I had a</p> <p>12 brain aneurysm, which caused a hemorrhagic</p> <p>13 stroke. It all happened on August 18, 2021,</p> <p>14 during EHS field hockey tryouts.</p> <p>15 I was having a good practice, although it</p> <p>16 was really hot. I was sure I was going to be</p> <p>17 the starting goalkeeper on the varsity team, a</p> <p>18 dream of mine since I was in kindergarten.</p> <p>19 At about 8:30, I took a drink of water.</p> <p>20 And then in an instant, I took a knee and fell</p> <p>21 to the ground. It was at that time my aneurysm</p>	<p>1 and every one of them while in KKI. And on</p> <p>2 November 6th, I walked out of my KKI on my own.</p> <p>3 I was already crying leaving this part of my</p> <p>4 life, but then I started to cry even more when</p> <p>5 I was surprised by my brother at the entrance</p> <p>6 to give me a hug. It was a very emotional</p> <p>7 moment.</p> <p>8 From there, I entered at KKI's intensive</p> <p>9 outpatient program because I was making such</p> <p>10 gains. So I got to work and I haven't stopped</p> <p>11 since.</p> <p>12 I was about three -- it was about</p> <p>13 three a.m. in the hotel in Baltimore while I</p> <p>14 was looking out on the city, and that's when it</p> <p>15 hit me. I will never play field hockey again,</p> <p>16 and that's when I finally broke down.</p> <p>17 Field hockey has been a huge part of my</p> <p>18 life for so long and for it to go to waste just</p> <p>19 like that. No gift you could get me close to</p> <p>20 what field hockey has given me or meant to me.</p> <p>21 It gave me family, it gave me love, and it</p>
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<p>1 ruptured and I was taken by ambulance to Easton</p> <p>2 Hospital and then life-lighted to Johns</p> <p>3 Hopkins.</p> <p>4 I do not remember the helicopter ride, and</p> <p>5 I was really confused when I woke up, like</p> <p>6 where am I, what am I doing here.</p> <p>7 I could not walk, talk, or move my right</p> <p>8 side. I could just grunt or make noises to try</p> <p>9 and signal that my body hurt. It took almost</p> <p>10 two weeks to regain my speech ability, but</p> <p>11 speaking was just this first step into</p> <p>12 recovery.</p> <p>13 When I left Johns Hopkins, they put me in</p> <p>14 an inpatient center at Baltimore called Kennedy</p> <p>15 Krieger. I grew up to love that place. I'm</p> <p>16 not going to explain to you all of the stuff</p> <p>17 that happened to me there, but when I left, I</p> <p>18 could sit up, walk, and move Kevin. That's</p> <p>19 what I call my arm or hand, all thanks to</p> <p>20 occupational and physical therapy.</p> <p>21 I set goals each week and achieved each</p>	<p>1 gave me an outlet to forget all about my</p> <p>2 troubles.</p> <p>3 In May, I qualified for Make-A-Wish. And</p> <p>4 with a little brainstorming with my parents, I</p> <p>5 had decided a turf field.</p> <p>6 I thought my aneurysm would have only</p> <p>7 given me pain and hurt, but it gave me</p> <p>8 something else that I was unexpected.</p> <p>9 Perspective. It helped me reimage what I could</p> <p>10 be.</p> <p>11 And now, I'm managing field hockey, and it</p> <p>12 stings a lot. I have to let one of my goalies</p> <p>13 wear my gear. And although it is painful, it</p> <p>14 is the right thing.</p> <p>15 I think of my goalie gear as a second</p> <p>16 persona. And my goalie gear said let me play,</p> <p>17 let me go. And I did. And nothing is easy.</p> <p>18 A wise person once said you know how wild</p> <p>19 flowers are normally pitiful and ugly, well,</p> <p>20 some are beautiful, you just got to look for</p> <p>21 them under all the bush. The damaged stuff</p>

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1 leaves superficial scars all over your body.
 2 But if you dig deep, you will see something
 3 amazing. Below all my scars, I am me. This is
 4 me. You can't take away what's already been
 5 put into my mind, a don't-give-up mindset.
 6 And my coach, Andrea Chandler, said this
 7 is only temporary. And then she scribbled it
 8 on the inside of my shirt, my Elgin Army shirt.
 9 And my stroke is forever, but the damage
 10 that's been done, it's only short lived. This
 11 is only temporary. And although no one
 12 prepared me for what I was going to go through
 13 and there was really no way I could have been
 14 prepared for what was about to happen, I still
 15 handled it with ferocity and finesse, and I
 16 still did the impossible. And that is enough.
 17 I continue to work on my confidence. My
 18 aneurysm has definitely set me back, but I try
 19 to remember every coach's words like keep
 20 going, come on, don't you give up on me. In
 21 that moment, where you're already about to give

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1 up, but then you see the coach hasn't given up
 2 on you. Nobody gave up on me. And look where
 3 it got me. I push myself to the limit by just
 4 getting out of bed. And I wouldn't be the same
 5 person if I took no for an answer.
 6 We all make mistakes, and I'm no stranger
 7 to them. But this, the field, seems right. It
 8 is right.
 9 As a goalkeeper, I was just there to block
 10 shots. But now I see I'm part of the bigger
 11 picture. I was destined to do something
 12 greater than myself.
 13 My friends, my teammates deserve something
 14 more than a simple thank you.
 15 Therefore, I ask you to please think about
 16 how you can support my wish. Please help me
 17 give back to our community that has given so
 18 much love to me.
 19 Thank you for listening.
 20 MR. CALLAHAN: Thank you. That was
 21 beautiful, that was beautiful. You definitely

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1 are -- you should be very proud. You got a lot
 2 of -- what's the word? I'm kind of -- the
 3 strength that you have told us and the strength
 4 that you've got surrounding you means a lot.
 5 You're a very strong woman, very positive.
 6 I think a lot of people need a little bit of
 7 you in everybody. That's for sure, you know.
 8 So but I know, Dave, you brought this to
 9 us. So you want to say a little bit?
 10 MR. STEPP: Absolutely. Well, Jen --
 11 MRS. HAWLEY: Can I share a little bit?
 12 MR. STEPP: -- few words first?
 13 MR. CALLAHAN: Oh, sure, sure.
 14 Absolutely.
 15 MRS. HAWLEY: I'm a teacher. So I like to
 16 talk.
 17 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. No problem.
 18 MR. STEPP: I relate to them.
 19 MR. CALLAHAN: No problem.
 20 MRS. HAWLEY: I'm pretty loud when I get
 21 going.

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1 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay.
 2 MRS. HAWLEY: Good evening. My name is
 3 Jen Hawley, otherwise known as Mom.
 4 I'm here to talk to you about Elgin, a
 5 little bit about her and the Make-A-Wish.
 6 Elgin's story about how she ended up as a
 7 field hockey goalkeeper may be better told by
 8 Coach Andrea Chandler. However, the short
 9 version is that she rotated in goal during a
 10 soccer game when she was in third grade. She
 11 had never played soccer before, and Andrea, who
 12 did not even know her, was there watching her
 13 own daughter play.
 14 Anyway, Elgin ran all in to block a kick.
 15 Coach Andrea described what she witnessed from
 16 Elgin at that moment as fearless.
 17 The next fall when Coach Andrea was
 18 drafting players for her Parks and Rec team,
 19 Elgin, only in the fourth grade at that time,
 20 was on the list as the full-time goalkeeper.
 21 It was that season, 2014, that Elgin found her

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1 passion. She never missed a game, never missed
 2 a practice. She was one of the first on the
 3 field and the last to leave.
 4 From that moment on, she was committed.
 5 That was her it. I'm not sure how many of you
 6 in this room have a son or daughter who has
 7 found their passion, their it. I can say that
 8 there is nothing greater as a parent than
 9 watching your kiddo find it and want to spend
 10 their energy, effort doing it.
 11 And that is what she/we did from 2014 to
 12 2021. Parks and Rec, travel leagues,
 13 tournaments, indoor, outdoor, college clinics,
 14 YouTube training videos, watching college field
 15 hockey, watching tape of her play, constructing
 16 backyard goals out of PVC pipe. That's all we
 17 did.
 18 And as Elgin shared, on August 18, 2021,
 19 when Elgin was in the best shape of her life,
 20 positioned to be the starting goalie for her
 21 varsity high school team, a dream she had since

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1 she was little, she had a brain aneurysm while
 2 in goal at Easton High School. We never saw it
 3 coming.
 4 While I will never know how that felt for
 5 her and I will never know how she feels being
 6 so forcibly robbed of her dream, I do know that
 7 she did not spend any time dwelling on it. She
 8 recognized early on that there was nothing good
 9 for her there. As she read, it was an
 10 emotional time.
 11 Instead, she looked ahead at what could be
 12 and worked every day fighting her way back, not
 13 gracefully, but gritfully.
 14 Elgin is a true warrior. She epitomizes
 15 courage, resilience, persistence, compassion,
 16 and yes, is completely fearless.
 17 Elgin's love for her sport and her
 18 teammates is obvious in how she conducts
 19 herself on and off the field. On the field,
 20 she is the first to take a knee, something we
 21 all noticed when she was very young. Off the

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1 field, she is the first to offer a hug.
 2 So it should be no surprise to those who
 3 know E that she has made a selfless wish to
 4 support her fellow athletes in her community by
 5 asking Make-A-Wish for a turf field at Easton.
 6 I have been told that a turf field has
 7 been discussed extensively through the years in
 8 this county, but it has not come to fruition.
 9 I am also sure the financial benefits of a turf
 10 field have been considered. Like turf fields
 11 may have a higher upfront cost, but they have
 12 lower maintenance costs per year and will
 13 maintain their appearance over of the long-term
 14 compared to grass, etc.
 15 The motivation behind Elgin's wish
 16 completely lies in her love for sport, her
 17 fellow athletes, and the recognition that to be
 18 competitive with our region, we need to
 19 practice and play on turf because they do.
 20 The truth is the state of our fields do
 21 not allow for extra playing time or to be able

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1 to host regional tournament games, etc. And
 2 furthermore, they don't help make us as
 3 competitive with other teams, who both practice
 4 and play on turf.
 5 As I'm sure you all are aware, in 2019
 6 Queen Anne's County funded two turf fields to
 7 be built at Kent Island in Queen Anne's County
 8 High School. In addition to significant
 9 community support, much like you are seeing
 10 here tonight, it appears they were able to pay
 11 for the fields using Open Space funds, impact
 12 fees, and the county's capital project funds.
 13 So this raises questions to be answered
 14 maybe by this Council, such as is it possible
 15 for our county to connect with Queen Anne's
 16 County and try to model the same plan, do we
 17 actually have some of these monies available,
 18 and furthermore, are there any additional
 19 grants we can pursue.
 20 Your role in the success of this wish is
 21 vital. We absolutely need you.

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<p>1 In addition, my hope would be that we</p> <p>2 would also include Parks and Rec in the</p> <p>3 process.</p> <p>4 I have also heard that Queen Anne's County</p> <p>5 has made so much money off renting their fields</p> <p>6 that they can replace and maintain their fields</p> <p>7 over the long term.</p> <p>8 If you have ever been to the DE Turf</p> <p>9 Center in Delaware, you know how lucrative that</p> <p>10 kind of place could prove to be for a county.</p> <p>11 It could be a game changer for us.</p> <p>12 Ultimately, we believe the decision comes</p> <p>13 down to money and sure will. While we don't</p> <p>14 have the money quite yet, I can say the Hawleys</p> <p>15 certainly have the will, as do many of the</p> <p>16 coaches, athletes, and community members you</p> <p>17 see here tonight.</p> <p>18 And although Make-A-Wish is behind Elgin's</p> <p>19 wish 100 percent, saying that her request is</p> <p>20 both moving and compelling and a beautiful</p> <p>21 thing to put into the world, the maximum</p>	<p>1 19th with strong support from Elgin's Army,</p> <p>2 whereby each board member indicated their</p> <p>3 support and encouragement of this project</p> <p>4 during their public comment at the end of the</p> <p>5 meeting.</p> <p>6 Elgin also made the front page of The Star</p> <p>7 Democrat on Sunday, July 30th, where we shared</p> <p>8 much of her story. I hope you saw it.</p> <p>9 I met with Buck Duncan of the Mid-Shore</p> <p>10 Community Foundation, where he supported</p> <p>11 creating a fund for this project. He was also</p> <p>12 encouraged to know I was already on the agenda</p> <p>13 to speak here and encouraged me to speak at the</p> <p>14 Easton Town Council, which we are scheduled to</p> <p>15 do on September 5th.</p> <p>16 In addition, we have plans to contact</p> <p>17 WBOC, the Talbot Spy, and 94.3 Wings FM.</p> <p>18 In addition, I am working with Jay</p> <p>19 Kilbourne to create a steering committee made</p> <p>20 up of members of our community to help guide us</p> <p>21 in our fundraising efforts. We are hoping at</p>
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<p>1 support the Foundation could offer is a very</p> <p>2 small fraction of the cost of a turf field.</p> <p>3 While Make-A-Wish may not be able to do the</p> <p>4 heavy lift with funding, they are a well-known</p> <p>5 entity with incredibly large networks who can</p> <p>6 provide considerable leverage in our quest for</p> <p>7 potential donors.</p> <p>8 On August 15th, we received very exciting</p> <p>9 news that Field Turf USA, the company that has</p> <p>10 provided Easton High School with a bid for the</p> <p>11 field, has reduced their estimate by \$100,000</p> <p>12 in honor of Elgin's Make-A-Wish. Look at that,</p> <p>13 our first partner. After all, who wouldn't</p> <p>14 want to partner with Make-A-Wish.</p> <p>15 And I would especially like to thank</p> <p>16 Sherry Hewitt, chief operating officer of</p> <p>17 Make-A-Wish Mid-Atlantic Region, for taking</p> <p>18 time out of her busy schedule to join us in</p> <p>19 support this evening.</p> <p>20 So what else have we done to this point?</p> <p>21 Elgin and I spoke to TCPS board members on July</p>	<p>1 least one of you from this Council will help</p> <p>2 guide us in this process or even consider being</p> <p>3 a member of the committee.</p> <p>4 The challenge for us is that Elgin will be</p> <p>5 18 at the end of November and may likely time</p> <p>6 out of her wish if we cannot show significant</p> <p>7 funding progress or find committed funding</p> <p>8 partners to work with us in this effort.</p> <p>9 Ultimately, I am here to do nothing else</p> <p>10 but make Elgin's wish come true. I have no</p> <p>11 political agenda, I don't care who gets the</p> <p>12 credit, and I will not be distracted by these</p> <p>13 types of issues. Make no mistake, this wish is</p> <p>14 not for her but for those athletes coming after</p> <p>15 her in her community.</p> <p>16 Nothing is impossible. Look at Elgin.</p> <p>17 Listen to her story. Look at her Army. How</p> <p>18 can you not be inspired?</p> <p>19 Thank you for your time and thanks so much</p> <p>20 to Elgin's Army and Make-A-Wish for their</p> <p>21 unwavering support. Thank you.</p>

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1 MR. CALLAHAN: Thank you.
 2 MR. STEPP: Elgin, first, thank you for
 3 sharing your story again and continuing that.
 4 It's courageous, nothing short of.
 5 Jen, thank you for your comments as well.
 6 It was great to see you guys as well as
 7 all of Elgin's Army out there and sharing that
 8 in front of the board. Excited to hear about
 9 their support.
 10 Had some meetings already on this, and I
 11 think things look good.
 12 So this would obviously have to come
 13 across for us for a capital project for fiscal
 14 year 25.
 15 I know I'm excited, and I hope that TCPS
 16 brings that to us, which I will be in full
 17 support of. I couldn't agree more with
 18 everything you said about the -- just with
 19 where that would put us in the athletic program
 20 in Talbot County. Not only will Easton benefit
 21 from this, but St. Michael's sports could

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1 benefit from this as well, the county. And
 2 makes it possible even out in the private
 3 space.
 4 This will be nothing but a great thing for
 5 Talbot County, and you'll have my full support
 6 when it comes time. No doubt about it.
 7 MRS. HAWLEY: Thank you.
 8 MR. LESHER: Well, Elgin, Ms. Hawley,
 9 thank you.
 10 And I, too, see your inspiration is
 11 contagious. Your confidence, your courage in
 12 putting this together, the ambition to take on
 13 such a big project that will have a lasting
 14 impact on this community.
 15 So thank you. And I certainly look
 16 forward to next steps on this.
 17 MS. MIELKE: I'm just so impressed, I
 18 don't know what to say.
 19 I so admire your resiliency, your grit,
 20 the determination. And the support that you
 21 have engendered in this community is amazing.

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1 I think I am, you know, also impressed
 2 about the writing. And I think that's been
 3 very good. I'm very much in support of what
 4 you're doing, all of you. Thank you.
 5 MS. HAYTHE: So I'll echo what my
 6 colleagues said, Elgin. Thank you for sharing
 7 your story. I had not heard about your story.
 8 Very impressed.
 9 I mean words that Ms. Mielke just said. I
 10 was sitting here writing them down as you were
 11 just speaking. And it was courageous. I mean
 12 being courageous for all other teenagers in
 13 Talbot County.
 14 And then also grit and determination. I
 15 mean just to see that in you at a young age.
 16 We don't even see that sometimes in grown
 17 adults. So you know, that grit and
 18 determination, keep it going.
 19 I echo with -- you're her mother?
 20 MRS. HAWLEY: Yes, yes.
 21 MS. HAYTHE: Echo what Mom said in regards

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1 to reaching out to Queen Anne's County. So
 2 however we can do that or have Preston from
 3 Parks and Rec do that to see if Open Space
 4 would be a way to have funding for the turf
 5 field and also any additional grant
 6 opportunities that may be an option for this as
 7 well.
 8 So thank you again, and keep going with
 9 your grit and your determination. And just
 10 like Mom said, nothing is impossible.
 11 MISS HAWLEY: Thank you.
 12 MR. CALLAHAN: We're so proud of you.
 13 And I would like you guys to come on up.
 14 And I think, Council, this is a special lady,
 15 and I would like to go ahead and take a picture
 16 with her around.
 17 MR. STAMP: Do you want your whole Army up
 18 there?
 19 MRS. HAWLEY: Do you want your Army? Yes.
 20 SPEAKER: Assemble.
 21 MRS. HAWLEY: This is her brother.

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1 MS. HAYTHE: I was going to ask.
 2 MRS. HAWLEY: This is her brother.
 3 SPEAKER: Come on in. I don't know if we
 4 can all fit in here.
 5 MS. KILMON: There's so many of you guys.
 6 MR. STAMP: Now that's a picture.
 7 MR. CALLAHAN: Yup.
 8 MR. LESHNER: Mr. Callahan, I doubt we
 9 track these things, but I think we just set a
 10 new record.
 11 MR. CALLAHAN: I think we did. Yup.
 12 Okay. We set a record. Okay.
 13 Let's go ahead and get started. That was
 14 great. We really appreciate that. We
 15 definitely wish her luck and definitely we're
 16 going to support that.
 17 Next on the agenda is a presentation of
 18 Talbot County Public Schools on the design with
 19 Chapel East. Is Mr. Shafer, is he here?
 20 MR. STAMP: Kevin?
 21 MR. CALLAHAN: Is Kevin here?

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1 MS. MORRIS: Is he outside?
 2 MR. CALLAHAN: He might be out in the
 3 hallway or scared to come in, you know. Could
 4 be one of the two.
 5 I didn't see him. No. I didn't see him.
 6 MR. STAMP: So we have to readjust the
 7 agenda. I think he may have thought the
 8 meeting started at six. So (inaudible).
 9 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. That's fine.
 10 MR. STEPP: You need a motion?
 11 MR. LESHNER: I think the chair can carry
 12 on.
 13 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. So Mr. Shafer will
 14 be here in a little while. So we'll just skip
 15 to the next one.
 16 So we're going to skip to the public
 17 hearing so for the Community Block Grant. Yup.
 18 There she is. Sorry. How are you doing,
 19 Mary Kay?
 20 MS. VERDERY: Good.
 21 MR. CALLAHAN: Good, good. You just want

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1 to go ahead and tell us all about that.
 2 MS. VERDERY: Sure. Thank you very much
 3 for having me here this evening.
 4 MR. CALLAHAN: Yeah.
 5 MS. VERDERY: So I'm here with St. Vincent
 6 de Paul, and they are a counseling center.
 7 They provide assistance, they have a food
 8 pantry, they have a thrift store. And it's all
 9 operated by volunteers who serve those who are
 10 most in need in our community.
 11 In May, I was before you for a public
 12 hearing requesting Community Development Block
 13 Grant funding for this project for a 1,920
 14 square foot addition to their facility. And we
 15 received approval for that in July.
 16 However, we are before you again today
 17 asking for additional funds as they are
 18 proposing to expand the project to a 2,400
 19 square foot addition. And that would also
 20 include additional parking area and storm water
 21 management and all those things that are

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1 associated with an addition on a facility.
 2 So we're seeking additional \$160,000 from
 3 the Community Development Block Grant funding.
 4 So with that request, along with the
 5 originally-approved \$465,000 and the 180,000
 6 that St. Vincent de Paul is putting toward this
 7 project and the 6,000 in county administrative,
 8 the new project total will be \$811,000.
 9 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay.
 10 MS. VERDERY: So after today, our next
 11 steps will be completing the environmental
 12 review, hopefully a finding of no significant
 13 impact, and requesting the funds. And we hope
 14 to do that, have that completed and submitted
 15 by early September.
 16 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Great.
 17 MS. VERDERY: Then they can start their
 18 site plan review, their building permit
 19 applications, the bid selection, and all those
 20 things that are necessary to get the project
 21 moving.

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1 So we're before you today seeking public
 2 comment as well as Council support for the
 3 additional funding for this project.
 4 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. That sounds great.
 5 Okay.
 6 So like you said, it's a public hearing.
 7 And what we'll do, if anybody would like, we'll
 8 give you three minutes to come on up if you
 9 have anything to say about the grant. So I'll
 10 give you five minutes if you're representing
 11 somebody. So okay.
 12 On this side over here, would anybody like
 13 to come up and talk about the grant? Okay.
 14 Anybody here on my right, come on up and
 15 talk about the grant?
 16 MR. HANDY: Thanks, Mary Kay.
 17 MR. CALLAHAN: Yup. Yup. Welcome, guys.
 18 MR. HANDY: Hi. I'm Alex Handy. I'm
 19 president of the St. Vincent de Paul Society.
 20 MR. CALLAHAN: Yes, sir.
 21 MR. HANDY: And this is Mike, one of our

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1 board members, Mike Klein.
 2 MR. CALLAHAN: Yes, sir. Welcome.
 3 MR. KLEIN: Sounds important; doesn't it.
 4 MR. CALLAHAN: It really does, it really
 5 does.
 6 MR. KLEIN: The bottom line is that back
 7 in May, we screwed up when we looked at doing
 8 an expansion of the facility to deal with the
 9 problems that were in front of us. And then
 10 when that was approved, or the tentative
 11 approval, we said, you know what, maybe we
 12 should look farther than our nose here, maybe
 13 we should see what's happening to this facility
 14 and how can we put it in a position to be able
 15 to deal with the demand that's coming at us.
 16 And we came up -- I guess maybe everybody
 17 in the room. Do you know the rule of 72? It's
 18 an old math trick. It says you use it in
 19 investing. If you're making eight percent a
 20 year and you divide that into 72, and then in
 21 nine years you know your money doubles.

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1 Well, St. Vincent de Paul went through
 2 that exercise with food pantry growing at 20,
 3 30 percent. The supporting education, rent,
 4 utilities, health care, all those things
 5 growing as much as 40 percent. Well, divide
 6 those numbers in the rule of 72 and you can
 7 find out that real quick the demand at
 8 St. Vincent de Paul is going to double within
 9 years.
 10 So we then said okay, let's look at what's
 11 in front of us, how much can we expand the
 12 facility because we're certainly going to need
 13 a larger facility, a larger thrift store to
 14 support the expenditures, larger food bank, a
 15 larger what we call St. Vincent advisors, where
 16 people come in for counseling and we distribute
 17 money and whatnot.
 18 And so that's why it grew from 620 to 800,
 19 plus or minus.
 20 So we thought I wonder if they'd go for an
 21 increase. So we talked to Mary Kay, and she

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1 said why not give it a try.
 2 So that's why we're here.
 3 MR. CALLAHAN: That's great.
 4 MR. HANDY: Yeah. As Mike said, first six
 5 months of this year, and if you've been to a
 6 grocery store lately, you'll understand why,
 7 our food pantry is up 33 percent. Our
 8 financial assistance, and I know, Chuck, you're
 9 on the Neighborhood Service Center Board,
 10 they're sending a lot more people to us because
 11 they're overwhelmed. We're giving out money
 12 like drunken sailors. It's just unbelievable
 13 how much the demand has increased. A lot of
 14 homeless people, people that can't pay their
 15 rent.
 16 And you know, when there was a moratorium
 17 on paying rent during COVID and utilities
 18 couldn't be shut off and all, that's over.
 19 That honeymoon period is over and we're back
 20 and hugely asking for funds.
 21 So we're just anticipating what this is

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<p>1 going to mean in the future.</p> <p>2 And very grateful for the previous, your</p> <p>3 going to bat for us on the previous grant.</p> <p>4 We're just hoping that we can meet the demand</p> <p>5 that we know is coming.</p> <p>6 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Okay, guys. I</p> <p>7 appreciate it. Thank you.</p> <p>8 MR. HANDY: Okay.</p> <p>9 MR. CALLAHAN: Anybody else would like to</p> <p>10 speak about it? Okay.</p> <p>11 Madam Secretary, at this time, I'll go</p> <p>12 ahead and close the public hearing.</p> <p>13 SECRETARY: Yes.</p> <p>14 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Mary Kay, we'll</p> <p>15 close the public hearing. Okay.</p> <p>16 MS. VERDERY: I will just say I'm not a</p> <p>17 drunken sailor, but I definitely know the</p> <p>18 benefit of this and what they're providing to</p> <p>19 our community. And it's greatly appreciated.</p> <p>20 So we welcome the opportunity to go back and</p> <p>21 try to get some additional funding and make</p>	<p>1 not know the meeting time had changed.</p> <p>2 MR. CALLAHAN: No big deal. So welcome.</p> <p>3 MR. SHAFER: So thank you. Thank you,</p> <p>4 thank you, Members of the Council.</p> <p>5 MR. CALLAHAN: You want to tell everybody</p> <p>6 who you are, please.</p> <p>7 MR. SHAFER: Yes. My name is Kevin</p> <p>8 Shafer, and I am director of operations for</p> <p>9 Talbot County Public Schools.</p> <p>10 And with me tonight is Ms. Lyndsey Hill,</p> <p>11 who is a representative from White & Turner.</p> <p>12 And I have Peter Winebrenner from Hord, Coplan</p> <p>13 & Macht.</p> <p>14 And so I'm going to kind of start this off</p> <p>15 this evening first by letting the Council know</p> <p>16 that we are here this evening to request</p> <p>17 consideration and support for the first formal</p> <p>18 design submission to the State related to the</p> <p>19 Chapel District Elementary School renovation</p> <p>20 and addition project.</p> <p>21 So obviously, I've introduced us here this</p>
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<p>1 sure we support this group.</p> <p>2 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. That's great. Thank</p> <p>3 you. Okay. Thank you.</p> <p>4 MR. STAMP: Are you looking for action</p> <p>5 from Council?</p> <p>6 MS. VERDERY: A vote? No. We just need</p> <p>7 the public hearing.</p> <p>8 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. That's all we</p> <p>9 needed.</p> <p>10 MS. VERDERY: All right. Thank you very</p> <p>11 much.</p> <p>12 MR. CALLAHAN: I appreciate it.</p> <p>13 I see Kevin out there.</p> <p>14 MR. STAMP: Kevin Shafer.</p> <p>15 MR. CALLAHAN: Yeah. Mr. Shafer, want to</p> <p>16 come on in. Get back on track here.</p> <p>17 MR. STAMP: Yup.</p> <p>18 MR. SHAFER: Thank you so much, President</p> <p>19 Callahan.</p> <p>20 MR. CALLAHAN: I'm glad you showed up.</p> <p>21 MR. SHAFER: I apologize, everyone. I did</p>	<p>1 evening. But what the plan is is that we're</p> <p>2 going to kind of walk through what the basic</p> <p>3 parameters are related to the schematic design.</p> <p>4 And Peter is going to be doing the heavy</p> <p>5 lifting this evening. So I get to sit back for</p> <p>6 a moment.</p> <p>7 So we will open that up. I'll do it for</p> <p>8 you.</p> <p>9 MR. WINEBRENNER: Good evening.</p> <p>10 MR. CALLAHAN: Good evening.</p> <p>11 MR. WINEBRENNER: Thank you for this</p> <p>12 opportunity.</p> <p>13 MR. CALLAHAN: Yeah.</p> <p>14 MR. WINEBRENNER: I can go into as much or</p> <p>15 as little detail as you want. I'm assuming a</p> <p>16 fairly high level.</p> <p>17 MR. CALLAHAN: You don't have to get too</p> <p>18 detailed.</p> <p>19 MR. WINEBRENNER: I'm good with that.</p> <p>20 Okay.</p> <p>21 Go ahead, Kevin.</p>

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1 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay.

2 MR. WINEBRENNER: So we wanted just a

3 little bit about the project background, show

4 you the design, and then Lyndsey will just talk

5 to you briefly about what the cost is. So it

6 will be fairly quick. Go ahead.

7 Just remind everyone about the scope. So

8 the original building was built 1952. It's had

9 additions and renovations over the last few

10 years, last couple of decades. It's about a

11 19-and-a-half-acre site.

12 There's been a previous feasibility study

13 and a program (inaudible) that we're working

14 from. So we're looking at a full renovation of

15 the school for design capacity of 431. We're

16 also looking to create additions to allow for

17 expansion of certain instructional spaces,

18 including the early childhood spaces. A lot of

19 the requirements of the new Blueprint in

20 Maryland require additional spaces for the

21 early childhood students. And then site

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1 improvements as well.

2 Just a quick look at the schedule. This

3 is driven by the State's funding schedule. So

4 we have to hit an early September submission of

5 our schematic design, followed by an early

6 November submission for the next phase.

7 Construction documents will be done in the

8 spring. We'll be bidding and starting

9 construction at the end of the school year.

10 We held some public meetings and we got

11 public input on the design you're about to see,

12 which was very helpful for us to help make sure

13 the school was meeting the community's needs.

14 So the design itself, this is the existing

15 site. I don't know how many of you are

16 familiar with the school just outside of

17 Cordova. So we're going to be expanding on the

18 school, next slide, up to the northwest of the

19 site and as well as to this northeast. And the

20 northeast addition is where the entry is now.

21 It will be the library media center and new

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1 entry.

2 The back will have the Critchlow Adkins

3 program as well as additional mechanical

4 support space.

5 And then a small addition in this plan on

6 the upper left that allows for the expansion of

7 all the kindergarten and pre-k rooms from

8 current size to the proposed size.

9 So this is just a quick aerial view. We

10 can go to the next one. Of the proposed --

11 we're going to try to match the existing school

12 as much as possible. We do want to try to

13 create a little bit more vibrant front to the

14 school where the new library is without

15 obviously impacting the budget to do so.

16 By putting that program there, we're

17 allowing that to be an after-school,

18 after-hours use by the community, as well as

19 the existing gymnasium and cafeteria, which

20 will continue to function. And then of course,

21 the fields. Upgrade community use outside of

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1 school hours as well.

2 Next image should be just a very

3 conceptional idea of the new entry and library.

4 This is looking at it sort of from the

5 intersection of the bus loop and car drop-off.

6 By the way, back on the site plan, those

7 will be improved. They currently mingle.

8 We're going to separate them, keep the

9 professional drivers away from the amateur

10 drivers so that there's not a whole lot of

11 problem there.

12 So this would be a view of the new library

13 on the corner. And then where the canopy pokes

14 out, that's the new entrance into the main

15 administration area. And then there's a second

16 entrance just past that new addition for the

17 bus loop entry. And then the Critchlow Adkins

18 addition would be further to the right back

19 towards the playgrounds.

20 MS. HILL: So the cost estimate during the

21 (inaudible) phase, the schematic phase, we try

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1 to make sure we separate what we're discussing
 2 with the new addition as opposed to what we're
 3 discussing with the renovation portion of the
 4 project.
 5 So at this phase, while we narrow down
 6 finishes and final site improvements, we try to
 7 incorporate all the discussions that we've had
 8 to date into the budget. And we believe we are
 9 maintaining our current budget as it stands.
 10 MR. CALLAHAN: Great. Good. Okay.
 11 MR. SHAFER: So that is the very quick
 12 abridged version of the schematic design
 13 submission. But we can certainly answer any
 14 questions that the Council may have.
 15 MR. CALLAHAN: Council.
 16 MR. LESHER: Could you go over the goals
 17 for the expansion of kindergarten space?
 18 I know that this is in response to changes
 19 in standards. What impact will it have on
 20 classroom size, on the number of pupils?
 21 MR. SHAFER: So there's a standard

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1 equation, Mr. Leshner, for the classroom sizes.
 2 But the addition associated with this
 3 project would primarily be to meet the goal of
 4 having three classrooms per grade level. So
 5 that is the goal that we're shooting for, to
 6 increase the capacity of the school a little
 7 bit, while trying to maintain a budget that's
 8 reasonable and that gets full participation
 9 from the State.
 10 MR. WINEBRENNER: Mr. Leshner, if I may.
 11 The current kindergarten and pre-k rooms are
 12 undersized by State standards. So we're going
 13 to be expanding those, which accounts for part
 14 of the addition as well as adding two
 15 additional pre-k classrooms to meet those
 16 standards.
 17 So the rooms will hold the State
 18 prescribed no more than. So I think it's 20 in
 19 pre-k, 22 in kindergarten, and 23 at the
 20 primary grades, and the rooms being sized for
 21 that number. So that's the goal.

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1 MR. LESHER: Sized for 22 for the
 2 kindergarten?
 3 MR. WINEBRENNER: Correct. And that's the
 4 State recommended size number of students. The
 5 rooms will be sized for 22, which they're not
 6 currently sized for 22. So they'll be made
 7 larger.
 8 MR. LESHER: And is that where we are now?
 9 MR. WINEBRENNER: I'm sorry?
 10 MR. LESHER: Are those levels where we are
 11 now?
 12 MR. WINEBRENNER: Number of students.
 13 MR. LESHER: At Chapel?
 14 MR. SHAFER: So I don't know for sure on
 15 that one.
 16 Right now, I believe that our current
 17 enrollment is around 346 students. I'm not
 18 exactly sure what, for the upcoming school
 19 year, what the classroom size is. I would
 20 assume it's probably a little bit under that at
 21 this point.

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1 MR. LESHER: Thank you.
 2 MR. WINEBRENNER: Sure.
 3 MS. MIELKE: The grade level is to grade
 4 six, correct?
 5 MR. SHAFER: Five.
 6 MR. WINEBRENNER: Grade five.
 7 MS. MIELKE: There has been some interest
 8 in the community of maybe expanding this at
 9 some time to be a middle school. So six,
 10 seven, and eight.
 11 Is there an aspect that it can be done
 12 with this building or would that involve a
 13 whole new major project?
 14 MR. SHAFER: So I'll answer part of that.
 15 I'll let Peter answer the other part to it.
 16 So as of right now from the State's
 17 perspective, this campus is a PK, pre-k through
 18 five campus. And that's what this project is
 19 addressing only.
 20 But we did hear the community's want for
 21 that. And so Peter can talk about where the

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<p>1 proposed location would be.</p> <p>2 MR. WINEBRENNER: So first of all, we</p> <p>3 always build in the opportunity for an</p> <p>4 expansion of any kind in the future.</p> <p>5 So in the upper left corner where you see</p> <p>6 that small red rectangle, that corridor would</p> <p>7 extend further out and pick up additional</p> <p>8 classrooms should there be an addition needed.</p> <p>9 And that would support probably say three to</p> <p>10 five classrooms, which would allow for say</p> <p>11 another section of each of the current grades.</p> <p>12 Now, if it becomes a middle school, there</p> <p>13 would be additional programs on top of that.</p> <p>14 Or a PK8, for instance. We've done a number of</p> <p>15 those across the State. And there's certainly</p> <p>16 places where you want to separate the</p> <p>17 elementary and middle. So that would be a far</p> <p>18 larger addition.</p> <p>19 The site could probably hold it without</p> <p>20 dramatically impacting the elementary school.</p> <p>21 There would be other additions besides</p>	<p>1 just say that you're supporting this pending</p> <p>2 available, you know, funding in the future.</p> <p>3 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. All right then. Is</p> <p>4 there a motion for a support letter?</p> <p>5 MR. LESHER: I'll move the letter of</p> <p>6 support.</p> <p>7 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Is there a second?</p> <p>8 MS. HAYTHE: Second.</p> <p>9 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. There's a motion and</p> <p>10 second for a support letter. Madam Secretary,</p> <p>11 could you go ahead and call the vote, please.</p> <p>12 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.</p> <p>13 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.</p> <p>14 SECRETARY: Mr. Stepp.</p> <p>15 MR. STEPP: Aye.</p> <p>16 SECRETARY: Mr. Leshner.</p> <p>17 MR. LESHER: Aye.</p> <p>18 SECRETARY: Ms. Mielke.</p> <p>19 MS. MIELKE: Aye.</p> <p>20 SECRETARY: Ms. Haythe.</p> <p>21 MS. HAYTHE: Aye.</p>
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<p>1 classrooms that would be needed at that point.</p> <p>2 So the short answer is there's a location</p> <p>3 for a small modest addition in the future and</p> <p>4 there would be room on the site for a large</p> <p>5 one. It would impact fields and things. So</p> <p>6 that would be have to be addressed.</p> <p>7 But to Kevin's point, we're focusing on</p> <p>8 pre-k, five.</p> <p>9 MS. MIELKE: Absolutely. Thank you.</p> <p>10 MR. WINEBRENNER: Thank you.</p> <p>11 MR. CALLAHAN: Anything? Okay.</p> <p>12 MR. SHAFER: So I would be asking the</p> <p>13 Council for a letter of support for the</p> <p>14 submission to the State.</p> <p>15 And just so the Council is aware, this</p> <p>16 won't be the last time that you see the three</p> <p>17 of us. There's two more submissions throughout</p> <p>18 this upcoming year that we would be back to</p> <p>19 request support.</p> <p>20 But typically, the Council, if approved,</p> <p>21 would provide a letter that would basically</p>	<p>1 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Thank you.</p> <p>2 Appreciate it.</p> <p>3 MR. WINEBRENNER: Thank you very much.</p> <p>4 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Thank you. Okay.</p> <p>5 MR. SHAFER: I'm sorry. I don't know how</p> <p>6 to get out there.</p> <p>7 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Next on the agenda,</p> <p>8 Madam Secretary, introduction of legislation.</p> <p>9 SECRETARY: A bill to amend Chapter 11 of</p> <p>10 the Talbot County Code, alcoholic beverages,</p> <p>11 regarding operations of Class I alcohol</p> <p>12 dispensary bistros.</p> <p>13 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Mr. Thomas, would</p> <p>14 you want to go ahead and explain a quick</p> <p>15 version of what we're thinking about doing</p> <p>16 here.</p> <p>17 MR. THOMAS: Sure. So this is a bill that</p> <p>18 was requested by Zach Smith on behalf of</p> <p>19 Wardroom. It's intended to address some</p> <p>20 seating issues in the establishment.</p> <p>21 And I believe Mr. Smith is here and can</p>

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<p>1 give a little bit more background as to the</p> <p>2 request.</p> <p>3 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. That's good.</p> <p>4 Mr. Smith, there you are.</p> <p>5 MR. SMITH: Good evening.</p> <p>6 MR. CALLAHAN: Hey. Good evening.</p> <p>7 MR. SMITH: Zach Smith on behalf of Luke</p> <p>8 One Hospitality and the Wardroom.</p> <p>9 As Mr. Thomas said, the Wardroom would</p> <p>10 like to do two things. They'd like to be able</p> <p>11 to open a little bit earlier than they</p> <p>12 currently are and they'd like to expand their</p> <p>13 seating.</p> <p>14 And so we proposed a bill that would allow</p> <p>15 them to open at 9 a.m. versus 11 a.m. and that</p> <p>16 would allow us to seek expansion of the seating</p> <p>17 area through the Liquor Board review and</p> <p>18 approval process by that body.</p> <p>19 And so that's what this bill would do.</p> <p>20 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. That's great. Okay.</p> <p>21 At this point, it's just introduction. So</p>	<p>1 MR. THOMAS: Yes. So there are two</p> <p>2 amendments, both of which were requested by</p> <p>3 Council Member Mielke.</p> <p>4 The first proposed amendment relates to</p> <p>5 administrative appeals from decisions of the</p> <p>6 Short-Term Rental Review Board. The language</p> <p>7 that's currently drafted in the bill provides</p> <p>8 that decisions of the Short-Term Rental Review</p> <p>9 Board would remain in effect until the board's</p> <p>10 decision on appeal is rendered.</p> <p>11 So if the Short-Term Rental Board had</p> <p>12 issued somebody a license, they would be able</p> <p>13 to use that license even while there's an</p> <p>14 appeal.</p> <p>15 The language proposed by Council Member</p> <p>16 Mielke would provide that the approval from the</p> <p>17 Short-Term Rental Board would be stayed pending</p> <p>18 the appeal. So instead of the license being</p> <p>19 active during the appeal period --</p> <p>20 MR. CALLAHAN: It would not be active.</p> <p>21 MR. THOMAS: It would not be active during</p>
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<p>1 Madam Secretary, do you want to raise our hand</p> <p>2 for your support?</p> <p>3 MR. LESHER: Introduced by Misters</p> <p>4 Callahan, Stepp, and Haythe, Ms. Haythe.</p> <p>5 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Can you go ahead and</p> <p>6 announce the bill number and public hearing.</p> <p>7 SECRETARY: Yes. This will be known as</p> <p>8 Bill Number 1547, and the public hearing will</p> <p>9 be on Tuesday, September 12th, at 5:30 p.m.</p> <p>10 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Sounds great. Okay.</p> <p>11 Thank you. Okay.</p> <p>12 Moving on, eligible for vote. Madam</p> <p>13 Secretary, could you read Bill 1545, please.</p> <p>14 SECRETARY: Bill Number 1545, a bill to</p> <p>15 amend Chapter 20 of Talbot County Code, Board</p> <p>16 of Appeals, for clarity and consistency and</p> <p>17 regarding the Board of Appeals' proceedings,</p> <p>18 forms, hearings, and procedures.</p> <p>19 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. All right.</p> <p>20 Mr. Thomas, can you go ahead and sort of</p> <p>21 explain the two amendments.</p>	<p>1 the appeal period.</p> <p>2 MR. CALLAHAN: I got you. Okay. Is that</p> <p>3 the only one? Is that the only amendment?</p> <p>4 MR. THOMAS: That's amendment number one.</p> <p>5 And do you want me to discuss amendment</p> <p>6 number two before you vote on amendment number</p> <p>7 one or do you want to just take them each in</p> <p>8 order?</p> <p>9 MR. LESHER: Why don't you take them one</p> <p>10 at a time.</p> <p>11 MR. CALLAHAN: We can do them one at a</p> <p>12 time. Yup.</p> <p>13 MS. MIELKE: On amendment number one,</p> <p>14 actually there are two parts to that. That if</p> <p>15 there is an appeal of a Short-Term Rental Board</p> <p>16 decision for an initial permit for a Short-Term</p> <p>17 Rental, that would be stayed pending the appeal</p> <p>18 process.</p> <p>19 MR. THOMAS: An application for a new</p> <p>20 Short-Term Rental license.</p> <p>21 MS. MIELKE: Right. But if there were</p>

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1 some complaint filed and it goes through a
 2 process of an existing license, that would
 3 remain in effect and not stayed pending the
 4 process for consideration of that issue.
 5 MR. THOMAS: Correct.
 6 MS. MIELKE: So there's a distinction
 7 between that which requires the issue, the
 8 license not to be issued versus it continuing
 9 in effect if it has already been issued.
 10 MR. THOMAS: Correct.
 11 MS. MIELKE: Just wanted to clarify that.
 12 MR. LESHER: So it maintains the status
 13 quo.
 14 MS. MIELKE: Exactly.
 15 MR. LESHER: Before whatever event is
 16 being appealed.
 17 MS. MIELKE: Yes.
 18 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. And at this time, I
 19 see we have the chair here. Would you like to
 20 come up and voice your opinion on this?
 21 Because you're the one that's going to be in

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1 the middle of this. Please come up.
 2 MR. CAVANAUGH: Frank Cavanaugh, chairman
 3 of the Board of Appeals. And I have with me
 4 Lou Dorsey, who is the vice chairman.
 5 MR. CALLAHAN: Yup, yup.
 6 MR. CAVANAUGH: Actually this would affect
 7 the Short-Term Rental Review Board and not us
 8 so much.
 9 Right now, we're bound by the rules that
 10 it's not stayed. If they appeal, the applicant
 11 or the licensee can go ahead and start renting
 12 this property.
 13 This really wouldn't affect the Board of
 14 Appeals. So I think this would affect the
 15 Short-Term Rental Review Board.
 16 From my standpoint, from our standpoint, I
 17 don't think we would have any objection to
 18 this.
 19 Do you, Lou?
 20 MR. DORSEY: I don't.
 21 MR. CAVANAUGH: It would take one thing

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1 off our plate. I mean it would be something
 2 that we wouldn't have to consider at an appeals
 3 hearing.
 4 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Sounds good. All
 5 right.
 6 Madam Secretary, you want to go ahead --
 7 and any other questions from Council?
 8 MR. DORSEY: Mr. Callahan?
 9 MR. CALLAHAN: Yes.
 10 MR. DORSEY: Just one question.
 11 Mr. Chairman.
 12 MR. CALLAHAN: I'm sorry.
 13 MR. DORSEY: Just get some clarity on
 14 Ms. Mielke's second part of that amendment. I
 15 wasn't quite clear on that.
 16 You said there was two parts to the
 17 amendment, and I wasn't -- the first part I
 18 understood, but the second part.
 19 MR. CAVANAUGH: Yeah. This would only
 20 affect a new licensee. Somebody who is --
 21 MS. MIELKE: Right. A new license would

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1 not go into effect until it's gone through the
 2 appeal process and been approved.
 3 But if it's an existing license and it's
 4 being, you know, challenged or sanctioned, it
 5 would continue in effect.
 6 MR. CAVANAUGH: Yes. And that's good
 7 because they would already have rentals
 8 probably lined up, and that would affect them.
 9 MS. MIELKE: Exactly.
 10 MR. DORSEY: Thank you.
 11 MR. CAVANAUGH: With that clarification.
 12 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay.
 13 MR. CAVANAUGH: That makes it good I
 14 think.
 15 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Any other questions
 16 from Council? Any other discussion?
 17 MS. HAYTHE: No.
 18 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. So we want to go
 19 ahead and call the vote on the amendment, the
 20 first amendment.
 21 MR. THOMAS: It needs to be introduced.

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<p>1 SECRETARY: Yeah. It's got to be 2 introduced. 3 MR. CALLAHAN: Or introduced. I'm sorry. 4 Okay. Yup. 5 MR. LESHER: So you're looking for a show 6 of hands to introduce? 7 MR. CALLAHAN: Yes, correct. 8 MR. LESHER: Okay. 9 MS. HAYTHE: Which amendment? Amendment 10 one? 11 MR. LESHER: Amendment one. 12 MR. CALLAHAN: Amendment one, yeah. 13 MR. LESHER: So introduced by Council. 14 MR. THOMAS: And now they vote on it. 15 SECRETARY: Do you want to vote on it now 16 or you want to vote on it... 17 MR. CALLAHAN: Yeah. 18 SECRETARY: Okay. 19 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Madam Secretary, 20 could you call the vote. 21 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.</p>	<p>1 within budgetary limitations established by the 2 Council, the board shall engage an attorney not 3 affiliated with the Office of Law in the event 4 of an administrative appeal concerning a 5 decision of the Planning Commission or the 6 Short-Term Rental Review Board, in which an 7 attorney affiliated with the Office of Law 8 represent either of those bodies. 9 MR. CALLAHAN: So what's your thoughts on 10 that? 11 MR. CAVANAUGH: That actually would affect 12 the Board of Appeals in our choice of 13 attorneys. 14 We've -- our rules state that we have to 15 have decisions out within 30 days. 16 In the past, for years and years, the 17 board has had problems with the attorney 18 getting our decisions out within 30 days. Not 19 only required in our rules, it also affects the 20 applicant. If we approve his project, he can't 21 start until our decision is issued and he has</p>
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<p>1 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye. 2 SECRETARY: Mr. Stepp. 3 MR. STEPP: Aye. 4 SECRETARY: Mr. Leshner. 5 MR. LESHER: Aye. 6 SECRETARY: Ms. Mielke. 7 MS. MIELKE: Aye. 8 SECRETARY: Ms. Haythe. 9 MS. HAYTHE: Aye. 10 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. All right. Second 11 one. 12 MR. THOMAS: So then amendment number two 13 amends section 20-4 regarding proceedings and 14 legal counsel for the board. 15 Currently that's subsection, proposed new 16 subsection F, which is existing language just 17 in a different section. States that the board 18 can appoint its own attorney within budgetary 19 limitations established by the Council. 20 Ms. Mielke's proposed amendment would add 21 the language that says notwithstanding that but</p>	<p>1 18 months from that point to start his project. 2 With our current attorney, who is a member 3 of the MacLeod law firm, we have -- I guess 4 he's been our attorney now for close to a year. 5 We have never missed a date. Our decisions are 6 out in time. Our decisions are written very 7 well. They're concise, to the point. The 8 board has been extremely happy with the 9 services supplied by Lance Young. 10 It's also, in this community, it's hard to 11 find a lawyer on short-term, in a short-term 12 basis to fill in. First of all, they have to 13 be available for that particular night of our 14 meeting. We're limited. I mean there's not a 15 great number of attorneys on the Eastern Shore 16 who handle these kind of cases and one that 17 would not be -- have a conflict. 18 It also becomes a matter of expense 19 because when we hire a new attorney, he has to 20 start from ground one. He starts at the very 21 beginning. So he has a lot of research, he or</p>

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1 she has a lot of research.
 2 MR. CALLAHAN: Right.
 3 MR. CAVANAUGH: And of course, the more
 4 time they spend doing research is billable
 5 hours. So it does run our cost up. It's hard,
 6 first of all, it's hard to find somebody, and
 7 somebody that we can rely on to get our
 8 decision out on time.
 9 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay.
 10 MR. CAVANAUGH: It creates an issue.
 11 Now, we have been, we've been assured by
 12 our counsel and by the MacLeod law firm that
 13 there is no -- there's a ruling from the
 14 Attorney General's Office that there is no
 15 conflict in this situation.
 16 There's things called a Chinese law that
 17 lawyers use in this case where members of the
 18 same firm are separated, they do not talk about
 19 the case, there's no communication between
 20 them.
 21 So we've been assured that there's an

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1 Attorney General letter that okays the use of
 2 the attorneys that we are in these cases.
 3 I mean obviously if the Council feels that
 4 we need to go out, we would certainly abide by
 5 whatever rules you impose on us. But it works
 6 very well with the attorney we have now. We're
 7 very happy with him.
 8 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Sounds good.
 9 MR. LESHAR: Start with hands for
 10 introduction. Then we can get into discussion
 11 of merits.
 12 MR. CALLAHAN: Sure. Hands for
 13 introducing. Raise our hands.
 14 MR. LESHAR: Introduced by Ms. Mielke.
 15 MS. MIELKE: Now discussion?
 16 MR. CALLAHAN: Yes.
 17 MS. MIELKE: The genesis of this is the
 18 public's perception of whether there's a
 19 conflict in interest because the county
 20 attorney firm has represented the boards on the
 21 decisions that they've made that are appealed

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1 to you.
 2 And it's my understanding historically,
 3 there had been independent counsel. I'm also
 4 aware of the problems that were encountered in
 5 terms of the timeliness or the availability of
 6 that counsel.
 7 It's my understanding that there is
 8 counsel that is available, that may be more
 9 available on a timely basis than in the past.
 10 So I think that issue may have been addressed.
 11 The issue in terms of cost is it's a
 12 balancing act. And I think that the
 13 transparency and the appearance of independence
 14 has to be equally weighted. And I think that
 15 it's just important that we have independent
 16 counsel viewing the decision.
 17 As far as the AG's decision, it's an AG's
 18 decision. It's not a binding decision, in my
 19 humble opinion, of any of the Supreme Court of
 20 Maryland or the Court of Appeals.
 21 So I think, you know, that was based on I

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1 think it was St. Mary's County maybe. I can't
 2 remember. I read it, I did read it.
 3 So I think that there could be a
 4 difference.
 5 MR. LESHAR: You're saying that the
 6 Attorney General's opinion on this says what we
 7 may do but not what we must do?
 8 MS. MIELKE: Right. Yeah. There's been
 9 no decision by the appellate courts in that
 10 regard that would be binding. So it can be
 11 considered, but it's not binding.
 12 So from that standpoint, I think all
 13 things considered, transparency is the key
 14 word.
 15 MR. CAVANAUGH: And the board, we
 16 certainly understand your concern with that.
 17 The board's, the Short-Term Rental Review
 18 Board has an attorney that's also, that
 19 represents the MacLeod law firm.
 20 It's actually, the last case, there was
 21 really no reason to have the attorney from the

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1 board, Short-Term Rental Review Board there
 2 because both other parties, there were two
 3 lawyers, one who represented the appellee and
 4 one representing the appellate.
 5 So the case is argued by the license
 6 holder and by the people or person who is
 7 appealing the decision of the Short-Term Rental
 8 Review Board. So each of those are represented
 9 by attorneys and the decision and the ruling
 10 was that our law firm came up with was that the
 11 Short-Term Rental Review Board does not need to
 12 be represented.
 13 Now, of course, that doesn't negate the
 14 fact that he represents the Short-Term Rental
 15 Review Board at the original hearing.
 16 Besides that, the only thing I can say is
 17 we certainly, we rely on our advice of our
 18 counsel. The lawyer, the lawyer that the board
 19 hires does our decision and advises us in legal
 20 matters, which certainly could influence a
 21 decision, but he is not part of the decision of

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1 the Board of Appeals.
 2 If we, even if we go into executive
 3 session with him, we're not allowed to discuss
 4 the merits of the case or anything there. The
 5 only thing we question in those hearings, in
 6 those meetings, those closed meetings when we
 7 close the meeting to go into executive session,
 8 is legal points. I mean a point that whether a
 9 prior decision from another court in the State
 10 pertains to this case or some legal point.
 11 There's never any discussion of the actual
 12 case or the merits of the case with our
 13 attorney.
 14 I understand that probably doesn't negate
 15 all the possibility that someone may look at it
 16 and say gee, there's a conflict, there's a
 17 lawyer from the same firm that represents the
 18 Short-Term Rental Review Board and the Board of
 19 Appeals. But even though it may be an
 20 appearance, it does not affect the decision of
 21 the board.

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1 MR. CALLAHAN: Mr. Lesher.
 2 MR. LESHER: If I may ask Mr. Cavanaugh a
 3 question here.
 4 MR. CAVANAUGH: Sure.
 5 MR. LESHER: Has counsel for the Board of
 6 Appeals recused in the past within memory?
 7 MR. CAVANAUGH: We did on one, in the
 8 first case that came up. We've had, we've had
 9 two cases that came up, two that I remember
 10 offhand that came up with the Short-Term Rental
 11 Review Board.
 12 And we did. The board decided in the
 13 first case that we would go and seek outside
 14 counsel. We did. We were certainly satisfied
 15 with our representation. Our decision was
 16 close to the time that it was due. It was a
 17 greater expense than our normal counsel would
 18 have been.
 19 MR. LESHER: So this is something that you
 20 have looked at in the past --
 21 MR. CAVANAUGH: Yes, yes, we did.

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1 MR. LESHER: -- that you've considered as
 2 part of your procedure?
 3 MR. CAVANAUGH: And then after that,
 4 because it was, it was hard for us to find an
 5 attorney to represent us on this one case, we
 6 discussed it with our legal counsel, he
 7 discussed it with the MacLeod firm. And we
 8 were assured that there was not a conflict and
 9 that they were -- they had been cleared. The
 10 letter from the Attorney General did give them
 11 the clearance to go ahead. The Chinese law was
 12 in place that there was no conflict within the
 13 firm for him to represent us on these cases.
 14 So on the advice of counsel, the other
 15 case, we used our regular attorney.
 16 MR. LESHER: Thank you.
 17 MS. MIELKE: And that is a decision from a
 18 firm who is representing both sides, that is
 19 they're representing the original commission or
 20 group, where there was this...
 21 MR. CAVANAUGH: Well, in the second --

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1 MS. MIELKE: -- the Review Board. So.
 2 MR. CAVANAUGH: Sorry.
 3 MS. MIELKE: I mean I just see a conflict.
 4 As an attorney, I just see a conflict in saying
 5 oh, we don't have a conflict, we decided this,
 6 but we can decide this.
 7 And I'm not casting aspersions. I'm just
 8 saying how it appears to the public, that, you
 9 know, it's easy to say well, we represented you
 10 below, but we don't have a conflict
 11 representing you at the Board of Appeals.
 12 And the public has been, you know,
 13 concerned about that.
 14 MR. CAVANAUGH: In the first case, the
 15 Short-Term Rental Review Board's attorney did
 16 appear at our hearing.
 17 In the second case, he withdrew his
 18 application. So he did not appear at the
 19 hearing, and that was the main impetus why we
 20 decided that we would go on advice of counsel
 21 and use our regular counsel.

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1 MS. MIELKE: But wouldn't you agree that
 2 if this issue has come up in your experience,
 3 that rather than go through this process of
 4 well, is there a conflict and all those
 5 discussions, if it's automatically someone who
 6 is independent counsel, it makes the process
 7 maybe more expensive but smoother because you
 8 don't have to go through the back and forth
 9 dialogue and you don't set up, you know,
 10 another issue for the appellate to bring up
 11 before you?
 12 That's the basis for suggesting this.
 13 MR. CAVANAUGH: We certainly, the board
 14 certainly understands that point of view, and
 15 we have certainly considered that.
 16 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay.
 17 MR. CAVANAUGH: Yes.
 18 MR. CALLAHAN: Any other questions?
 19 MS. HAYTHE: Do we have a decision from
 20 the Attorney General specific to Talbot County
 21 and this issue?

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1 MR. THOMAS: It's not specific to Talbot
 2 County.
 3 I believe, as Ms. Mielke said, I believe
 4 it is St. Mary's County and it dealt with their
 5 Office of Law representing different agencies.
 6 I think in that case it was, I think it may
 7 have been the Planning Commission and the Board
 8 of Appeals where one attorney from the Office
 9 of Law represented the Board of Appeals and one
 10 attorney represented the Planning Commission.
 11 And whether there was an issue with one
 12 attorney representing a board, a body before
 13 another body where this attorney in that same
 14 office was representing.
 15 And the AG said that was not a conflict as
 16 long as the appropriate fire walls were in
 17 place and that they weren't discussing the case
 18 and kept their files separate and so forth,
 19 which is obviously something we do.
 20 MS. HAYTHE: Is there any way that we
 21 could get a determination specific to this

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1 issue, since Ms. Mielke brought it up, from the
 2 AG's office?
 3 MR. THOMAS: I believe the process is you
 4 can request an AG opinion. I believe first the
 5 attorney for the public body has to issue a
 6 written opinion. And then the executive, which
 7 in this case would be the Council, could
 8 request an AG's opinion on that issue.
 9 So that would be one way to proceed.
 10 MS. HAYTHE: Thank you.
 11 MR. THOMAS: It wouldn't address the
 12 instant amendment because the bill is going to
 13 expire. But depending on that, another
 14 amendment could always or another bill could
 15 always be introduced down the road for that
 16 specific issue.
 17 MS. HAYTHE: How long does that typically
 18 take?
 19 MR. THOMAS: The last time I did a request
 20 for an AG opinion, it took about two months.
 21 MS. HAYTHE: Thank you.

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1 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Any other questions?
 2 MR. LESHHER: No questions. But in terms
 3 of discussion, you know, I'm hearing that the
 4 concerns from the board on this in terms of its
 5 timeliness and its current performance.
 6 I'm also hearing that the board has its
 7 antenna up.
 8 MR. CALLAHAN: Right.
 9 MR. LESHHER: For potential conflicts. And
 10 that it has this mechanism if there's some
 11 clear cause to seek outside counsel on a case.
 12 And so the question before us is whether
 13 we need to hardwire this into Talbot County
 14 Code to require that or allow them to continue
 15 to exercise that judgment.
 16 MS. MIELKE: Or to take the burden off of
 17 them of having to exercise that judgment.
 18 MR. CAVANAUGH: I can -- the board
 19 certainly, we do look at it case by case. And
 20 if we felt that there was an outright conflict,
 21 we certainly, as we did in the one instance, we

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1 would seek outside counsel.
 2 MR. THOMAS: And we would recommend that.
 3 MR. LESHHER: I presume the attorneys, too,
 4 might recognize this and proactively recuse.
 5 MR. CAVANAUGH: And that's -- and we did
 6 that also at the recommendation. We discussed
 7 that with the attorneys, and that was our
 8 decision because we were having the attorney
 9 from the Short-Term Rental Review Board was
 10 going to represent the board at that hearing.
 11 And we later determined that that wasn't
 12 necessary.
 13 MR. LESHHER: Thank you.
 14 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Thank you. All
 15 right. Madam Secretary, could you go ahead and
 16 we're ready to call the vote.
 17 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.
 18 MR. CALLAHAN: No.
 19 SECRETARY: Mr. Stepp.
 20 MR. STEPP: No.
 21 SECRETARY: Mr. Leshher.

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1 MR. LESHHER: Nay.
 2 SECRETARY: Ms. Mielke.
 3 MS. MIELKE: Yes.
 4 SECRETARY: Ms. Haythe.
 5 MS. HAYTHE: Nay.
 6 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Thank you, guys.
 7 Good job.
 8 MR. CAVANAUGH: Thank you.
 9 MR. CALLAHAN: Good job.
 10 MR. LESHHER: So that takes care of the two
 11 amendments. So we now have Bill 1545 as
 12 amended before us.
 13 You might see if there's discussion on
 14 this on the whole if we're ready to proceed to
 15 a vote.
 16 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. No problem. Is
 17 there any discussion?
 18 MS. HAYTHE: No discussion, no.
 19 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay.
 20 SECRETARY: Want to call the vote?
 21 MR. LESHHER: Would you like the secretary

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1 to call the roll?
 2 MR. CALLAHAN: So we're...
 3 MR. LESHHER: We voted on the two
 4 amendments, but now we need to vote on the
 5 legislation.
 6 MR. THOMAS: So it's amended pursuant to
 7 amendment number one. And so now you have the
 8 bill as amended with amendment number one.
 9 MR. CALLAHAN: So we're putting the new
 10 amendment in?
 11 MR. LESHHER: That's --
 12 MR. THOMAS: Amendment number one has been
 13 put in the bill. Now you have the bill as
 14 amended pursuant to amendment number one for a
 15 vote.
 16 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Madam Secretary,
 17 could you call the vote.
 18 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.
 19 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.
 20 SECRETARY: Mr. Stepp.
 21 MR. STEPP: Aye.

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1 SECRETARY: Mr. Leshner.
 2 MR. LESHER: Aye.
 3 SECRETARY: Ms. Mielke.
 4 MS. MIELKE: Nay.
 5 SECRETARY: Ms. Haythe.
 6 MS. HAYTHE: Aye.
 7 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. All right. Next on
 8 the agenda, yup, it's you. We have the --
 9 yeah.
 10 (Inaudible.)
 11 MS. MIELKE: A motion to reconsider.
 12 MR. CALLAHAN: Right.
 13 MS. MIELKE: You want me to go ahead?
 14 MR. CALLAHAN: Sure.
 15 MS. MIELKE: I wanted to bring forth a
 16 motion to reconsider the -- how do I phrase
 17 this? Just give me a second.
 18 MR. CALLAHAN: You want Mr. Thomas to
 19 help?
 20 MS. MIELKE: The resolution for the map
 21 and the EDUs for Lakeside, that I think that we

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1 should -- that it really is better to be a
 2 two-step process, that upon reflection and
 3 looking at the Report of Review that was done
 4 after the last hearing, I think it's the proper
 5 process for this Council to sponsor a
 6 resolution that establishes -- how do I put
 7 this? Establishes that -- let me just read my
 8 notes here.
 9 That there be a resolution for the EDUs as
 10 opposed to it being part of the Report of
 11 Review.
 12 It's my understanding the Report of Review
 13 is really a summary of all the resolutions that
 14 have been passed prior to the resolution of the
 15 Report of Review.
 16 So if there -- I don't know that the
 17 authority, and I don't understand whether
 18 there's any authority, to include something
 19 that needs to be passed by resolution in the
 20 Report of Review before it's passed.
 21 Does that make any sense?

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1 MR. CALLAHAN: So --
 2 MS. MIELKE: What I'm saying is --
 3 MR. CALLAHAN: Let's simplify this for
 4 everybody.
 5 MS. MIELKE: Yeah, sure.
 6 MR. CALLAHAN: So we're revisiting what we
 7 did at the last meeting. We had two options.
 8 MR. THOMAS: Correct. So at the last
 9 meeting, the options that were -- so in MDE's
 10 July 21st letter, they presented two options.
 11 That the Council could either address the map
 12 issue for the Town of Trappe and as part of the
 13 Report of the Review or as a standalone
 14 resolution. And also the EDUs and phases for
 15 the Lakeside development as a standalone
 16 resolution or as part of the Report of the
 17 Review.
 18 And the Council voted at that meeting to
 19 do them both as part of the Report of the
 20 Review --
 21 MR. CALLAHAN: As a package, as a package.

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1 MR. THOMAS: As a package instead of doing
 2 standalone resolutions.
 3 So Ms. Mielke's motion for reconsideration
 4 is for the Council to reconsider that decision.
 5 If that motion passes, then it brings the
 6 matter back for Council discussion and then the
 7 Council, there would have to be a new motion
 8 made to give direction on which of those
 9 options the Council wishes to follow.
 10 MS. HAYTHE: So for clarity, the
 11 resolution has to be done anyway?
 12 MR. THOMAS: Yes.
 13 MS. HAYTHE: Correct?
 14 MR. THOMAS: Yes.
 15 MS. HAYTHE: So we were just trying to
 16 combine it.
 17 So you would have to draft the resolution
 18 prior to the year of the review anyway for us
 19 to pass.
 20 MR. THOMAS: Correct.
 21 MS. HAYTHE: And we were trying to do it

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1 in the same manner, at the same time?
 2 MR. THOMAS: Yes.
 3 MS. HAYTHE: That's my understanding.
 4 MR. THOMAS: Right. Because all of this
 5 information goes in that document ultimately,
 6 whether it's done, whether they're done as
 7 separate resolutions or whether they're done as
 8 part of this -- they're included in the Report
 9 of the Review.
 10 The difference is if you do them
 11 separately, you would introduce two separate
 12 resolutions at your next meeting. They would
 13 follow the same water and sewer plan amendment
 14 process, and then come back to the Council in
 15 October or November, depending on how the
 16 schedule works, for a vote.
 17 You include them in the draft Report of
 18 the Review. They would be, they're in the
 19 document. They would go out to the
 20 stakeholders as part of the review process.
 21 Once all those comments have been received

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1 by MDE, the Planning Commission, the Public
 2 Works Advisory Board, the public, and Council,
 3 then there would have to be at that time a
 4 resolution to adopt the Report of the Review.
 5 And it would, again, go through the same
 6 comprehensive water and sewer plan amendment
 7 process.
 8 So the idea was really just to streamline
 9 it into one document, instead of having the
 10 Report of the Review and then two separate
 11 resolutions that are on different time frames.
 12 MS. HAYTHE: So the one resolution was for
 13 the Report of the Review approval and the
 14 second was for the amendment to the
 15 comprehensive water and sewer plan; is that
 16 right? Is that the two resolutions --
 17 (Cross talk.)
 18 MR. THOMAS: No. Well, no. The two
 19 actions that MDE is looking for are to correct
 20 the maps that were attached as Exhibits I think
 21 A and B to 281, which had properties that were

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1 shown with incorrect classifications that
 2 weren't part of the resolution, which is why we
 3 prepared those maps that showed, the draft maps
 4 that are in the Report of the Review.
 5 So one was to adopt, to formally adopt
 6 those, which they would be done anyway as part
 7 of the approval of the Report of the Review.
 8 The other is to include the language in
 9 the plan regarding the EDUs in phases for the
 10 Lakeside development, which would be, again,
 11 that can either be in the Report of the Review
 12 or in a separate resolution.
 13 Either way you get to the same place and
 14 go through the same process because they
 15 both -- whether they're done standalone as part
 16 of the Report of the Review, they would
 17 ultimately have to be adopted through a
 18 comprehensive water and sewer plan amendment
 19 resolution.
 20 MS. HAYTHE: Okay.
 21 MS. MIELKE: But the Report of Review as a

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1 document is really a summary of the resolutions
 2 that have been passed during the timeframe.
 3 And the fact of the matter is that there
 4 is no resolution that's been passed on EDUs and
 5 probably on the map, too. So that you're
 6 putting the cart before the horse.
 7 You have to have, in my humble opinion,
 8 upon reflecting on this and looking at the
 9 Report of the Review, you have to have the
 10 resolution for the EDUs before it can be
 11 incorporated in the Report of Review. That's
 12 how I'm viewing this.
 13 As I said, you put the cart before the
 14 horse. I think that some of the commissions
 15 have a similar view. And so --
 16 MS. HAYTHE: So is that accurate, Patrick?
 17 Should the resolution be adopted first and
 18 then incorporated into the Report of the Review
 19 and then the Report of the Review goes to the,
 20 what, the water advisory and then the Planning
 21 Commission?

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1 MS. MIELKE: And that's what we want --
 2 that's what I am suggesting that the Council
 3 consider.
 4 MR. THOMAS: I think you can certainly do
 5 it that way. It's just that you're going to
 6 have -- you're going to introduce a resolution.
 7 If you do it that way, you'd be introducing a
 8 resolution on the 12th that then has to go
 9 through the water and sewer plan amendment
 10 process, while at the same time the Report of
 11 the Review has been issued and that's being
 12 reviewed and commented on by the same agencies
 13 that are also going to be looking at the
 14 separate resolution.
 15 So now you have two documents instead of
 16 one document, but you can certainly do it that
 17 way. I think either way, you're going to get
 18 the same result at the end of the day.
 19 MS. HAYTHE: So what is the normal
 20 process? What has been done in the past?
 21 MS. MIELKE: Two resolutions.

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1 MR. CALLAHAN: Well, it hasn't been done
 2 since 2000...
 3 MR. LESHER: Two.
 4 MR. CALLAHAN: Two.
 5 MS. HAYTHE: So what was done in 2002?
 6 The resolutions adopted first and incorporated
 7 into the Report of the Review or vice versa or
 8 together?
 9 MR. CALLAHAN: I think it was a whole
 10 different process because we're making a new
 11 process.
 12 MR. THOMAS: I would --
 13 MS. HAYTHE: -- understand the process.
 14 MR. CALLAHAN: Yeah.
 15 MS. HAYTHE: Is that the answer?
 16 MR. THOMAS: I can't say whether there
 17 were other resolutions that were, water and
 18 sewer plan amendment resolutions that were
 19 being considered at the same time the 2002
 20 Report of the Review was being considered.
 21 I don't believe Mr. Clarke is here. He

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1 would probably be the one best suited to answer
 2 that question.
 3 I mean this is certainly a unique issue.
 4 And MDE has said we need to take this action
 5 and has given us a time frame in which to act.
 6 So that is a unique of situation.
 7 MR. CALLAHAN: I feel like I'm just a
 8 little bit more comfortable with the last
 9 meeting. I hear what you're saying, but I just
 10 feel more comfortable that MDE has the whole
 11 package right there. They see the whole thing.
 12 Once they send it, you're sending it
 13 separately.
 14 So just hand them the whole package so
 15 everybody sees it.
 16 MS. HAYTHE: But there's no draft
 17 resolution in the package.
 18 MS. MIELKE: Right.
 19 MS. HAYTHE: Right?
 20 MS. MIELKE: Yeah. The Report of Review.
 21 MR. CALLAHAN: It's not going to be. It's

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1 not going to be.
 2 MS. MIELKE: Report of Review is a
 3 memorandum of resolutions that have been
 4 passed.
 5 And what this is proposing is well, we do
 6 the Report of Review. And then as part of the
 7 Report of Review, that will constitute an
 8 approval of a resolution for the EDUs or the
 9 other issues.
 10 And as I said, it's putting the cart
 11 before the horse. The normal process is, as I
 12 understand it, you have a resolution. Then
 13 that resolution, if it's passed, gets reported
 14 in the Report of the Review. And all we're
 15 saying --
 16 MR. CALLAHAN: Everybody is going to have
 17 input before we pass anything.
 18 MR. THOMAS: Yes. And they will still go
 19 through, regardless of whether you do it
 20 separately or you do it as part of the Report
 21 of the Review, you will have to go through the

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<p>1 same legislative process to pass it at the end 2 of the day because the Report of the Review, 3 regardless of whether the EDU language is part 4 of the draft now or not, when it gets adopted, 5 it's going to have to be adopted through a 6 comprehensive water and sewer plan amendment 7 resolution, which will go through the same 8 process. 9 MS. MIELKE: Let me make another point. 10 The Report of Review is not just about this 11 resolution that we're suggesting be step one. 12 It's about everything. 13 So the Report of Review sort of obfuscates 14 the focus of what we're trying to accomplish 15 with the resolution about the EDUs. That 16 should be the focus. 17 And then if it's passed, then it gets put 18 in the Report of Review and it's almost like a 19 rubber stamp sort of like. We've already 20 passed this and here it is. So I -- 21 MR. LESHHER: -- pro form at that point.</p>	<p>1 everything. 2 So it seems to me that it's a more 3 efficient process to just have the resolution 4 first and then proceed with the pro forma 5 inclusion in Report of Review. 6 MR. LESHHER: So we need first to vote on 7 the motion to reconsider, which then brings 8 this up. And then we can, at that point, if 9 that passes, we can consider what this specific 10 direction is to Council. 11 MS. MIELKE: Right. 12 MR. CALLAHAN: Right. 13 MR. LESHHER: You have that motion on the 14 floor. 15 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. We got a motion on 16 the floor. Is there a second? 17 MR. LESHHER: I believe a motion to 18 reconsider doesn't require a second. 19 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. So Madam Secretary, 20 we're going to go ahead and vote on 21 reconsideration. If you can call the vote.</p>
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<p>1 MS. HAYTHE: Right. I see what she's 2 saying. 3 MR. THOMAS: Yeah. And I think we said at 4 the last meeting that the -- I think we were 5 hoping to have a resolution to adopt the Report 6 of the Review by the end of the year. And so I 7 would hope that if a resolution were 8 introduced, if the reconsideration of the 9 Council ultimately decides to do the EDU as a 10 separate resolution, then we would have that -- 11 I don't know what MDE's timeline is. I think 12 it's 60 days when they review the amendments 13 once they're adopted. 14 So I would hope that we would have their 15 input back and have a final version of that by 16 the time we're ready to adopt or introduce a 17 resolution to adopt the Report of the Review. 18 MS. MIELKE: By having a resolution on 19 EDUs focuses the public's attention, MDE's 20 attention on what we're trying to do, rather 21 than a whole Report of Review, which is</p>	<p>1 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan. 2 MR. CALLAHAN: Nay. 3 SECRETARY: Mr. Stepp. 4 MR. STEPP: No. 5 SECRETARY: Mr. Leshher. 6 MR. LESHHER: Aye. 7 SECRETARY: Ms. Mielke. 8 MS. MIELKE: Aye. 9 SECRETARY: Ms. Haythe. 10 MS. HAYTHE: Aye. 11 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. 12 MR. LESHHER: So now I guess the question 13 is what form should that direction to Council 14 take, what is it that we would like separated 15 out. In -- 16 MS. MIELKE: I think at our next meeting, 17 we should have a resolution regarding the map 18 and the EDUs ready for introduction. 19 MR. LESHHER: The map and the EDUs? 20 MS. MIELKE: Right. 21 MR. LESHHER: Okay.</p>

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1 MS. MIELKE: A resolution.
 2 MR. LESHER: I support that approach.
 3 MR. CALLAHAN: So is that option two from
 4 the last meeting?
 5 MR. LESHER: That's essentially option
 6 two.
 7 MS. HAYTHE: No. That's option one.
 8 MR. THOMAS: Option one was to include
 9 them in the Report of the Review. Option two
 10 was to have them as standalone resolutions.
 11 MR. LESHER: Yeah. Option two, the letter
 12 of July 21st reads introduce a resolution
 13 amending the comp water and sewer plan to
 14 incorporate the updated maps and finalized
 15 EDUs.
 16 So I'll offer the motion to direct Counsel
 17 to follow that procedure, drawing up a
 18 resolution amending the comprehensive water and
 19 sewer plan to incorporate the updated maps and
 20 finalize the EDUs.
 21 MS. MIELKE: Second.

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1 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. You got that, Madam
 2 Secretary?
 3 SECRETARY: Uh-huh.
 4 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Can you call the
 5 vote.
 6 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.
 7 MR. CALLAHAN: Nay.
 8 SECRETARY: Mr. Stepp.
 9 MR. STEPP: Nay.
 10 SECRETARY: Mr. Leshner.
 11 MR. LESHER: Aye.
 12 SECRETARY: Ms. Mielke.
 13 MS. MIELKE: Aye.
 14 SECRETARY: Ms. Haythe.
 15 MS. HAYTHE: Aye.
 16 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay.
 17 MR. THOMAS: So we'll have those ready for
 18 introduction on the 12th, and I'll let MDE know
 19 as well.
 20 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. No problem. That
 21 sounds good.

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1 MS. MIELKE: Thank you.
 2 MR. CALLAHAN: I appreciate it. All
 3 right.
 4 Now, we got, we've got Clay's stuff.
 5 MR. STAMP: There you go. Good evening,
 6 Council.
 7 Under county manager report this evening,
 8 we have some board and committee appointments
 9 to recommend for your approval.
 10 There are three, and all three of them,
 11 these are slots dedicated for the Town of
 12 Easton to fill. And so we'll be going with the
 13 first one, and that is recommending your
 14 approval for the Economic Development
 15 Commission to appoint Mr. David Montgomery,
 16 member of the Town of Easton Council, to that
 17 commission.
 18 MR. CALLAHAN: Is there a motion?
 19 MR. LESHER: I'll so move.
 20 MS. MIELKE: Second.
 21 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Got a motion and

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1 second. Madam Secretary, could you call the
 2 vote.
 3 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.
 4 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.
 5 SECRETARY: Mr. Stepp.
 6 MR. STEPP: Aye.
 7 SECRETARY: Mr. Leshner.
 8 MR. LESHER: Aye.
 9 SECRETARY: Ms. Mielke.
 10 MS. MIELKE: Aye.
 11 SECRETARY: Ms. Haythe.
 12 MS. HAYTHE: Nay.
 13 MR. STAMP: Next would be the Park and
 14 Recreation Advisory Board. And this would be
 15 Town of Easton is requesting the reappointment
 16 of Mr. Tom Klein.
 17 MR. LESHER: I'll so move.
 18 MR. CALLAHAN: Is there a second?
 19 MS. MIELKE: Second.
 20 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. We got a motion and
 21 second. Madam Secretary, could you call the

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 106</p> <p>1 vote.</p> <p>2 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.</p> <p>3 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.</p> <p>4 SECRETARY: Mr. Stepp.</p> <p>5 MR. STEPP: Aye.</p> <p>6 SECRETARY: Mr. Leshner.</p> <p>7 MR. LESHNER: Aye.</p> <p>8 SECRETARY: Ms. Mielke.</p> <p>9 MS. MIELKE: Aye.</p> <p>10 SECRETARY: Ms. Haythe.</p> <p>11 MS. HAYTHE: Aye.</p> <p>12 MR. STAMP: And the next would be the</p> <p>13 Tourism Board. Town of Easton is requesting</p> <p>14 the appointment of Maureen Curry.</p> <p>15 MR. LESHNER: I'll move for the appointment</p> <p>16 of Maureen Curry.</p> <p>17 MS. HAYTHE: Second.</p> <p>18 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. We got a motion and</p> <p>19 second. Madam Secretary, could you call the</p> <p>20 vote.</p> <p>21 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 108</p> <p>1 This project is being funded by Community</p> <p>2 Park and Playground grant, which the Town of</p> <p>3 St. Michael's was granted. The town will</p> <p>4 reimburse the county up to \$100,000 for the</p> <p>5 project.</p> <p>6 And Preston is here to answer any</p> <p>7 questions or add any other detail that may have</p> <p>8 been missed. Preston.</p> <p>9 MR. PEPER: So like Clay said, this was a</p> <p>10 grant that was applied for by the Town of</p> <p>11 St. Michael's. We are going to go ahead and</p> <p>12 manage it in their stead.</p> <p>13 It's basically putting fences up at the</p> <p>14 ball fields at the Perry Cabin ball field.</p> <p>15 MR. LESHNER: So the county is not eligible</p> <p>16 to apply for Parks and Playgrounds. The town</p> <p>17 is. But they're installing this equipment on</p> <p>18 county property. Therefore, our role in this.</p> <p>19 MR. PEPER: Correct. So normally a</p> <p>20 Community Parks and Playgrounds grant is only</p> <p>21 applied for by municipalities. Counties are</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 107</p> <p>1 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.</p> <p>2 SECRETARY: Mr. Stepp.</p> <p>3 MR. STEPP: Aye.</p> <p>4 SECRETARY: Mr. Leshner.</p> <p>5 MR. LESHNER: Aye.</p> <p>6 SECRETARY: Ms. Mielke.</p> <p>7 MS. MIELKE: Aye.</p> <p>8 SECRETARY: Ms. Haythe.</p> <p>9 MS. HAYTHE: Aye.</p> <p>10 MR. STAMP: Next, I'll call Preston Peper</p> <p>11 forward. He's your director of Parks and</p> <p>12 Recreation. He's requesting that the</p> <p>13 Department of Parks and Recreation partner with</p> <p>14 the Town of St. Michaels on Community Parks</p> <p>15 and Playground grant for Perry Cabin Park.</p> <p>16 As you read in your agenda packet, the</p> <p>17 Department of Parks and Recreation is</p> <p>18 requesting Council approval to serve as the</p> <p>19 construction manager for procurement and</p> <p>20 installation of ball field fencing at the Perry</p> <p>21 Cabin Park, which is a county-owned facility.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 109</p> <p>1 not eligible. If there is property that is</p> <p>2 shared with a town and a county, a town can</p> <p>3 then apply for a Community Parks and Playground</p> <p>4 grant, yes.</p> <p>5 MR. LESHNER: Very good.</p> <p>6 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay.</p> <p>7 MS. HAYTHE: Preston, as the construction</p> <p>8 manager, is there anything under administrative</p> <p>9 in this grant that reimburses your time,</p> <p>10 salary, or anything like that?</p> <p>11 MR. PEPER: No. Anything, basically</p> <p>12 anything that's going to be reimbursed, it's</p> <p>13 just the construction costs and the fences</p> <p>14 themselves. So this is...</p> <p>15 MS. HAYTHE: Nothing administrative?</p> <p>16 MR. PEPER: Correct.</p> <p>17 MS. HAYTHE: Okay. Thank you.</p> <p>18 MR. CALLAHAN: Any other questions,</p> <p>19 Council?</p> <p>20 MS. MIELKE: No.</p> <p>21 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Okay.</p>

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<p>1 MS. HAYTHE: I'll make a motion to approve 2 the request. 3 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. 4 MR. STEPP: Second. 5 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. We got a motion and 6 second. Madam Secretary, could you call the 7 vote. 8 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan. 9 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye. 10 SECRETARY: Mr. Stepp. 11 MR. STEPP: Aye. 12 SECRETARY: Mr. Leshner. 13 MR. LESHNER: Aye. 14 SECRETARY: Ms. Mielke. 15 MS. MIELKE: Aye. 16 SECRETARY: Ms. Haythe. 17 MS. HAYTHE: Aye. 18 MR. THOMAS: Thank you, Preston. 19 MR. PEPER: Thank you. 20 MR. CALLAHAN: Appreciate it. 21 MR. STAMP: Next, call Brian LeCates,</p>	<p>1 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. 2 MR. LeCATES: That's the main point. 3 MR. STEPP: So moved. 4 MR. LESHNER: Second. 5 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. We got a motion and 6 second to go ahead and replace the radios. 7 Madam Secretary, could you call the vote. 8 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan. 9 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye. 10 SECRETARY: Mr. Stepp. 11 MR. STEPP: Aye. 12 SECRETARY: Mr. Leshner. 13 MR. LESHNER: Aye. 14 SECRETARY: Ms. Mielke. 15 MS. MIELKE: Aye. 16 SECRETARY: Ms. Haythe. 17 MS. HAYTHE: Aye. 18 MR. CALLAHAN: Thank you. 19 MR. LeCATES: Thank you for all of your 20 support. Appreciate it. 21 MR. STAMP: Council, that completes your</p>
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<p>1 director of Emergency Services, forward. We 2 have a request from the Department of Emergency 3 Services to purchase public safety mobile 4 radios. 5 As you read in your agenda packet, the 6 Department of Emergency Services is requesting 7 Council approval to procure 18 public safety 8 mobile radios from Motorola Solutions by 9 piggybacking on the Maryland State contract at 10 a cost of \$78,320.16. 11 Funding for the procurement will be the 12 2020 State Homeland Security Program grant, and 13 no county dollars will be expended. 14 Brian is here to add any additional 15 information or answer any questions. Brian. 16 MR. LeCATES: Thank you, Clay. There's 17 not a whole lot to add to that because he 18 really kind of recapped the request. 19 So just reiterate it is 100 percent funded 20 by Homeland Security grant funds. No county 21 dollars. And it's for public safety radios.</p>	<p>1 county manager report for this evening. Thank 2 you. 3 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. That's great. Okay. 4 Ms. Morris, we got any? 5 MS. MORRIS: Yes. Mr. Leshner has a list 6 tonight. 7 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. We got a list 8 tonight. Nice. 9 MR. LESHNER: We do. 10 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. 11 MR. LESHNER: So for public comment. 12 MR. CALLAHAN: Yeah. We're going to start 13 public comment. Anybody can come up here. We 14 got a list here. 15 So we time this a little bit, but we're a 16 little flexible. But we give you three 17 minutes. And if you're representing a business 18 or something, we give you five. 19 So first name. 20 MR. LESHNER: Our first is Jennifer Dunker 21 of Easton.</p>

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1 MR. CALLAHAN: Yup.

2 MS. DUNKER: I'll be short and sweet.

3 MR. CALLAHAN: That's okay.

4 MS. DUNKER: I'm just here to comment on

5 Elgin's Army.

6 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay.

7 MS. DUNKER: As a mother of an athlete in

8 Talbot County and a Talbot County resident, I

9 don't need to tell you how special this family

10 is. You heard that tonight. You heard the

11 story.

12 But I've witnessed the strength and

13 determination and sacrifice of this family.

14 You heard it. You heard all of that tonight.

15 So I don't need to go into that.

16 But I can't think of a more deserving

17 selfless wish. In addition, it's an investment

18 in our youth and in our public schools.

19 My Talbot County athlete will not benefit

20 from this. She goes to St. Michael's. But

21 it's important for all of the athletes. I've

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1 witnessed the fields in both St. Michael's and

2 in Easton. They are terrible. No reflection

3 upon Talbot County Public Schools. They're

4 doing what they can with what they have.

5 So we know this is a huge investment. But

6 it also has a huge potential for return on

7 investment, not only in the lower maintenance

8 costs of a turf field, but also in the rental

9 income, as Ms. Hawley mentioned.

10 So this request is about a partnership.

11 We've been out there already, as you heard Jen

12 say. We've been knocking on doors. We have

13 been looking for sources of income. We were

14 directed to you. You guys and Parks and Rec

15 are the ones with access to these grants. So

16 we need your help.

17 But we want to work with you. We want to

18 work hard, too. We want to raise as much funds

19 as we can.

20 So I thank you for the support that you've

21 given them tonight. And just let's keep this

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1 in the forefront and keep the momentum going.

2 Thanks.

3 MR. CALLAHAN: Sure. Thank you.

4 Appreciate it.

5 MR. LESHHER: Next up Terrence Bernard.

6 MR. BERNARD: Good evening. My comment

7 tonight is on --

8 MR. CALLAHAN: Can you tell everybody who

9 you are, please?

10 MR. BERNARD: Terrence.

11 MR. CALLAHAN: Yup.

12 MR. BERNARD: Bernard. Easton, Maryland.

13 Dutchman's Lane. The other side of town.

14 MR. CALLAHAN: There you go.

15 MR. BERNARD: Okay. My comment tonight is

16 on RCV, ranked-choice voting. I advise do not

17 use that in Talbot County. It's not a one

18 person, one vote system. It's not good for

19 independents, Democrats, or Republicans.

20 It's a tiered system to vote. It's

21 difficult to teach voters how to use this

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1 system in the first place, where you have a

2 problem getting poll watchers, poll judges.

3 It's going to be costly because you're

4 going to have hire persons to train how to

5 vote. There's going to be updates and

6 maintenance on the electronic system.

7 And if you'd like information, there is

8 the Maryland Voter Integrity Group. Contact,

9 their head is Robyn Sachs, R-O-B-Y-N,

10 S-A-C-H-S. (301)230-0045, extension 200.

11 Thank you.

12 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Thank you.

13 Next.

14 MR. LESHHER: Next up is Jack Kilbourne.

15 MR. JACK KILBOURNE: I'm also going to

16 keep it pretty short and sweet. So hello. My

17 name is Jack Kilbourne.

18 And to give you some background on me, I

19 am a two-sport athlete playing lacrosse and

20 soccer at Easton. I am the captain of the

21 lacrosse team. And we've had some success over

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1 the past two years winning back-to-back
 2 regional champions and winning the Bayside
 3 Championship last year.
 4 My position is goalie, which is greatly
 5 affected by the type of ground that I play on.
 6 My job is to keep the ball out of the goal
 7 consistently.
 8 Changing from grass to turf forces me to
 9 change the way that I play. Playing in
 10 stadiums throughout these past few years,
 11 creates like, I create divots where I play.
 12 And those divots can affect multiple other
 13 sports, not just lacrosse.
 14 And at the beginning of each season, the
 15 grass has not come in yet. So the entire field
 16 is just straight brown. So it is quite
 17 embarrassing and it doesn't reflect our Warrior
 18 pride.
 19 Also, the sidelines, there are drains. So
 20 there's big holes on the sides that they have
 21 to put cones over because it's kind of a hazard

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1 to play on. And I've personally seen a ref
 2 trip and fall in one of those. And luckily he
 3 wasn't hurt, but I feel like in the future,
 4 some refs might not be as lucky to not get hurt
 5 from that. I've seen a lot of refs be kind of
 6 old.
 7 Playing on these conditions, playing on
 8 the fields with these conditions does not show
 9 our Warrior pride. Building a new turf field
 10 can give Easton a fresh new look and safer for
 11 our students athletes as well.
 12 Please consider these factors as you vote.
 13 Thank you.
 14 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Thank you.
 15 MR. LESHER: Thank you. Next up is Emily
 16 Currie.
 17 MS. CURRIE: Hi. I'm here in support of
 18 Elgin's Army. My name is Emily Currie, and I'm
 19 a senior at Easton High School.
 20 I play soccer in the fall and lacrosse in
 21 the spring. I'm here to talk about why a turf

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1 would benefit our school.
 2 We here at Easton High School are at a
 3 disadvantage for not having a turf field for
 4 many reasons. For example, every time we get
 5 any amount of rain, practices, games have been
 6 canceled and some never rescheduled in the past
 7 due to the fields being too wet. If we had
 8 turf, we wouldn't lose practice days or games
 9 canceled because all games are basically
 10 allowed to be played on turf, even in a
 11 downpour.
 12 Once practice is canceled outside, we have
 13 inside practice, which is pretty useless and
 14 gives us a disadvantage to the other schools in
 15 our Bayside Conference. Queen Anne's, Kent
 16 Island, Stephen Decatur, all who have a turf
 17 field, are able to continue their practices
 18 regardless of conditions, which result in a
 19 more efficient practice every day for them,
 20 unlike us.
 21 A moment that has really affected me

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1 personally was this past year at a lacrosse
 2 game at our stadium when the lines on the field
 3 were barely noticeable, especially our
 4 restraining line. They were mismarked and the
 5 refs had to stop the game and demand cones at
 6 the line. If we had turf, our lines would be
 7 permanent and we wouldn't have to worry about
 8 the mismarked of lines.
 9 I feel like a lot of people think this is
 10 normal because only select schools, select
 11 amount of schools on the Eastern Shore have
 12 turf. But schools across the bridge, who have
 13 at least one or two turf fields at their school
 14 for their athletes, don't compare to standards
 15 here.
 16 The maintenance of the field makes it seem
 17 like the school doesn't care about our
 18 athletics enough, although we have the same
 19 amount of determined athletes at Easton as
 20 Queen Anne's, Kent Island, and Stephen Decatur,
 21 who are able to play on turf every day.

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1 Next year, Jack and I, as well as many
 2 other people in our school in the past and
 3 present, are going off to play a sport at the
 4 college level. We will be facing people who
 5 only know playing on turf their whole lives. I
 6 feel like going into college, I'm already at a
 7 disadvantage coming from playing on grass
 8 fields my whole life to making a jump to
 9 playing on turf every single day at college.
 10 Considering the game is so much faster
 11 played on turf, we're already at a
 12 disadvantage.
 13 In conclusion, getting a turf field would
 14 not only be making Elgin's wish come true, but
 15 also furthering Easton High School's athletics
 16 for years to come. Thank you.
 17 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Thank you.
 18 MR. LESHER: And next up is Jay Kilbourne.
 19 MR. JAY KILBOURNE: Hello. I'm actually
 20 speaking on behalf of three people, including
 21 myself.

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1 First, Matt Griffith. He's the head
 2 varsity coach here at the high school. His
 3 comment to me was hey, I'm all in. So he
 4 absolutely is in support of this. I know that
 5 he's preparing our boys for a game tomorrow
 6 over in Annapolis. So he could not be in
 7 attendance.
 8 Also got a note here from Dennis Keenan.
 9 He is the men's head lacrosse coach. His note
 10 says the boys lacrosse team is honored that
 11 Elgin has decided to use her Make-A-Wish
 12 Foundation gift to be a turf field for the
 13 students at Easton High School to benefit them
 14 for generations. The coaches and players will
 15 try to make this dream, wish come true for
 16 Elgin. This gift will benefit EHS students and
 17 other organizations, especially youth, to
 18 fulfill their dreams. We want to thank Elgin
 19 and her family for this selfless opportunity.
 20 (Inaudible). We'll leave that alone. So
 21 that's two of our head coaches who play on the

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1 field and have been a part of the Easton
 2 community for decades.
 3 And then as far as my comments, good
 4 evening. My name is Jay Kilbourne. I live on
 5 the Talbot side of Wye Mills. My three
 6 children all attended Chapel, Easton Middle,
 7 and Easton High School.
 8 In May, my oldest graduated from South
 9 Carolina. This past weekend, my middle child,
 10 we dropped her off at Duquesne. And my third
 11 child, well, you just heard him speak. I'm
 12 proud of that kid.
 13 We made Wye Mills our home for the past 17
 14 years and we love it here. We all feel lucky
 15 to call Talbot County home.
 16 You know, just the other day, I overheard
 17 a local visitor tell a local merchant -- or
 18 pardon me. I overheard a visitor tell a local
 19 merchant how a sense of peace comes over her
 20 whenever she cross that bridge. And I thought
 21 to myself how cool is it that we live in such a

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1 community. And I'm sure all of you have
 2 overheard those comments or feel that same way.
 3 This is a really, really special place to live.
 4 Now, over the past 17 years, I've been
 5 really lucky to coach my kids along with
 6 hundreds of other local kids from T-ball,
 7 Talbot soccer, Talbot lacrosse, (inaudible)
 8 lacrosse, and now the JV team over at the high
 9 school. I've been really lucky to get a front
 10 row seat watching our youth grow.
 11 I also volunteer at the SOS at the high
 12 school and I'm working on my third after grad
 13 committee.
 14 I've spent countless hours on fields all
 15 across the Eastern Shore, the western shore, up
 16 and down the east coast. I've had numerous
 17 conversations about all that Talbot County has
 18 to offer. And every season I've coached,
 19 without fail, I have at least one conversation
 20 with a parent or an opposing coach asking why
 21 the county does not have turf fields.

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1 You've heard reasons upon reasons upon
 2 reasons, and I'm sure we've all witnessed it
 3 ourselves, you know, the benefits of having a
 4 turf field.
 5 And for reasons unknown, we don't have
 6 that. But hopefully things are about to
 7 change.
 8 From the maintenance to the reliability in
 9 all types of weather to preparing our kids to
 10 be more competitive, both now and the future,
 11 turf fields make sense.
 12 I've looked into the concern about
 13 increased injuries. With all that I've read, I
 14 feel confident that these new turf fields,
 15 players are no more injury prone than on grass.
 16 I've been reading and reading and reading about
 17 this because I wanted to be able to offer that.
 18 Because to be honest with you, I was a little
 19 bit hesitant myself.
 20 But with the technology of the new turf
 21 fields compared to grass fields, there's

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1 virtually no difference in the amount of
 2 injuries that are being caused out there.
 3 Now, I think there are some in here who
 4 also thinks this is a place that is very, very
 5 special to call home. So much so that when
 6 faced with an almost unimaginable personal
 7 challenge, she somehow finds a way to flip the
 8 script and turn the focus onto something that
 9 will benefit our entire community for years to
 10 come.
 11 However, this can only happen if we are
 12 able to find the will and the path to make this
 13 special place even more so.
 14 We have amazing and selfless youth in our
 15 presence. Some are here in front of you. And
 16 I can tell you I've watched these kids grow and
 17 could not be more proud. We have some amazing
 18 kids coming through our systems. Okay.
 19 We got some of the best watermen. We've
 20 got the best farmers in the country are coming
 21 through here. We got kids going to the ivies.

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1 You know, we got kids playing in D1, D2, and D3
 2 sports. We have some amazing youth here, and
 3 it is just unreal to watch these kids grow.
 4 You know, right now, right over on Aurora
 5 Street, there's a kid who is an All American
 6 lacrosse player walking the halls of Easton
 7 High School. One of the best lacrosse players
 8 in the country right here. Okay. We've got
 9 some amazing, amazing kids. We need to support
 10 them. Okay.
 11 I believe it is our responsibility to help
 12 them be all that they can be. And because of
 13 this, I ask you to support our cause and guide
 14 us as we go through the process of getting a
 15 turf field at the high school.
 16 We fully expect this to be a process and
 17 somewhat challenging at times. I ask that you
 18 support our efforts, that you help us set up
 19 the steering committee, and that you be
 20 responsive and forthcoming when we have direct
 21 questions.

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1 I thank you for giving me a moment to
 2 speak in front of you. I truly appreciate it
 3 and look forward to many more. Thank you.
 4 MR. CALLAHAN: Thank you.
 5 MR. LESHER: Next is Michael Hawley.
 6 MR. HAWLEY: I'm Mike Hawley. I'm Elgin's
 7 father.
 8 I spent a lot of time in the military.
 9 And nothing is official until the campaign
 10 shirts have been handed out. So.
 11 MR. CALLAHAN: Thank you.
 12 MR. STEPP: Thank you.
 13 MR. HAWLEY: I can begin here while they
 14 work on this.
 15 As I said, my name is Mike Hawley. I'm
 16 Elgin's father. My job tonight is to summarize
 17 the evening and to also shed some light on why
 18 the big push.
 19 You've already heard all the best reasons
 20 as to why this works for Talbot County. It
 21 levels the playing field for the kids. It has

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1 possibilities for economic development and
 2 growth for our community. These are great
 3 reasons, but let me tell you why the Hawleys
 4 have hitched our wagon to this horse. The
 5 community.
 6 Jen and I were raised in a very small town
 7 in upstate New York. We then spent 20-plus
 8 years in a military community. We've known
 9 small and tightknit all of our lives. We all
 10 started where everyone else does, right here.
 11 Your child's first it, when they find that
 12 first it. She grew, as did her teammates.
 13 Three, four.
 14 The adults also grew. We went from
 15 awkward conversations in a Parks and Rec league
 16 to substantial relationships as we looked at
 17 entering the high school years.
 18 On the 18th of August, 2021, a little
 19 extra foundation was added to this already
 20 strong group. I returned from John Hopkins to
 21 give the girls an update about Elgin. After

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1 what they had witnessed, I felt I should at
 2 least try to bring them up a little bit. I
 3 wanted to give them the old keep your chins up
 4 and keep working hard speech. My intention was
 5 to inspire them.
 6 But for the last five days, I had been on
 7 a roller coaster ride that no parent should
 8 ever have to be on. When I left E, and I've
 9 got to say I was at a loss to be inspirational.
 10 As I pulled into the Easton High School
 11 parking lot, I was surrounded from our friends
 12 from all those years. And as they read my face
 13 and I updated them, we all knew that we were
 14 not in the clear yet.
 15 E couldn't talk or stay lucid for more
 16 than two minutes at a time. Next slide.
 17 KKI needed 20 minutes for her to be
 18 admitted into the rehab.
 19 My news was neither inspiring, nor
 20 uplifting.
 21 Turns out, the girls were holding all

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1 those cards. As the adults made our way onto
 2 the field from the parking lot, this is what we
 3 saw. And I don't know if you can see in that
 4 picture, and no, it has not been doctored, that
 5 is a rainbow. So as I approached, this is what
 6 I approached to.
 7 Next side. As I talked to the girls,
 8 their energy and positivity was contagious.
 9 They had posters for E that they had made for
 10 her recovery room. Not just Easton field
 11 hockey, but field hockey teams from all over
 12 the shore, to include St. Peter and Paul's,
 13 St. Michael's, Queen Anne's, and even her
 14 travel league had also put care packages
 15 together.
 16 I took the posters and cards up to E's
 17 room. I was so excited to get them there, and
 18 I arrived about six a.m. the next morning.
 19 Jen had informed me that not much had
 20 changed. We were moved to a recovery room on
 21 the east side of the hospital. So as I arrived

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1 that morning, the sun was overtaking the room.
 2 And after six days of no sleeping, we were less
 3 than enthused, until we broke out the first
 4 poster.
 5 The sun was hitting the Warrior orange and
 6 the colors were so intense. As soon as we
 7 showed Elgin, she grabbed the corner and her
 8 eyes were locked on the color.
 9 My wife, the psychology instructor, then
 10 switches into brain mode and wants to know how
 11 is my girl's brain. She asked Elgin to point
 12 herself out from the girls in the picture.
 13 Elgin pointed to herself on the poster. She
 14 then asked do you see Emily. She picked out
 15 Emily. How about Ella. And once again,
 16 Elgin's hand moved to the correct picture.
 17 The doctors had come in the room during
 18 this time, and I explained what was happening.
 19 I did not want to interrupt their rounds. They
 20 encouraged Jennifer to continue.
 21 Elgin had recognized her teammates,

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1 colors, and had been responsive now for ten
 2 minutes and would be for some time more. If
 3 the girls had not made these posters, who knows
 4 how long the same process would have taken.
 5 The Eastern Shore community came together
 6 and snapped E back. That's who we want this
 7 field for, not just the school, not even the
 8 girls who have made all this happen.
 9 Many have already graduated or are in
 10 their junior and senior years at this point.
 11 This is for all the weekend warriors that
 12 became an Army and are prepared to stand
 13 together when times get tough. No one gave up
 14 on us, and no one gave up on Elgin.
 15 This is what was given to me six days
 16 after seeing nothing but blank stares and
 17 silence. We had E back, and the Eastern Shore
 18 field hockey had delivered her to us.
 19 As we -- next slide. As we have -- thank
 20 you. As we have said in the past, anything is
 21 possible if we stick together. That is why I

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1 am out of uniform wearing this shirt. This is
 2 our Parks and Rec, and that's what it states on
 3 the back.
 4 Please help us make this wish come true,
 5 and help the Hawley family and Elgin's Army
 6 reward the community that helped make a huge
 7 difference.
 8 I'd like to thank the Council for your
 9 time, all of Elgin's Army for your continued
 10 support, and most of all, my daughter for her
 11 inspirational selflessness. Thank you so much.
 12 MR. CALLAHAN: Thank you, guys.
 13 Appreciate it.
 14 MR. LESHER: Thank you. And we also have
 15 Mary Branic.
 16 MR. HAWLEY: I took some of her time.
 17 MS. BRANIC: I just wanted to make sure
 18 Mike had enough time.
 19 MR. LESHER: Thank you.
 20 So that's it for the list of who have
 21 signed up in advance.

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1 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. So anybody is
 2 welcome to come on up here and tell us who you
 3 are and have a few minutes if you'd like.
 4 MS. GIBBONS NEFF: Hello. I'm Kim Gibbons
 5 Neff, and I am the coach of the EHS varsity field
 6 hockey team.
 7 I was not there the day that changed
 8 Elgin's life. And I unfortunately was not able
 9 to see her play field hockey in the goal. My
 10 daughter is a little younger. I wasn't quite
 11 watching that level yet. I heard stories about
 12 her, though, and know that she played with
 13 passion and grit.
 14 I had the pleasure of meeting Elgin when
 15 she was returning to school from her aneurysm.
 16 I'm also a speech therapist for Talbot County
 17 Public Schools. I was immediately in awe of
 18 this young woman and her determination.
 19 Sitting in an IEP meeting can be very
 20 intimidating. There are administrators,
 21 there's teachers, therapists, and more, all

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1 sitting at a conference table discussing your
 2 strengths and weaknesses without sugar coating
 3 any of your abilities.
 4 The job of the IEP team is to create a
 5 plan so that children with disabilities can
 6 access the general education curriculum and be
 7 successful in school.
 8 Elgin sat through this meeting and
 9 provided input to her success plan. She was
 10 determined to get back to school with as few
 11 accommodations and services as she could. She
 12 did not want to get speech therapy. She was
 13 ready to be independent and on her own again.
 14 I've gotten to know Elgin these last two
 15 hockey seasons as she's been the team manager
 16 and supporter of the EHS field hockey team.
 17 She comes to all practices and games and has a
 18 positive attitude and provides insight to our
 19 current goalies. She's excited when the team
 20 wins and she cries tears when they lose the big
 21 games.

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1 She has to watch from the sidelines
 2 every day with a smile and positive words to her
 3 teammates, knowing that she can't be out there.
 4 When I heard what Elgin's wish was for the
 5 Make-A-Wish Foundation, I actually got chills
 6 and tears sprung to eyes. What a selfless
 7 wish.
 8 I want everyone to think of themselves at
 9 15 and 16 years of age and imagine being
 10 granted one wish after a life-threatening
 11 event. You could wish for anything. A trip to
 12 a place you only dreamed of going or meet your
 13 favorite celebrity. I mean this wish is for
 14 you to experience pure happiness after you've
 15 endured a life-changing event.
 16 How many of us can say that we would wish
 17 for something that was for others? How many of
 18 us can say that we would use that wish for
 19 people that we don't even know? How many of us
 20 can say that we would use that wish for
 21 something that we can never use?

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1 I know that my 15 and 16-year-old self
 2 would not have thought like that. But Elgin
 3 did.
 4 She selflessly wished for a turf field,
 5 for not only her field hockey friends, but for
 6 all the athletes at EHS. She wants to leave a
 7 legacy and she wants her classmates to reap the
 8 benefits.
 9 It seems like a no-brainer to me. Talbot
 10 County is way behind the times when it comes to
 11 youth sports. Most counties around us have at
 12 least one turf field for their youth. It's
 13 truly detrimental to our young kids and they
 14 cannot keep up with the competition on the
 15 grass fields that we have.
 16 We have a lot of talented athletes in this
 17 county and we need to show them our support.
 18 I am not sure of the cost and logistics of
 19 putting in a turf field. I just know that
 20 there's a young woman standing in front of the
 21 county who wants to leave a legacy, and I am

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1 asking the Council tonight to give her 100
 2 percent support in getting this wish granted.
 3 I appreciate your time and hope that we
 4 can all rally around Elgin and show her the
 5 support that she gives to her teammates every
 6 day on the hockey field. Thank you.
 7 MR. CALLAHAN: Thank you. Okay.
 8 Would anybody else like to come up?
 9 You're welcome to come up. Don't be scared.
 10 Come up, say anything you like. Okay.
 11 SPEAKER: I'll be up there too long.
 12 MR. CALLAHAN: Come on up and say
 13 something.
 14 SPEAKER: No.
 15 MR. CALLAHAN: You sure? Okay. Okay.
 16 So we'll sort of move on. That's great.
 17 Okay. Next, coming to the end here, is Council
 18 comment.
 19 You want to start off, Mr. Stepp.
 20 MR. STEPP: Sure. Love to.
 21 MR. CALLAHAN: Yup.

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1 MR. STEPP: Again, I just want to
 2 reiterate. I don't know, is Elgin, is she back
 3 there?
 4 SPEAKER: Back here.
 5 MR. STEPP: She's still back there.
 6 Thank you, again, for telling your story.
 7 Mike, Jen, thank you.
 8 Everyone, ladies, gents, thank you guys.
 9 It means a lot.
 10 As a field hockey dad, I get it. Right?
 11 As a dad of two athletes, I get it, you know.
 12 Mine wouldn't benefit from this, either. But
 13 just the fact that, you know, the fact that you
 14 take this wish, Elgin, and want that to go to
 15 the community, it means volumes. It really
 16 does.
 17 So again, as I told you before, you'll
 18 have my full support in this endeavor. I'm
 19 looking forward to seeing what we can do as a
 20 county, what the public can do. That
 21 public-private partnership thing, like you said

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1 before, I mean good things can happen when we
 2 put our minds to it.
 3 MR. CALLAHAN: Yup.
 4 MR. STEPP: So thank you all. I'm sure
 5 all of the young ladies, a lot of you I know
 6 have played with my daughter in field hockey.
 7 I'm sure you could probably find better
 8 things to do with your Tuesday night, but I
 9 know every single one of you would not, would
 10 not have anything better to do than but to be
 11 here to support Elgin and her a cause. So
 12 thank you for that.
 13 Thank you for your time, and let's see
 14 what we can do.
 15 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Mr. Leshner.
 16 MR. LESHER: You know, I wasn't going to
 17 say anything tonight. But after the patience
 18 that all of those present have shown in getting
 19 to the end of this meeting, I do feel obliged
 20 to say something.
 21 I counsel citizenship in the community

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1 merit badge in the Scouts. And as a
 2 requirement for that merit badge, it asks the
 3 scout to talk about how one person can make a
 4 difference. We've seen that tonight.
 5 MR. CALLAHAN: Well said.
 6 Ms. Mielke.
 7 MS. MIELKE: Yes. We see so much on the
 8 news about how our society is coming apart and
 9 we're descending into violent groups and just a
 10 lot of turmoil.
 11 And it is so heartwarming to see you all
 12 and how you've come together as a community and
 13 helped. And you are really mentors for the
 14 community and for others who will come behind
 15 you to do as you've done. And it's just, it
 16 just warms my heart to hear you all and to hear
 17 what you've done. So thank you.
 18 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Thank you.
 19 MS. HAYTHE: And I'll echo those comments.
 20 And I said earlier, Elgin, when you were
 21 up here presenting, just to see you being

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1 courageous and the determination that you have
 2 to be selfless basically and want something for
 3 others that you won't even be able to take
 4 advantage of, but you care about the community
 5 that much that you want your Make-A-Wish to be
 6 something that helps someone else.
 7 So thank you for coming in tonight. And I
 8 thank everyone that came here with you, your
 9 Army, because we certainly stand with you in
 10 helping with this turf field. So thanks,
 11 again, for your grit and determination and
 12 being courageous.
 13 MR. CALLAHAN: Thank you.
 14 Well, like my colleague said, this is the
 15 best Army I've seen in a long time. That's for
 16 sure. And you know, it's a special night.
 17 I mean I didn't know your full story. I
 18 knew a little bit about it, but you are a
 19 special young lady. That's for sure. And we
 20 wish you the best.
 21 And I think you should go away tonight to

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1 sort of feel that you've got a Council behind
 2 you. And you know, that's pretty special. And
 3 whatever we can do to help you move forward,
 4 anything that you need from us, because you
 5 really are special, all of you, and I really
 6 appreciate the school. Means a little bit to
 7 me because I went there myself, you know.
 8 So you know, I wish you all the best, and
 9 we're always here for you. So you come here
 10 anytime. Okay. I know you'll be back next
 11 year, too. So you can come back. And
 12 hopefully we can make things, your wish come
 13 true. That's for sure.
 14 Mr. Leshner.
 15 MR. LESHER: The County Council's next
 16 meeting will be held on Tuesday, September
 17 12th, beginning at five o'clock p.m. The
 18 Council will be convening in open session at
 19 3:30 p.m. and then adjourning into closed
 20 session to discuss real estate, legal, and
 21 personnel matters, as listed on the statement

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1 for closing that meeting.

2 On Monday, September 11th, beginning at

3 8:30 a.m., the County Council and all

4 municipalities will be holding a ceremony to

5 commemorate the events of September 11, 2001.

6 The event is open to the public and will be

7 held at the intersection of West and Dover

8 Streets in Easton, with a rain location of the

9 Talbot County Free Library Branch here in

10 Easton.

11 Therefore, is there a motion to adjourn

12 this meeting and reconvene as noted?

13 MS. HAYTHE: So moved.

14 MR. STEPP: Second.

15 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. We got a motion and

16 second. Madam Secretary, could you call the

17 vote.

18 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.

19 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.

20 SECRETARY: Mr. Stepp.

21 MR. STEPP: Aye.

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1 SECRETARY: Mr. Leshner.

2 MR. LESHER: Aye.

3 SECRETARY: Ms. Mielke.

4 MS. MIELKE: Aye.

5 SECRETARY: Ms. Haythe.

6 MS. HAYTHE: Aye.

7 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Thanks a lot.

8 Appreciate you guys coming.

9 (Meeting concluded at: 7:16 p.m.)

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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 29th

day of August, 2023, at Easton, MD.



Diane Houlihan
Notary Public

My commission expires September 16, 2025

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